



# TechTimes

*El Paso*

## Thomason & Texas Tech Partner with Mayo Clinic

Thomason Hospital and Texas Tech HSC El Paso have agreed to a working relationship with Mayo Medical Laboratories (MML), a division of the world-renowned Mayo Clinic, that will enhance patient care in El Paso, plus promote continuing education, and support research activities, especially those related to border health.

### PATIENT CARE

By aligning with the MML, the reference lab for the Mayo clinic, Thomason and Texas Tech HSC El Paso are bringing El Paso the clinical expertise and vast resources of one of the world's leaders in healthcare. Testing performed at Thomason's Regional Lab will be complemented by its access to MML's cadre of physicians and scientists who will provide specialty expertise and 24/7 consultation on difficult-to-perform or infrequently ordered tests. This partnership is designed to improve patient care, shorten hospital stays and reduce costs.

### EDUCATION

Mayo Medical Laboratories offers educational activities that develop, maintain, and increase knowledge, skills and professional performance. With a wide range of topics available, Thomason and Texas Tech HSC El Paso physicians, medical technicians, medical technologists and other healthcare professionals will benefit from the depth of knowledge and experience of Mayo staff on diagnostic treatments and advancements. The knowledge gained from MML's programs will enhance the provision of medical care on the Thomason/Texas Tech HSC El Paso campus. MML's educational activities include Visiting Faculty Programs, Interactive Satellite Programs, and Continuing Medical Education Conferences.

### RESEARCH

The mission of the Mayo Clinic General Clinical Research Center is to provide clinical investigators with the specialized staff, facilities, training and resources necessary to translate laboratory findings into new clinical knowledge and improved patient care. Thomason and Texas Tech HSC El Paso's relationship with the MML makes results available locally of the latest clinical trials, diagnostic studies and treatment/outcome studies.

## Project First Impression: Helping Kids Fit In

Project First Impression was created by the El Paso Community

Foundation and the Orthopaedic Department at Texas Tech HSC El Paso to enrich the lives of disabled children and families



they serve. Many times, families with a disabled child face additional economic hardships, making it difficult to purchase clothes and supplies for school.

This year, two-hundred school-aged children with disabilities and their siblings prepared for the first day of school in style – thanks to a gift from an anonymous donor.



Buses donated by the El Paso Independent School District transported children and their families to the Bassett Center Target store where each child received a \$60 gift certificate.



**Top Photo:** David Rios and Mom

**Center Photo:** Sophia Soto, Crystal Garcia and Mathew Soto

**Lower Photo:** Lupita Vasquez and Outreach Worker Maria Barriga

# HCOE Higher Education and Health Career Trip Hosts El Paso Teens

Future health professionals from El Paso, Sierra Blanca and Dell City previewed college life and professional schools, thanks to the Texas Tech Hispanic Center of Excellence (HCOE).

The HCOE provided a higher educational and health professions orientation experience for 32 area high school students especially selected for the program by their counselors. The trip included two nights in a campus residence hall, visits to the Texas Tech schools of Medicine, Nursing, Allied Health and Pharmacy, and a tour of Texas Tech University. The program was coordinated in Lubbock by the Texas Tech Office of Rural and Community Health.

“The students learned about preparing for college and saw professional education programs that were new to many of them,” said Joyce Palmer, HCOE associate director. “The trip was an eye-opener which found many students anxious to pursue higher education at Texas Tech University and Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center.”

## Top Photo:

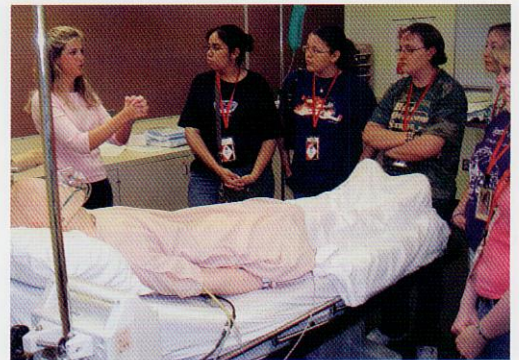
Leslee Taylor, head of the Master of Athletic Training (MAT) program at the School of Allied Health at TTUHSC, Lubbock, discusses athletic training as a career and demonstrates an ankle wrap procedure.

