ongoing 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 12 luncheon to honor employees with 40, 35, and 30 years of service, and to welcome new members of the Quarter Century Club.
When Andrea Blanton, Account Auditor in the Medical Science Research Development Program (MSRDP) celebrates her 35 years at UT Southwestern Medical Center, it will be a day like never before. That’s partly because Ms. Blanton has never taken part in the Employee Recognition Program before.

“I don’t know why, I just didn’t want to do it,” she says. “But this year it seemed like a good time to join in.”

Jokingly asked whether her first-time participation means that she’ll stay at UT Southwestern, Ms. Blanton’s booming laugh comes across the telephone line: “I do think I’m probably going to stick around for a while.”

The MSRDP unit moved to UT Southwestern’s Brookriver facility about a year ago. In the group, she works on the department’s billing compliance procedures. In the past, she’s dealt with credit reports.

“UT Southwestern has great benefits, as everyone knows,” she says, “and I enjoy my job and the people I work with.”

There are two sides to Ms. Blanton – one that’s not noticeable, and one that’s easy to hear, she says.

“I’d like people to know that I’m a quiet person, and I like to stay to myself,” Ms. Blanton says, “but I know I have a voice that carries. I’m opinionated, and I say what I think.”

Ms. Blanton, who wants to be known as someone “who made an impact on many new employees” loves to shop when away from her work at the medical center.

One thing her co-workers know is that her greatest claim to fame is becoming a grandmother. Her daughter, Katessa, and son-in-law, DeWitt, have given her two grandchildren, Zoey and Zionne.

When Brian Curry turned 50 a few years ago, his fellow Department of Accounting employees commemorated the milestone with posters announcing the birthday, and the fact that he was “over the hill.”

No offense, and none taken.

“I was amused over it,” says Mr. Curry, an Office Assistant in Accounts Payable. “It was one of the high points of my life. I still feel that my co-workers are a part of my family.”

He’s celebrating 35 years of service at UT Southwestern Medical Center and after all the time since he first started as a File Clerk in 1979, Mr. Curry still likes what he does.

“I handle invoices, and see that those are sent where they need to go,” he says. “It’s enjoyable work, partly because I know I’m helping the doctors at UT Southwestern. I like to believe one reason I still work here is because I like hard work – and our group is really hard working – and I’m not afraid to learn new things.”

“It is enjoyable work, and it has been since Day One.”

One of the best parts of the job, he says, is having been a witness to all of the changes at UT Southwestern from his office in the Paul M. Bass Clinical and Administrative Center.

“I’ve seen the medical center grow into a world-class leader in health care. That’s something,” Mr. Curry says.

His family includes his mother, Abby, brothers, Andy and Owen, and sisters, Mary, and Cecilia Pettit.

Mr. Curry is a theater aficionado, with both live theater and movies a part of his favorite pastime. He recently saw the Dallas Theater Center’s production of Medea.

When Andrea Litton, a Food Service Worker, is renowned for having a smile on her face and a song on her lips, and she’s celebrating 35 years at UT Southwestern.

And she continues to seek to improve.

“I’ve always just wanted to be myself,” Ms. Litton said, “to do my job right and work hard. But I think I could be nicer to my boss.”

When the food court closes, her tasks shift to vacuuming the floors and helping with storing pots and pans, dishes, and paper products.

A gold medal winner off campus – she took home first place in the Special Olympics Bowling Tournament – Ms. Litton revealed that that’s her enduring hobby. She also likes to go to movies, to dine out, and go to parties.

Not surprisingly, she can sing and dance, too. By constantly circulating around the food court during working hours, she’s also become a one-woman lost-and-found department.

“I’m always finding wallets, purses, umbrellas, and things that people left behind,” Ms. Litton says. “I like it when I can locate the owner of something lost.”

Those times make the job even more pleasant, she says.

“I’m really happy to have worked at UT Southwestern all these years,” she says, praising her “wonderful” fellow employees. “I hope to be remembered as someone who works hard and is never late.”
Maggie Pinson is fluent in Spanish, and was when she became Director of the Office of International Affairs 35 years ago. It might seem to be simply intuitive to have a bilingual Director, but Ms. Pinson doesn’t think that’s so: “What you need is to be bicultural,” she says. “Fluency in a foreign language is one way to gain insight into another culture.”

