The holiday season is upon us, a time to recognize the precious gifts of life and love that are our’s to share.

So it is perhaps with greater sadness that we have had to say goodbye to Dr. Chris Graves, a valued physician, a mentor, and a friend to his colleagues and patients. Chris died on Monday, November 27, 2006, as the result of a car accident.

He had graduated from East Tennessee State University and the University of Tennessee-Memphis School of Medicine. He proudly served his country in the U.S. Navy where he completed his medical residency in family practice at Camp Pendleton, California. He held the rank of lieutenant commander.

He was an associate professor of the Family Medicine Residency Program here at the UT College of Medicine. He was president-elect of the Tennessee Academy of Family Physicians.

Chris was known for his passion for life and his commitment to the healing art of medicine. There is no question that the Chattanooga community will miss him.

To all the physicians, nurses, socials workers, administrators, support staff, custodians, all of you who have helped care for our patients and for each other over the past year, we extend our sincerest wishes for a safe and heartwarming holiday.

**College of Medicine Holiday Hours**

University offices will be closed for the holidays Monday, Dec. 25th through Monday, Jan. 1st. Please be sure to take care of University business as early in the week of Dec. 18th as possible.
Dr. R. Phillip Burns Named President of the Southern Surgical Association

University Surgical Associates (USA) and the University of Tennessee College of Medicine-Chattanooga announced the appointment of R. Phillip Burns, MD as president of the prestigious Southern Surgical Association (SSA). Dr. Burns, who was also named president of the Southeastern Surgical Congress (SESC) earlier this year (the largest regional general surgical society in the US) becomes the first surgeon since 1944 (Alton Ochsner, MD) to serve as president of both groups simultaneously, and the only Chattanooga surgeon ever to serve the SSA as its president.

Today’s SSA evolved from a joint venture created by brothers W.E.B. Davis, MD and J.D.S. Davis, MD in Birmingham, AL in 1886, then known as the Southern Surgical and Gynecological Association. The SSA was created for the purpose of organizing the medical profession of the South in the most efficient manner possible for the advancement of the sciences of surgery. SSA members are elected to the group based on distinguished service in surgical research, and prominence in clinical surgery, leadership, and medical education. The SSA accepts the nomination of only 15 new surgeons per year and currently consists of nearly 700 members. Other USA physicians joining Dr. Burns as members of the SSA include Donald E. Barker, MD, FACS, Joseph B. Cofer, MD, FACS, and S. Michael Roe, MD, FACS.

“Dr. Burns truly defines the Southern Surgical Association,” said L.D. Britt, MD, MPH, secretary for the SSA. “Dr. Burns epitomizes strong leadership, quality education/research and outstanding clinical expertise. He is one of the bona fide leaders in American surgery.”

“It’s very difficult to put into words what a wonderful and humbling honor it is to be named president of this most prestigious Association,” said Dr. Burns. “I proudly accept this appointment knowing it would not have been possible without the guidance, assistance and collaboration of those who have been so instrumental in my career. I am proud for my wife, Gayanne, who has been a pillar of encouragement, my mentors, Drs. Louis Britt and Jim Pate, my fellow peers, faculty members, and assistants, and all the surgical residents who have worked so hard to complete our program. This accolade is due to the cumulated success of those who have worked with me over the past 30 years and I thank them all for their support.”

Dr. Burns, chairman of the UT Department of Surgery, and chairman of the board of USA, is a native of Pikeville, TN. He attended UT Knoxville prior to earning his medical degree in 1966 from UT Memphis College of Medicine. Currently the clinical chief at Erlanger Medical Center, Dr. Burns assisted in the founding of USA in 1976, and has since become one of the region’s leading general surgeons and breast care specialists. A former captain in the US Air Force, he is also Tennessee’s representative to the American College of Surgeons Board of Governors and served as a long time member of the National Residency Review Committee (an organization responsible for inspecting residency programs across the country seeking accreditation).

Dr. Burns has twice won the Baroness Award for teaching excellence, was named Clinician of the Year for UT COM-C Dept. of Surgery, and was the Augustus McCravey Teaching Award recipient--considered the UT COM-C’s Faculty Achievement Award. In 2001, the R. Phillip Burns Award was established at the UT COM-C in recognition of his 25 years of service as chairman of the Department of Surgery. He was also honored in 2002 by being named the UT Memphis College of Medicine’s Outstanding Alumnus.
Pediatric Center Opens

On Saturday evening, October 28, 2006, the long-anticipated dedication of the Vance/Stafford General Pediatrics Center took place at its newly renovated site on the ground floor of the Massoud Building. The changes in name (from University Pediatrics) and location (of the General Pediatrics Division’s clinical area) were made possible by donated funds honoring two Chattanooga pediatricians, Dr. Minnie Vance and Dr. Eleanor Stafford, who practiced together for over 50 years.