## Center Photo:

El Paso area students pose in the Science Quadrangle at Texas Tech in Lubbock.

## Lower Photo:

El Paso health career students learn about cardiac care through the use of teaching mannequins in the Clinical Simulation Center at the School of Nursing at TTUHSC in Lubbock.



## Pediatric Clinic Groundbreaking



Texas Tech HSC El Paso's Department of Pediatrics broke ground this summer on its new Eastside Texas Tech Physicians' Associates location at 11861 Physicians Drive, off of George Dieter. Until construction is complete, patients will continue being seen at the Pellicano location.

## IMPACT Exposes Students to Health Professionals

One-hundred and eighty 4th and 5th grade students were enrolled in the IMPACT (Investigating Medical Professions and Career Tracks) Program - a partnership between Texas Tech HSC El Paso and the El Paso Independent School District. The students learned about healthcare careers and developed an awareness of medicine's contributions to society.

The half-day, four-times-a-week program also focused on health systems of the body. The majority of IMPACT sessions included classroom work with 18 teachers engaged by EPISD. Texas Tech HSC El Paso physicians and Thomason healthcare professionals visited these students at Cordova Middle School, where classes were located.

## THUMBS UP

### Family Practice Docs Appreciated

Steve Mendoza, a Texas Tech HSC El Paso, ER and Thomason surgery ward patient, recently wrote to praise four physicians in the Department of Family Medicine. The following is an excerpt from his letter:

“Dr. Lorenzo Aragon, Dr. Oscar Noriega, Dr. Davert Pardo, and Dr. Raquel Neeley went out of their way to assure that I would still be here today. They spared no test or exam to determine the cause of my pain. These tests and exams were inconclusive, yet they continued to analyze and study the symptoms at length.

“From the registration at ER, Dr. Aragon and Dr. Pardo assured that there was no delay in my care. Other physicians who supported these doctors and assured I was not neglected were, Dr. Manisha Gupta, Dr. Manuel Borrego, Dr. Jary Pando, Dr. Guadalupe Orozco. There were many other excellent doctors that had a hand in my care, offered help or saw to my every need with compassion and humor. They made me feel like family.

“As it turned out, I had a perforated appendix. I am forever grateful for the relentless pursuit followed up by Dr. Noriega and his team to admit me to the surgical ward. There the first symptoms seemed to indicate it was where I needed to be. They were not wrong. From then on, it was clockwork: inform, examine, test, analyze, consult and make a decision! Pre-surgery care was outstanding and the surgery was trouble-free and efficient. Post-surgery was a continuation of their concern and care until the decision to send me home. No one faltered. I was at all times in great hands.

“I commend all the Texas Tech Family Practice doctors and their support teams for a job exceptionally well done. They exemplify the truest sense of what family practice should be,” said Mendoza.

### Ting Honored for Helping Homeless

Stanislaus Ting, M.D., Texas Tech HSC El Paso immunologist/allergist, was recently honored by the New Mexico Medical Society for sharing his gifts with the homeless.

After moving to Las Cruces, New Mexico in 1986 and noticing the vast discrepancies in health care between those with and without insurance, Dr. Ting started discussions with local community leaders to do something about it. In 1990, Dr. Ting opened St. Luke's Health Care Mission in St. Andrew's Episcopal Church to provide healthcare for the homeless.

The clinic, which moved to a new location in 1999, is staffed by volunteer medical personnel, and sees nearly 12,000 patients a year. Dr. Ting, who also volunteers his time, serves as the clinic's president and medical director. He also maintains a busy private practice and teaches at Texas Tech HSC El Paso.



## NEW VICE PRESIDENT FOR COMMUNICATIONS & MARKETING

Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center President M. Roy Wilson, M.D., M.S. appointed Angila M. Faison as the new vice president for Communications & Marketing.

Wilson said the creation of this position is vital in order to convey a unified message and image for the institution. “A new vice president position in this area is key to better understand the value of strategic communications to improve the Health Sciences Center's branding and marketing image,” Wilson said. “This is essential to better reach the goals of our academic health institution.”

