I want to wish you all the very best during this wonderful season – the best exam grades, the best time with your loved ones, and the best rest and relaxation during the break. You have worked hard during this semester, learned a bunch, and you are one semester closer to achieving your career goals. The faculty and staff are thankful that we have had the opportunity to work with such a terrific group of people – our students. Your “aha” moments, your willingness to stretch to learn, your caring for your patients, your energy and creativity, make it worthwhile for us to come to work each and every day. We are thankful for the opportunity to work with you. Happy Holidays! See you next year.
SHP SCHOLARSHIP LUNCHEON

The School of Health Professions awarded 184 scholarships this year. All students were recognized on October 28, 2014.

Congratulations to all scholarship recipients!

The University Federal Credit Union Scholarship

Pictured Above
Katherine Kemp
Benefactor, Janet Brown (DAR)
Catherine Ryan
Natalie Leonard

You can find the list of this year’s recipients here.

The Dean’s Academic and Competitive Scholarship Award

Happy Holidays in French: Joyeuses Fêtes!
SHP SCHOLARSHIP BENEFACTORS

Dr. Harry Davis and his wife Joanne with scholarship recipient Demori Driver, PAS

Gaddis and Susan Wittjen with scholarship recipient Bridget Andrews, DPT

Pamela Christiansen with scholarship recipient Alexis Gonzalez, MOT

Brigadier General Don Wagner and his wife Jan Wagner with scholarship recipients Bridget Andrews–DPT, Kyle Poulsen–PAS and Sarah Fulton–MOT

More decorating ideas.

Happy Holidays in Vietnamese: Hạnh phúc ngày lễ
Dr. Modupe Sokunbi has done it again! For the fifth year in a row she was voted Best Pediatrician of Nacogdoches, TX. Dr. Sokunbi, a long time preceptor for the UTMB Physician Assistant Studies’ (PAS) students, received the award while precepting PA-S2 student Kolby Buckner. Kolby described his pediatric rotation with Dr. Sokunbi as “enlightening and rewarding”. Each day during their lunch hour, Dr. Sokunbi would have a common pediatric topic prepared to discuss with Kolby. This not only allowed for a strong preceptor/student relationship to develop, but it also provided Kolby with additional understanding of various pediatric topics.

Kolby’s experiences at his pediatric rotation gave him a strong knowledge base and provided insight into the nuances that make a great provider. When asked why he thought Dr. Sokunbi was recognized as an exceptional physician, Kolby responded, “A high level of knowledge and skill is required to be a good healthcare provider, but a great provider cares deeply for their patient’s physical, emotional and spiritual well-being. Dr. Sokunbi was an exceptional model of these attributes.”

Kolby knows the high standards that have been set in both didactic and clinical courses in the PA program will prepare him to contribute to a successful practice and provide optimal care to future patients. “Experiences such as these are why UTMB has one of the largest and most prestigious Physician Assistant programs in the nation,” explained Kolby.

The Best Pediatrician of Nacogdoches award was definitely well deserved! Dr. Sokunbi is not only a great pediatrician, but a great mentor and preceptor as well. Thank you and congratulations Dr. Sokunbi!

Written by Kayla Bridges, PA Studies Fall Intern, Texas A&M University

Happy Holidays in Italian: Buone Feste!
Physician Assistant Studies (PAS) student, Priya Patel, celebrated National Physician Assistant (PA) Week while at her clinical rotation at South Texas Retina Consultants. During her rotation, Ms. Patel was precepted by Dr. Charles Campbell, an ophthalmologist who specializes in retinal surgery, and his PA, Eduardo Montemayor. It is rare to find a PA in such a subspecialized area of medicine, but Dr. Campbell saw the benefit of adding a PA to his treatment team. In fact, he has been so pleased with his PA that he is preparing an article with Mr. Montemayor and Ms. Patel about the benefits of PAs in the practice of ophthalmology.

Ms. Patel was proactive in celebrating PA Week by bringing donuts and a Thank You card for Mr. Montemayor. The clinic celebrated PA Week by organizing a surprise potluck luncheon and displaying a “We love our PA” banner in the clinic. Ms. Patel described the celebration as, “Very moving to see that they really appreciate their PA.” In addition, this celebration initiated conversations related to the benefits of hiring more PAs in sub-specialized fields.

Ms. Patel is complimentary of her clinical experience at South Texas Retina Consultants, stating, “This rotation solidified the passion I have for this profession and exemplified how PAs can make a difference. Knowing that physicians, office technicians, nurses, and patients show their appreciation towards the profession makes everything worth it.” Ms. Patel is even considering pursuing a career as a PA in the retina field.

Written by Kayla Bridges, PA Studies Fall Intern, Texas A&M University
Physician Assistants (PAs) are recognized and honored annually during National Physician Assistant Week that is held from October 6 - 12. UTMB’s PAs were no exception this year. Physician Assistant Studies (PAS) Class of 2016 made PA Week a huge success at UTMB. A special thanks to The Class of 2016 officers who greatly contributed to an exciting 2014 National PA Week at UTMB: Tayler Thompson, Bency Abraham, Veronica Hernandez, Brandi Dyess, Chelsea Halbleib, Jessica Degwitz, Heidi Braun, Caitlin Lange and Zachary Gray.

The Physician Assistant Class of 2016 started National PA Week with a bake sale, which gave PA students a chance to promote their profession to students and faculty on campus. Profits from the sale went to the Class of 2016, which is currently raising funds to establish a scholarship for the incoming Class of 2017. Class officers, Brandi Dyess and Chelsea Halbleib, highlighted PAs further by writing and submitting an article that promoted the PA profession, acknowledged the UTMB PAS faculty, and highlighted the Class of 2016 community outreach projects. The article appeared in: the Galveston County Daily News, Fall 2014 Splash Page, UTMB Broadcast Announcements, Student Life News and Notes, and the UTMB Facebook page. The article can be found at: http://www.utmb.edu/newsroom/article9978.aspx

On Wednesday, October 8, the Class of 2016 officers delivered PA themed goody bags to several PAs employed by UTMB. Students wanted to say thank you to the clinically practicing PAs for their contribution to the profession. Over 30 goody bags were delivered to various UTMB locations and the PA recipients were thrilled.

The Class of 2016 continued celebrating National PA Week on Thursday morning by hosting a PAS faculty breakfast. The breakfast gave students a chance to personally thank them for their hard work and dedication to the program and profession. During Thursday’s faculty hour, PAS faculty was further honored with a personalized presentation for each faculty member. The presentation was put together by the entire PAS Class of 2016 and presented by the class officers.

“It was the most exciting PA Week I have experienced!” – Barbara Slusher, MSW, PA-C, Assistant Professor, UTMB PA Studies

PA Week Summary:

1) Bake Sale
2) The Galveston County Daily News Article
3) Goodies delivered to UTMB PA employees
4) Faculty breakfast
5) Presentation honoring faculty

Written by Kayla Bridges, PA Studies Fall Intern, Texas A&M University

The Class of 2016 PA Studies class officers organized a great National PA week!

Front: Bency Abraham (historian), Veronica Hernandez (treasurer)
Middle row: Tayler Thompson (secretary), Chelsea Halbleib (TAPA student representative), Jessica Degwitz (TAPA student representative), Heidi Braun (AOR student representative), Brandi Dyess (president)
In the tree: Caitlin Lange (AOR student representative) and Zachary Gray (Vice President)
PA’s Final Exam Week
“Keep calm and carry on...or...Panic and freak out LIKE US!”

PA’s In Support of Breast Cancer Awareness Day!
PA Students Serving SHRINERS

“Weekend at Brownsville” with Frontera De Salud

Brian, Chris, Adalie, Monica, Amanda, Haya
PA Students and Faculty Participate in the Gritty Goddess Run!

http://www.grittygoddess.com/gritty/
The PA “Moonstars” Undefeated 8-0!!

PA INTRAMURAL SOCCER TEAM
Players in the picture from Left to Right: Kelsie Townsend, Kelsie Elder, Carolyn Polcari, Sam Krider, Brandon Paige, Stephen Sierra, JT Goodman, Nolan West, Christopher Wright, Alfred, Brian Watabe, Chelsea Watabe

PA Students Hosted and Donated at Their Blood Drive!
Alison, Adalie, Jennifer Eames (Faculty), Deanndra
HERE’S WHAT’S UP WITH THE OT’s!

OT’s Making Models of Their Forearms!
Laura Baggaley, Aprill Curry, Maegan Hinze, Alexis Gonzalez, Nicole Choe and Alyssa Auch

Alexis Gonzalez and Maegan Hinze

Professor Rod Welsh and Class of 2016 students

Click on the book tree to play holiday games.

Happy Holidays in South African (Xhose):
li holide eximnandi!
WORLD OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY DAY!

W TG OT’s!

School of Nursing Golf Tournament Fundraiser

SHP Team
3rd Place!
Brandon Paige—PAS
Alaina Cleland—PT

Happy Holidays in Turkish: Mutlu Bayramlar!
THE DPT’s ATTEND
THE TPTA CONFERENCE

DPT Class of 2017
Bottom row from left to right- Rashmi Anandampillai, Mollye Mlcak, Whitni Lueck, Kelsey Gallagher, Rebekah Lochte, Megan Henry, Hailey Daniel, Olivia Thong, Rachel Lange

Middle row from left to right- Rebecca Russell, Kelsey Stuhler, Cecilia Acuna, Dana Carter, Abby Morgan, Hosna Tazehzadeh, Lauren Rundall, Lindsey Wells, Amethyst Guerrero, Jason Ryu, Lauren Martin

Back Row from left to right- Winful Emmanuel, Jaime Gonzalez Jr., Vinny Thomas, Rochelle Rhyne, Andy McGinnis, Irfan Khan, Charlotte Mata, Rolando Jocson Jr., Austin Delk, Laura Kim, Sarah Wintermute

Happy Holidays in Japanese: Tanoshii kurisumasu wo!
DPT CLASS OF 2017 TPTA STUDENT BOWL TEAM PLACING 3RD
Team members (left to right)- Kelli Gunter, Rebecca Burnett, Reagan Atkinson, Abby Morgan

Top row (team supporters-left to right)- Sarah Winternute, Rashmi Anandampillai, Ashley Mitchell, Rochelle Rhyne, Kevin McGuyer, Dana Carter

DPT CLASS OF 2017 TPTA STUDENT COMPETITION TEAM PLACING 3RD

Team members

Center- Mollye Mlcak
Left to right- Ashley Mitchell, Sheril Marek, Jason Rye, Vinny Thomas, Rolando Jocson Jr., Hailey Daniel, Rebecca Russell

Happy Holidays in German: Forhe Feiertage
DPT’s VOLUNTEERING AT A TPTA COMMUNITY SERVICE EVENT

Left to Right: Andy McGinnis, Kelli Gunter, Rolando Jocson Jr., Jason Ryu, Olivia Thong

Left to right- Lauren Barlow, Kristi Wolkenstein

Prepping bags for attendees at TPTA Conference
Rebecca Russell, Hailey Daniel, Rochelle Rhyne, Kelsey Stuhler

Having fun with the train costume
Bottom row: Lindsey Wells, Jaime Gonzalez Jr.
Top row: Irfan Khan, Amethyst Guerrero

Happy Holidays in Hawaiian: Hau’oli Lanui
DPT Class of 2017 at the TPTA Southeastern District Meeting for “Celebrate the Students” Night
Bottom row (left to right)- Sarah Winternute, Sheril Marek, Rochelle Rhyne
Middle row (left to right)- Kristi Wolkenstein, Rashmi Anandampillai, Amethyst Guerrero, Physical Therapy Professor Dr. Michael Furtado, Megan Berg, Abby Morgan, Louie Guajardo
Top Row (left to right)- JC Trejo, Winful Emmanuel, Whitni Lueck, Adrienne Fairchild, Lindsey Wells, Kelsey Stuhler, Hali Smith, Rebecca Russell, