ong-term employees play an invaluable role in the life of UT Southwestern Medical Center. Their faithful, dedicated service has helped the institution become what it is today. In this special edition of Center Times, we showcase some of these employees and their varied interests. Dr. Daniel K. Podolsky, President of UT Southwestern Medical Center, will host a May 13 luncheon to honor employees with 50, 45, 40, 35, and 30 years of service, and to welcome new members of the Quarter Century Club.

Mary Quiroga, Fellowship Coordinator in Pulmonary and Critical Care Medicine, will be honored at the 2014 Quarter Century Club luncheon as this year’s longest-serving UT Southwestern Medical Center employee. Ms. Quiroga came to the U.S. in 1955 from her hometown of San Miguel de Bustamante, Mexico. She became a naturalized citizen in 1975, by which time she was well on her way to becoming an excellent Pulmonary staff. I also enjoy working with other fellowship coordinators and with our administrative staff members.”

That gives Ms. Quiroga a strong connection with people who have passed through the program, whether as teachers or trainees.

“Mary is amazing. She works hard, comes to work daily, and never fails to meet a deadline,” Ms. Garcia said. “I truly admire her dedication and strong work ethic. It’s been a pleasure to have her on my team.”

“Mary is like a mother hen to many of our fellowship students in Pulmonary and Critical Care, and Professor of Internal Medicine and Surgery. “She’s been like a mother hen to many chicks, and she’s vital to everything we do in our division.”

~ Dr. Lance Terada

“Mary is one of those people who are the backbone of any successful organization. She’s been like a mother hen to many chicks, and she’s vital to everything we do in our division.”

~ Dr. Lance Terada

Mary Quiroga, Fellowship Coordinator in Pulmonary and Critical Care Medicine, will be honored at the 2014 Quarter Century Club luncheon as this year’s longest-serving UT Southwestern Medical Center employee. Ms. Quiroga began her career on Jan. 10, 1964, in the Radiology Department at St. Paul Hospital, run then by the Daughters of Charity of St. Vincent de Paul.

“I was hired as a typing clerk,” she said, “typing the name cards used to identify the patients’ names on X-ray films. After about a year I moved to the Radiology File Room, where I was responsible for filing the patient X-rays, pulling X-rays for doctors, then randomizing them.”

She held a number of jobs, but eventually was recruited to become the Secretary for Dr. Ernest Poulos, Director of the General Surgery Residency Program. It was there she discovered how much she enjoyed working in Medical Education. After working several years for the General Surgery and the Obstetrics and Gynecology programs, she became Secretary to Dr. Williams C. Brooks, Director of Graduate Medical Education, and later for Dr. Brooks’ successor, Dr. Edwin P. Jenevein. She also worked for Dr. Lanny Word and several other directors of the Oby Gyn residency program.

GLORIA MAGANA

By Lin Lofley

Gloria Magana began working in the laundry at St. Paul Hospital 45 years ago, in a huge room on the lower level of the facility that ran industrial-size washing machines 24 hours a day, seven days a week. She’s still working there, although most of the washing machines are gone now, as the laundry operation was outsourced.

Fewer washing machines at what is now St. Paul University Hospital mean that fewer workdays are needed. But Ms. Magana is still a valuable member of the staff who folds and loads linens for distribution throughout the hospital. The task remains the same, even if the fabrics Ms. Magana deals with have changed over the years from cotton to newer materials.

“All I’ve ever wanted was to do a good job,” she said. “I’ve enjoyed working here, and through the years my best friends were people I worked with here. After a while, you sort of feel like you know these people better than you know your own family.”

Ms. Magana came to the U.S. in 1955 from her hometown of San Miguel de Bustamante, Mexico. The current population is listed as fewer than 4,000 people, but she recalled that it was “smaller back then.”

She became a naturalized citizen in 1975, by which time she was well on her way to becoming a fixture at St. Paul. “We had 63 people working in the laundry. We did the washing, the pressing, and folding, virtually all of it by hand. Now, all of that is contracted out and there are four of us here. We send the laundry out, accept delivery of the clean linens, and sort it for delivery.”

Ms. Magana has three children, two of whom were born at St. Paul, and four grandchildren. She looks with anticipation toward the opening of the William P. Clements Jr. University Hospital in late 2014.

“I see it every day when I come in, and it’s pretty amazing,” Ms. Magana said. “I can’t wait to see the laundry area.”

And, for someone who has done the laundry for hundreds of thousands of St. Paul patients over the years, it had to be asked: What laundry detergent do you use at home?

“I use All,” she said. “I don’t like the dyes and fragrances some of the other detergents use. All is just detergent, and it’s just what I like.”
special and very tiny patients. Last August, she
tal, Frances Cope Eubanks enjoys caring for very

Your department’s next step – relocating to the new William P. Clements Jr. University Hospital in the fall.

I text and Facebook with Carrie still, keeping

She looks forward to taking her skills and talents to UT Southwestern Medical Center as a Research Nurse in the Pediatric Care Center.

Mrs. Eubanks started at UT Southwestern's NICU in 1981. She is "very excited, yet a little nervous" about her department’s next

The team also handles billings for faculty pro-

Obviously difficult to replace, Ms. Graham is viewed as "confident

When not working, Mrs. Eubanks enjoys hik-

"I feel a sense of loyalty to UT Southwestern," she said. "I also feel honored to be a part of a well-

"Being able to serve others and meeting new people" have helped Ms. Wafford remain on task for more than 40 years. Even now, her wish is to be known as an employee who "loves their job." Outside of her career at the medical center, Ms. Wafford loves being involved in her church, working with young people and the homeless, baking, and shopping.

Mr. Graham, who said her long-term goal is "to retire from here young and in good health and go forward to new things," enjoys singing, sports, traveling, reading, puzzles, and spending time with her family and friends. Her favorite times include hanging out with her 38-year-old daughter RaNeSha, who teaches special needs children, and her 81-year-old mother, "matriarch of our family."
By Donna Steph Hansard

Madeline K. Kirven-Gamble, Administrative Manager of the Financial Control division of Information Resources, considers her co-workers “like family.” When what was then about a 30-member department traveled 100 miles to Mexia, Texas, for her wedding in 1992, she was beyond thrilled.

“I felt really, really special and was very grateful,” Ms. Kirven-Gamble said. “I haven’t yet found a more wonderful group of people in UT Southwestern that has topped that.”

A hard worker who “truly loves her job” and “doesn’t mind staying extra hours to get the job done,” Ms. Kirven-Gamble is often described as diligent, resourceful, professional, trustworthy and one of the “heartbeats” of Information Resources. Her responsibilities include managing the day-to-day operations of the Financial Control division, managing the HCM work flows for the department, and ensuring that Information Resources maintains compliance and follows university policies.

UT Southwestern offers excellent career opportunities, provides excellent benefits, and is “very family-oriented,” she said. “I take great pride in working for UT Southwestern.”

An information communications guru, Mrs. Robertson was awarded the Internal Medicine Department’s Seldin Award in 1998 for outstanding administrative accomplishments.

“Mr. Robertson often can be found riding on the back of his husband Doug’s Harley-Davidson motorcycle “even though I keep my eyes closed” and enjoying fishing, reading, and beach vacations.

By Donna Steph Hansard

When she started out working part-time at UT Southwestern Medical Center at age 20, Vicky Robertson commuted from Canton – 60 miles east of Dallas – and was not familiar with driving in the big city. One night, after mistakenly heading the wrong way toward Fort Worth, she remembers crying in her car before turning around and heading back to East Texas.

Today, 35 years later, Mrs. Robertson still makes the long trek each way from Canton to the Dallas VA Medical Center, where she serves as a part-time Administrative Associate in the Department of Internal Medicine’s Education office. She also works full-time at the Dallas VA hospital, a separate position, as the medical center’s Medical Service Management Analyst/ADPAC Coordinator.

An information communications guru, Mrs. Robertson trains all UT Southwestern Internal Medicine staff, including residents, fellows, and interns, on the hospital's electronic medical records system as well as other computer equipment peripheral devices, and more. She also handles background checks, fingerprinting, information system access, and other duties.

“I enjoy working with the clinical trainees and assisting them to ensure every trainee has computer access and working knowledge of CPRS, our electronic health record,” she said. “I’m very dedicated to my job, and I feel a strong sense of loyalty to this department and its leadership.”

Mrs. Robertson was awarded the Internal Medicine Department’s Seldin Award in 1998 for outstanding administrative accomplishments.

“Mr. Robertson often can be found riding on the back of his husband Doug’s Harley-Davidson motorcycle “even though I keep my eyes closed” and enjoying fishing, reading, and beach vacations.

By Lin Lofley

Mr. and Mrs. Seitz have been at St. Paul University Hospital for 35 years, going all the way back to the days when the historic Dallas institution was run by the Daughters of Charity. The Roman Catholic order of nuns gave them a reason to come to Dallas from their native Wisconsin. A strong, and still growing, family kept them at UT Southwestern Medical Center.

Mr. Seitz, a Medical Technologist in the Blood Bank, gives credit to his co-workers for his desire to stay at UT Southwestern, but he readily admits that “I like being able to feed my family.”

He earned his undergraduate degree in biology at the University of Dallas and, following an internship at St. Paul, he joined the staff. It’s the only place he’s ever worked, or even wanted to work. Completing his internship was propitious, too, because by that time his wife, a Registered Nurse, also was employed at St. Paul.

The hospital quickly became as nearly as a family landmark as their home in Irving. The Seitzes have seven children, all born at St. Paul.

By Lin Lofley

Staff Nurse Efren Sta Maria can see the end of his career, and the 35-year veteran of St Paul University Hospital likes the look of it. In many ways, he’s literally ready to ride off into the sunset.

