GSBS student, Jarah Meador, measures DNA damage to South Atlantic Ocean phytoplankton at Palmer Station in Antarc-
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<td></td>
<td>Alumni Alert</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Atanasia Panapoulos, Graduate Student Association president, waves atop the fire engine float in the M.D. Anderson Cancer Center Holiday Card parade against a back drop of the Houston Main Building.
Dean’s Notes

In the hustle and bustle of everyday life it is easy to get the impression that we are achieving very little because we are so busy with daily tasks that we lose sight of how much we are accomplishing over time. For this very reason, at year’s end, I pause and reflect on my career. When I review the past year’s appointment calendar and update my CV, I get a truer perspective of my achievements and this prepares me for the challenges of the next 365 days. In the new Millennium, I find myself reflecting upon my entire scientific career which leads me to think about the accomplishments of the GSBS since it began in 1963. I would like to share some highlights of those GSBS thoughts with you.

We now have over 1,000 alumni and over 400 students are enrolled this year. These graduates and students are the most important mirror of our success or failure - what do they tell us about their experiences at the GSBS? In a recent alumni survey with a very high response rate (70%), “92.7% of the respondents are either ‘very satisfied’ or ‘satisfied’ with the education they received from the GSBS.” A complete report of that survey can be found on the GSBS home page (http://gsbs.gs.uth.tmc.edu/) by clicking on “alumni.” If you want to be as proud of the GSBS as I am, read the full report of that survey.

The goal of the GSBS is to provide exceptional research training. Since this requires top quality research, what is the quality of our research activities? In the most comprehensive study of its kind in the 80's, the Institute of Scientific Information ranked institutions based upon the total number of “Citation Classics” (i.e., the most frequently cited research publications) of their faculties. UT components in Houston ranked 3rd in the NATION. A study of clinical research in the mid 90's ranked us 10th in the NATION in terms of output and citation impact. This year the aggregate NIH funding of our parent institutions ranks in the top 20 of ALL institutions in the NATION - greater than ANY other institution in Texas. All this has been achieved in only 37 years compared to a much longer history for most of the competition.

Our teaching and research missions are accomplished by the GSBS faculty. What are some of their accomplishments? Let’s start with a Nobel Prize. Add two Lasker Awards of current faculty and one awarded to a past faculty member. Continue the count with three faculty who have been members of the National Academy of Sciences (including the first in the Texas Medical Center), several elected to the NAS after they left Houston, and a number of current and past faculty elected to the prestigious Institute of Medicine. As an index of peer esteem, let’s add presidencies of the American Society of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, the Endocrine Society, the American Society for Pharmacology and Experimental Therapeutics, the American Medical Association, the American Association of Pathologists, the American Physiological Association (two not one), the American Association for Cancer Research (three no less!) and the American Cancer Society (four - does any institution have more?). I apologize for any number of omissions, but even if the Dean weren’t absent minded, his staff still gave him a page limit! The preceding comment reminds me to add a note about the great GSBS staff for all they do and the pleasant way they do it. They’re the best!

The process of taking stock seems to work as well in the Dean’s office as it did when I was a faculty member - I feel energized to face the New Year, the coming decade, and even the next Millennium! Thanks to all of you for providing the real energy for our School. Let’s not rest on our laurels, but let’s remember to occasionally pause and reflect.
1999/2000 NEW STUDENTS

Elizabeth Albaugh  
PhD - Neuroscience  
BS/1998/University of Northern Iowa  
Iowa

Diane Andryshak  
PhD - Microbiology & Molecular Genetics  
BS/1999/University of Florida-Gainesville  
Florida

Matthew Billard  
PhD - Immunology  
BS/1996/University of Illinois  
Urbana-Champaign  
MS/1999/Illinois State University  
Illinois

Sonia Blum  
MD/PhD - Immunology  
BS/1997/University of Texas-Austin  
Texas

Sara Bowne  
PhD - Human and Molecular Genetics  
BS/1993/State University of New York-Fredonia  
MS/1998/University of Texas-Houston  
GSBS  
Texas

Jennifer Brannan  
PhD - Virology and Gene Therapy  
BA/1998/Cornell College  
Washington

Ivone Bruno  
PhD - Human and Molecular Genetics  
BS/1990/University of Puerto Rico  
MS/1996/Southern Illinois University  
Texas

