

Willerson Awarded 'Gold Heart'

James T. Willerson, M.D., president of The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston and president-elect of the Texas Heart Institute at St. Luke's Episcopal Hospital, has received from the American Heart Association (AHA) its highest honor for volunteers who have provided continued, distinguished service. On April 10, the association presented Willerson the Gold Heart Award during its 2005 Volunteer Leadership Conference in Washington, D.C.

From 1993 to 2004, Willerson was editor-in-chief of *Circulation*, the association's largest scientific journal. An internationally distinguished cardiologist, he led the journal to its highest-impact factor, a classification used to rank scientific publications. He added several new features to its content and increased international readership by recruiting editorial contributors from around the world and offering the journal in 10 different languages.

Willerson also brought *Circulation* to the Internet in its first online version, which shortened the time-to-publication of important research. His 11-year tenure with *Circulation* was the longest of any editor with an AHA publication.

— David Bates

Quick Readership Survey

What do you think of official UT Health Science Center-wide publications like *The Leader*? Please go to <http://www.zoomerang.com/survey.zgi?p=WEB224BLQPNK82> and answer for each publication that you read. Your anonymous response will help the Office of Public Affairs stay in touch with the needs of our varied audiences. In addition, it will help in planning for enhanced communications that support the Workplace of Choice initiative, clinical marketing efforts and more. The deadline is June 15.

'Walk the TMC' Kick-off Celebration Planned

To promote healthy lifestyles among its 60,000 plus health-care workers, Texas Medical Center institutions in collaboration with the Mayor's "Get Moving Houston" campaign and "Walk the Talk America" will hold a Kick-Off Celebration, noon, Friday, May 20, at the John P. McGovern Commons Building, 6550 Bertner.

Mayor Bill White and his wife, Andrea, will join leaders and employees of the TMC institutions to announce plans for this fall's first Walk the Texas Medical Center event. The planning committee for the fall walk, which includes representatives from all TMC institutions, is chaired by Jeff Ross and co-chaired by Dorcas Upke, both members of the Mayor's Wellness Council.

For more information, please contact Rose Mary Betancourt-Trevino in the Office of Public Affairs, (713) 500-3209, Rose.M.Betancourt-Trevino@uth.tmc.edu or Pauline Habetz, (713) 500-8425, Pauline.M.Habetz@uth.tmc.edu, or Corey Jefferson (713) 500-8427, Corey.Jefferson@uth.tmc.edu, both from Auxiliary Enterprises Recreation Center. ★

Eeyore, Eeyore, Oh!



"On your mark. Get set. Go!" Participants in the 2005 Eeyore's Fun Run took to the streets at the start of the annual race. Among the health science center-related high finishers were Max Mendoza, the son of Patsy Sanchez of Governmental Affairs, who was first overall with a time of 16:59 (see <http://publicaffairs.uth.tmc.edu/leaderupdate/archive/2005/seen/04262005.asp>), and Joy Schmitz, Ph.D., professor in the Medical School Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences, second in the Female 40-49 category, with a time of 23:40. Photo by Genesis Photographers



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DEADLINES

Submit information to be considered for publication in *The Leader* by the 15th of the month one month prior to the desired time of publication. Requests for feature articles require a longer lead time and will receive strategic consideration. Send electronic information in Word format (no PDFs or posters) and digital photos as unedited, high-resolution images at 300 dpi or better. E-mail to Pamela.Lewis@uth.tmc.edu. Include a contact name, phone number and e-mail address. Mail hard copy to *The Leader*, c/o Pamela Lewis, Office of Public Affairs, University Center Tower, 1200, or fax to (713) 500-3037. For information regarding *The Leader*, call Pamela Lewis at (713) 500-3040.

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CALENDAR

MAY 16 – JUNE 14

Please submit calendar items for the **June 15** issue of *The Leader*, which covers **June 15-July 14**, to Pamela.Lewis@uth.tmc.edu, by **May 16, 2005**.

★ **May 16-31** — Take advantage of the Recreation Center May Special — a 15-percent discount on a three-month membership at the Recreation Center, 7779 Knight Road, and/or at the Medical School Fitness Center, Medical School Building, Eighth Floor. To check out the facilities, come by (bring your UT ID) for a free visit. An ID badge also is required at time of membership purchase. Rec Center hours: **6 a.m.-10 p.m., Monday-Friday; 8 a.m.-8 p.m., Saturday; 10 a.m.-8 p.m., Sunday**. For questions or information about swim classes, Summer Sports Camp (ages 7-12) or other classes, please call (713) 500-8420, or visit the Web site at <http://ae.uth.tmc.edu> and click on Recreation Center.

★ **May 20** — Alan D. T. Barrett, Ph.D., professor and vice chairman for research in the Department of Pathology at The University of Texas Medical Branch, Galveston, presents "Introduction of West Nile into North America: 1999, 2005 and beyond," **noon**, Medical School Building, Room 2.024. Contact: Diane.L.Bick@uth.tmc.edu, (713) 500-5328.

