



TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY
HEALTH SCIENCES CENTER™
at El Paso

Viewbox

New Founding Dean Named for Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center at El Paso

Robert M. Suskind, M.D., has been named the founding dean of Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center at El Paso School of Medicine and will begin his duties on Nov. 6.

His position as founding dean for the medical school will include developing a four-year accredited medical school from the present two-year regional school in El Paso. Dr. Suskind also will oversee the development of a new and innovative medical curriculum, the development of research centers of excellence, and the recruitment of additional departmental chairs, teaching and research faculty.

Bernhard T. Mitemeyer, M.D., Health Sciences Center interim president, said Suskind's experience comes from a long career of institution-building and innovation, both in the United States and internationally.

"Suskind will serve a vital role in establishing the first four-year medical school on the U.S. –Mexico border. His medical education background as well as his past leadership at prestigious schools in this country will help lead us to the next phase of growth," Mitemeyer said.

Zenaido Camacho, Ph.D., associate dean at the Health Sciences Center at El Paso and Founding Dean Search Committee chair, said Suskind was clearly the choice of the committee.

"We were fortunate to receive a large number of strong applicants for the founding dean position. Dr. Suskind possesses all the qualities we are looking for in the person who will provide the leadership necessary to establish our school," Camacho said. "With his vision, enthusiasm and commitment to Texas Tech El Paso, we will certainly be successful."

Suskind currently serves as a tenured professor of pediatrics at Chicago Medical School where he also served as dean of the school. Previously he was chairman in the Department of Pediatrics at Louisiana State University Medical Center in New Orleans. Prior to that, he served as chairman of the Department of Pediatrics at the University of South Alabama College of Medicine in Mobile, Ala.

Suskind's experience also includes: associate professor of pediatrics, Children's Hospital Medical Center in Boston; associate program director, Massachusetts Institute of Technology Clinical Research Center; associate professor of pediatrics and nutrition, Massachusetts Institute of Technology's Department of Nutrition and Food Science; field director, Anemia and Malnutrition Research Center in Chiang Mai, Thailand; and assistant and associate professor of pediatrics, St. Louis University School of Medicine.

He is a graduate of the University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine, completing his pediatric training at Johns Hopkins Medicine and has a postdoctoral degree in tropical medicine from the University of Dakar, Africa. Suskind said his naming as the founding dean is a tremendous honor and exciting opportunity.

Aug. 21 - 25

25 Regional Dean
 Update Session
 Noon, A 3500

UBCC Luncheon is October 4

The University Breast Care Center Celebrate Life Luncheon will be held Wednesday, October 4, at 11:30 a.m. at the Judson Williams Convention Center.

Individual tickets are \$50 and a table of ten is \$500.

Raffle items include a one-of-a-kind 14K brooch designed by Susan Eisen; a two-night stay (golf package) at Inn of the Mountain Gods; Dillard's gift certificate for \$1,000; custom made boots by Lucchese; and a diamond bracelet from Benny's Pawn Shop.

The UBCC is also selling pink rhinestone pins, charm bracelets, and pink baseball caps with the pink survivor ribbon as fundraisers. The pins and bracelets are \$12 each or two items for \$20. The caps are \$15. The items are on sale through the day of the luncheon. For more information, contact the UBCC, 545-6400.

Dr. Berk to be Honored at Reception

Bernhard T. Mitemeyer, M.D., Interim President, Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center, invites everyone to a reception Wednesday, August 23, 5:00 p.m. – 6:30 p.m., honoring Steven L. Berk, M.D., newly appointed Dean of the Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center School of Medicine.

The reception will be held in the Academic Classroom Building Foyer, 3601 4th Street in Lubbock. For more information, call (806) 743-2907.

Game Tickets for Die Hard Texas Tech Fans!

Tickets for the September 9 - **Texas Tech vs. UTEP Football Game** are now on sale for TTUHSC at El Paso employees. There are 100 tickets reserved for the TTUHSC at El Paso section, at \$29 a ticket (Check or Cash ONLY!). First come, first served! Tickets may be purchased at Volunteer Services, located on the first floor of the Clinic Building.

Kick-off time is at 7:05 p.m., but from 4 – 7 p.m., everyone is invited to attend the Texas Tech Tailgate Party at Bar 26, located at 2626 N. Mesa.

Everyone is encouraged to wear red and black spirit colors to the tailgate party and the game.

TTUHSC El Paso polo shirts have been ordered and will be available for purchase before game day through Tech Mart at Volunteer Services.

“The need for more good medical care, which is true throughout our country, is even greater in West Texas and for the Mexican border communities that the El Paso campus serves. With the completion of the new medical school, we can give future medical students the opportunity to become qualified physicians for this community,” Suskind said.

He added that the new El Paso School of Medicine will be a source of excellence in healing, education and research. “What makes this most exciting is the excellent, innovative colleagues with whom I am going to be working,” Suskind said. “Together we are going to make this a wonderful and successful venture.”

TTUHSC’s El Paso campus is a major component of the School of Medicine with more than 1,000 faculty and staff members who train 107 third- and fourth-year medical students and 183 residents in various specialties.

Jose M. de la Rosa, M.D., regional School of Medicine dean at El Paso, expressed his congratulations to Suskind. “We have paved the way for the first four-year medical school on a U.S. border, and the first in Texas in more than 30 years. Dr. Suskind has the academic background and prestige to carry our school to the next level,” de la Rosa said. “We welcome him to the TTUHSC El Paso family.”

Hastings Presented Zetzman Award

The Texas Rural Health Association (TRHA) recently presented the 2006 Marion Zetzman Award to Jim Hastings, associate director of the Office of Border Health at Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center at El Paso.

The Zetzman Award is presented annually to an individual who has “made a significant difference in improving the health of rural Texans.” The award is named in honor of the late Marion Zetzman, first director of the Texas Office of Rural Health Initiatives and a lifelong advocate of rural health. Hastings was recognized for his work with border and rural communities in development of emergency care infrastructure, continuing education opportunities for rural health professionals and assistance with development of community health worker programs.

The award was presented at the TRHA annual conference in Austin by Don McBeath, Managing Director of Telemedicine and Rural Health for Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center and former TRHA president.

Thumbs Up

The TTUHSC at El Paso Department of Pediatrics would like to congratulate Terri Brashear, senior business assistant in the Department of Pediatrics Residency Program, for receiving a \$500 Association of Pediatric Program Directors (APPD) Coordinator’s Scholarship to attend the APPD 10th Annual Fall Meeting in Reston, Virginia in September.

“Congratulations and keep up the good work Terri,” said Rosie Franceware of Pediatrics.