Kim Buntz  
PhD - Human and Molecular Genetics  
BS/1999/University of Rochester  
Pennsylvania

Laura Butler  
SMS - Medical Physics  
BS/1999/University of Memphis  
Tennessee

Mariana Carrillo  
PhD - Immunology  
BS/1999/University of California-Davis  
California

Jennifer Carter  
PhD - Virology and Gene Therapy  
BS/1999/Angelo State University  
Texas

James Chaloupka  
PhD - Pharmacology  
BA/1994/New York University  
MHS/1997/Johns Hopkins University  
New York

Wai Kin Chan  
PhD - Cancer Biology  
BS/1989/Xiamen University  
MS/1995/Xiamen University  
People’s Republic of China

Joseph Chang  
PhD - Human and Molecular Genetics  
BS/1998/University of Texas-Austin  
Texas

Chih-Hsin Chen  
PhD - Genes and Development  
BS/1991/National Taiwan University  
MS/1993/National Taiwan University  
Republic of China

Xinpu Chen  
PhD - Microbiology and Molecular Genetics  
BS/1991/Zhejiang University  
MS/1999/Peking University  
People’s Republic of China

Amanda Davis  
SMS - Medical Physics  
BA/1999/Taylor University  
Indiana

Matthew Dooris  
PhD - Virology and Gene Therapy  
BS/1999/Saint Leo College  
Florida

Cheryl Fahrenre  
PhD - Neuroscience  
BA/1994/University of San Diego  
MA/1996/University of North Carolina - Chapel Hill  
California

Diasonou Fioravante  
PhD - Neuroscience  
BA/1999/American College of Greece  
Greece

Hui Gao  
PhD - Cancer Biology  
BS/1993/Capital University of Medical Science  
People’s Republic of China

Betsy Gay  
SMS - Genetic Counseling  
BS/1993/Texas A&M University  
Texas

Jason Grier  
PhD - Cancer Biology  
BS/1999/Texas A&M University  
Texas

Hua Guo  
PhD - Medical Physics  
BS/1997/Liaoning University  
MS/1999/Peking University  
People’s Republic of China

Sumera Hasham  
PhD - Human and Molecular Genetics  
BS/1995/Osmania University  
MS/1997/University of Hyderabad  
India

Qiang He  
PhD - Cancer Biology  
BS/1992/Nankai University  
MS/1997/Tianjin Medical University  
People’s Republic of China

Stephen Henry  
PhD - Genes and Development  
BA/1990/Washington University  
MS/1999/University of Texas-Houston  
GSBS  
Texas

David Hernandez  
MD/PhD - Neuroscience  
BS/1999/University of Texas-Austin  
Texas

Xiaoqi Hu  
PhD - Microbiology and Molecular Genetics  
BS/1998/Nankai University Medical School  
People’s Republic of China

Yong Huang  
PhD - Genes and Development  
BS/1996/East China University of Science and Technology  
MS/1999/Chinese Academy of Science  
People’s Republic of China

Raegan Hunt  
MD/PhD - Cancer Biology  
BS/1998/Texas A&M University  
Texas

Tricia Ishimoto  
PhD - Cancer Biology  
BS/1993/University of California – Los Angeles
PharmD/1996/University of the Pacific
Texas

Latasha Jackson
PhD - Pharmacology
BS/1999/Xavier University
Georgia

Joanna Johnson
PhD - Cancer Biology
BS/1999/Texas Lutheran University
Texas

Geoff Kannan
PhD - Human and Molecular Genetics
AB/1999/Harvard University
Florida

Shreya Kant
PhD - Molecular Pathology
BS/1999/Indian Institute of Technology
India

Nick Koch
SMS - Medical Physics
BS/1999/University of Northern Colorado
Colorado

Keng-Hsueh Lan
PhD - Cancer Biology
BS/1999/National Taiwan University
Republic of China

Laurie Lashinger
PhD - Cancer Biology
BS/1994/Old Dominion University
BSN/1996/University of Virginia-Charlottesville
Virginia

Chris Ledbetter
PhD - Medical Physics
BS/1999/Centenary College
Louisiana

Lawrence Lee
PhD - Immunology
BS/1996/University of Washington-Seattle
Washington

Tom Lee
MS - Immunology
BA/1997/University of Texas-Austin
Texas

Mei Li
PhD - Biochemistry
BS /1997/Beijing Medical University
People=s Republic of China

