

STAR Team Award Winner Named

By Pamela Lewis, *Institutional Advancement*

Great, effective work teams are alive and well at the UT Health Science Center. So say the members of the UT WorkLife Council announcing the 20-member Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences Team as the first recipient of the STAR Team Award, which will be presented at the annual STAR Awards Banquet in February.

"Part of what makes this GSBS group such a great team is that they work together, as stated on their application, as 'The Three Musketeers — one for all and all for one,'" says Sherry Wilson, director of UT Counseling and WorkLife Services. Much of their STAR team application doc-

umentation included examples of how they support each other, even when it is not required or isn't in their job description.

Other factors that contributed to the team's selection were the respect they give to one another, their efforts to provide work-life balance to every employee, and supporting educational pursuits outside of work including partial tuition opportunities, Wilson says.

"The GSBS team also has open communication and quick conflict resolution. Team members said they felt very valued by their fellow employees, their boss and by every administrative leader," Wilson explains.

"We aren't just a place to work — we feel like we are family," the application said, ending with "we can't imagine a better place to work." The WorkLife Council is very proud to bestow this award to the "GSBS Team."

Wilson says that the WorkLife Council was thrilled with the applications received. "We want to thank everyone who took the time to apply. It was very hard to make a decision with more than 10 other wonderful entries, but in the end, it was the GSBS Team that demonstrated everything we were looking for in a 'STAR Team.'"

Wilson also congratulates the other three

finalists: the Periodontics/Dental Hygiene Department at the UT Dental Branch; the Oral Pathology Team, Department of Diagnostic Sciences at UT Dental Branch; and the Environmental & Occupational Health Sciences Penthouse Posse, from the School of Public Health/Environmental Sciences Division.

"I hope this will be an award and an honor that teams across the UT Health Science Center will pursue every year," says Wilson, "because it was humbling to the WorkLife Council to see what great teamwork there is out there. We really want to support their efforts every year with this award." ★

Darlington Named Second Jimenez Leadership in Action Award Winner

By Pamela Lewis, *Institutional Advancement*

Paul E. Darlington, Ph.D., associate dean of the UT Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences, has been named the second winner of the Michael J. Jimenez Leadership in Action Award. His was one of 16 nominations of campus leaders (see list, page 2) received for the award, which will be presented at the annual STAR Awards luncheon in February. The selection was made by a committee of several members from the WorkLife Council, a different group than selected the STAR Team Award winner. The \$5,000 cash award is sponsored by President James T. Willerson, M.D.

Darlington began his career at the UT Health Science Center in September of 1982, arriving from the Graduate School of Yale

University, where he was associate dean for the Sciences. During his career at the health science center, Darlington has chaired seven health science center committees and been a member of 48 university committees.

A variety of people from around campus supported his nomination, including:

- Peter J. A. Davies M.D., Ph.D., executive vice president for Research, wrote: "...Paul Darlington has for 20 years been a leader of our university, quietly working to create the foundation of trust, respect and fairness that are the hallmarks of our graduate educational programs. He is a wonderful leader and worthy of the Jimenez Leadership Award."

- Robert Emery, Dr.PH., assistant vice president, Environmental Health and Safety,

said: "I have worked with Paul for a number of years and can never remember encountering him without a smile on his face. Surely in his day-to-day activities he encounters highs and lows, but he seems to outwardly be able to rise above any turbulence and to always keep his sights on the bigger picture — which is the mark of a true leader."

- Dianna M. Milewicz, M.D., Ph.D., professor and director, Medical Genetics/Internal Medicine, Medical School, wrote: "Dr. Darlington has directed the financial administration for the M.D./Ph.D. program for the past 23 years. Administering the budget for



Paul Darlington, Ph.D.

this program is extremely complex because of the multiple institutions involved and the fact that the students are moving between medical school and graduate school, along with being shifted from multiple sources of funding. As director of the M.D./Ph.D. program, I have been extremely pleased with Dr. Darlington's

administration of the program

"The program has never run a deficit and no student has ever gone without funding in the entire time that I have been director.

"Furthermore, Dr. Darlington participates in the oversight and mentoring of the stu-

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Schultz to Receive Prestigious Prince Mahidol Award for Medicine



Schultz's research in oral rehydration therapy has been a boon to third world children.

Stanley Schultz, M.D., professor of integrative biology and pharmacology and former dean of the Medical School, will travel to Thailand in January to receive the prestigious 2006 Prince Mahidol Award for Medicine for his contributions to the rationale that led to the development of oral rehydration therapy (ORT). ORT has been credited with saving the lives of millions afflicted with secretory diarrheas, such as cholera. This rationale also underlies the rehydrating effect of Gatorade.

"It's very gratifying for me, a medically trained basic scientist, to know that my contributions have not only had a major impact in the basic sciences, but have also led to a therapy that has benefited people," Schultz said. "It's one more example of translational, 'bench to bedside' research."

Established in 1992 to honor His Royal Highness Prince Mahidol of Songkla and in recognition of the prince's exemplary contribution toward progress and advancement in the fields of medicine, public health, and social services, the Prince Mahidol Award is an international award presented to an individual or institution in the fields of medicine and public health.

King Bhumibol Adulyadej of Thailand will confer the award Jan. 31, 2007, at the Chakri Throne Hall in the Grand Palace in Bangkok, Thailand. Two Prince Mahidol Awards are granted a year. One award is given for "outstanding performance and/or research in the field of medicine for the benefit of mankind," and another award is given for "outstanding contribution in the field of public health for the sake of the well-being of the peoples."

A Picture of Oral Rehydration Therapy

Everyone stared at the small child sitting calmly at the table, eating. Just four hours before, she lay in her mother's arms, barely breathing, suffering from severe dehydration due to cholera. It was more than 30 years ago in Bangladesh, one of the many Third World countries plagued by cholera — an epidemic spread by bacteria-contaminated food and water.

A treatment called oral rehydration therapy restored the little girl to health, and today, this treatment is credited with saving millions of lives worldwide. The impact this therapy has had on health care is second only to vaccinations.

Oral rehydration therapy is based on pioneering research by Stanley Schultz, M.D., a longtime investigator, educator and administrator at The University of Texas Medical School at Houston.

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Happy Holidays

It's that time of year — to celebrate Hanukkah, Christmas, Kwanzaa, Winter Solstice, Boxing Day, New Year's Eve or any other occasion that is appropriate for you and yours. Here's a reminder about the schedule of upcoming full-closure and skeleton-crew holidays:

Monday, Dec. 25 — Full closure
 Tuesday, Dec. 26 — Full closure
 Wednesday, Dec. 27 — Skeleton crew

Thursday, Dec. 28 — Skeleton crew
 Friday, Dec. 29 — Skeleton crew
 Monday, Jan. 1 — Full closure

The Leader staff hope that your holidays will be filled with enough fun, family and friends to provide memories you'll cherish throughout 2007.



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