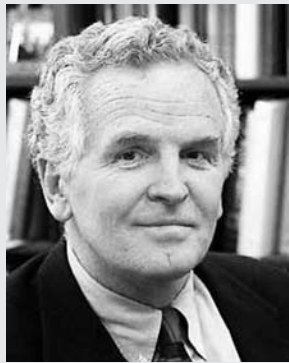


Nomination of S. Ward Casscells III, M.D., sent to the Senate by President Bush

By David R. Bates, *Institutional Advancement*



S. Ward Casscells III, M.D.

The official nomination of S. Ward Casscells III, M.D., vice president for biotechnology at The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston, to be assistant secretary of defense (health affairs) has been sent to the U.S. Senate by President George W. Bush.

"We are very proud of Dr. Casscells' nomination by the President, as we are proud of all of his efforts that have been so very helpful to the Texas Medical Center and the citizens of Texas," said James T. Willerson, M.D., president of the UT Health Science Center at Houston and president-elect of the Texas Heart Institute at St. Luke's Episcopal Hospital.

"Dr. Casscells is one of the most creative physician-scientists in our country today. He is a dedicated public servant and patriot who will bring his creativity, compassion and dedication to serve to our men and women in uniform, our retired military, and their families."

The position Dr. Casscells has been nominated for is

responsible for overall supervision of the health and medical affairs of the Department of Defense (DoD). The Secretary serves as the principal advisor to the Secretary of Defense for all DoD health policies, programs, and activities, and exercises oversight of all DoD health resources.

Dr. Casscells, who also is a U.S. Army Reserve colonel, returned last December from a three-month tour of duty in Iraq, where he served as a liaison to the U.S. ambassador to Iraq and the Iraqi health minister to create a protocol for health policy and medical administration in the region.

For more information, visit <http://publicaffairs.uth.tmc.edu/media/newsreleases/nr2007/casscells-nominee.html>.

New Fund-raising AVP Joins Office of Institutional Advancement

By Wendy Mohon, *Institutional Advancement*

Betsy C. Frantz, a Houstonian with a long history of work for The University of Texas and its affiliates, in February became assistant vice president of fundraising and advancement programs for The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston Office of Institutional Advancement.



Betsy C. Frantz

Her responsibilities center on overseeing school-based development officers and fundraising programs within the central office of

advancement.

James T. Willerson, M.D., president of the UT Health Science Center said he was thrilled that Frantz has rejoined the health science center. "She is passionate about Texas and about educational and research excellence. Betsy is absolutely committed to developing the resources that will allow our education, research and service programs to reach the highest levels possible. I am very pleased that she has come home," he said.

Frantz, a UT Austin graduate, holds a Master's of Public Health from the UT School of Public Health. She worked at the health science center from 1972-92, first at the School of Public Health and later in the Development Office. Most recently, she was executive director of principal gifts for UT Austin within the Houston region.

"Betsy Frantz is an exemplary fundraiser

and an outstanding professional," said C. Gwin Morris, Ph.D., interim vice president for institutional advancement. "The UT Health Science

"Houston is a place that encourages her people to imagine, step forward and make things happen. The culture of philanthropy is imprinted everywhere, especially in the city's great health and medical institutions."

- Betsy Frantz

Center is fortunate to have someone of her caliber as a member of our advancement staff. We look forward to the significant achievements she will bring to pass." ★

STAR Awards 2007 Salute Employee & Faculty Years of Service



1)



2)



4)



3)

1) Sara Barton, left, and Sandra Fisbeck, of the School of Public Health, celebrate their 35 years each at the UT Health Science Center.

2) Vaseem Ali, M.D., associate professor of Obstetrics and Gynecology, Clinical, at the Medical School, receives her 30-year award — and a hug — from her former student, Brent King, M.D., interim executive vice president and chief operating officer of the UT Health Science Center.

3) Marianne Marcus, Ed.D., left, with 25 years of service and The John P. McGovern Professor in Addiction Nursing, School of Nursing, talks with Nancy Willerson, wife of UT Health Science Center President James T. Willerson, M.D. He was out of town on university business and unable to attend the luncheon. *Photos by Kim Coffman*

4) Kimberly Eaton and Jim Hyland, both 20-year service award recipients, open their gifts.

By Pamela Lewis, *Institutional Advancement*

In 2007, for the first time, staff and faculty saluted for years of service at the annual STAR Awards luncheon included those who have toiled on behalf of the UT Health Science Center and its schools, institutes, centers and administrative units for 35 years.

The honorees celebrated for their 35 years of stellar service were:

Dental Branch:

Walter Belanger, D.D.S., clinical associate professor, Orthodontics.

Medical School:

Richard Ruiz, M.D., clinical professor and chair, and holder of the John S. Dunn Distinguished University Chair in Ophthalmology;

Raymond Warner, Ph.D., associate professor, Neurobiology and Anatomy; and

Norman Weisbrodt, Ph.D., professor and chairman, Integrative Biology & Pharmacology.

School of Public Health:

Sara Barton, faculty associate, Human Genetic Center;

Sandra Fisbeck, director, Administrative Services;

Carl Hacker, Ph.D., J.D., associate professor, Management, Policy and Community Health.

Following in their footsteps were 22 members of the community who have given 30 years and 38 who have offered 25 years of their work life to the education, research and service mission of the UT Health Science Center.

More than 50 people received 20-year STAR Award mementoes, while more than 90 were acknowledged for 15 years at the health science center. Over 100 faculty and staff were honored for 10 years of service as were more than 230 who have reached the five-year mark.