Faison is responsible for all components of communications and marketing for the Health Sciences Center, including the regional campuses in Amarillo, Odessa, El Paso and Dallas.

“Angila has a proven ability in the creation and implementation of integrated marketing communication programs, and her past experience in overall event marketing, community and public relations as well as brand and corporate image development will be a strength for the Health Sciences Center in meeting these goals,” Wilson said.

Faison previously served as the Event Marketing and Community Relations Consultant for The Image Consortium Marketing Group in Chicago. She oversaw the strategic development and execution of community relations and event marketing campaigns for clients such as Mercedes-Benz, McDonald's Corporation, Colgate-Palmolive Company and the Home Box Office (HBO).

Faison received her Bachelor of Business Administration in Marketing from Loyola University in Chicago and also holds an Associate Degree from the Fashion Institute of Technology in New York.

## New TTUHSC Director of Alumni

Leigh McPhaul has joined TTUHSC Lubbock as the new Director of Alumni Relations. She graduated from the University of Texas with a B.S. in Education. Before coming to TTUHSC, Leigh was a Development Officer with the Covenant Health System Foundation where she was responsible for fundraising and coordinating special events. She also served as the Community Benefits Manager for Covenant working with the CHIP program which provided medical care for children and the CHOP program to help families purchase their first home.

McPhaul also was the Executive Director of the Lubbock Area Coalition for Literacy for nine years. This program provided ESL classes and services to help teach adults to read. The nonprofit program operated solely from funds received through grants, donations and fundraisers.

## Dr. Cruz Inducted into AOA

Miguel Pirela-Cruz, M.D., Chairman of the Department of Orthopaedic Surgery, was inducted as a new member into the American Orthopaedic Association during its annual meeting in Boston recently.

## Dr. K. Chaudhuri Presents

Kallol Chaudhuri, M.D., Ph.D., associate professor in the Department of Anesthesiology, presented at the Society of Obstetric Anesthesia and Perinatology's 36th Annual Meeting held recently.

The presentation was entitled "Does High Epidural Infusion Rate Increase the Incidence of Cesarean Section". Co-authors of the study are Joanne Solis-Estrada, M.A., Peter Heller, Ph.D., and Swapna Chaudhuri, M.D., Ph.D.

## Paramedic Graduates

Nine City of El Paso Paramedics recently graduated from Paramedic Training. The graduates were: Jorge Alberto Azarate, Heriberto Baeza, Jr., Jesus M. Fraire, Feliz Hernandez, Patricia Ann Keating, Edward Mercer, Larry Perez, Jr., Alfredo Rosales, and Jose J. Sanchez.

## HCOE Sponsors Two Faculty Fellows

The Hispanic Center of Excellence announced the sponsorship of two faculty fellows from the Department of Pediatrics who will gain a Masters of Public Health degree from the University of Texas Health Sciences Center Houston School of Public Health satellite program in El Paso.

New HCOE fellows are Alison Days, M.D., and Carmen Prieto, M.D. The Hispanic Center of Excellence faculty fellows program supports expenses and a percentage of release time for the faculty furthering their professional development. For more information about the Faculty Fellows Program contact Joyce Palmer, 545-6555 or [Joyce.Palmer@ttuhsc.edu](mailto:Joyce.Palmer@ttuhsc.edu).

## OB/GYN Doc Editor of Magazine

Jose L. Gonzalez, M.D., an associate professor in the Department of OB/GYN, was named editor of the *El Paso Physician*, a local medical magazine published by the El Paso County Medical Society.

## Loflin Appointed to SCAHA

James R. Loflin, M.D., associate professor in the Department of Emergency Medicine, has been appointed President of the Sun Country American Heart Association.



Tech Times is published monthly by the Department of Communications and Marketing, Texas Tech HSC El Paso. Please submit news by fax: 545-6432. For info: 545-6527. Deadline is the 10th. Editor: Cathy Reynolds. Contributors: Lisa Ruley and Patricia Kalderis Williams

NON-PROFIT  
ORGANIZATION  
U.S. POSTAGE PAID  
EL PASO, TX  
79905  
PERMIT NO. 2903

4800 Alberta, El Paso, Texas 79905

TechTimes