Yan Li
PhD - Immunology
BS/1998/Peking Union

Medical College
People=s Republic of China

Jacki Lin
PhD - Physiology
BS/1997/Emory University
Florida

Debbie Litchfield
PhD - Cancer Biology
BS/1999/Canisius College
New York

Yan Liu
PhD - Immunology
BS/1993/China Medical University
People=s Republic of China

Pierrette Lo
PhD - Cancer Biology
BS/1999/ University Calgary
Canada

Shihua Lu
PhD - Human and Molecular Genetics
BS/1995/Fudan University
People=s Republic of China

Wenbin Ma
PhD - Microbiology and Molecular Genetics
BS/1999/Xiamen University
People=s Republic of China

Solida Mak
PhD - Microbiology and Molecular Genetics
BS/1989/Boston College
Texas

Meghan McCluggage
MS - Cancer Biology
BS/1998/Trinity University
Texas

Shailendra Mundhada
MS - Cancer Biology
BS/1985/Government Medical College
MD/1990/Government Medical College
India

Emily Neumann
PhD - Cancer Biology
BS/1999/Central Michigan University
Michigan

Jiangong Niu
PhD - Pharmacology
BS/1996/Peking University
People=s Republic of China

Jennifer O’Daniel
SMS - Medical Physics
BA/1999/Kalamazoo College
Michigan

Ilissa Okrent
MD/PhD - Virology and Gene Therapy
BA/1999/Quinnipiac College
Connecticut

Ann Painter
MS - Cancer Biology
BS/1999/University of Texas-Austin
Texas

Shujuan Pan
PhD - Human and Molecular Genetics
BS/1994/Yantai Normal University
People=s Republic of China

Athanasia Panopoulos
MS - Immunology
BS/1997/University of Michigan-Ann Arbor
Michigan

Junlin Qi
PhD - Virology
BS/1995/Shanghai Medical University
People=s Chinese Academy of Preventive Medicine
Texas

Jason Rall
PhD - Cell Biology
BS/1998/University of Texas-Austin
Texas

Aarati Ranganathan
PhD - Microbiology and Molecular Genetics
BS/1995/Birla Institute of Technology and Science
People=s Republic of China

Zhiyong Ren

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Degree</th>
<th>Institution or University</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Country</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Brenda Rivera</td>
<td>PhD - Molecular Pathology</td>
<td>BS/1995/Tianjin Medical University</td>
<td></td>
<td>People’s Republic of China</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>MS - Toxicology</td>
<td></td>
<td>Puerto Rico</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mahyar Sabripour</td>
<td>PhD - Human and Molecular Genetics</td>
<td>BS/1995/University of Houston</td>
<td>Texas</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shankar Sellapan</td>
<td>PhD - Cancer Biology</td>
<td>BS/1999/Case Western Reserve University</td>
<td>Maryland</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jie Shen</td>
<td>PhD - Immunology</td>
<td>BS/1991/Fudan University</td>
<td>People’s Republic of China</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dan Su</td>
<td>PhD - Pharmacology</td>
<td>BS/1994/Jilin Medical University</td>
<td></td>
<td>People’s Republic of China</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cynthia Trajtenberg</td>
<td>SMS - Oral Biomaterials</td>
<td>DDS/1993/Universidad de Buenos Aires</td>
<td>Argentina</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Erica Trickey</td>
<td>PhD - Cancer Biology</td>
<td>BS/1999/University of Missouri-Columbia</td>
<td>Missouri</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Laura Valentine</td>
<td>SMS - Genetic Counseling</td>
<td>BS/1986/University of Texas-Houston School of Allied Health Sciences</td>
<td>Texas</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Travis Vaught</td>
<td>PhD - Virology and Gene Therapy</td>
<td>BS/1995/San Diego State University</td>
<td>California</td>
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<tr>
<td>Javier Vega</td>
<td>PhD - Pharmacology</td>
<td>BS/1999/University of Puerto Rico</td>
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<tr>
<td>Josh Vincentz</td>
<td>PhD - Integrative Biology</td>
<td>BS/1999/Rochester Institute of Technology</td>
<td>New York</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kendra Waller</td>
<td>SMS - Genetic Counseling</td>
<td>BS/1998/Texas Tech University</td>
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<tr>
<td>Zheng Wei Zhang</td>
<td>PhD - Molecular Biology</td>
<td>BS/1995/Shanghai Medical University</td>
<td>People’s Republic of China</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Laura Wright</td>
<td>SMS - Genetic Counseling</td>
<td>BS/1999/Texas A&amp;M University</td>
<td>Texas</td>
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<tr>
<td>Qin Xia</td>
<td>PhD - Biochemistry</td>
<td>BS/1995/Fudan University</td>
<td>People’s Republic of China</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hongyan Xu</td>
<td>PhD - Human and Molecular Genetics</td>
<td>BS/1996/Fudan University</td>
<td>People’s Republic of China</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tao Xue</td>
<td>PhD - Biochemistry</td>
<td>BS/1998/Tsinghua University</td>
<td>People’s Republic of China</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pamela Yang</td>
<td>PhD - Neuroscience</td>
<td>BA/1993/Trinity University</td>
<td>Texas</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hays Young</td>
<td>PhD - Biochemistry</td>
<td>BS/1999/Florida State University</td>
<td>Florida</td>
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</table>
Robert D. Wells, Ph.D., is a man who has garnered impressive scientific awards, forged new paths, and received an amazing number of accolades backed up by significant financial support. Dr. Robert D. Wells is the Director of the Center for Genome Research at the Institute of Biosciences and Technology, Texas A&M University, Texas Medical Center in Houston. Dr. Wells holds an Adjunct Professorship in the Department of Biochemistry at The University of Texas M.D. Anderson Cancer Center (1991-present). This is the sole Adjunct Professorship ever extended by the M.D. Anderson Cancer Center. He was the Founding Director of the Albert B. Alkek Institute of Biosciences and Technology in Houston (1990-1994). Concurrently, he served as the Head of the Department of Biochemistry and Biophysics, Texas A&M University in College Station, Texas.

