Members from the Class of 2010 celebrate following the School of Medicine’s annual White Coat Ceremony held in August. The event is to recognize the students’ transition into the medical community and the responsibilities such a position holds. These students from the Dallas-Ft. Worth Metroplex have been corresponding with each other since they were accepted to medical school.

WITH FUNDING FROM THE CARL B. AND FLORENCE E. KING FOUNDATION, Sid O’Bryant, Ph.D., (pictured) will lead a multidisciplinary team from Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center to study aging in a rural setting, with a focus on Cochran County. As part of the grant, the team will also conduct outreach workshops for residents in that county. “Most studies that look at aging are done in urban areas; there is very little information available on the prevalence rates of Alzheimer’s in rural America and the effects of environmental, biological and cultural variables that influence aging and cognitive thinking,” says O’Bryant, associate professor in the School of Medicine’s Department of Neuropsychiatry and Behavioral Sciences.

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SOAHS STUDENTS ACHIEVE 100 PERCENT FIRST-TIME PASS RATE ON EXAM :: All students in the Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology programs taking the Praxis National Exam this spring passed on their first attempt. Students must pass the Praxis to acquire national certification and Texas licensure.

“While a 100 percent pass rate is standard for TTUHSC students, most years a handful will have to take the exam more than once to pass so we’re very pleased that everyone in this class passed the first time,” says Sherry Sancibrian, M.S., CCC-SLP, program director of Speech-Language Pathology.

The Audiology program boasts a 100 percent first-time pass rate four out of the past five years, says Candace Hicks, Ph.D., CCC-A, program director.

Also, TTUHSC students won, for the third time in six years, the College Bowl at the Texas Speech-Language-Hearing Association’s annual convention. The event is a competition among students in speech-language-hearing programs based on questions from previous Praxis exams.