



THE UNIVERSITY of TEXAS SYSTEM

# BOARD of REGENTS

Periodic Update # 2014-1  
June 23, 2014

- 1) **Researchers at U. T. Health Science Center - San Antonio have been awarded \$1 million by the Susan G. Komen Foundation:** Pothana Saikumar, Ph.D., and his team have been awarded a \$1 million dollar grant by the Susan G. Komen Foundation to find a new way to treat triple-negative breast cancers. The team has identified one therapeutic target and a possible biomarker that would benefit a large group of patients with this disease. Understanding the cancer cells will help the researchers develop treatments that are more targeted to the cell's mechanisms and not as harsh as current chemotherapy procedures.
- 2) **National Cancer Institute awards \$48.6 million grant to U. T. M. D. Anderson:** Broad, deep, and outstanding research in cancer science, treatment, and prevention have earned The University of Texas U. T. M. D. Anderson Cancer Center a \$48.6 million, five-year grant from the National Cancer Institute and an "exceptional" ranking, the highest possible, from the NCI's extensive peer-review process. Renewal of U. T. M. D. Anderson's NCI Cancer Center Support Grant extends the institution's status as a comprehensive cancer center, upheld since its designation as one of the first three such centers in 1971. The grant, \$9.7 million annually, supports 19 research programs and 16 shared resources that serve the entire institution. Research programs range from basic science to clinical trials of new therapies.
- 3) **U. T. Austin, U. T. Dallas, and U. T. San Antonio ranked among top 25 universities to work for by Glassdoor:** A list of the top 25 universities to work for was posted by Glassdoor, an online job and career community. U. T. Austin ranked number 4, U. T. San Antonio ranked 10, and U. T. Dallas ranked 11 in the 2013 survey. The ranking is unique because it is the only one based purely on employee feedback. Respondents rank their employers on a five point scale in categories such as work/life balance, ability to attract talented staff, and campus appearance.
- 4) **Houston Rodeo gifts \$450,000 to launch Accelerated Ph.D. Scholars Program at U. T. Health Science Center - Houston:** A gift of \$450,000 from the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo™ is helping launch a second group of students in the Accelerated Ph.D. Scholars Program of The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston School of Nursing. The successful model for the Accelerated Ph.D. program provides candidates with annual stipends of \$69,700 for each student (or \$230,000 per student over three years, including faculty stipends) to help offset the costs of the program and cover basic living expenses. The stipends enable full-time study so that the students complete their degrees much sooner than the eight years of part-time study it traditionally takes to complete the rigorous doctoral curriculum of 66 post-master's credits.

- 5) **Dr. Peterson of U. T. Health Science Center - San Antonio to lead PTSD research consortium:** Dr. Alan Peterson, professor of psychiatry at U. T. Health Science Center - San Antonio, has been chosen by the U.S. Department of Defense and the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs to direct a national consortium called The STRONG STAR Consortium to Alleviate PTSD (STRONG STAR-CAP) studying post-traumatic stress disorder to advance PTSD diagnosis, prevention, and treatment for service members and veterans. STRONG STAR-CAP will be provided \$45 million over a five-year period for their research. The consortium will be led by U. T. Health Science Center - San Antonio and the VA National Center for PTSD.
- 6) **U. T. Austin named one of the country's best schools for entrepreneurs:** *The Princeton Review and Entrepreneur* magazine released a list of top 25 undergraduate and graduate entrepreneur programs, ranking U. T. Austin's McCombs School of Business as the entrepreneur graduate program in the nation. Some of the criteria used to evaluate the schools included their levels of commitment to entrepreneurship inside and outside the classroom; the percentage of their faculty, students, and alumni involved in entrepreneurial endeavors; the number and reach of their mentorship programs; their funding for scholarships and grants for entrepreneurial studies and projects; and their support for school-sponsored business plan competitions.
- 7) **U. T. Health Science Center - San Antonio meets its campaign goal of \$500 million:** At the 2013 President's Gala, President Henrich announced that the Greehey Family Foundation had donated a \$5 million dollar gift to the University. This helped the Health Science Center's Campaign for the Future of Health exceed its goal of \$500 million. The Greehey Family Foundation donated a historic \$25 million to the University in 2007.
- 8) **U. T. System makes four key hires:** U. T. System has recently hired a Vice Chancellor and General Counsel, a Director for the Office of Strategic Initiatives, an Associate Vice Chancellor and Chief Information Officer for the Office of Systemwide Information Services, and an Associate Vice Chancellor for the Office of Academic Affairs.

Mr. Dan Sharphorn was appointed to the position of Vice Chancellor and General Counsel after serving as *ad interim* for the last 14 months. Mr. Sharphorn earned his JD, MSW, and MA from the University of Michigan, where he also served in the Vice President and General Counsel's Office for 25 years. Mr. Sharphorn taught law and social organization and law and social psychology at the University of Michigan and was instructor and Judge Advocate General at the United States Military Academy at West Point.

