# Table of Contents

**TTUHSC Happenings** .......................................................... 4

**Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences** .................................................. 8

**School of Allied Health Sciences** .............................................. 9

**School of Medicine** ............................................................... 12

**School of Nursing** ................................................................. 18

**Research** ................................................................................. 19
TTUHSC Happenings

TTUHSC Website Redesign and Launch

As part of the TTU System’s directive to component universities to assess their websites, TTUHSC continues its work with the Stamats consulting group to upgrade the website. This process is expected to go through the end of the calendar year 2015 with a roll out expected by early 2016.

TTUHSC Completes Compensation Plan Study

Dr. Gena Jones, Director of TTUHSC Human Resources, presented the results of a recently completed study on compensation performed for all TTUS universities by Ulibarri-Mason Global HR Consulting group (Dallas, TX) to the President’s Executive Committee on April 16, 2015. This study was completed as part of the university’s long range strategy for recruitment and retention of employees at TTUHSC.

TTUHSC Recognized by “Get Fit Texas” State Agency Challenge

TTUHSC was awarded 2nd place (behind the Texas State Troopers) for the second year in a row in the “Get Fit Texas” State Agency Challenge. Standings were based upon the percentage of total FTEs per agency that completed the challenge by achieving 150 minutes per week of exercise over a 10 week period. Agencies were divided into 6 categories based on size, and TTUHSC placed 2nd in the “Large” agency division (> 5,000 employees). No other HRIs and only one other university received recognition in the competition.
Parents Magazine ranks MommyMeds as “Best Breastfeeding App”

Best Breastfeeding Apps by Bonnie Gibbs Vengrow

To the uninitiated, breastfeeding seems like a piece of cake: Place baby on boob, do crossword puzzles for the next 20 minutes, repeat. But for many of us moms, this natural act is anything but second nature. Luckily, help is just a touchscreen away. We rounded up some of the best nursing apps for new moms; whether you have burning questions about milk supply or need to find a spot to nurse alfresco, take a look.

Doctors at Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center have officially taken the guesswork out of which medicines are okay to take while you're nursing. They compiled safety ratings on more than 20,000 drugs and OTC meds and made the info searchable by product name or category. (You can also scan a bottle’s barcode if you’re too pooped to type.) Plus, there are lists of breastfeeding-friendly drugs to help you tackle common woes like headaches, nausea, or allergies.

TTUHSC School of Nursing’s Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC) to be extended to Abilene

The Larry Combest Center was recently awarded a $2.2 million HRSA grant to create the Abilene Community Health Center, the first FQHC to operate in Abilene

The center will be operational by August 30, 2015 and we plan to have ribbon cutting around its opening date

This will increase access to low-income families in Abilene by focusing on its underserved populations

$548,538.00 awarded FY15 (pro-rated).

$650,000 awarded annually going forward

The space to be used will be leased from Hendrick Medical System (1749 Pine St, Abilene 79601)
TTUHSC and TTUHSC-El Paso Visit Capitol Hill in Washington, D.C.

In previous years, all components of TTUS have traveled to Washington together to visit with members of Congress and Executive Departments to discuss items of mutual interest. In 2015, this trip was divided up in order to place a focus on issues of concern to the two Health Related Institutions. This trip (April 28-30) was focused primarily on three areas – VA clinic update (Lubbock), VA Medical Center (El Paso), Graduate Medical Education, and NIH funding. Members of administration from TTUS, TTUHSC and TTUHSC at El Paso met with the following officials:

- VA Office of Construction Facilities Management (Stella Fiotes, Executive Director)
- Office of Congressman John Culberson
- Congressman Randy Neugebauer
- House Committee of Veterans’ Affairs Chairman Jeff Miller
- Office of Congresswoman Eddie Bernice Johnson
- Senator John Cornyn
- Congressman Lamar Smith
- Congressman Bill Flores
- Congressman Kevin Brady
- Office of Congressman Sam Johnson
- AAMC President and CEO (Dr. Darrell Kirch)
- Congressman John Carter
- Officer of Congressman Joe Barton
- Office of Congressman Michael Burgess
- Congressional Staff members (dinner)
- Office of Congressman Pete Olson
- Congressman Pete Sessions
- Office of Congressman Roger Williams
- TTU Interns (lunch)
Joke of the day...

Horse hospitals
As a younger child in Zimbabwe, Nyaradzo Dzvova loved a great mystery and puzzles. Figuring out the unknowns and working through the process of why things work the way they do early on, would later lead her to a love of chemistry.

“When I was younger I read mystery novels all the time, and now I watch a lot of who-dunnit shows,” Dzvova said. “In high school I got to love chemistry and honestly thought I would become a chemical engineer. “But when I started my undergraduate studies, I was drawn to biochemistry.”

The Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center (TTUHSC) Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences hosted the 27th Annual Student Research Week. Every year the students organize Student Research Week to showcase the next generation of biomedical researchers like Dzvova, and their work.