“Have I enjoyed my job here,” he said, “and working at UT Southwestern? Absolutely. Although I never envisioned that the hospital would become a state-owned facility back when I was a member of the Daughters of Charity.”

On the job since December of 1978, Mr. Sta Maria has been there for the heavy transition to technology and automation in the hospital, but he won’t see much of the new William P. Clements Jr. University Hospital.

“Some of the highlights in working here is that you have a time in a recovery room for a quiet, almost solitary, life that will revolve around his wife of 36 years, Estela, their two children and four grandchildren, and his cattle. He does most of the ranch chores on his own mostly cutting and baling hay – and he also likes hunting and fishing in his spare time.

By Deborah Wormser

Colter Mason, a Transporter at St. Paul University Hospital, gets patients where they need to go for X-rays and other procedures around UT Southwestern Medical Center. That means constantly moving between the hospital, the outpatient area, and the professional building.

She thinks co-workers would describe her as spontaneous and willing. “I don’t freeze up or get an attitude. I’m joyful all the time,” she said.

Growing up, Ms. Mason and her family didn’t own a car, so she had to walk everywhere in the East Texas town of Kamach. She later moved to Dallas and began her career as a hospital housekeeper, then determined that her four children – two girls and two boys – would get good educations and more opportunities than she had.

She says she enjoys her co-workers and gets great joy from helping patients, especially when she transports them as they prepare to go home.

“Ms. Mason would like to be remembered as ‘The only lady at 64 years old that can dance to ‘Buried Alive’ by Robin Thicke.’ She credits her energy to having 12 grandchildren who keep her on her toes. “They are supposed to still can dance,” she said.

She considers her greatest claim to fame after 35 years at UT Southwestern that “I made it.” She said with a laugh, adding that she is looking forward to retiring and enjoying life, including hanging out with friends and family.

“I have a wonderful soul, and four outstanding children. They’re all on their own and doing well,” Ms. Mason said.

By Lin Lofley

Steve and Jeanne Seitz have been at St. Paul University Hospital for 35 years, going all the way back to the days when the historic Dallas institution was run by the Daughters of Charity. The Roman Catholic order of nuns gave them a reason to come to Dallas from their native Wisconsin. A strong, and still growing, family kept them at UT Southwestern Medical Center.

Mr. Seitz, a Medical Technologist in the Blood Bank, gives credit to his co-workers for his desire to stay at UT Southwestern, but he readily admits that “I like being able to feed my family.”

He earned his undergraduate degree in biology at the University of Dallas and, following an internship at St. Paul, he joined the staff. It’s the only place he’s ever worked, or even wanted to work. Completing his internship was propitious, too, because by that time his wife, a Registered Nurse, also was employed at St. Paul.

The hospital quickly became as nearly as a family landmark as their home in Irving. The Seitzes have seven children, all born at St. Paul.

By Lin Lofley

Staff Nurse Efren Sta Maria can see the end of his career, and the 35-year veteran of St Paul University Hospital likes the look of it. In many ways, he’s literally ready to ride off into the sunset.

“Have I enjoyed my job here,” he said, “and working at UT Southwestern? Absolutely. Although I never envisioned that the hospital would become a state-owned facility back when I was a member of the Daughters of Charity.”

On the job since December of 1978, Mr. Sta Maria has been there for the heavy transition to technology and automation in the hospital, but he won’t see much of the new William P. Clements Jr. University Hospital.

“Some of the highlights in working here is that you have a time in a recovery room for a quiet, almost solitary, life that will revolve around his wife of 36 years, Estela, their two children and four grandchildren, and his cattle. He does most of the ranch chores on his own mostly cutting and baling hay – and he also likes hunting and fishing in his spare time.

By Lin Lofley

Steve and Jeanne Seitz have been at St. Paul University Hospital for 35 years, going all the way back to the days when the historic Dallas institution was run by the Daughters of Charity. The Roman Catholic order of nuns gave them a reason to come to Dallas from their native Wisconsin. A strong, and still growing, family kept them at UT Southwestern Medical Center.

Mr. Seitz, a Medical Technologist in the Blood Bank, gives credit to his co-workers for his desire to stay at UT Southwestern, but he readily admits that “I like being able to feed my family.”

He earned his undergraduate degree in biology at the University of Dallas and, following an internship at St. Paul, he joined the staff. It’s the only place he’s ever worked, or even wanted to work. Completing his internship was propitious, too, because by that time his wife, a Registered Nurse, also was employed at St. Paul.

The hospital quickly became as nearly as a family landmark as their home in Irving. The Seitzes have seven children, all born at St. Paul.

By Lin Lofley

Staff Nurse Efren Sta Maria can see the end of his career, and the 35-year veteran of St Paul University Hospital likes the look of it. In many ways, he’s literally ready to ride off into the sunset.

