



TechView

Patient Care Education Research

Weekly News - February 8, 2008

Mark Your Calendars

Annual Performance Evaluations

A reminder to supervisors that Annual Performance Evaluations, original and copy, are due in Human Resources by Friday, Feb. 29.

Assistant VP for HR Visits EP campus

Assistant Vice-President for Human Resources *David Fry* will be on campus Tuesday, Feb. 12. He will be available for informational sessions on forthcoming changes to the payment of overtime, compensatory time, as well as the change to semi-monthly pay-days for non-exempt employees.

Sessions are 10 a.m. to 11 a.m., in B 3600; 1:30 to 2:30 p.m. in A 3500, and from 2:30 to 3:30 p.m., A 3500, in the Medical Center Building. Seating is limited in B 3600. For more information, contact HR, 545-6515.

Texas Tech's Paul L. Foster School of Medicine Receives Accreditation

After nearly forty years of teaching Texas Tech University medical students in their third and fourth years, caring for large numbers of patients from El Paso and surrounding areas in partnership with Thomason Hospital, and extensive experience in clinical research, the Paul L. Foster School of Medicine has been approved as a four-year medical school within the Texas Tech University System.

"This is a watershed event, a great milestone in the history of El Paso and the Texas Tech System," said Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center *President John Baldwin*. "For nearly four decades, our El Paso campus has been a cornerstone in our medical education system at Texas Tech. Now, the efforts of countless thousands of citizens and community leaders of El Paso, philanthropists – large and small, public servants, the staff of Texas Tech and Thomason, and the current students have been appropriately recognized. After more than ten years of visionary planning and hard work, they have achieved what they deserve – a full-fledged four year medical school. It is a time for celebration and re-dedication to our mission of teaching, top-tier research, and patient care," Baldwin added.

Founding Dean Jose Manuel de la Rosa expressed, "Thank you to the Liaison Committee on Medical Education (LCME) which is the national medical school accrediting agency, to Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center and System, to the Texas Legislature and its leadership, to our faculty, who have worked tirelessly in this long journey, and to all the people of El Paso." The school is now authorized to enter into agreement with the Texas Medical and Dental Schools Application Service, to begin accepting applications for the first class of students, to be seated in August of 2009. Texas Tech's Paul L. Foster School of Medicine will, over the next several years, grow to accept some 80 students per year.

Kent Hance, Chancellor of the Texas Tech System, said, "We confidently expect El Paso's medical school to be a national leader in education, biomedical research, and clinical care, and we are positioning the people and resources to make certain that it does."

Pedi Faculty Presents at UTEP Colloquium

Ralitsa Akins, M.D., Ph.D, assistant professor and associate director of TUHSC at El Paso's Pediatric Residency Program gave a colloquium presentation at the University of Texas at El Paso, department of Mathematical Sciences. Her talk, "Complex Systems and Computational Science: Real Life Solutions," reflects her prior research in disaster management and ongoing research on development of a new concept about the interrelatedness of science and teams. Math professors, graduate and undergraduate math students and professors and students in the health professions attended the talk. Dr. Akins is excited about the prospect of inter-institutional, inter-disciplinary research.



AROUND TOWN

Race for the Cure

The 16th Annual Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation's 5K Race for the Cure is Sunday, Feb. 17, at Fort Bliss. The fund-raiser has become one of the biggest races of the year in the region. The 5K competitive run/walk begins at 9 a.m., non-competitive events begin at 9:15 a.m. Registration is \$21 per event. Information, 566-9745, or www.elpasokomen.org

ACHE'ing Heart Auction

Animal Cruelty Heartline of El Paso (ACHE) silent auction benefit is Wednesday, Feb. 20, 6 to 11 p.m., at Club 101, 3233 N. Mesa. Win a dream date and dinner for two. The evening features MC and comedian George Jimenez and a performance by El Paso Ballroom Dance Academy. Tickets are \$25, hors d'oeuvres included. Doors open at 7:30 for general admission, \$10. A few tables for ten are still available, \$500. Information, reservations, 587-0492, 875-4782.

FREE – Steps for Success Saturday

The Hispanic Scholarship Fund will host a program of hands-on specialized instruction and college preparation for Latinos 8:30 to 2 p.m., Saturday, Feb. 23, at Socorro High School, 10150 Alameda. The program offers multiple workshops for parents and students on topics ranging from the SAT and financial aid to writing personal statements. Admission is free. (512) 351-5927, or avillalobos@hsf.net

Fraud Risk Assessment on El Paso Campus

Texas Tech University Audit and Consulting Services plans to conduct a fraud risk assessment on the El Paso campus over a two day period. During the assessment they will gather perceptions of fraud risks and help promote fraud awareness and prevention at the campus. They will meet with groups of 10-15 people for 1½ hour sessions. During the sessions, different fraud scenarios and schemes will be explained and participants will have the opportunity to vote on the likelihood, pervasiveness, materiality, and reputational risks for the different fraud schemes. Electronic polling software will be used to allow participants to share their perceptions anonymously. Participants will key in their responses using voting technology.

This data gathering process is not statistically based but will provide valuable information to assist the El Paso campus in avoiding or mitigating fraud risks. As an added bonus, participants will be able to see results during the session. Sessions will be March 5, 1 to 3 p.m., and March 6, 8:30 to 10:30 a.m. Maximum number of participants per session is 15. Although a location is still undetermined, participants wanting to attend should reply to steve.wagner@ttuhsc.edu. Subject line to reply should read: Reply, and the person's position such as faculty, staff or administration.

Library Presents Micromedex Healthcare Series

The Delia Montes-Gallo Library of the Health Sciences will present instruction and information on Micromedex, the total solution for drug, toxicology and disease information. Micromedex is also a comprehensive tool for education patients in their care.

The presentations will be Thursday, Feb. 14, from 3 to 4 p.m., and Monday, Feb. 18, from 9 to 10 a.m. With Micromedex, healthcare professionals can:

- Search for interactions between multiple drugs or herbal supplements that a patient is taking
- Use the Lab Advisor to determine reference range values, interpretation or lab results, collection of storage guidelines, etc.
- Determine IV compatibility when combining multiple IV medications
- Use CareNotes which provide easy-to-read inpatient and discharge care instructions, as well as handouts on the impact of herbal products, dietary supplements and alternative medicine therapies

2008 Quality Service Awards

Nomination forms for the 2008 Quality Service Awards are now available online. They may be submitted electronically or downloaded and sent via campus mail no later than Friday, February 29 to Rebecca Salcido, Human Resources. They may also be faxed at 545-6413. Forms are found at <http://www.ttuhsc.edu/hsc/op/op70/op7050a.pdf>

The Quality Service Awards Program was implemented in 1996 to recognize and reward staff employees (individuals and teams) who excel in support of the SERVICEplus philosophy. For general policy and award criteria, please review OP 70.50, <http://www.ttuhsc.edu/HSC/OP/OP7050.pdf>