Music was provided by Fletcher Bright and the Dismembered Tennesseans and fun events were targeted for the young children. The first public viewing of a mural painted and donated by Cleveland artist Jennie Kirkpatrick, highlighted the party. The art work depicts a scene from Coolidge Park and covers one wall of the waiting room.

Pediatric residents will receive the majority of their three-year general pediatric training in this new Center. In addition, it is the medical home of over 3,000 patients who are followed in the residents’ continuity clinics, the acute care clinic, and the newborn follow-up clinic. Improvements over the old clinic area include more examination rooms, bright and colorful surroundings, child-friendly furniture, windows in the waiting room and some office areas, an updated conferencing area, and the first pediatric residents’ office.

The Peds ribbon is cut!
From left to right:
Dr. Marvin Hall (Chair, Pediatrics)
Dr. Jeannette Martin (Director, Children’s Ambulatory Care)
Dr. Minnie Vance (see article)
Pediatric Resident Reunion

A “first-ever” event for the Department of Pediatrics took place on October 27-28—a reunion of former residents. Graduates returned to the TC Thompson Children’s Hospital from Texas, Kentucky, North Carolina, as well as Chattanooga and surrounding areas in Tennessee.

Activities included the Friday evening Bids-for-Kids fund raiser at the First Tennessee Pavilion and the Saturday evening ribbon-cutting/dedication ceremony and party for the newly renovated Vance/Stafford General Pediatrics Center. On Saturday morning, talks were given by several graduates on subjects in their areas of specialization: Dr. Doug Laman, gastroenterology; Drs. Curt Chaffin, Todd Levine, Damon Coyle, and Marc Cromie, allergy/immunology; Dr. Tim Thomas, cardiology; Dr. Tobey Coyle, general pediatrics in underserved populations. Discussions were held on making this an annual event.

Congratulations

C. David Adair, MD has been elected President of the Southeastern Ob/Gyn Society, 2006-2007. In addition he is serving as Section Chair of the Tennessee Section of the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists for 2006.

Kelly Arnold, MD, an intern with the Family Medicine Department received the Resident Research Award at the Tennessee Academy of Family Physicians Scientific Assembly in Gatlinburg, TN on October 25, 2006. The award was for the article, “Impact of Deliveries on the Office Practice of Family Medicine,” published in the Journal of the National Medical Association, 98(10), 10/06.

Internal Medicine Chief Resident Asma Khan, MD was awarded the winning poster presentation, “The Importance of Avoiding Stereotyping: Epilepsy Masquerading as Psychosis,” at the Southern Medical Association Annual Scientific Meeting, held October 12-15, 2006 in Charlotte, NC.

Congratulations also to all Department of Medicine participants selected to present this year. The College of Medicine-Chattanooga held the notable distinction of having the largest departmental representation at the meeting. Representatives of the Department of Medicine were Shadi Ayyoub, MD, Kumar Gaurav, MD, Supriya Mannapalli, MD, Richard Morrison, MD, Vikul Patel, MD, Tripura Mantha-Bala, MD, and Mukta Panda, MD. Dr. Panda served as faculty mentor and coauthor of each presentation.
Dr. Adel Shenouda to Retire

At the end of this month, Dr. Adel Shenouda, Associate Professor of Medicine in the Nephrology Division, will retire from the faculty after over 30 years of service to the Department, the Chattanooga Unit and the College of Medicine. Dr. Shenouda was born in Assiout, Egypt and graduated from the University of Cairo. After his residency, he did further graduate work in England, followed by an internal medicine residency at Erlanger. He completed his nephrology fellowship at the University of Tennessee at Memphis Medical School, after which he came to Chattanooga to teach in the fledgling Division of Nephrology at what was then the University of Tennessee Clinical Education Center.

Over the years, Dr. Shenouda has consistently received outstanding teaching evaluations from the many residents and medical students who have rotated with him, and he has received many teaching awards. He is board certified in internal medicine and nephrology, a Fellow of the American College of Physicians and a member of the American and International Societies of Nephrology and the International Society of Artificial Organs, and the Hamilton County, Tennessee and American Medical Associations. Over the years, Dr. Shenouda has been on the medical staff of every hospital in Chattanooga and during the last several years has been a managing partner at Nephrology Associates and co-medical director of the regional centers of Dialysis Clinics, Inc.

Dr. Shenouda is noted for his great sense of humor, his infectious laughter, and his logical approach to handling even the most difficult clinical situations. Over the years, many faculty, residents and medical students have enjoyed the generous and sumptuous annual Christmas party given by Dr. Shenouda and his wife, Brenda. Dr. Shenouda’s daily presence in the department will be sorely missed, but we are thrilled to hear that he will remain in the area. He has thrown down the gauntlet for nephrology teaching for our faculty. Thank you, Dr. Shenouda, for all you have done for medical education and patient care in Chattanooga.