“Have I enjoyed my job here,” he said, “and working at UT Southwestern? Absolutely. Although I never envisioned that the hospital would become a state-owned facility back when I was a member of the Daughters of Charity.”

On the job since December of 1978, Mr. Sta Maria has been there for the heavy transition to technology and automation in the hospital, but he won’t see much of the new William P. Clements Jr. University Hospital.

“Some of the highlights in working here is that you have a time in a recovery room for a quiet, almost solitary, life that will revolve around his wife of 36 years, Estela, their two children and four grandchildren, and his cattle. He does most of the ranch chores on his own mostly cutting and baling hay – and he also likes hunting and fishing in his spare time.

By Lin Lofley

Steve and Jeanne Seitz have been at St. Paul University Hospital for 35 years, going all the way back to the days when the historic Dallas institution was run by the Daughters of Charity. The Roman Catholic order of nuns gave them a reason to come to Dallas from their native Wisconsin. A strong, and still growing, family kept them at UT Southwestern Medical Center.

Mr. Seitz, a Medical Technologist in the Blood Bank, gives credit to his co-workers for his desire to stay at UT Southwestern, but he readily admits that “I like being able to feed my family.”

He earned his undergraduate degree in biology at the University of Dallas and, following an internship at St. Paul, he joined the staff. It’s the only place he’s ever worked, or even wanted to work. Completing his internship was propitious, too, because by that time his wife, a Registered Nurse, also was employed at St. Paul.

The hospital quickly became as nearly as a family landmark as their home in Irving. The Seitzes have seven children, all born at St. Paul.
By Lin Lofley

Like many UT Southwestern Medical Center employees a few decades into their careers, Diane Wynne fondly remembers the holiday parties hosted on campus each year by the last President Dr. Charles Sprague. And if you ask her, she can remember when UT Southwestern was closed the week between Christmas and New Year's Day. An Administrative Associate in the Division of Burn/Trauma/Critical Care of the Department of Surgery, Ms. Wynne coordinates the academic schedules of the Division Chief, Dr. Joseph Mimi, and Drs. Patricia Bergen, Stephen Luk, and Erin Win, faculty members in the division. She’s also the secretary for the Parkland Surgical Society, the “alumni association” for residents who have trained at UT Southwestern and at Parkland Health & Hospital System. “I really enjoy being able to keep up with the residents who have completed their training here, and to work with them to plan their yearly reunions.”

Even after 35 years, Ms. Wynne marvels at the expansion of the medical center. “It’s been amazing to watch over the years,” she said, “and I am looking forward to seeing the opening of new hospitals that will allow patient care, research, and education to grow and excel.”

In her free time, she enjoys reading, shopping, sports, and traveling, “but the friendships I have made with the people in the Department of Surgery have been most wonderful.” Ms. Wynne professes one more work-related goal: “I’d like to become proficient in PeopleSoft before I retire.”

BY LIN LOFLEY

Irene Dougherty

A Research Associate in Dermatology, Ms. Dougherty manages the laboratory and coordinates trials. “The most rewarding time is working with our study patients,” she said. “They’re all so friendly and willing to help with our research, even though it may not help them right at the moment.” Ms. Dougherty’s co-workers describe her as “helpful, compassionate – someone who tries to be understanding and helpful wherever possible.” Her value shows. In 1989, Ms. Dougherty left Texas and UT Southwestern for three years. When she returned in 1992, the medical center (and Dermatology) was happy to hire her again. Away from work, she enjoys time with her husband, Joel, and daughters Emiko and Mariko.

Irene Dougherty

William Anderson peeks inside people’s eyes all day and has for more than 35 years – 30 of those at UT Southwestern. An Ophthalmologic Imager, Mr. Anderson performs diagnostic scans on patients’ eyes, utilizing state-of-the-art technology and equipment to obtain precise corneal measurements that ophthalmologists rely on when performing eye implant surgery. “I like helping patients with their eye problems,” Mr. Anderson said. “I also enjoy the fine work done here and the good people who work at UT Southwestern.” A steady eye and patience also work to Mr. Anderson’s advantage when it comes to his woodworking and photography interests. In addition, he and his wife, Jennifer, enjoy traveling, recently having completed a trip down Europe’s Rhine River.

William Anderson

When Clara Bell started working at UT Southwestern, she had no idea that she would be in the same department for more than 30 years. She is an Administrative Associate in the Office of Communications, Marketing, and Public Affairs and has stayed because she feels privileged to work with such a great group of co-workers. “Loving and caring for each other and the friendly environment of the office is what makes coming to work a blessing,” she said. At each day’s end she knows that she has made a difference. Ms. Bell and her husband, Herman, have been married for 39 years and have a son and two granddaughters. In her spare time, she enjoys reading, writing, and relaxing.