The Office of International Affairs is centered on assisting the more than 1,000 students and trainees on campus, in addition to guiding UT Southwestern Medical Center components that are recruiting international faculty members. “We provide a lot of support to clinical and basic science departments,” Ms. Pinson says. “The process to move from temporary visa status to U.S. permanent residency varies based on the individual’s specialized field, previous U.S. visa history, and professional accomplishments. An individualized strategy is required.”

In addition, the office offers the English as a Second Language Program and the highly popular English Conversation program, which connects English speakers with their international counterparts in order to aid the newcomers in learning to navigate conversation. “It’s a challenge, and there’s always something new to learn,” she says. “But it’s also a job that leaves me with the feeling that I’m really able to help people.”

Personally, Ms. Pinson says she’s known as a co-worker who is “patient and calm.” Those traits have served her well throughout her career. “I’ve stayed for the challenge and for the service. There’s always something new to learn, and I feel that I am able to really help.”

Ms. Pinson – who likes to read fiction in her off-duty hours – is sure that she’ll write the great American novel sometime in the distant future after she retires from the medical center. She has a daughter, Alice, who’s 25, a favorite nephew, and beautiful 2-year-old great niece. Asked how she’d like to be remembered, she put it simply: “I’d like to be known as the person who will go the extra mile to help someone in need.”

By Lin Lofley

When contacted to discuss his 35 years at UT Southwestern Medical Center, Honorable Williams had just come back to the Facilities Office at William P. Clements Jr. University Hospital from working on an isolation room door.

Mr. Williams said his life is more exciting, but somewhat more tiring, since the opening of the new hospital on Dec. 6, 2014. “It’s very exciting,” says Mr. Williams, a Building Maintenance Specialist who moved his base of operations to the facility, and hasn’t looked back. “I’m like a kid with a new toy, and I’m not the only one who feels that way.”

Asked if it was true that it’s more work because it’s a bigger place, he countered. “It’s actually a little easier because everything is new,” he said. “It takes more skill to work on things, but that’s the part that I enjoy most. “And there’s more walking, but we all need that exercise.”

Mr. Williams’ first job at UT Southwestern was in the laundry. Now his main focus is working on the nurse call systems found in each hospital room, the tube system and linen chutes, and anything technical that might become problematic. “I’ve felt for a long time that it’s not just a job,” he says. “It’s a service to people. And when I retire from here – we’re all going to have to retire sometime – I hope that they’ll remember me as kind, helpful, and as one who always encourages people to do their best.”

Away from work, he enjoys music and repairing automobiles. Mr. Williams is 72, but he doesn’t look it, and he can’t single out his most rewarding memory of working at UT Southwestern: “There too many to name just one!”

By Lin Lofley

In Recognition of

S O O N J A  K A N G

E F F I E  S M I T H

H O N O R A B L E  W I L L I A M S
A Clinical Data Specialist, Alicia Guzman loves her job within Pediatric Neonatal-Fetal. She has the opportunity to work with numerous clinical studies, schedule research patients, and coordinate and assist the Developmental Specialist and Neurodevelopmental Examiner. Mrs. Guzman proclaims herself fortunate to have the most supportive co-workers. "I have never been bored here." In her free time, she enjoys writing, going to auctions, and dancing. He is a detail-oriented person who wants to be known as the empathetic, because he cares about all people. His co-workers would describe him as a social person who enjoys talking to everyone. Away from work Mr. Folchert likes to spend time with his brother, two sisters, his parents, and his friends.

A Senior Administrative Associate in the Physical Plant, Meredith Jones is a dependable and sweet person who is there whenever someone needs her help. As someone whose job is to support the Vice President for Facilities Management and all other members of the team at UT Southwestern, Ms. Jones would like to be known as a co-worker who is enthusiastic and who goes above and beyond to help. She has stayed at UT Southwestern because "of the camaraderie" and the eventual goal of retirement. Her long-term plans include living a peaceful and fulfilling life.

A Manager in Faculty Practice Financial Affairs, Jing Kao works to ensure that the Medical Services, Research and Development Plant's financial reporting is correct and completed. Looking back, she has been witness to many institutional changes. "I've watched UT Southwestern grow from five thousand employees to more than 12 thousand; from only South Campus to a 'big' campus..." She began as an Internal Auditor, and has remained because "of the school environment, and love for the job." As an Internal Auditor, and has remained because "of the school environment, and love for the job." She works in the divisional data base for both Children's Medical Center NICU and Parkland Memorial Hospital NICU. Her first job at UT Southwestern was as an RN involved in a breast-feeding study. After 10 years, Ms. Burchfield still has the same response as to why she has had such a long career at one institution. "I enjoy my job."
JOEY RUEDES

Jorge Ruedas has worked as a Senior Physical Therapist for most of his time at UT Southwestern. His job in Therapy Services at Clements University Hospital entails working with patients in post-surgical and general rehabilitation, as well as in orthopedic rehab. He says his co-workers would describe him as "homey and warmhearted." Mr. Moore has stayed in part because of the many friends he’s made over the years, and he would like to be known as an employee who is always ready to help. Mr. Moore is also a Boy Scout chaplain, a musician at his church, and he is even a professional clown named “Dr. Silvester Silly.” He has published a book on Country Dancing and has published a book on Christmas carols.