Brandt Schneider, Ph.D., dean of the TTUHSC Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences, said students like Dzvova made Student Research Week a great success.

“Dzvova also was one of the students chosen to present at the event,” Schneider said. “This year, we had a tremendous turn out from all TTUHSC schools. Student Research Week provides our colleagues at TTUHSC and the community a glimpse into the quality of TTUHSC student researchers. We congratulate the committee and everyone who worked to make it such a success.”
School of Allied Health Sciences

Leading the Way

SGA Officer to Become Leader in her Field

Rebecca Marquez remembers the day she took a walk that would lead her to a new leadership role. During the nerve-racking first-year anatomy class, the Student Government Association leaders came into her classroom.

“We were stressed out about anatomy,” Marquez said. “It was our first semester together, and I didn’t know many people yet. Our brains are mush. When they asked for those who wanted to be an SGA representative to walk down to the stage, on a whim I went and wrote my name down. And that was the beginning of my leadership with the SGA.”

Marquez grew up in Alameda, California by the San Francisco Bay Area. She graduated from a Catholic high school and attended the University of San Francisco her first year. After attending a smaller high school, she thought she wanted to attend a small college atmosphere, but found she was wrong. She would later transfer to the University of Texas and receive her Bachelor of Science degree in Kinesiology.

She has been a leader in high school, church and at the universities she has attended. “Leadership is something that comes naturally to me,” Marquez said. “I was always drawn to it. At the University of Texas, I was in a spirit group called the Texas Wrangler Darlings and worked with athletics marketing to get the group to be the official UT spirit group for women’s basketball games, which it is now. I was able to do that for the organization.”

“And then I came and interviewed here and it completely changed my mind. After meeting the professors, students and seeing the facility, it became my number one choice immediately on interview day.”

Marquez, a master of occupational therapy program student, currently serves as the SGA vice president of communications.

...continued on next page
“I actually knew that I wanted to study occupational therapy (O.T.) early on when I was in high school,” Marquez said. “My senior year, I went to an O.T. program’s open house to get more information and from there planned on going into kinesiology knowing it was a field that would help me in O.T. I like having a plan.”

Marquez, who is in her second-year of the master of occupational therapy program in OT, said her plan is to work in pediatrics.

Marquez hopes to educate people as to what occupational therapy is. She said an OT could work with someone from birth to death and anything in between. Whether it is a congenital disease, a contracted disease, an accident that happens, or a mental health issue.

“Our goal is to help people become as functional as possible to live the lives they want to live and do the things they want to do,” Marquez said. “We give people their lives back.”

She is not sure where all of her experiences will lead her. She will complete her degree in May then have two, three-month fieldworks assignments. She will be at Seton Medical Center in Austin working in acute care and later at Dell Children’s Medical Center in Austin.

Although she came from the University of Texas, Marquez said she has come to embrace the Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center.

“It’s funny but TTUHSC was my last choice,” Marquez said. “And then I came and interviewed here and it completely changed my mind. After meeting the professors, students and seeing the facility, it became my number one choice immediately on interview day.”

She said getting into leadership here makes her appreciate the school even more. Seeing the efforts and professionalism that go into not only her program but also the school itself, impressed her.

“I cannot speak highly enough for this school. From the leadership of President Mitchell to all the professors and students, it is incredible, and the opportunities I was given here I would not have been given anywhere else. There is no other school with these opportunities. TTUHSC and the Master of Occupational Therapy program far exceeded my expectations.”
Dean Robin Satterwhite announces his departure from the SOAHS

After serving as dean for 3 years, Dr. Robin Satterwhite (aka, the “Pride of Ropesville”) announced his departure to take a position as Vice President for Academic Affairs at South Plains College. Under his leadership, the SOAHS grew significantly in enrollment, established a new program (BS in Health Sciences) and took a leadership role in implementing interprofessional education for all TTUHSC students. Dr. Satterwhite will be sorely missed, but the entire TTUHSC family wishes him well. A search committee for the new dean has been established and will be chaired by Dr. Brandt Schneider, Dean of the GSBS.
School of Medicine

A Perfect Match

Medical Students Experience Match Day with Support

Joshua and Kleesy Thomas

Although they grew up in different rural towns, Joshua and Kleesy Thomas had comparable lives. Both grew up in small communities, both families are cotton farmers and both were the first in their families to go to college. Years later they would both head to medical school where their lives would cross paths.

Kleesy and Joshua were married over Christmas break in their third-year of medical school. Now both are one of the couples that completed their match for Match Day. Match Day is a nerve-wracking event that has played out on medical school campuses across the country. Approximately 140 TTUHSC School of Medicine students participated in Match Day and learned where they will be for the next three to seven years for their residencies. Joshua, who matched for family medicine at TTUHSC said he always wanted to work in a rural area.

Kleesy, who also matched at TTUHSC, has her reasons for going into dermatology. She recalls growing up with her family farming back in the day and her grandfathers working on tractors without cabs, out in the sun all day. “My grandfather and great-grandmother had melanoma, and my mom has non-melanoma skin cancer,” Kleesy said. “We all grew up outside farming, and didn’t know to take care of our skin. I think both of our choices of medical specialty stem from where we were raised.”