SAVE THE DATE

Thursday, February 22, 2007
8:15 AM - Noon

Sixty Minutes Puts Clinical Trials on the Hotseat!!

Probasco Auditorium
Sponsored by the Office of Human Subject Protections
CME credit available

Comments, articles, and announcements for the COMmunicator can be submitted in publishable format to Sylvia Friedl, Office of Human Subject Protections, sylvia.friedl@erlanger.org, 423.778.3899.
Welcome New Pediatric Faculty

**Jamie Blackwell, MD** joined the UT College of Medicine-Chatanooga in July, 2006 at the rank of Clinical Assistant Professor. Dr. Blackwell is currently a Pediatric Emergency Physician at TC Thompson Children’s Hospital. Dr. Blackwell received her Nursing Diploma in 1977 from Methodist Hospital School of Nursing and studied Pre-Med from 1980 to 1982 at Memphis State University. She obtained her Medical Degree from the University of Tennessee in 1988 and completed her Pediatric Residency at Baylor College of Medicine in 1992. Subsequently, she completed her fellowship in Pediatric Emergency Medicine at Texas Children’s Hospital in 1994.

**Sonya R. Collins, MD, MPH** joined the UT College of Medicine-Chattanooga in August, 2006 at the rank of Clinical Assistant Professor. Dr. Collins is currently a Neonatologist in the Newborn Intensive Care Unit at TC Thompson Children’s Hospital. Dr. Collins attended the University of Texas at Arlington where she received her BS in Biology in 1987. She obtained her Medical Degree at the University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio in 1994 and completed her residency at the University of Louisville School of Medicine in 1997. She completed one year of fellowship training in Pediatric Cardiology at Washington Medical Center in St. Louis, MO in 1999. She obtained her fellowship degree in Neonatology at Vanderbilt Medical Center in 2004. Most recently, she obtained a Masters Degree of Public Health-Preventive Medicine in June, 2005 from Vanderbilt Medical Center, Nashville, TN.

**Dale DuBois, MD** joined the UT College of Medicine-Chattanooga in August, 2006 at the rank of Clinical Assistant Professor. Dr. DuBois is currently a Pediatric Emergency Physician at TC Thompson Children’s Hospital. Dr. DuBois attended Creighton University School of Pharmacy in Omaha, Nebraska. He obtained his Medical Degree at Creighton University School of Medicine in 1999. He completed his combined Internal Medicine and Pediatrics residency in 2003 at Creighton University/University of Nebraska Medical Center. Most recently, he completed a fellowship in Pediatric Emergency Medicine at Children’s Hospital, University of Alabama at Birmingham in June, 2006.

**Daniel J. Mackey, MD** joined the UT College of Medicine-Chattanooga in July, 2006 at the rank of Assistant Professor. Dr. Mackey is currently a Pediatric Intensivist with the Department of Pediatrics at TC Thompson Children’s Hospital. Dr. Mackey attended the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill where he completed a BS in Psychology in 1992. He obtained his Medical Degree at the University of North Carolina School of Medicine in 1996. He completed Internal Medicine and Pediatrics residency in 2003 at Creighton University/University of Nebraska Medical Center. Most recently, he completed a fellowship in Pediatric Critical Care at the University of Virginia in June, 2005.

**Wendell Moses, MD** joined the UT College of Medicine-Chattanooga in August, 2006. Dr. Moses holds a joint appointment as Affiliated Instructor with the Department of Pediatrics and Clinical Instructor with Orthopaedic Surgery. He is currently a Pediatric Orthopaedic Surgeon at TC Thompson Children’s Hospital. Dr. Moses obtained his Medical Degree at Loma Linda University School of Medicine in 1982. He completed his residency in Orthopaedic Surgery at Loma Linda University Medical Center in 1987. His Pediatric Orthopaedic Surgery Fellowship was completed in 1998 at the Shriners Hospital for Children in Greenville, South Carolina. He received specialized training in limb lengthening and bone transport at the Ilizarov Unit, Lecco General Hospital in Lecco, Italy. Dr. Moses joins us from Asheville, North Carolina where he was Director of Pediatric Orthopaedics at Mission Children’s Clinic.
Publications


Presentations

Chris Graves, MD, presented “New Treatment in Inflammatory Arthritis” at the Tennessee Academy of Family Physicians Scientific Assembly in Gatlinburg, TN, 10/27/06.

Karl Miller, MD presented “Maintaining Health in the Geriatric Patient,” at the Tennessee Association of Physician’s Assistance in Gatlinburg, TN, 10/18/06.