Clara Bell

Gary Brueggerhoff

Public Safety Officer Gary Brueggerhoff began his UT Southwestern career as a guard and earned a promotion long before most of his fellow officers came to work here. One of those people even playfully calls him the “Jurassic Guard.” But assisting people is something Officer Brueggerhoff enjoys doing, whether that means escorting visitors, handling security, or helping a motorist change a tire. He served in the U.S. Navy and was aboard the USS Forrestal on July 4, 1976, when President Gerald Ford rang in the nation’s bicentennial celebration from the ship’s flight deck. He and his wife, Pam, have a daughter, Jennifer, and two dogs that require daily walks.

Gary Brueggerhoff

Barbara Jordan has spent three decades in service at UT Southwestern. And you can put the emphasis on the word service. From her first job as a Patient Representative on the 7th Floor at the James W. Aston Ambulatory Care Center, to seven years spent at the front desk of the Data Center as a Physician Telephone Consultant, Ms. Jordan has been all about service, all the time. “I like helping people,” she said. “That’s what makes us UT Southwestern.” Ms. Jordan’s other great passions are her church and her family. Her son, Nicholas, and four granddaughters – Alex, Myra, Kyla, and Aryan – also know that their loved one is centered on service.

Barbara Jordan
LINDA MUNCY

Linda Muncy has worked alongside the same person for 30 years. An Administrative Assistant in the Department of Psychiatry, Ms. Muncy counts Dr. John Sadler, Professor of Psychiatry and Clinical Sciences, as a colleague and friend. “We have the same interests in philosophy of psychiatry and medical ethics,” she said. “He’s just a great guy to hang out with, which is the main reason I’m still here.” The two coordinate UT Southwestern’s Program in Ethics in Science and Medicine, which Dr. Sadler leads. The program involves consulting on clinical and research ethics issues, and developing and delivering ethics curriculum. Ms. Muncy says her next “life” will include volunteering in marine mammal rescue operations, a cause she has passionately supported for many years.

RICHARD PEREZ

A Buyer at the Zale Lipshy University Hospital pharmacy, Richard Perez has one mindset on the job—efficiency in the purchasing of medications and supplies. Since December 1983, Mr. Perez has worked to ensure that the processes work and his colleagues’ needs are met. Co-workers describe him as “smart and quick.” Born and raised in Dallas, he said “the people I work with, and the interesting events” that occur at an academic medical center have kept him at UT Southwestern. His long-term goal is that “many people share: ‘to pay off my house!’ Away from work, Mr. Perez enjoys gardening and computers.

DIAN POLK

Executive Assistant Dian Polk of Information Resources said she is led by example. “Even though their jobs are extremely demanding, the vice president and assistant vice president that I support are always supportive and willing to spend time with their employees.” One of her special memories was an off-site holiday party planned by the administrative assistants, who surprised partygoers by singing a song by the Supremes. She and her husband will celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary in July, and are the proud parents of two daughters: one a graduate student, the other a junior at the University of North Texas. Her hobbies include traveling, church activities, and spending time with family.

PATTINA TRAYLOR

A Patient Care Technician in St. Paul University Hospital’s Obstetrics department, Pattina Traylor said she gets a daily dose of family time. “I love my job and I love what I do working with the new moms and their babies,” she said. Ms. Traylor assists nurses with caring for patients. She said she wants to be known as the employee who “smiles at everyone, and treats people with respect.” When she was inducted into the Quarter Century Club five years ago, Minnie Stephens Turner was working in Information Resources, a job that will definitely hone a person’s computer skills. Now she’s an Analyst in the Medical Service Resources department, facilitating patient flow and academic calendar. Ms. Turner said “I support are always supportive and willing to spend time with their employees.” When she begins searching for her next career, Ms. Traylor said she wants to be where “the people I work with, and the interesting events” that occur at an academic medical center are always supportive and willing to spend time with their employees. She began her UT Southwestern career as an Administrative Assistant to the leader of the Physical Therapy program. Now she’s an Administrative Assistant in Plastic Surgery, coordinating and facilitating patient practice flow and administrative office management. “It’s a great position to work in a great environment,” she said. “I have been lucky with the wonderful people here.” Ms. Warren has been married for more than 40 years.

MINNIE TURNER

When she was inducted into the Quarter Century Club five years ago, Minnie Stephens Turner was working in Information Resources, a job that will definitely hone a person’s computer skills. Now she’s an Analyst in the Medical Service Resources department, still learning and growing. “Working in IR gave me the knowledge of how to use my computer skills, both at work and in life away from campus,” she said. But her most proud moment came when she and her husband of 26 years, Curtis Sr., watched their son graduate from the University of North Texas with a degree in kinesiology.

KAREN WARREN

Karen Warren bills herself as “loud and caring,” but also as someone who is attentive to “job, co-workers, and our patients.” And when she lists her favorite non-work passion as “volunteering,” then that’s the makings of a keeper. Ms. Warren began her UT Southwestern career as an Administrative Assistant to the leader of the Physical Therapy program. Now she’s an Administrative Assistant in Plastic Surgery, coordinating and facilitating patient practice flow and academic office management. “It’s a great place to work, a great environment,” she said. “I have been lucky to work with amazing people here.” Ms. Warren has been married for more than 40 years.

