

MESSAGE FROM GARLAND D. ANDERSON, M.D.

School of Medicine Faculty, Resident and Student Accomplishments

Congratulations to the Class of 2012, who received their white coats at The White Coat Ceremony on Aug. 18. I wish you the best as you embark on your medical education journey, and thank the faculty in advance for their support and dedication to teaching our students. I want to thank the School of Medicine alumni for purchasing the white coats and pins and the Arnold P. Gold Foundation for also purchasing pins that the students received at the ceremony. I also want to thank the Office of Student Affairs and Honor Education Council for hosting this event. The guest speaker at this year's ceremony was Dr. Kimberly Pettit, Assistant Professor in the Department of Internal Medicine, who spoke on "Donning the White Coat: Symbol of Perseverance, Pride and Privilege." Below is a listing of faculty and students who were honored at the ceremony for their accomplishments, as well as one of our residents who received the "Resident of the Year Award."



Freshman Class Award for Best Course

The freshman class instituted this award to recognize the course in the first year of medical school that typifies the training of physicians for the practice of medicine.

Gross Anatomy and Radiology

Thomas J. Collins, Ph.D.

Professor, Neuroscience & Cell Biology

Morton H. Leonard, Jr., M.D.

Professor, Radiology

Brian T. Miller, Ph.D.

Professor, Neuroscience & Cell Biology



L to R: Dr. Miller; Dr. Diane Chico (Assistant Professor, Department of Neuroscience & Cell Biology); Vershanna Morris (Sophomore Class Vice President); Dr. John Bauer (Assistant Professor, Department of Surgery); Dr. Leonard; Dr. Randy Given (Associate Professor, Department of Neuroscience & Cell Biology); Sharon Hughes (Sophomore Class President); Dr. Dan Cowan (Professor, Department of Pathology); and Dr. Collins

Sophomore Class Award for Best Course

The sophomore class established this award to recognize the team effort among individual faculty members that goes into teaching a course. Members of the sophomore class hope that being part of the course that receives this award will be as meaningful as receiving individual recognition.

Practice of Medicine, Year 2

Bernard M. Karnath, M.D.

Associate Professor, Internal Medicine

Cheryl J. Vaiani, Ph.D.

*Assistant Professor, Preventive Medicine & Community Health and
Institute for the Medical Humanities*



L to R: Quincia Williams (Junior Class Vice President); Dr. Karnath; Dr. Vaiani; Cheryl Cunningham (Course Coordinator); and Adam Djurdjulov (Junior Class Vice President)

AMWA's Women in Medicine Award

The AMWA's Women in Medicine Awards were established by the UTMB Chapter of the American Medical Women's Association. The purpose of the award is to honor female faculty members in the pre-clinical and clinical years for excellence in teaching, mentoring and the awareness of gender equity.

Pre-Clinical

Lisa D. Cain, Ph.D.

Director, Medical School Enrichment Programs

Associate Professor, Department of Neuroscience and Cell Biology



L to R: Karen Sargent (AMWA Vice President); Dr. Cain; and Catherine Foster (AMWA President)

Clinical

Susan M. Gerik, M.D.

Associate Professor, Department of Pediatrics



L to R: Karen Sargent (AMWA Vice President); Dr. Gerik; and Catherine Foster (AMWA President)

Golden Apple Award

The Golden Apple Award recognizes the outstanding teacher in the School of Medicine who has demonstrated most effectively his or her interest in teaching medical students. The recipient of the award can be either a lecturer, an attending physician or any other clinical faculty.

Pre-Clinical and Clinical

Bernard M. Karnath, M.D.

Associate Professor, Department of Internal Medicine



L to R: Paul Kumfa (Senior Class Vice President); Dr. Karnath; and Dustin Porter (Senior Class President)

Jimmy Doyle Dickens Memorial Faculty Award

The Jimmy Doyle Dickens Memorial Faculty Award was established by the 1971 graduating class in memory of one of its most respected members, who died April 22, 1970, in an airplane crash. The purpose of the award is to recognize an outstanding professor who exemplifies those qualities which should typify all future physicians and which, most certainly, typified Dickens—humility, humanity and integrity. The award is given annually, and the recipient is selected by the first-year class in the School of Medicine.

Brian T. Miller, Ph.D.

Professor, Department of Neuroscience and Cell Biology



L to R: Dr. Miller and Sharon Hughes (Sophomore Class President)

Resident of the Year Award

Because of the close working relationship between students and residents during the clinical years, the School of Medicine Class of 2001 established the Resident of the Year Award. This award honors an outstanding resident who exemplifies excellence in teaching, compassion and professionalism.

Minh Dao, M.D.