Karl Miller, MD presented, “Managing Common GI Symptoms at the End of Life,” at the Tennessee Academy of Family Physicians Scientific Assembly in Gatlinburg, TN in October 2006.

New Diversity Committee Launched

The inaugural meeting of a new committee in the Department of Medicine was held at the Chattanoogan Hotel on November 28, 2006.  The meeting was called to order by co-chairs, Drs. Staton and Desbiens. Faculty members included Drs. Jon Cohen, Lotika Pandit, Mukta Panda, Lee Whitaker, and Greg Heath. Drs. Amanda Cincere and Abu Rahman represented the residents and Ms. Deborah Fuller represented the staff.  The committee discussed a number of issues, including the history of diversity in American medicine and residency programs, the mission, purpose and goals of the committee, assessment of faculty and resident knowledge and attitudes about diversity, and future events.  The committee also decided to invite outside experts to assist in its activities.
Are Investigators Required to Obtain Training in the Protection of Human Subjects?

The HHS regulations for the protection of human subjects (45 CFR part 46) do not require investigators to obtain training in the protection of human subjects in research. However, an institution holding an OHRP-approved Federalwide Assurance (FWA) is responsible for ensuring that its investigators conducting HHS-conducted or -supported human subjects research understand and act in accordance with the requirements of the HHS regulations for the protection of human subjects. Therefore, as stated in the Terms of the FWA, OHRP strongly recommends that institutions and their designated IRBs establish training and oversight mechanisms (appropriate to the nature and volume of their research) to ensure that investigators maintain continuing knowledge of, and comply with, the following:

- relevant ethical principles;
- relevant federal regulations;
- written IRB procedures;
- OHRP guidance;
- other applicable guidance;
- state and local laws; and
- institutional policies for the protection of human subjects.

Furthermore, OHRP recommends that investigators complete appropriate institutional educational training before conducting human subjects research. In some cases, other federal requirements regarding training for investigators must be met, such as the National Institute of Health’s (NIH) requirement for the training of key personnel in NIH-sponsored or -conducted human subjects research.

NOTE: The UT Health Science Center requires that all investigators and key research personnel complete the CITI training program prior to submitting a protocol to the IRB.

IRB Submission Changes

The UT/EHS IRB will role out new submission forms effective January 1, 2007. Several of the forms have been revised and all forms have been modified to include text boxes, check boxes and drop down bars. The Initial Approval Form (Form A) has been revised to include department approvals for studies that will involve services from specific Erlanger departments, i.e., Pharmacy, Lab, Radiology, etc. The Continuing Review Form (Form D) has been updated to include number of patients receiving active treatment and those only in follow-up. The forms will be available on the UTCOM Research Website at the following link: http://www.utcomchatt.org/Research/Research.asp?dpage=irbforms.
Advanced Cardiac Life Support for the Experienced Provider (ACLS-EP)

Do you want more in your ACLS Recertification class than algorithms and rhythm strips???
Do you want to be challenged beyond traditional ACLS boundaries???

Then, we have a course for you!

The **ACLS-EP course** is designed for healthcare providers who have experienced the traditional ACLS course many times and want something more. During the 1st segment of the class, participants will update their ACLS provider status with the latest guidelines 2005 (Adult BLS/AED, Algorithms, and the written ACLS exam). The next day offers opportunities to stimulate your critical decision making skills by participating in group discussion on Environmental Emergencies, Acute Coronary Syndromes, Fluid and Electrolyte Abnormalities, and Toxicology Emergencies.

**Course Date/Time**
- January 11th (9:00 AM - 3:00 PM)
- January 12th (9:00 AM - 4:00 PM)

**Location**
- Erlanger Health Systems, Chattanooga, Tennessee

**Cost**
- $150.00 to non-Erlanger Employee
- $60.00 Erlanger Employees

**Questions**
Contact Deb Fitzpatrick at (423) 778-2111

**To Register**
Complete the attached registration form and mail / fax / email to Deb Fitzpatrick. Space is limited so don't delay!

- **Mail:** Deb Fitzpatrick, Erlanger Cardiac Services
  975 E. 3rd Street  Chattanooga, TN 37403
- **Fax:** (423) 778-3137
- **Email:** Debra.Fitzpatrick@erlanger.org

The University of Tennessee College of Medicine designates this educational activity for a maximum of 8 hours AMA PRA Category 1 Credit. ™ Physicians should only claim credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity.
To reserve your spot in the ACLS – EP course, complete this form and mail / fax / or email to Deb Fitzpatrick.

Mail to: Deb Fitzpatrick, Erlanger Cardiac Services  
975 E. 3rd Street Chattanooga, TN 37403  
Fax: (423) 778-3137  
Email: Debra.fitzpatrick@erlanger.org  
If you have any questions, contact Deb Fitzpatrick at (423) 778-2111