DAPHNE DAVID RYE

Daphne Davis Rye is an occasional drummer in a rock-and-roll band. She’s ready to become a “semi-permanent fixture in Port Aransas” with husband Larry when she retires. But in the meantime, she is a Research Scientist and loves every minute of being part of an “incredible team.” Mrs. Rye was on board in Molecular Genetics when Drs. Joseph Goldstein and Michael Brown were awarded the Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine in 1985, as well as when Dr. David Russell was named to the National Academy of Sciences in 2006 and to the American Academy of Arts and Sciences in 2011. Currently she works with Dr. Anun Radhakrishnan, who “continues the high caliber of research in the footsteps of these predecessors,” she said. “Being a small part of the Mol-Gen team is amazing.”

JENNIFER BUFKIN

Jennifer Bufkin is a Research Assistant in the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences. A product of the University of Texas at Austin and the University of North Texas with a degree in kinesiology, she entered UT Southwestern in 1996. “I’ve been here since the beginning of the Neurosciences Program in 1997,” she said. “I’ve always worked with the University of North Texas. Her hobbies include traveling, church activities, and spending time with family.

JIM CUNNIFF

Jim Cunniﬁff is a Research Scientist in the Department of Pharmacology. A graduate of UT Southwestern Medical School in 1985, as well as when Dr. David Russell was named to the National Academy of Sciences in 2006 and to the American Academy of Arts and Sciences in 2011. Currently she works with Dr. Anun Radhakrishnan, who “continues the high caliber of research in the footsteps of these predecessors,” she said. “Being a small part of the Mol-Gen team is amazing.”

CAROLYN JAMES

Joy LillJedahl

Kelly Montgomery

Rose Oliver

Lou Paredes

The new William P. Clements Jr. University Hospital

OPENING IN LATE 2014
LIZ CARMACK

Senior Reimbursement Specialist Mattie Lee "Liz" Carmack said she enjoys helping people. Her job entails reviewing ophthalmology patient accounts for balances and assisting staff with billings. The mother of four and grandmother of five hopes she'll be remembered as "loyal, dependable, and load. My voice carries!" Her greatest enjoyment comes from watching "the great growth that UT Southwestern has had in the last 25 years." Her most unusual experience was watching patients work on cadavers.

CARLA CHILDERS

Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences Administrative Coordinator Carla Childers was working as an administrative assistant to Dr. Alfred Gillman, at the time the Department of Pharmacology Chairman, when he won the 1994 Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine. Administrative Manager Wendy Deaner phoned with the early-morning news, and to say she had "a flat tire and needed Ms. Childers to get into the office ASAP to field phone calls. I grabbed my hair dryer and out the door I went." Ms. Childers and her husband enjoy camping, and she has been a Special Olympics volunteer.

BRENDA COLVIN

Now an Administrator in the Department of Orthopaedic Surgery, Brenda Colvin said her reasons for staying at the medical center for 25 years include "pride in UT Southwestern's mission, the challenging and interesting work, and the great faculty and staff I get to work with." Although she's tasked with a full schedule, Ms. Colvin's co-workers said her "door is always open." Outside interests include reading, camping, and watching her daughter dance. Her family includes husband Danney, 13-year-old son Ben, and 11-year-old daughter Ryan.

ALMA CRUZ

For Alma Cruz, it's all about the patients. A Registered Nurse on the telemetry floor at St. Paul University Hospital, Ms. Cruz is involved daily in direct patient care. "When former patients come and visit or stop me in the hallway, thanking me for a job well done, that's very rewarding," Ms. Cruz said. Originaly from the Philippines, Ms. Cruz also has worked as a Transplant Coordinator. She continues to teach classes to transplant patients, as well as their families, advising them about the specifics of surgery as well as expectations afterward. When not at work, Ms. Cruz enjoys cooking, craft-work, and traveling.

THERESA EDWARDS

As Plastic Surgery’s Billing Coordinator, Ms. Edwards is described by co-workers as “supportive, friendly, encouraging, and talks to everyone.” Some of her favorite memories revolve around Halloween, when the department hosted employee costume contests annually. She and her billing colleagues took the prize one year, pan-stomiming moves from the theme song to the movie “Men in Black” and donning black suits, dark sunglasses, and carrying cases emblazoned with the face of Dr. Joel Bosler, Chairman of Plastic Surgery. When not at work, Ms. Edwards enjoys spending time with her family and the “beautiful” grandchildren, as well as devoting time to her church.