PGY-2 Resident, Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology



L to R: Paul Kumfa (Senior Class Vice President); Dr. Dao; and Dustin Porter (Senior Class President)

Alpha Omega Alpha Honor Medical Society

Alpha Omega Alpha (AOA) is the only national honor medical society and has chapters in all but five U.S. medical schools. The Texas Alpha Chapter at UTMB is the oldest chapter in Texas, having been created in 1920.

Election criteria is the same for junior and senior students. Membership is limited to approximately 16 percent of a class with approximately four percent being selected as juniors and the remaining 12 percent being selected in the senior year. The weighted criteria with which junior and senior AOA members are elected are: grade point average (25 percent), USMLE Step 1 board scores (25 percent), peer assessment (25 percent) and curriculum vitae review (25 percent).

Class of 2009 Members*

Jessica Nicole Allen
 Shashi Mojan Alloju
 Sabrina Margareta Akhtar*
 John Phillip Brach*
 Leechuan Andy Chen*
 Jared Chiarchiaro
 Jeanine Louise Davis
 Theodore Mitchell DeMartini
 Emmanuel Edson
 Edgar Eduardo Fernandez
 Rochelle Marie Gore
 Justin Robert Gyorfi
 Honey Helene Herce
 Kristopher Gray Hooten*
 Jeffrey Scott Hughes
 Alisa Beth Kachikis
 Lauren Ashley Layer*
 Rachel Justine Le*
 Enchun Mike Liu
 John Andrew Livingston*
 Michael Robert McEntire
 Kristina Helen Mitchell
 Joshua Michael Mourot
 Lori Mae Murphy
 Tara Paige Lynn Neubrand
 Abhilasha Jayantilal Patel*
 John Kindley Ray
 Robert Ray Reynolds
 Cameron Woodward Schick
 Leslie Kay Scroggins
 Justin Michael Serrette
 Ariel Heather Wallace
 Stephen Dale Wilkins, Jr.
 Blair Allen Winegar
 Christopher Cox Wright

*Inducted as an AOA member in his or her junior year

The John P. McGovern Chapter of the Gold Humanism Honor Society

The John P. McGovern Chapter of the Gold Humanism Honor Society was established at UTMB in May 2005 by the John P. McGovern Academy of Oslerian Medicine and the School of Medicine. The UTMB chapter of GHHS is part of a nationwide program initiated by the Arnold P. Gold Foundation to promote humanism and professionalism in education and patient care. At UTMB, students entering their fourth year are

service.” By recognizing those individuals who already serve as role models of professionalism and humanism, and by encouraging mentorship among physicians and medical students, the McGovern Chapter of GHHS seeks to instill these qualities throughout the campus culture and beyond.

Class of 2009 Members

Sabrina Margareta Akhtar
Jessica Nicole Allen
Nichole Renée Andrews
Nicole Amber Berry
Sandra Kay Caldwell
Jared Chiarchiaro
Melissa Sydow Chladek
Bettye La Trelle Cox
Mara Melanie Dacso
Jeanine Louise Davis
Theodore Mitchell DeMartini
Tori Lynn DeMartini
Neisha Ann D’Souza
Kyler Elizabeth Elwell
Rochelle Marie Gore
Kristopher Gray Hooten
Nnenna Lucy Igbo
Joseph Richard Karam
Rachel Justine Le
John Andrew Livingston
Joshua Michael Mourot
Tara Paige Lynn Neubrand
Noelle Marie Northcutt
Ogadinma Ijeoma Obie
Dustin Mathew Porter
John Kindley Ray
Briana Dore Sacco
Cameron Woodward Schick
Leslie Kay Scroggins
Jocelyn Sylkim Szeto
Lara Hayley Wainstein

Jack B. Alperin, M.D., Award for Excellence in Internal Medicine

The Jack B. Alperin, M.D., Award for Excellence in Internal Medicine was established by the Department of Internal Medicine in honor of Dr. Jack B. Alperin for his many years of commitment to excellence in the education of students at UTMB. Dr. Alperin has served as Chief Faculty Marshal for the School of Medicine graduation every year since 1970. He was named an inaugural scholar in the John P. McGovern Academy of Oslerian Medicine in 2001. This award recognizes a third-year medical student who demonstrates the highest commitment to professionalism, clinical care and the practice of medicine.

Christopher Cox Wright



L to R: Christopher Wright and Dr. Jack Alperin, Clinical Professor, Departments of Internal Medicine and Biochemistry & Molecular Biology

Kazko Arai Memorial Award

The annual award for excellence in biochemistry was established in honor of Kazko Arai, Ph.D., who died in 1977. Her dedication to teaching and to scientific and intellectual pursuits won her the love and respect of students and faculty. This award serves as a perpetual memorial to the doctor’s devotion as a teacher and to the standards to which she dedicated her efforts.