★ **May 21** — Jerry Long, D.D.S., president of the UT Dental Branch Alumni Association, will be the principal speaker as special activities and guests commemorate the school's 100 years of developing dental professionals in Texas, during Dental Branch commencement ceremonies, **10 a.m.**, Verizon Wireless Theater, 520 Texas Ave. Mark G. Yudof, LL.B., chancellor of The University of Texas System, also is scheduled to make remarks.

★ **May 25** — The Henry W. Withers Lectureship in Family Medicine features

Scott Lillibrige, M.D., director of the Center for Biosecurity and Public Health Preparedness at the UT School of Public Health at Houston, discussing his experiences with disaster relief, bioterrorism response and underserved populations, **1 p.m.**, Medical School Building, Room 2.135. Contact: Amanda.De.La.Vega@uth.tmc.edu, (713) 500-7604.

★ **May 27** — "Is it Just a Game? Performance and Ethics in Sports Medicine," the Ninth Annual Houston Conference on Health Informatics, **8:30 a.m.-3 p.m.**, John P. McGovern Museum of Health & Medical Science, 1515 Hermann. Carlos R. Hamilton Jr., M.D., executive vice president for external affairs, UT Health Science Center at Houston, and member, World Anti-Doping Agency, speaks at 1:15 p.m. on steroids and drug testing. Admission: \$15 in advance; \$20 at the door. For more information, visit <http://resource.library.tmc.edu/hchi2005/hchi2005.php>.

★ **May 28** — Catherine D. DeAngelis, M.D., editor of the *Journal of the American Medical Association*, and editor-in-chief, Scientific Publications and Multimedia Applications, will speak at the Medical School commencement, 10 a.m., General Assembly Hall, George R. Brown Convention Center.

★ **May 30** — Memorial Day holiday; full closure.

★ **June 4-10** — Disparities in Health in America: Working Toward Social Justice, Third Annual Summer Workshop, **8:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m.**, UT M. D. Anderson Cancer Center, hosted by Lovell A. Jones, Ph.D., professor, UT Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences. Online registration at <http://www.mdanderson.org/crmh> and onsite registration daily at conference. Contact: cyclark@mdanderson.org, (713) 563-4005. ★

Who Ya Gonna Call?

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Counsel and the State of Texas Office of the Attorney General; coordination of the activities of the Professional Liability Committee at the Medical School and Dental Branch; advice and guidance to personnel, students, residents and faculty members regarding areas of health-care risk management and risk awareness; lecturing to medical school faculty, fellows and residents, dental school faculty and students, and nursing school faculty and students regarding healthcare risk management and patient safety; negotiation of the purchase of commercial professional liability insurance for various non-physician health-care providers.

Senior Staff Assistant: Michelle Barron
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Institutional Compliance

Elisa Fallows is the office's Research Compliance Manager. The Research Compliance Office goal is to ensure that all health science center research complies with federal and state regulatory requirements and with the ethical and business policies of UT System and the health science center.

Marilyn Dommell is a Compliance Coding Analyst for the Billing Compliance Office in the Office of Legal Affairs and Institutional Compliance. Her responsibilities include: coordinating and conducting billing compliance audits on medical records of the patients seen by the billing providers of our Practice Plan; and, coordinating and conducting educational sessions for physicians, non-physician providers and residents.

Natalie J. Moya is a Compliance Training Specialist in the Billing Compliance Office. Her responsibilities include: developing, coordinating and conducting annual training/education programs for faculty, non-physician pro-

viders and residents; and, conducting medical record compliance audits.

Treena Williams is a Senior Compliance Analyst in the Billing Compliance Office. Her responsibilities include: physician and non-physician provider medical record reviews; new provider education; and, maintaining the database for provider education.

Senior Staff Assistant: LaTundra Hill
(713) 500-3294

Privacy

Privacy Officer **Christina Solis**, J.D., developed and implemented the privacy program at the health science center, including: writing policies and procedures to comply with the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act's Privacy Standards; assisting researchers in developing protocols that meet HIPAA regulations; coordinating with human resources, academic deans, administrative management, Institutional Review Board, information services, legal affairs and other departments to implement the privacy program.

(713) 500-3305

Equal Opportunity and Diversity

Director of Equal Opportunity and Diversity **Yolanda Davis** began her employment with UT Health Science Center in 2001. She advises administration on issues related to diversity and equal opportunity compliance; coordinates the university's affirmative action and equal opportunity programs; monitors and reports on institutional compliance with federal and state regulations; and serves as the university's Americans with Disabilities Act coordinator.

Equal Opportunity and Diversity Advisor **Vivian Pyatt** joined the health science center in 2004.

Administrative Assistant: Ella Brimberry
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