REBECCA C. EWUNES

Co-workers refer to Rebecca C. Ewunes as "Road Runner" because of her brisk lunchtime walks around campus. A Purchasing Manager, she’s driv-en to find the best quality at the lowest cost. Her proudest career achievement was passing the test to become a certified purchasing manager. She has one son and a granddaughter. Outside of work, she enjoys playing with her granddaughter, Zumba classes, church worship, friends, and community walks. After she retires, she would like to teach elementary school.

PHEILLYS FOLEY

Working at UT Southwestern is all about the people, according to Phyllis Foley. "I have met many famous and not-so-famous people during my years here," she said. "The people are the best part of the job. I work for some brilliant people. And there is always somebody here for you when you need them." Ms. Foley, Division Administrator for Internal Medicine’s Digestive and Liver Diseases division, said she “never imagined she would still be here after 25 years.” When not at work, Ms. Foley enjoys spending time with her 15-year-old granddaughter, whom she adopted as an infant. “It is so much easier to be a parent at my age.”

ROBERT BUTSCH

One of Robert Butsch’s favorite memories during his 25 years at UT Southwestern was “rescuing” the stairs in the 1st. Building hoping to catch a glimpse of Margaret Thatcher when the then-British Prime Minister visited the campus in 1991. “I saw her door, but she wasn’t a whole troop of people,” said Mr. Butsch, a Senior Database Analyst with Academic Information Systems. Described as “detail-oriented,” or what Mr. Butsch plainly calls “nitchy,” the computer pun volunteers at the Dallas Zoo as a “keeper’s aide” in his spare time – and has for 27 years, primarily in the reptile and amphibian area.

SANDRA DAVIS

As Education Assistant in the Ob/Gyn Department, Sandra Davis coordinates education for both UT Southwestern medical students and visiting fourth-year students from other universities. She also provides secretarial support to seven faculty members. “I love what I do and appreciate the opportunities and support that come from my department,” she said. “My most rewarding UT Southwestern memories are to watch some of my shy, quiet students become assertive, outgoing, and successful physicians.” Ms. Davis enjoys helping others with Bible studies during her spare time, as well as spending time with her family, which includes three grandchildren. “I am truly blessed,” she said.

ALBERT C. GARNER JR.

Albert Garner promised himself when he began working at UT Southwestern that he would only stay five years. Now, 25 years later, as a Technical Specialist III in Information Resources, Mr. Garner “cares about the university and what it will achieve in the future,” he said. Described as “friendly” and a “hard worker,” Mr. Garner enjoys his job – providing computer and technical support – as “meeting new people and reaching new heights.” A former disc jockey, Mr. Garner enjoys restituting classic cars and traveling with his wife of 22 years and his daughter, 7.
JINGYUAN GU

Jingyuan Gu is a Web Applications Engineer II in Information Resources/Academic Information Systems. Her current job includes providing technical support for grants management, animal resources, animal clinical, animal data warehouse, and the research service department. Ms. Gu said that UT Southwestern’s mission is inspiring. “It is both university and hospital. I feel great to work in such a facility,” she said. Ms. Gu also is willing to get her hands dirty. A surprising fact? “I need to be a farmer in China, I worked as a farmer for five years.”

BETTY HARMON

A Registered Nurse and Certified Clinical Documentation Improvement Specialist, Betty Harmon began her career at St. Paul Hospital before transitioning to UT Southwestern. A favorite memory is being invited some years ago to the Christmas party thrown by a physician. She brought along an acquaintance, Keith, and he’s now her husband of 10 years. Her passions are her family — she has two daughters, a son-in-law, and another coming soon, and three “grandpuppies”— and traveling. “I’m very impressed with the new hospital,” she said. “I’m anticipating state-of-the-art equipment and a world-class staff.”

BARBARA F. JOHNSON

Account Adjuster Barbara F. Johnson is proud of her “25 years achieved at this institution,” where the pleasant atmosphere in the adjustment department contributed to her long tenure. She’d like to be known as a sincere worker with a positive outlook who inspires those around her. In her free time, the Louisiana native enjoys visiting her home state, gardening, helping others, and, most of all, spending time with family, including sons Casey Deodain, grandson Deodain Jhaerem Johnson, and seven siblings.

JENNIE HENICKE

An Administrative Coordinator at the Harold C. Simmons Cancer Center, Jennie Henicke specializes in grants, office management, and postdoctoral recruitments. She said “the people and the new challenges” have kept her at UT Southwestern for 25 years. Her most rewarding memory: “Being part of the team led by Dr. James Wilson and Dr. Tim Strawser when we submitted the Cancer Center Support Grant to become an NCI-designated Cancer Center.” Ms. Henicke’s family includes her husband, Ronny, two grown children, two grandchildren, and two Westies.

JULYSSES JOHNSON

While most of us are asleep, Ulysses Johnson is ensuring that things go smoothly and efficiently on campus. Mr. Johnson, a Superintendent of Utilities, oversees Physical Plant operations for the evening shift. His areas of responsibility include HVAC facilities and maintenance. Mr. Johnson said his co-workers would tell him a problem, solve it. “They know I’ll work with them until the issue is resolved.” Away from UT Southwestern, he cooks, dances, plays a “pure shooter” game of basketball, and enjoys time with his wife, Ana, and 14-year-old son Joshuah.