Francisco Pasdar-Shirazi

Trent Michael Talbot



L to R: Trent Talbot; Dr. Lauree Thomas (Associate Dean for Student Affairs and Admissions); and Francisco Pasdar-Shirazi

The Robert and Katherine Blair Endowed Anatomy/Neuroanatomy Award

The Robert and Katherine Blair Endowed Anatomy/Neuroanatomy Award was established in 1998 by Robert K. Blair, M.D., a 1937 graduate of UTMB, in memory of both his late wife, Madeline Blair, and Dr. Donald Duncan, the former chairman of the Department of Anatomy. This award recognizes a first-year UTMB medical student for achieving academic excellence in the field of anatomy and neuroanatomy.

Jillian Whitney Lazor



L to R: Jillian Lazor and Dr. Thomas

The Isabella H. Brackenridge Scholarships for Women

The Isabella H. Brackenridge Scholarships for Women were established at UTMB in 1974 by the George W. Brackenridge Foundation of San Antonio. This annual award is given to the female medical student, who at the end of second year, exemplifies outstanding academic performance, service to UTMB and service to the community.

Holly Elsbeth Dunn



L to R: Holly Dunn and Dr. Thomas

Center for Tropical Diseases Medical Student Award

The World Health Organization Collaborating Center for Tropical Diseases at UTMB recognizes excellence in research on emerging or tropical infectious diseases. This award is given to a medical student who has made a significant contribution to studies on an emerging or tropical infectious disease through research in either basic science, epidemiology or clinical science.

Mara Melanie Dacso

Heather Lynne Stevenson



L to R: Heather Stevenson; Dr. Thomas; and Mara Dacso

The Jimmy Doyle Dickens Memorial Award

The Jimmy Doyle Dickens Memorial Award was established in 1970 to perpetuate the memory of Jimmy Dickens, an outstanding medical and graduate student. The award is presented annually to a student who has achieved academic excellence in the study of anatomy.

Bo James Beus



L to R: Bo Beus and Dr. Thomas

William C. Levin Scholarship Award for Academic Excellence

The William C. Levin Scholarship Award for Academic Excellence was established with the conviction that underrepresented minority medical school students are academically talented and strive for excellence. It is fitting that this award bear the name of Dr. Levin who, for more than a decade, played an essential role in supporting the efforts of minority students to become physicians.

Stephen Bryan Price

(Photo unavailable)

McGraw-Hill/Lange Award

This award is presented to two outstanding students at the end of year one, based on their exceptional academic performance, dedication and hard work.

Sharon Elizabeth Hughes

Jillian Whitney Lazor



L to R: Jillian Lazor; Dr. Thomas; and Sharon Hughes

William Todd Midgett, M.D., Award for Superior Clinical Practice

The William Todd Midgett, M.D., Award for Superior Clinical Practice was established by family, friends and classmates to perpetuate the memory of this honor student following his death. This award, named in honor of the posthumous recipient of the Gold-Headed Cane in 1989, is designated for a junior medical student who is within the top 15 percent of the class; who exhibits superior qualities of compassion, empathy and understanding while establishing the patient’s confidence during the treatment process; and who has demonstrated commitment to the highest standards of ethics and professional practice and an obvious and clearly documented continuing desire to acquire new knowledge. The eligible candidates must be the son or daughter of a physician, or have graduated from Texas A&M, or have attended Texas A&M at College Station for at least three complete academic years and entered UTMB directly from A&M without having graduated. The recipient is thereafter known as the William Todd Midgett Scholar.

Leslie Kay Scroggins, William Todd Midgett Scholar



L to R: Leslie Scroggins and Dr. Thomas

Award for Excellence in Pathology

The Award for Excellence in Pathology was established a number of years ago by the Department of Pathology to recognize the medical student who has demonstrated outstanding academic achievement in and aptitude for pathology.

Sanjita Ravishankar



L to R: Sanjita Ravishankar and Dr. Thomas

Ben Raimer TDCJ Student of the Year Award

This award recognizes a third-year medical student whose rotation in the Texas Department of Criminal Justice Hospital on UTMB's campus exemplifies innovative problem-solving, academic excellence and dedication above and beyond the call of duty. The award is named for Dr. Ben Raimer, UTMB Senior Vice President for Health Policy and Legislative Affairs, for his tireless and extraordinary service in correctional health care.

Jared Chiarchiaro



L to R: Jared Chiarchiaro and Dr. Thomas

The Glenn V. Russell Memorial Award

The Glenn V. Russell Memorial Award was established to recognize scholarship in neuroanatomy. Dr. Russell was a faculty member in the Department of Anatomy and Neurosciences from 1951 until his death in 1985. He was the driving force for neuro-anatomical education at this institution for many years.

Melissa Fern Efron



L to R: Melissa Efron and Dr. Thomas

Please join me in extending a warm welcome to our new students and congratulating these award recipients.

Sincerely,

Garland D. Anderson, M.D.
Executive Vice President and Provost
Dean, School of Medicine
Thomas N. and Gleaves T. James Distinguished Chair