Previously, Dr. Wells was Chairman and Professor of the Department of Biochemistry in the Schools of Medicine and Dentistry at the University of Alabama at Birmingham for a ten-year period. From 1966-1981, he was Professor at the University of Wisconsin-Madison in the Department of Biochemistry. He was a Guggenheim Fellow at the Salk Institute for Biological Studies and the University of California-San Diego, mid 1970’s, where he studied cancer viruses (polyoma). Wells participated in solving the genetic code (1964-66); his postdoctoral mentor, Dr. H. Gobind Khorana received the Nobel Prize in 1968 for these discoveries.

Today, numerous seminal contributions from Dr. Wells’ laboratory have furthered our understanding of unusual DNA structures related to gene expression. As Program Director for Cellular and Molecular Biology at the University of Wisconsin, he received the largest training grant in the United States in 1978. From 1986-1991 he received a National Science Foundation Research Grant for Studies with Defined Deoxyribonucleic Acids, the first ever National Science Foundation grant award for a five year period; and, Dr. Wells was the recipient of 27 years of uninterrupted support from the NSF for Studies with Defined Deoxyribonucleic Acids, from 1967-1994.

His book entitled, *Genetic Instabilities and Hereditary Neurological Diseases*, co-edited with Dr. Stephen T. Warren (Emory University) was released by Academic Press in May 1998. Dr. Wells has directed an active research program continuously funded by federal, state and foundation sources since 1966, and has conferred 27 Ph.D. degrees and trained over 60 postdoctoral fellows. As an acclaimed biochemist and president of the most prestigious organization of American biochemistry, he is pleased with his affiliation with the UT-H GSBS. Dr. Wells’ advice to graduates in general, and GSBS students in particular, is this: “Associate with the very best people. Work hard, be productive, have fun, and then move to another lab for postdoctoral experience. Aim for the stars, but be willing to accept something less.”

“Aim for the stars, but be willing to accept something less.”
ALFRED G. KNUDSON OUTSTANDING DISSERTATION

In 1997 an annual Alfred G. Knudson Outstanding Dissertation Award was established by M.D. Anderson Cancer Center to honor this distinguished individual and previous GSBS dean. It is to be given to a graduate of the GSBS whose dissertation is selected as the most outstanding in cancer research. For 1999-2000 the recipient of the Alfred G. Knudson Award of $1,000 is

Alexey L. Arkov, Ph.D.

R.W. BUTCHER ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

The R.W. Butcher Fund was established in 1977 to provide for these annual awards of $3,000 each. The award is presented to a student who demonstrates excellence in research, has a commitment to a career in biomedical research, and makes professional contributions to the community. In 1999-2000 there are two R.W. Butcher Award winners:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Student</th>
<th>Supervisory Professor</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Martha Rodriguez</td>
<td>Dr. Varsha Gandhi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stacey Davis</td>
<td>Dr. Magnus Hook</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

PRESIDENTS’ SCHOLARSHIPS

Through funding from President M. David Low, UT-H Health Science Center, and President John Mendelsohn, M. D. Anderson Cancer Center, recognition is given to four advanced GSBS students who have demonstrated excellence in research. The applications are reviewed by a committee consisting of five past, present and future presidents of the Graduate Faculty. The 1999 Presidents’ Scholars who will each receive a cash award of $5,000, are:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Scholars</th>
<th>Supervisory Professor</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Nelson Arango</td>
<td>Dr. Richard Behringer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weimin Bi</td>
<td>Dr. Benoit de Crombrugghe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Michael Davies</td>
<td>Dr. Peter Steck and Dr. Gary Gallick</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Xiolan Ma</td>
<td>Dr. William Margolin</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
SOWELL-HUGGINS SCHOLARSHIPS

Eight years ago the Sowell and Huggins families established an Endowment in the GSBS in appreciation for the particularly effective treatment received by their sons, Andy Sowell and Wade Huggins, at the M.D. Anderson Cancer Center. The endowment is to be used to award scholarships to GSBS students who are involved in cancer research. Twenty students have received these awards to date. The 1999-2000 Sowell-Huggins Scholars who will each receive $2,000 are:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Scholars</th>
<th>Supervisory Professors</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Michael Davies</td>
<td>Dr. Peter Steck/Dr. Gary Gallick</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ming Tan</td>
<td>Dr. Dihua Yu</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Darren Davis</td>
<td>Dr. David McConkey</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

ANNUAL GRADUATE STUDENT POSTER AWARDS

The seventeenth annual graduate student poster session was held October 29, 1999. Nine awards were made to three categories of students: Master’s Degree, Pre-Candidacy Ph.D., and Post-Candidacy Ph.D. Cash prizes for the winners were: First place, $400; Second place, $300; Third Place, $200.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Student</th>
<th>Award</th>
<th>Supervisory Professor</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ann Painter</td>
<td>1st Place</td>
<td>Dr. Ellen Richie</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stacia P. Vaughn</td>
<td>2nd Place</td>
<td>Dr. Jacqueline T. Hecht</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Andrew Doig</td>
<td>3rd Place</td>
<td>Dr. Nicholas Terry</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fariba Behbod</td>
<td>1st Place</td>
<td>Dr. Robert A. Kirken</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Qiyong (Jackie) Hu</td>
<td>2nd Place</td>
<td>Dr. Richard Behringer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kelly Volcik</td>
<td>3rd Place</td>
<td>Dr. Hope Northrup</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Darren W. Davis</td>
<td>1st Place</td>
<td>Dr. David J. McConkey</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wendong Huang</td>
<td>2nd Place</td>
<td>Dr. Benoit de Crombrugghe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weimin Bi</td>
<td>3rd Place</td>
<td>Dr. Benoit de Crombrugghe</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
# SCHISSLER FOUNDATION FELLOWS

The Schissler Foundation has been a major contributor to the GSBS for the past five years supporting students involved in research in the human genetics of common diseases. For the 1999-2000 academic year, the Schissler Foundation is providing funding for two fellowships in the amount of $20,000 each. In 1999-2000 the prestigious Schissler Fellows are:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fellows</th>
<th>Supervisory Professor</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Josh Akey</td>
<td>Dr. Li Jin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sara Bowne</td>
<td>Dr. Stephen Daiger</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

# AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY FELLOWSHIPS

For twenty-eight years the American Legion Auxiliary has been providing scholarships to GSBS students involved in cancer research. The money for this funding is raised through bake sales, bingo games and other labor-intensive activities. The Auxiliary has raised $750,583 to present 65 scholarships to date. $5,000 is currently presented to each award-winning scholar. American Legion Auxiliary Fellows for the 1999/2000 fiscal year are:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fellows</th>
<th>Supervisory Professor</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Robert A. Boyd</td>
<td>Dr. Kenneth Hogstrom</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thomas Burrows</td>
<td>Dr. Michael Weil</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Julie Cerrato</td>
<td>Dr. Ta-Jen Liu</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tracy Costello</td>
<td>Dr. Christopher Amos</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Michael Davies</td>
<td>Dr. Gary Gallick</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Joshua Krumenacker</td>
<td>Dr. Ferid Murad</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elizabeth Lafleur</td>
<td>Dr. Eugenie Kleinerman</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deana Leonard</td>
<td>Dr. Randy Legerski</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Steven McCullough</td>
<td>Dr. Richard Wendt III</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Leta Nutt</td>
<td>Dr. David McConkey</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jessica Pahler</td>
<td>Dr. David McConkey</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Christopher Richie</td>
<td>Dr. Randy Legerski</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jeffrey Walterscheid</td>
<td>Dr. Stephen Ullrich</td>
</tr>
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<td>Deborah Yetman</td>
<td>Dr. Stephen Tomasovic</td>
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<td>Tse-Kuan Yu</td>
<td>Dr. Elizabeth Grimm</td>
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Unanimously elected at the September 16, 1999 meeting of the Graduate Faculty, Dr. Gary Gallick, is the new Vice-President/President-Elect of the Graduate Faculty. He will serve as Chairman of the Executive Committee for the 1999-2000 academic year and will become President of the Graduate Faculty in 2000-2001.

Dr. Gallick received his Bachelor of Science degree in 1974 from the University of Michigan, and his master’s and Ph.D., all in Microbiology, from the University of Illinois in Champaign-Urbana in 1980 and 1981 respectively. His postdoctoral fellowship was at the University of Texas-Houston M.D. Anderson Cancer Center. Since 1991 Dr. Gallick holds the appointments of Associate Virologist and Associate Professor, Department of Tumor Biology, Molecular Virology Section, UT-HMDACC.

As a member of the Graduate Faculty since 1987, Dr. Gallick has been very active in the GSBS having served as Chair for the Academic Standards Committee, the Admissions Committee, and first Chair of the Program Coordinating Committee. He currently instructs Mechanics of Hormone Action and Signal Transduction as well as coordinates classes in Cancer Biology.

Dr. Gallick’s research focuses on the roles of protein tyrosine kinases of the Src family in signal transduction pathways, with an emphasis on contribution of activated forms of these enzymes to progression of colon cancer. Recently his laboratory has demonstrated that Src activation contributes to several aspects of colon tumor cell survival, and the laboratory is actively engaged in studying the underlying signal transduction pathways.

In addition to attempting to elucidate fundamental growth regulatory pathways, Dr. Gallick’s research is relevant to the development of protein tyrosine kinase inhibitors as novel therapeutic agents. Src activation appears to play a role in later stages of tumor progression where few, if any, effective therapies are available. Further, Src itself may be redundant in normal cellular function. Thus, development of Src-specific inhibitors adds a tumor specific agent of limited toxicity to the currently available anticancer armament.

Dr. Gallick is a member of the Metastasis Society, the American Association for Cancer Research, and past president of the Texas Branch of the Tissue Culture Association of America. An opera lover as well as an avid bromeliad grower, he is the outgoing president of the Bromeliad Society of Houston.
GSBS MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE REPORT
(includes the August, October, and December 1999 Membership Committee meetings)

MEMBERS REAPPOINTED WITH COMMENDATION

Dr. Elizabeth A. Grimm          Dr. Timothy J. McDonnell
Dr. Randy L. Johnson           Dr. E. Terry Walters
Dr. Theresa M. Koehler         Dr. Jack C. Waymire
Dr. Randy J. Legerski

NEW REGULAR MEMBERS

Kenichi Fujise, Assistant Professor, Internal Medicine, UT-Houston Medical School; M.D., Kyoto University, 1987; Research interests: MCL1; apoptosis; anti-apoptotic proteins; cell cycle regulation

Yasuhide Furuta, Assistant Professor, Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, M.D. Anderson Cancer Center; Ph.D., University of Tsukuba, 1993; Research interests: organogenesis, inductive tissue interactions, secreted signaling molecules, transgenic mice, gene targeting