JEANETTA MARSHBURN-WYNN

A Research Assistant in Molecular Biology, Jeanetta Marshburn-Wynn enjoys the part she plays in UT Southwestern’s world-renowned research. “I want to continue to learn more about research and how it can help the medical field of today and the future,” said Ms. Marshburn-Wynn, who helps maintain the mice colony for her area. Co-workers describe her as “bright-eyed and always ready with a cheery ‘good morning’ and a smile.”

KELLI HULSMAN

As a Clinical Nurse Educator, Kelli Hulsman has taught on pregnancy, childbirth, and early parenthood since arriving at St. Paul Hospital in 1988. New parents frequently tell the mother of four sons that she has made a difference in their lives. Ms. Hulsman current-ly is involved in a multidisciplinary project on maternity care and infant feeding outcomes. Her “best friend” is her husband of 30 years. Away from work, Ms. Hulsman enjoys gardening, working on a small homestead farm, and spending time with family.
she said, “While I will miss everyone, important.” Looking ahead to retirement, “When I look around and notice that systems known by acronyms such as EMR, Epic electronic medical records system. “I enjoy supporting the EMR applications,” she said. “I also enjoy the challenges that come with forward movement and progressing technology.” Mantled 30 years, with three daughters and five grand-children, Mrs. Taylor also enjoys volunteering with Big Brothers Big Sisten, as well as working with youth through her church.

Computer and antiques are what motivate David Walton. As a Data Center Operator III, Mr. Walton spends his days managing billing, claims, and production jobs for Health System Information Resources. “I work with a lot of different kinds of people with different attitudes,” he said. “I treat everyone the same.” Away from work, Mr. Walton is described as a “bargain shopaholic,” with close friends and family. An avid antique hunter who trolls estate sales, Mr. Walton is continually on the alert for great buys for himself, family, and friends.

A Registered Nurse, MSN, and Clinical Research Coordinator in Internal Medicine’s diabetes area, Maria Louredes Pruneda is a warrior in the fight against diabetes. “Every time I attend an investigator’s meeting, I realize we have so much to do to prevent type 1 diabetes,” she said. “But I am part of one of the best teams working on this project.” Among Ms. Pruneda’s goals are to “help someone with diabetes live a little bit better.” She stays current in her field, and obtains a master’s degree in biblical counseling.

Michelle Rhodes is as passionate about how people are treated at UT Southwestern as she is about the horses she helps rescue. “An honest display of pleasantness and polite concern for the welfare of others – co-workers and patients alike – is an important responsibility we at UT Southwestern share and strive for every day,” said Mrs. Rhodes, a Risk Management Specialist in the Office of the Vice President for Legal Affairs. Mrs. Rhodes hopes to eventually retire to Maine with her husband, David. The couple currently has eight horses, a male, two dogs, and “a host of barn cats.”

Benita Stewart has stayed at UT Southwestern for 25 years because her job has never remained the same. “My job responsibilities keep changing, so I am not stuck doing the same things all the time,” said Mrs. Stewart, an Associate Director in the Pathology Department. “Since I have been here so long, I have retained a lot of information. Sometimes it actually is useful!” Mrs. Stewart started at UT Southwestern as a Photography Assistant in the Pathology Department. Married to husband Mark, Mrs. Stewart has an 18-year-old daughter, Retta, and a 14-year-old son, Ian.

Mr. Stone is a Pharmacy Business Analyst in FSIB’s Pharmacy Support, but he has been mistaken for someone with a much larger job to do. “While working at St. Paul Hospital I went past a father walking with his young daughter. After I passed by, I heard her ask him if I was Santa Claus.” He said the people that he works with, his team, and the management and staff of the pharmacy department keep him energized. Mr. Stone’s family includes Karen – a pharmacist at UT Southwestern – daughter Emily, and son Scott. A surprising fact? “My wife and I have backyard chickens.”

Cassandra Watkins is known to many as the “Cookie Lady.” A dedicated, generous, consistent and happy worker, Mrs. Watkins is a Research Study Coordinator in Obstetrics and Maternal Fetal Medicine. She said she has stayed at UT Southwestern because of “the love” of her job and her “work family.” “I have met and worked with some really great co-workers,” she said. “But, it seems I’m always in cookie debt – owing someone a batch of my homemade chocolate chip with Walnut cookies.” In her spare time, Mrs. Watkins enjoys baking as well as volunteering at her church and the DeSoto Food Pantry.

MERRIE ARNSPIGER
CLAY BINKLEY
JUDY NEWELL
JAVIER SOTO
LEELA THOMAS
NINAN THOMAS

STEVEN STONE

CASSANDRA WATKINS