

Enthusiastic Participants Enjoyed Classified Staff Workshop

By Erika E. Durham, Public Affairs

If sparking enthusiasm, providing information and fostering fellowship were the goals of the University Classified Staff Council (UCSC) when planning their workshop, they scored a homerun on May 20 during this year's annual event.

The all-day workshop lived up to its theme "Going for the Goal," feeling more like a sporting event than a work-related conference. There was an overwhelming excitement about what the day had to offer and the expectations were exceeded.

"I am very grateful to all of the wonderful sponsors and the workshop steering committee for the incredible work they have contributed to accomplish this extraordinary day," said Diane D. Brooks, workshop committee chair.

The day began with a "talk-show," hosted by Jane Brust, assistant vice president for Public Affairs. Michael McKinney, M.D., senior executive vice president for the UT Health Science Center at Houston, was the special guest. The hour-long segment was filled with the 300-plus crowd cheering, laughing and asking McKinney the tough questions. (See McKinney, Brust, page 2.)

Sherry Wilson, director of the Employee Assistance Program, gave an update on the Workplace of Choice initiative.

Jim "Mattress Mac" McIngvale, the owner of Gallery Furniture in Houston, spoke to employees about how to "Live Life or Die."

McIngvale told the story of his struggle to fit into the world of work early on in his career and how he stepped out on faith with \$5,000 and a dream to open the single most successful furniture store in the United States. He inspired the staff to take their jobs seri-

ously and appreciate how much they can contribute to the lives of others.

Following his remarks, McIngvale gave away door prizes. And as a surprise to everyone in the audience he gave away a \$2,000 Tempurpedic Mattress and a \$2,000 televi-

sion. The lucky recipients were Alejandra DeAlvarado, coordinator of special programs in Public Affairs, who won the mattress and Patricia Moore, support specialist in Telecommunications, who won the television.

And if winning such grand prizes wasn't enough, following the workshop, Moore told DeAlvarado about her serious back problems and expressed a desire to have the mattress instead of the television. DeAlvarado gladly swapped for the television.

Lunch started with a bang as UCSC "cheerleaders" lined up to welcome the group of A&P staff who served as table hosts at the luncheon. McKinney led the group, charging in wearing a football helmet, and the crowd went wild.

The highlight of lunch was the honoring of the UCSC scholarships recipients, graduating high school seniors who are the sons or daughters of classified employees. This year's winners are: Connie Yu, child of Audry C. Yu and Jin Yu of the School of Public Health, a future student of Stanford University; Andrew Chiu, child of Nai-Hui Chiu of the Medical School, a future student of UT Austin; and Laren Messer, child of Margaret Messer of the Medical School, a future student of Haverford College.

Workshop participants spent the afternoon in development sessions that covered Stress Management, How to Get Organized, Finance and Investment, and Wills and Trusts. ★



Michael McKinney, M.D., senior executive vice president shares a table and a few laughs with health science center employees. Photos by Erika E. Durham



Tammy Merimon and Tiffney Carter help register classified staff members for the workshop.



Jim McIngvale, "Mattress Mac," signs autographs for classified staff members at the UCSC workshop, as UCSC chairman Ronda Lowe looks on. "Mac" and his motivational message were one of the biggest hits of the day.

More Than a Job — My Alma Mater

Alumni Faculty Pass the UT Spirit to the Next Generation

By M. Darla Brown, Medical School

The special spirit of The University of Texas Medical School at Houston is palpable and memorable. It's something that alumni and students know first hand and that faculty and staff also experience. Even prospective students who visit the school for the first time sense the UT personality when they walk into the building.

Described by applicants as a "family feeling," the friendly, enthusiastic environment of the Medical School shines through its people. The school's reputation for fostering a collegial atmosphere has lasted through the years. Some of the best role models of this engaging spirit are those alumni who have returned as faculty to help pass on the spirit and history of the UT Medical School.

"When I came here as dean of admissions in 1979, Dr. Bob Tuttle," (the school's second dean), "told me that there were other good medical schools in the United States, but we weren't going to try to be a carbon

copy of those — we were going to try to establish our own identity as a medical school. We have our own unique environment, and that's what brings people here," says Albert Gunn, M.D., associate dean of admissions.

More than 10 percent of the Medical School's faculty has returned to their alma mater as teachers.

"People whom I admitted to medical school are now faculty interviewing applicants. It's great because the school is now self-perpetuating — it is no longer being formed;

it is forming," Gunn adds.

Proud ambassadors

Many alumni faculty are involved in the admissions process interviewing students, or serving on the admissions committee.

Judianne Kellaway, M.D., '87, says a favorite aspect of her faculty role is being involved in the admissions process. "The interview process is inspirational. You see young people trying to get out there and put some good into the world, and we get to help them," Kellaway says.

But that inspiration doesn't stop with admissions. Faculty alumni are passionate ambassadors for the school beyond interviewing Medical School applicants.

"There are a handful of alumni faculty who are walking billboards for this school — Dr. Brent King, for instance. Dr. Mark Farnie is another, and he shamelessly recruits people into the med/peds program," says Henry Strobel, Ph.D., associate dean of faculty affairs and assistant dean of student affairs.

Alumni faculty also make a strong showing on the Alumni Association board. "Up until recently the board was primarily made up of faculty members because it was easier for us to convene; but now we have more diversity and 25-30 percent are alumni faculty," says Kellaway, who is the current board president.

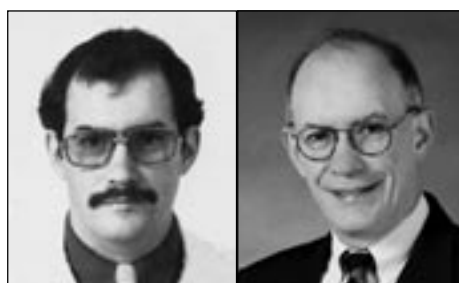
Faculty alumni have a dual perspective when reaching out to alumni.

"At some point in everyone's life this school is very important to them — it's where they learned the foundation of their life's work.

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Judianne Kellaway, M.D., '87



Brent King, M.D., '83

We Asked, You Answered

The Workplace of Choice Steering Committee thanks all faculty and staff who provided thoughtful input about how to make the UT Health Science Center a better place to work. While specific action plans are developed this summer, *The Leader* staff are working on a special report to update you on this important initiative. Look for it later in the summer.

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THE UNIVERSITY of TEXAS HEALTH SCIENCE CENTER AT HOUSTON