RAY WHEATLEY

Ray Wheatley, who first came to UT Southwestern in 1984, is Director for Technology Commercialization in the Office of Technology Development. Mr. Wheatley manages the commercialization of intellectual properties developed here. “The people I work with in our office keep me here,” he says. “They are all dedicated, hard-working people who strive to do the right thing.”

WINNETKA WALTON

Winnetka Walton has worked at UT Southwestern for more than 30 years. She processed lockbox deposits for numerous clients. Ms. Sheffield recalls an important memory, and how it all seems like it was not so long ago. “[My] most rewarding memory was receiving my Five-Year Certificate,” she says. “Time passed by so fast. I could hardly believe it.”

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THELMA MORGAN

Thelma Morgan is a Medical Transcriptionist at UT Southwestern, working in Clinical Laboratory Services at Clements University Hospital. Some of her duties include transcribing pathology, cytology, and outside consultation reports, answering phones, and assisting in other areas when called upon. Ms. Morgan says she “loves my job, as well as my co-workers and their concern for patient care.” Her co-workers would describe her as “a very nice person, kind and helpful,” to a dependable and spiritual person. She is the proud mother of a son, Jermaine, and a daughter-in-law, Eboni. She also has two grandchildren, Marcus and Myles. Some of her hobbies include singing, bowling, collectingrooters, and watching Tyler Perry movies.

LINDA WATKINS

Linda Watkins helps keep vital research going at the highest levels at UT Southwestern. Mrs. Watkins works as a Senior Grants and Contracts Specialist, managing the numerous grants and contracts for Nobel Laureate Dr. Bruce Beutler and the Center for the Genetics of Host Defenses. Her first job was as a Research Tech II for Dr. Bob Lu in Comparative Medicine, a Division of the Department of Pathology. Her career has included a life-changing experience. In 1985, she met her future husband in one of the Asc rooms in the Harry J. Moss Clinical Science Building. Mrs. Watkins has stayed because of her co-workers and the many friends she has made. She and her husband, David, have a son, Tanner.

DEBORAH JACKSON

As a Senior Accounting Clerk in Cash Management Administration, Ramona Sheffield loves being a part of all the changes and the growth of UT Southwestern. She processes lockbox deposits for numerous clients. Ms. Sheffield recalls an important memory, and how it all seems like it was not so long ago. “[My] most rewarding memory was receiving my Five-Year Certificate,” she says. “Time passed by so fast. I could hardly believe it.”

CARRIE TU

Carrie Tu is a Registered Nurse Surgical Coordinator at UT Southwestern. Her job at Clements University Hospital is to coordinate the Orthopedics Department in surgery. Ms. Tu has stayed at UT Southwestern because of her “good friends and co-workers.” She would most like to be known as someone who is a valuable resource and who takes good care of her patients. Ms. Tu’s co-workers would describe her as hard working and friendly, and she carries those traits outside of the office. Ms. Tu says people would be surprised to know that she remodeled houses in her spare time. She and her husband, Tom, will have been married 25 years in June and have three children and two grandchildren.

RAMONA SHEFFIELD

For 30 years, Winnetka Walton has worked with numbers at UT Southwestern. Ms. Walton started in the Data Entry Medical Services, Research and Development Plan. Now, as a Senior Payment Application Specialist, she posts billings and works with patient payments, among other duties. Ms. Walton loves to make others laugh, and wants to be known as the employee who has a positive attitude toward life. Similarly, her co-workers describe her as a friendly person who loves to laugh and always smiles. A few things people may be surprised to know about her are that she is very energetic, loves to travel, and loves religious study. When she isn’t working, she enjoys skiing, swimming, horseback riding, making pastries, and thrift shopping.