Roger Janz, Assistant Professor, Neurobiology and Anatomy, UT-Houston Medical School; Ph.D., University of Cologne, 1993; Research interests: molecular neurobiology, biochemistry, synaptic proteins, mouse genetics

Daniel M. Jones, Assistant Professor, Hematopathology, M.D. Anderson Cancer Center; Ph.D., Case Western Reserve University, 1993; Research interests: chemokines; G-protein coupled receptors; lymphocyte homing; lymphoma

Dario Marchetti, Assistant Professor, Neurosurgery, UT-Houston Medical School; Ph.D., The University of Pavia, 1979; Research interests: the molecular biology and therapeutic functionality of neurotrophins (NT) and NT receptors (NTR) as related to brain injury, central nervous system (CNS) regeneration mechanisms, and formation of metastases to the CNS

Deborah A. Pearson, Associate Professor, Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences, UT-Houston Medical School; Ph.D., Rice University, 1986; Research interests: neuropsychology; psychopharmacology; neurobiology; neuroimaging; developmental disabilities; ADHD; autism; conduct disorder

Shrikanth Reddy, Assistant Professor, Gastrointestinal-Medical Oncology, M.D. Anderson Cancer Center; Ph.D., University of Southern Carolina at Columbia, 1993; Research interests: signal transduction; PI 3-kinase and Ki-ras signaling pathways; molecular mechanisms of pancreatic carcinogenesis; regulation of cell survival and cell death (apoptosis); acute-phase of the inflammatory response

Jill Schumacher, Assistant Professor, Molecular Genetics, M.D. Anderson Cancer Center; Ph.D., University of Washington, 1995; Research interests: microtubule dynamics during the cell cycle; chromosome segregation; mitosis; meiosis; cytokinesis; oogenesis; spermatogenesis; C. elegans
Ba-Bie Teng, Assistant Professor, Research Center for Human Genetics, Institute of Molecular Medicine, UT-Houston Medical School; Ph.D., McGill University, 1987; Research interests: molecular genetics of atherosclerosis/lipid metabolism; RNA editing; gene therapy

Naoto T. Ueno, Assistant Professor, Blood and Marrow Transplantation, M.D. Anderson Cancer Center; M.D., Wakayama Medical College, 1989; Ph.D., UT-Houston GSBS, 1999; Research interests: gene therapy, breast cancer, ovarian cancer, target-specific gene expression

Anas Younes, Associate Professor, Lymphoma and Myeloma, M.D. Anderson Cancer Center; M.D., The University of Damascus School of Medicine, 1983; Research interests: regulation of life and death of benign and malignant lymphocytes

George Zouridakis, Assistant Professor, Neurosurgery, UT-Houston Medical School; Ph.D., University of Houston, 1994; Research interests: functional brain imaging, mathematical modeling of brain activity and quantification of the EEG and evoked potentials (EPs), digital signal processing, pattern recognition, nonlinear dynamics (chaos theory), fuzzy decision making, wavelet transforms, and EP analysis with applications in clinical neurophysiology

NEW ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

Joseph L. Alcorn, Jr., Assistant Professor, Pediatrics, UT-Houston Medical School; Ph.D., University of Texas at Dallas, 1988; Research interests: hormonal, developmental, and cell-specific regulation of pulmonary surfactant proteins; transcriptional regulation of surfactant protein C (SP-C) by steroid hormones; post-transcriptional regulation of surfactant protein B (SP-B) mRNA

Suzanne Craig, Assistant Professor, Veterinary Medicine and Surgery, M.D. Anderson Cancer Center; D.V.M., Tuskegee University School of Veterinary Medicine, 1989; Research interests: laboratory animal medicine

Thomas M. Lembo, Assistant Professor, Veterinary Medicine and Surgery, M.D. Anderson Cancer Center; D.V.M., Texas A&M University, 1993; Research interests: veterinary medicine and surgery; pain control

Joan M. Mastrobattista, Assistant Professor, Obstetrics, Gynecology and Reproductive Sciences, UT-Houston Medical School; M.D., University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey, 1988; Research interests: obstetrics; maternal-fetal medicine; prenatal genetics

Rebecca D. Pentz, Associate Professor, Ethics, M.D. Anderson Cancer Center; Ph.D., University of California at Irvine, 1979; Research interests: ethics

Karl L. Prado, Assistant Professor, Radiation Physics, M.D. Anderson Cancer Center; Ph.D., University of Oklahoma, 1983; Research interests: medical physics, radiation dosimetry, radiation oncology treatment planning