Dr. David Troutman was selected as the new Director of the Office of Strategic Initiatives. Dr. Troutman received a Ph.D. from the University of North Carolina at Greensboro and worked previously for both U. T. Austin and U. T. System.

Mr. Marc Milstein has been hired as the Associate Vice Chancellor and Chief Information Officer of the Office of Systemwide Information Services effective July 14, 2014. Mr. Milstein earned an MBA in Systems Management from Baldwin Wallace College, and comes to U. T. System from Yeshiva University/Albert Einstein College of Medicine in New York, where he served as the Vice President for Information Technology and Chief Information Officer for 7 years.

Dr. Linda Johnsrud joins the Office of Academic Affairs as an Associate Vice Chancellor. Dr. Johnsrud comes to U. T. System from the University of Hawaii System, where she was an Executive Vice President and Provost for Academic Affairs. Dr. Johnsrud received a Ph.D. in Higher Education from Ohio State University.

- 9) **U. T. Tyler working to promote engineering on the high school level:** U. T. Tyler's Engineering College site in Houston is working to build a student pipeline to engineering schools through a program called Project Lead-the-Way. The program has trained over 200 teachers to teach accredited pre-engineering courses, with a plan to train over 200 more this summer.
- 10) **City of Austin installs artwork on U. T. System Complex:** The City of Austin installed a piece of artwork on City property on the east sidewalk adjacent to the Regents Plaza on March 25. The artwork was installed in conjunction with the City of Austin Great Streets Colorado Street Reconstruction Project. It is an approximately seven foot tall, silver sculpture. A picture of the artwork is attached as *Attachment #1*.
- 11) **Update on the ongoing review of Policies:** The Board Office is near completion on a long-term project to review and update the U. T. System policy library and converting the policy website to a more user-friendly format.
- 12) **U. T. M. D. Anderson Cancer Center doctor awarded 2014 Breakthrough Prize in Life Sciences:** Dr. James Allison was awarded the 2014 Breakthrough Prize in Life Sciences for his discovery of T cell checkpoint blockade as effective cancer therapy. The thought behind these awards is that scientists should be treated like heroes. The prize ceremony was hosted by actor Kevin Spacey and organized in cooperation with *Vanity Fair*.
- 13) **U. T. Arlington and Arlington ISD work together for early admissions success:** The University of Texas at Arlington and the Arlington Independent School District announced the launch of Bound for Success, an early admissions initiative aimed at increasing the number of high-achieving high school scholars who ultimately earn a college degree. The collaborative program will identify high school students ranked in the top 20 percent of their class at the end of their sophomore year for pre-admittance to U. T. Arlington, contingent on completing the requirements for high school graduation, and university admissions counselors will be available weekly at Arlington ISD high schools to counsel Bound for Success students.
- 14) **Office of Strategic Initiatives created U. T. System group Research and Policy Analysis Consortium:** The U. T. System Office of Strategic Initiatives has created the Research and Policy Analysis Consortium (RPAC). The RPAC has three main goals:
  - To increase communication, collaboration, and information sharing related to academic and policy research, with the goal of decreasing duplication of effort across System offices by discussing ongoing and projected research projects and ad hoc data requests.

- To provide a network of colleagues who conduct research and data analysis across the U. T. System Administration that can call upon each other to discuss methodological or other research-related issues and questions as they arise. A group list serve was created for this purpose.
- To collectively plan topics and presentations for the monthly research and policy brownbag series.

A list of its current members is attached as *Attachment #2*.

- 15) **2014 Regents' Outstanding Teaching Awards Recipients named:** Nominees for the 2014 ROTA have been reviewed and recipients notified. Attached as *Attachment #3* is a list of the recipients.
- 16) **U. T. Dallas receives \$17M gift:** Philanthropist Edith O'Donnell, a strong proponent of education and the arts, has made a \$17 million gift to The University of Texas at Dallas to establish an institute of art history. She cited U. T. Dallas for its "commitment to building excellence in art history with vision, focus, and creativity." Last November, U. T. Dallas dedicated the new \$60 million Edith O'Donnell Arts and Technology building.
- 17) **SACS accreditation updates:** U. T. Brownsville just received news that their 5th year review by SACS was very successful. This means that U. T. Brownsville is fully accredited.

U. T. System officials are ready to work on accrediting U. T. Rio Grande Valley. President Bailey has begun to assemble a team that includes representatives of the Medical School to work on this application.

Additionally, U. T. Health Science Center - Tyler was approved by SACS for candidacy status, a step toward full accreditation. During the site visit, Dr. Greenberg noted that Regent Stillwell very capably represented the Board of Regents in the review process.