RAY WHEATLEY

Ray Wheatley, who first came to UT Southwestern in 1984, is Director for Technology Commercialization in the Office of Technology Development. Mr. Wheatley manages the commercialization of intellectual properties developed here. “The people I work with in our office keep me here,” he says. “They are all dedicated, hard-working people who strive to do the right thing.” There’s strong confidence in his expertise as well. “While meeting with two investigators, one brought up a very serious problem to consider,” he said. “Before I could answer, the other investigator said, ‘Just do what Ray says and everything will turn out OK!’ I appreciated their confidence.” When he isn’t working, Mr. Wheatley spends time with his wife, Vicki, and their daughter, Claire.

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Betty Chambers has stayed at UT Southwestern because she feels she makes a true difference. Mrs. Chambers is Director of Case Management at UT Southwestern, which includes photographing both pre- and post-operative patients. “It’s most important to reassure every patient that they are being treated by the best doctors,” she says. Her career at UT Southwestern has been aided by “the great health and retirement benefits, and also knowing that I work for a world-class medical institution.”

Lisa Byrd Reber likes to keep everything in focus—not a surprising trait, since she’s the Medical Photographer for Plastic Surgery. Since the summer of 1989, she has worked to communicate through photos and graphics, initially with Medical Illustrations/Biomedical Communications. At the Plastic Surgery Clinic, Ms. Reber’s work includes photographing both pre- and post-operative patients. “It’s most important to reassure every patient that they are being treated by the best doctors,” she says. Her career at UT Southwestern has been aided by “the great health and retirement benefits, and also knowing that I work for a world-class medical institution.”

Sandra Boyd is so engaged in her job, she even received an award for her efforts. “[My] most memorable moment at UT Southwestern was when I received the best transporter of the month award,” she says. As a Transporter at Clements University Hospital, Ms. Boyd efficiently moves patients to certain areas of the facility. She stays at UT Southwestern because of “the nice and friendly environment, as well as the opportunity to help patients.” Her co-workers would describe her as a productive and caring leader, but more importantly, she would like to be known as the employee who “would extend a helping hand to all of the patients.” Ms. Boyd has a big family, and when she isn’t working she attends church, goes to movies, and enjoys eating at restaurants.

Karen Costanzo Hollon has one big goal in mind, and that is to get better every day at what she does. As an Administrative Associate in the Department of Urology, Mrs. Costanzo Hollon routes calls for the department, and makes transcriptions for Dr. Claus Roehrborn and Dr. Arthur Sagalowsky. She enjoys being a part of an expanding department. “[My] most rewarding UT Southwestern memory was when I became a member of the Urology Department and seeing it grow from a few people to a large number of people.”

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Betty Chambers has stayed at UT Southwestern because she feels she makes a true difference. Mrs. Chambers is Director of Case Management at University Hospital Administration, where her duties include overseeing social work, utilization review, and clinical documentation. She is a passionate and thoughtful person who has enjoyed her time at UT Southwestern, which includes the opening of Zale Lipshy University Hospital in 1989 and Clements University Hospital in 2014. “I have lots of memories and have met and worked with so many amazing individuals.” In his free time he enjoys spending time with his family and volunteering with his sons’ Boy Scouts of America troop.

Chester Smith is so engaged in his job, he even received an award for his efforts. “[My] most memorable moment at UT Southwestern was when I received the best transporter of the month award,” he says. As a Transporter at Clements University Hospital, Mr. Smith efficiently moves patients to certain areas of the facility. He stays at UT Southwestern because of “the nice and friendly environment, as well as the opportunity to help patients.” His co-workers would describe him as a productive and caring leader, but more importantly, he would like to be known as the employee who “would extend a helping hand to all of the patients.”

Cervantes has flourished as a Clinical Data Specialist through the diversity and growth of the medical center. A patient person who is always willing to help, Mrs. Cervantes has had the privilege to work with clinical research data for patients on Phase I Clinical Research Studies, where she also reports toxicities. “I started her at UT Southwestern in 1989, she has worked to communicate through photos and graphics, initially with Medical Illustrations/Biomedical Communications. At the Plastic Surgery Clinic, Ms. Reber’s work includes photographing both pre- and post-op-erative patients. “It’s most important to reassure every patient that they are being treated by the best doctors,” she says. Her career at UT Southwestern has been aided by “the great health and retirement benefits, and also knowing that I work for a world-class medical institution.”