Peggy T. Tinkey, Assistant Professor, Veterinary Medicine and Surgery, M.D. Anderson Cancer Center; D.V.M., Texas A&M University, 1983; Research interests: laboratory animal medicine

Peter T. Triolo, Jr., Associate Professor, Restorative Dentistry, UT-Houston Dental Branch; D.D.S., University of Iowa, 1987; Research interests: operative dentistry; esthetic dentistry; cariology; dental materials

David J. Yang, Associate Professor, Nuclear Medicine, M.D. Anderson Cancer Center; Ph.D., Northeast Louisiana University, 1983; Research interests: receptor imaging, cancer diagnosis, drug delivery
George M. Stancel, Ph.D., is newly appointed Dean of the Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences and continues as Professor, Department of Integrative Biology and Pharmacology, at The University of Texas-Houston Medical School. Dr. Stancel holds a Bachelor of Science degree from the College of St. Thomas, and a Ph.D. in Biochemistry from Michigan State University, with postdoctoral work in the field of Endocrinology at the University of Illinois. Arriving at The University of Texas-Houston in 1972, Dr. Stancel’s distinguished career includes academic, administrative and research acclaim with significant awards from NIH, noted publications and professorial acknowledgements.

Stephen Tomasovic, Ph.D., officially received a newly created appointment as Associate Dean for M.D. Anderson Cancer Center Educational Programs to the Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences, while continuing as Associate Vice President for Educational Programs at M.D. Anderson. Dr. Tomasovic earned a joint doctorate in radiation biology and cell and molecular biology from the Colorado State University, with a postdoctoral fellowship at the University of Utah Medical Center. He joined the UT-H M.D. Anderson Cancer Center in 1980 and played a major role in developing the Cancer Biology Program. He remains a professor in the former Department of Tumor Biology which has been renamed the Department of Molecular and Cellular Oncology. He is a member of the GSBS Faculty since 1981, and President of the Faculty in the 1998-99 academic year.

Jon R. Wiener, Ph.D., is newly appointed Assistant Dean for Academic Affairs, The University of Texas-Houston Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences; and, Adjunct Graduate Faculty, Cancer Biology Program, at UT-H M. D. Anderson Cancer Center. His responsibilities include counseling, advising, and assisting students with academic, personal and financial matters. Dr. Wiener holds master’s and bachelor’s degrees in microbiology from the University of Maryland, a Ph.D. in Microbiology from the University of Virginia, with a postdoctoral fellowship at Duke University.

Associate Dean, Paul Darlington, center, is flanked by Director of Admissions, Anne Baronitis, left, and Assistant for Faculty Affairs, Cheryl Spitzenberger, right, who are modeling new, superior quality, GSBS T-shirts. Available in White only (S-M-L-XL-XXL) for $10 ($15 if mailed).
ALUMNI ALERT: GLOBAL TROTTERS

With GSBS alumni now located around the world and over 1,000 strong, it makes sense to put together an alumni association. In starting such a group the first order of business is COMMUNICATION. Many of you are probably aware of the sparkling, up-to-date, web site for the Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences at http://gsbs.gs.uth.tmc.edu. Once on site, click on “Alumni” to get a page specifically dedicated to you. On the web page you will find invaluable information including a GSBS Alumni Directory, a listing of postgraduate Positions, and a Career Outcomes Report. All this can help you to connect with persons important to your research, business associations, colleagues and friends.

Whether you are linked to the Internet or not, messages will arrive in a variety of ways, so watch your mail (electronic or paper) for cards, letters and bulletins. By way of an Alumni Association, the GSBS hopes to become increasingly focused, current, and useful to you as you go about your life--in this regard look to the future as the year 2000 unfolds before us.

Linda Carter is the new Director of Public Affairs and Development: one of her objectives for the GSBS is to begin an Alumni Association. Ms. Carter is a graduate of the University of Oklahoma with a degree in Journalism and English. For the past eight years she directed and re-vitalized one of Texas’ oldest non-profit art galleries and continuing education art schools.

NEWSLETTER
Editor: Linda Carter
Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences
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Houston, Texas 77225-0334

Graduation Convocation
Saturday, 10 AM, May 13, 2000
Hornberger Conference Center
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