Charles Saadeh and Brooke Mills

Charles Saadeh and Brooke Mills met each other early on in medical school. They recall meeting in gross anatomy and studying together in the early mornings before class.

Brooke, who is from Ft. Worth, and Charles, who is from Amarillo, grew up around the medical field. Both of their fathers are physicians.

Both Charles and Brooke applied to medical school in Texas hoping to be closer to family. They agreed that TTUHSC was an exciting environment and had the friendliest interview day.
“The couples match is tough,” Charles said. “I stress just thinking about what we went through. We applied to 97 programs each and were lucky enough to get some interviews that overlapped.”

Charles said that the entire match process was a humbling experience and added that they would be happy with whatever the outcome was. They ranked 22 combinations of programs. Charles matched at University of Texas Southwestern and Brooke matched at Baylor University Medical Center.

**Rosalia Mbugua**

As a young girl growing up in a village near Nairobi Kenya, Rosalia Mbugua dreamed of becoming a doctor.

“My parents knew of my dream and they encouraged me to work hard in everything that I did hoping that one day, my dream would come true,” Rosalia said. “All I had back then was a dream and prayers. Now, I am about to begin my residency.”

Rosalia plans to work as an Emergency Medicine Physician because she enjoys the broad spectrum of patients and the diversity of the population.

Rosalia, who matched at John Peter Smith Hospital, looks forward to starting her residency.

“I’m very excited and looking forward to working as a resident,” Rosalia said. “Introducing myself for the first time will make me smile. Hello, I am Dr. Mbugua. How can I help you today?”

Steven L. Berk, M.D., TTUHSC executive vice president and provost and dean of the School of Medicine, said TTUHSC students had a successful match at outstanding teaching programs around the country.

“As we do every year, our students consistently match with some of the best residency programs throughout the U. S.,” Berk said. “Exceptional students remain right here at TTUHSC to pursue training in everything from Anesthesiology to Urology. Family Medicine was our most popular choice of residency programs. We are extremely proud of these students and their many accomplishments. Their achievements are a reflection of the teaching, mentoring and commitment our faculty have shown them the past four years.”
Other matches also include:

Johns Hopkins Hospital

Vanderbilt University Medical Center

Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai

University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center

Mayo School of Graduate Medical Education

University of Virginia Health System

University of Texas Medical Branch

University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center
Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC) releases data on nation’s medical schools performance metrics – TTUHSC School of Medicine performing well and trending as per our expectations

Summary

SOM derives its budget from 3 main sources:
1. Clinical practice income
2. Hospital service contracts
3. TTUHSC (university) support

Summary

SOM’s patient payer mix:
- Medicare/Medicaid – 55%
- Commercial – 25%
- Self pay/other – 20%
Summary
TTUHSC School of Medicine’s MPIP Business Office maintains an Accounts Receivable profile better than the national average for schools of medicine.

Research Metric 1: Sponsored Programs Direct Expenditures per Principal Investigator
Purpose: Assesses research productivity of faculty engaged in research
Higher Number is Favorable
Formula: Sponsored Programs Direct Expenditures
# PIs Associated with Sponsored Programs Expenditures

Summary
SOM still ranks low (but improved) in research expenditures per investigator.
Summary

SOM ranks very high in its growth trend in research expenditures
TTUHSC was notified on April 16, 2015 that it will receive $1.2 million from HRSA to establish a “Veteran to BSN” program. This will allow military veterans who have served as Corpsman and Medics to receive an accelerated education for completion of a Bachelor’s of Science in Nursing degree, allowing them to use the skills they received while serving in the military as a means for launching a civilian career in nursing. TTUHSC will work with students from the Medical Education Training Center (METC) at Fort Sam Houston in San Antonio for this new program.
TTUHSC Undergoes Accreditation Site Visit by AAHRPP

Site visitors from the Association for the Accreditation of Human Research Protection Programs (AAHRPP) came to TTUHSC from May 4-6 as the final major step in becoming an accredited institution for human research. The effort to gain AAHRPP Accreditation was spearheaded by Dr. Michael Conn, SVP and Associate Provost for Research and included the work of many talented individuals at the HSC. The site visitors left with a good sense of our progress and gave on 4 areas of improvement, all of which will be easy to address. We expect to hear from their Council the week following their meeting in September.

TTUHSC Sr VP for Research invited to serve on the Department of Health and Human Services’ Board of Scientific Counselors

Michael Conn, Ph.D., Senior Vice President of Research at TTUHSC, has been appointed to serve, pending approval by the Director of the National Institute of Health's (NIH) and the Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), on the HHS Board of Scientific Counselors. The board is responsible for advising the direction and quality of the NIH’s intramural research program.
Summary

Number of research grant proposals is increasing at a significant rate in all schools.
YOUR LIFE
our purpose
TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY HEALTH SCIENCES CENTER