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Evangeline Altamero calls patients and helps set up their appoint-ments, and performs other critical tasks, such as giving pre-operative instructions and handling patient records at Zale Lipshy University Hos-pital. Mrs. Altamero says that working with her patients is always a rewarding task. “Even though my contact with patients or family is through telephone encounter, it’s rewarding when at the end of our conversations they ask if they will be able to see me,” she says. “I know I have made an impact and done my job.” She is married with two daughters, and has two grandchildren. Her hobbies include playing games, watching movies, and cooking.

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COLEEN DEBES

Colleen Debes is a Registered Nurse II in the Cystic Fibrosis Clinic at Clements University Hospital. Her duties as a clinical nurse include working behind the scenes as a coordinator for Adult Cystic Fibrosis patients. Mrs. Debes started at UT Southwestern in 1989 as a Heart Failure Research Coordinator for Dr. Clyde Tacye. She says her “wonderful co-workers and the opportunity to help patients” have helped make her career fulfilling at the medical center. Her co-workers would describe her as an exemplary employee who is a team player with a constant positive attitude. She and her husband of 20 years have two children and a yellow labrador retriever.

SHELLEY DIXON

Shirley Dixon loves being a part of UT Southwestern and Internal Medicine’s Subspecialty Clinic. “It is gratifying to work for and be a part of an organization whose mission is to eliminate the burdens of disease and sickness that affect the world,” she says. Ms. Dixon manages and schedules templates and clinic cancellations, and schedules patient appointments. As a compassionate and respectful professional who knows the importance of giving her best effort, she wants to be known as the employee who “can make you smile.” Mrs. Dixon is the youngest of 11 children.

JAIME DOWNIE

As a Maintenance Supervisor in the Utilities Department, Jaime Downie takes his job seriously. He maintains all mechanical equipment, such as exhaust fans and pumps, as well as steam systems, chillers, and boiler systems. Mr. Downie started his career working in maintenance, and he has stayed due to his co-workers and the positive atmosphere. He is dedicated to his work, takes pride in what he does, and every year, he and his fellow co-workers take part in the annual Heart Walk. When he isn’t working at UT Southwestern, he is at home working on home improvement projects and in his yard. He and his wife, Brenda, have a daughter, Ashley.

JOHN FAISON

As a Surgical Services Implant Coordinator, John Faison is a tenacious worker who wants to be known as the employee who always tried to do an excellent job. Mr. Faison started at UT Southwestern as a Surgical Technician at Zale Lipshy University Hospital, where he orders implants, posts positions, and posts OR changes. He plans on retiring within the next five years to spend more time with his wife, two daughters, and two grandsons. Outside of work, Mr. Faison enjoys riding motorcycles.

KATHY DURHAM

As a Support Services Coordinator at UT Southwestern, Kathy Durham works in Respiratory Therapy at Clements University Hospital. She manages computer applications, provides staff education and orientation, tracks licenses and certifications, and is a resource for assistant managers. “I sense the desire for excellence, not just in words, but also in action and policy,” she says. Her co-workers describe her as “honest and consistent.” Mrs. Durham has been married for 37 years and has three children, two daughters and a son. Her hobbies include knitting, reading, cooking, singing, and playing the handbells.

EULA EDWARDS

Eula Edwards has worked as a Housekeeping Attendant in the Environmental Services Department. Mrs. Edwards has stayed at UT Southwestern because of “the people, benefits, and all the friends I’ve made.” She would like to be known as the Zale Lipshy University Hospital employee who works diligently at everything she does. When she is not working hard in the hospital, Mrs. Edwards is working hard on her health. When asked about her long-term goals, she said she determined to stay focused on excellent health and fitness. Mrs. Edwards has a husband and a daughter, and her passion is spending time with them. Her hobbies include traveling, watching movies, and bowling.

KIMBERLY ‘KIM’ EDWARDS

Kim Edwards works in the Department of Pharmacology, where she is a Financial Affairs Manager. She coordinates the accounting operations of the department, which includes planning, budgeting, and reporting the state and grant financial data. The wonderful opportunities provided by UT Southwestern have kept her here. “UT Southwestern has so many opportunities to offer its employees,” she says. “There is room to advance in your career or switch careers. I enjoy working with all different people and have made some really great friends along the way.”

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KENNY FICK

Kenny Flick takes pride in working hard at UT Southwestern, and for 25 years he has delivered – literally. Mr. Flick is a Mail Clerk in Mail Services Administration, and his job is to work delivery mail routes and meter machines. He has stayed at UT Southwestern due to the job security and benefits offered. “A nice and reliable” person described by his co-workers, he has a great sense of humor. Mr. Flick’s long-term career goal is to work long enough so his sons can go to college. His wish, of course, is to win the lottery. Outside work, his hobbies include playing poker, traveling, and attending school activities. He and his wife have two sons, Radd, 13, and Kyle, 15.