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## Research & Policy Analysis Consortium

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**Cathy Delgado**

Research & Policy Analyst  
Office of Strategic Initiatives

**Pat Francis**

Assistant Vice Chancellor  
Health Affairs

**Meredith Goode**

Research & Policy Analyst  
Academic Affairs

**Theresa Johnson**

Sr. Business Analyst  
Tech Commercialization

**Elizabeth Mayer**

Institutional Research Analyst  
Health Affairs

**Chris Macon**

Manager Project Controls System  
Facilities Plan Construction

**Miriam McKinney**

Institutional Research Analyst  
Office of Strategic Initiatives

**Chad Pomerleau**

Communications Coordinator  
Academic Affairs

**Roberta Rincon**

Sr. Research & Policy Analyst  
Academic Affairs

**Annette Royal**

Assistant Director  
Office of Strategic Initiatives

**Amy Shackelford**

Director of Strategic Partnerships  
Institute for Transformational Learning

**Jessica Shedd**

Assistant Director  
Office of Strategic Initiatives

**Mehary Stafford**

Sr. Research & Policy Analyst  
Office of Strategic Initiatives

**David Troutman**

Director  
Office of Strategic Initiatives

**Harini Venkatesan**

Institutional Research Analyst  
Office of Strategic Initiatives

**Jeff White**

Business Intelligence Research Analyst  
Office of Strategic Initiatives

**Hengxia Zhao**

Institutional Research Analyst  
Office of Strategic Initiatives

**Academic Affairs ROTA Recipients 2014**

U. T. Arlington

Dr. Krystal Beamon  
Mr. Darryl Lauster  
Dr. Allan Saxe  
Dr. Kevin Schug

U. T. Austin

Dr. Byron Almén  
Dr. Lorenzo Alvisi  
Dr. Jane Arledge  
Ms. Judith Birdsong  
Dr. Paul Bommer  
Dr. Kevin Cokley  
Dr. Lucien Douglas  
Dr. Caroline Frick  
Ms. Tamie Glass  
Dr. Julia Guernsey  
Dr. Neal Hall  
Dr. Julie Hardwick  
Dr. Robert Jensen  
Dr. Barbara Jones  
Dr. Dave Junker  
Mr. Brad Love  
Dr. John Murphy  
Ms. Leslie Mutchler  
Dr. Kumar Muthuraman  
Dr. George Pollak  
Dr. Elaine Rich  
Dr. James Scott  
Dr. Daron Shaw  
Dr. Sean Theriault  
Mr. Sean Thompson  
Dr. David Vanden Bout  
Dr. Jo Worthy  
Dr. Veronica Young

U. T. Brownsville

Dr. Diana Dominguez

U. T. Dallas

Dr. Michael Baron  
Dr. Rebecca Files  
Dr. Randall Lehmann  
Dr. Alexis Piquero  
Dr. Mohammad Saquib  
Dr. Jason Slinker

U. T. El Paso

Dr. Ivonne Santiago  
Dr. Gita Upreti  
Dr. José Villalobos  
Dr. Amy Wagler  
Dr. Brian Yothers

## Health Affairs ROTA Recipients 2014

### U. T. Southwestern Medical Center

Keith E. Argenbright, M.D.

Ravi Bhoja, M.D.

Barry R. Botterman, Ph.D.

Adam M. Brenner, M.D.

Stephen C. Cannon, M.D., Ph.D.

Jennifer A. Cuthbert, M.D.

Elliott M. Frohman, M.D., Ph.D.

David E. Greenberg, M.D.

Angela P. Mihalic, M.D.

### U. T. Health Science Center - San Antonio

William P. Clarke, Ph.D.

Archie A. Jones, DDS, MBA

Linda M. McManus, Ph.D.

Jay I. Peters, M.D.

Linda J. Porter-Wenzlaff, Ph.D., R.N.

Ruben D. Restrepo, M.D.

Ivy S. Schwartz, DDS, MS

Frank J. Weaker, Ph.D.

### U. T. M. D. Anderson Cancer Center

Javier A. Adachi, M.D.

Hagop M. Kantarjian, M.D.

Khandan Keyomarsi, Ph.D.

Henry M. Kuerer, M.D., Ph.D.

Robert A. Wolff, M.D.

### U. T. Medical Branch - Galveston

Michael A. Ainsworth, M.D.

Vicki S. Freeman, Ph.D.

Richard W. Goodgame, M.D.

Ruth E. Levine, M.D.

Steven A. Lieberman, M.D.

Virginia N. Niebuhr, Ph.D.

### U. T. Health Science Center - Houston

Michelle S. Barratt, M.D., MPH

Patricia M. Butler, M.D.

Margaret O. Caughy, Sc.D.

Catherine M. Flaitz, DDS

Joanne V. Hickey, Ph.D., R.N.

M. Sriram Iyengar, Ph.D.

Lillian S. Kao, M.D., MS

Kevin A. Morano, Ph.D.

Beatrice J. Selwin, Sc.D.

### U. T. Health Science Center – Tyler

Pierre F. Neuenschwander, Ph.D.