REGINALD GIDDENS

Reginald Giddens has worked in the Environmental, Health, and Safety Department since 1989. As a Safety Specialist I, he collects and disperses of radioactive wastes from UT Southwestern laboratories. Mr. Giddens likes the job security offered at UT Southwestern, as well as his co-workers and the nice work environment. Although not an earthshaking event, he says he’s happy to have “survived my first earthquake at UT Southwestern!” He is funny and dependable, but, more importantly, Mr. Giddens says he still looks the same after 25 years. Away from work he loves motorcycling and working on old trucks. A faithful Christian, Mr. Giddens’ family includes his wife, Adriene, and Alex, Richard, Jackie, and Mandy.

KEITH GRAVLEY

Keith Gravley works as a Senior Moving Attendant in the Bryan Williams, M.D. Student Surgery Department, Jaime Downie takes his job seriously. He maintains all mechanical equipment, such as exhaust fans and pumps, as well as steam systems, chillers, and boiler systems. Mr. Downie started his career working in maintenance, and he has stayed due to his co-workers and the positive atmosphere. He is dedicated to his work, takes pride in what he does, and every year, he and his fellow co-workers take part in the annual Heart Walk. When he isn’t working at UT Southwestern, he is at home working on home improvement projects and in his yard. He and his wife, Brenda, have a daughter, Ashley.

DANNY GREEN

Danny Green enjoys coming into work every day at Zale Lipshy University Hospital. Although his self-proclaimed greatest claim to fame would be to retire one day, Mr. Green still looks forward to working and learning at UT Southwestern for as long as he can. He has stayed at the medical center because of his job and its benefits, the atmosphere, and the people around him. His co-workers would say he is a man who does his job without complaining, and is willing to continue working if asked to do so. For fun, he likes to do yardwork, travel, and spend time with his family.

SANDRA HALL

In five years, Sandra Hall will have completed her doctorate in Physical Therapy. As a manager in Outpatient Therapy Services at Zale Lipshy University Hospital, Mrs. Hall manages the physical medicine and rehabilitation practice on both the physician and therapist sides. She loves everything about her job, from her co-workers to the patients. Mrs. Hall wants to be known as the employee who is passionate about patient care. “Marge Bead was my mentor and boss for many years,” she says. “She taught me to engage and laugh with my patients, and it gives you a connection of laughter.” She is married, and has two sons who are fire-fighters, as well as a daughter who is in physical therapy. She also hopes to use her degree in the mission field.
**Leah Hayden, an Accountant III in University Hospital Administrative Finance Department, started out in 1989 as a Receptionist in St. Paul University Hospital. She credits “great co-workers and having challenging work” for keeping her here at the medical center. Her co-workers playfully tease her because her work space is decorated like home. “I love coming to work everyday,” she says. “I have worked with many wonderful people who have been like family to me.” She plans to retire at UT Southwestern and open a small antique or gift shop. Ms. Hayden has two sisters, Carol and Lisa – her identical twin – a brother-in-law, Brian, a niece, Stefany, and two cats, Romeo and Juliet.

**Anthony Pedrazine**

Anthony Pedrazine is someone who could be described as a “ninja guru,” because of his ability to quietly tame misbehaving computers and web pages. He works as a Programmers Analyst II in Microbiology Administration. Mr. Pedrazine develops databases, cswriter/HTML, email designs, and works in technical support. He says he enjoys instilling people with what is going on at UT Southwestern. “I have enjoyed the opportunities to tell a global audience about the wonderful research and programs going on at UT Southwestern via the Internet,” he says. Away from work, he enjoys volunteering, going to concerts and live theatre, and sharpening his guitar skills.

**Cindy Lawson**

Before joining the Department of Molecular Biology, Cindy Lawson worked in Internal Medicine and Cardiology for more than 15 years. Now, as an Administrative Manager, she manages a basic science department. Ms. Lawson has stayed at UT Southwestern due to a number of factors, including “a sense of contributing to the missions, co-workers, the supportive supervisors, and opportunities for further growth.” A loyal and dedicated person, she hopes to grow professionally over the rest of her career. In her free time, Ms. Lawson enjoys reading and has a strong interest in silky terriers.

**Steve Ostermann**

Stephen Ostermann, a reliable Laboratory Technical Assistant II in the Internal Medicine - Infectious Disease Department, has never used a nickname. He loves his job as a Carpenter’s Helper. “I love my job and enjoy working with people to accomplish their goals, and his co-workers would describe him as “a responsible and respectful man” with great skills. Away from work he enjoys cooking, gardening, and spending time with his wife, Luptia.
CHARLES RICHARDS

Charles Richards has had a highly rewarding experience at UT Southwestern, meeting his wife, Amy, at the medical center. Mr. Richards is a Senior Database Analyst. He manages the IT group in the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology. Mr. Richards says he has stayed at UT Southwestern because of the continuing opportunity to learn new things, and working on projects that make an impact on campus. His long-term goal is to stay healthy, and his hobbies include cooking, cycling, and fishing. The Richards have two sons, Colby and Brandon, and a daughter, Sarah. When asked about his time at UT Southwestern, he had a perfect response: “23 years ... I would do it all over again in a heartbeat!”

BILLY THOMAS

Billy Thomas is a mover, if not a shaker, at UT Southwestern. He is a Supervisor in Sitewide Services General Administration’s Physical Plant, where he relocates departments throughout the campus. Mr. Thomas has stayed at the medical center because of the opportunity to “perform customer service at difficult times,” and he views his experiences as fulfilling. “It is rewarding to do what I can to aid professionals in medical research,” Mr. Thomas says. He is a fair and honest man who claims there is nothing surprising about him. Aside from making things better on campus, he hopes to eventually invent tools and machines. Mr. Thomas’ hobbies include playing basketball and working in his yard. He and his wife, Peggy, have a son, Billy.

BRENDA THOMPSON

For 25 years, Brenda Thompson has worked at UT Southwestern as an Advanced Practice Registered Nurse. Now in the Division of Cardiology’s Heart and Lung Center, she has a challenging job taking care of patients with advanced heart failure. That has been a major reason why she has maintained her career here: “The most rewarding memories are the ‘Thank You’s’ from the patients and their families,” she says. Mrs. Thompson is not only a caring and compassionate person, but she always gives 150 percent. Her passion is reading journals, and she has seen every new animated movie over the past seven years. Mrs. Thompson has been married for 43 years and has three children and nine grandchildren.

VIVIAN TOLOR

A Histology Lab Aide, Vivian Tolor has worked in the Physiology Department for 25 years, and a big reason she stays at UT Southwestern is due to the great people in her department. “When I was out with breast cancer, the department was very supporting,” she says. “When I returned it was my 50th birthday, and they gave me a surprise party. That meant the world to me. THANKS PHYSIOLOGY!” She is married with two sons, a daughter-in-law, and four grandchildren, along with her two wonderful parents. “That is a lot of love,” she says.

MYRIA HADNOT

Described as a “movie star” by his co-workers, Larry Wine says his greatest claim to fame is that he made it. Mr. Wine began his career at UT Southwestern as a Housekeeper, and now works as an Environmental Services Lead at Zale Lipshy University Hospital. It is his job to supervise in the Department of Environmental Services. Asked why he’s stayed at UT Southwestern, Mr. Wine gives credit to his co-workers and the patient care, as well as the opportunity to learn new skills at his position. His favorite memory is recieving awards for his job duties. Mr. Wine hopes to be remembered for his hard work. “[I’m] always willing to go that extra mile,” he says. In his free time he loves to play dominoes, watch football, play cards, and hang out with friends and family.

A Medical Technologist in Clements University Hospital, Kim Stewart stays at UT Southwestern because of the learning opportunities it affords. “I love microbiology,” she says. “We have interesting cases here, and there is always an opportunity to learn something new. I also have really great people to work with.” Mrs. Stewart performs lab work, where she identifies bacteria and fungus from patient cultures, and performs susceptibility testing. Her favorite memory at UT Southwestern was when Dr. Richard Jones would visit departments, playing his saxophone and handing out candy. She has been married for 27 years, and has a daughter enrolled at UT Austin, and a University of North Texas-bound son.
Beutler to deliver brief history of time at medical center

Three stints on campus include work as a trainee, as a faculty member, and as an esteemed Nobel Laureate

By Deborah Wormser

Dr. Bruce Beutler, Director of the Center for the Genetics of Host Defense, will address some of UT Southwestern Medical Center’s most steadfast employees when he delivers the keynote address at the Employee Recognition luncheon on May 12.

The event’s honorees have all worked at UT Southwestern for least 25 years.

Dr. Beutler shared the 2011 Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine for his discovery that an important family of receptors allows mammals to sense infections when they occur, triggering a powerful inflammatory response. That work was done at UT Southwestern in 1998 and the Nobel Prize was announced only months after Dr. Beutler arrived to work at UT Southwestern for the third time.

“That work was much faster than the five years he worked to clone the mammalian gene for the LPS receptor, said Dr. Beutler.

Dr. Beutler is known for his work in unlocking the secret of how the body detects infection and launches an inflammatory response. His current endeavors involve an attempt to identify every gene involved in the body’s immune response. TNF mediates the endotoxin lipopolysaccharide (LPS), a component of the cell wall in gram-negative bacteria.

Returning to Dallas in 1986 as a Howard Hughes Medical Institute Investigator at UT Southwestern, he designed recombinant inhibitors of TNF that are now widely used in the treatment of rheumatoid arthritis and other inflammatory diseases.

That process was much faster than the five years he worked to clone the mammalian gene for the LPS receptor, said Dr. Beutler.

He left the university in 2000 for Scripps Research Institute in La Jolla, California, and returned in 2011. Today, Dr. Beutler runs one of the largest mouse mutagenesis programs in the world, with plans to identify and archive mutations in every gene in the mouse genome. New technology and teamwork are making that goal possible, he said.

“We sped up the whole process. Going from phenotype (trait) to finding the causative mutation is now instantaneous, and it’s only instantaneous here and nowhere else in the world,” he said, adding that he is looking forward to explaining how his team found ways to work faster: something the institution’s longtime employees could appreciate.

Dr. Beutler, a Regental Professor, holds the Raymond and Ellen Willie Distinguished Chair in Cancer Research, in Honor of Laverne and Raymond Willie, Sr.

About the Speaker

Dr. Bruce A. Beutler, who shared the 2011 Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine, is an internationally recognized leader in immunology and the Director of the Center for the Genetics of Host Defense at UT Southwestern Medical Center.

Dr. Beutler and Jules A. Hoffmann of Strasbourg University in France shared the Nobel Prize “for their discoveries concerning the activation of innate immunity,” the first step in the body’s immune response. The late Dr. Ralph M. Steinman of Rockefeller University in New York was also honored in 2011.

Dr. Beutler is known for his work in unlocking the secret of how the body detects infection and launches an inflammatory response. His current endeavors involve an attempt to identify every gene involved in the response to potentially infectious agents like bacteria or viruses.

At UT Southwestern, Dr. Beutler runs one of the largest mouse mutagenesis programs in the world. He and his group have tracked down several hundred mutations that cause abnormalities in mice. Many of these mutations have important implications in infectious diseases or autoimmune conditions in which the body turns on itself, such as lupus and rheumatoid arthritis. Dr. Beutler’s team also has identified many thousands of other genetic mutations that form the nucleus of a mutation archive that eventually will encompass all mouse genes.

Dr. Beutler earned his medical degree from the University of Chicago after graduating from the University of California, San Diego. His postgraduate career at UT Southwestern includes an internal medicine internship and Neurology residency.

During a brief fellowship and faculty appointment at Rockefeller University, Dr. Beutler isolated tumor necrosis factor, one of the most important mediators of inflammation. He then returned to UT Southwestern as a faculty member and Howard Hughes Medical Institute Investigator from 1986 to 2000. His seminal work during this period was broadly relevant to host responses to viral infection, cancer, and autoimmunity, and ultimately led to the Nobel Prize: Between 2000 and 2011, Dr. Beutler was at The Scripps Research Institute in La Jolla, Calif.

He was elected to both the National Academy of Sciences and the Institute of Medicine in 2008, and to the American Academy of Arts and Sciences in 2013. Dr. Beutler’s numerous awards and recognitions include the 2011 Shaw Prize in Life Science and Medicine, the University of Chicago Pritzker Prize in 2010, the Alhambra Medical Center Prize in Medicine and Biomedical Research in 2009, the Balzan Prize in 2007, the Grand Prix Charles-Leopold Mayer from the Académie des Sciences in France in 2006, and the Robert J.的重大奖项。
Streams of employees were struck by the three-story atrium of the Clements University Hospital. Here, a group is shown the facility’s patient discharge area. This year’s new Quarter Century Club members include nine who work in Clements University Hospital, and another 11 who have hit their 20-, 35-, and 30-year service milestones.
COUNCIL OF CAMPUS UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL

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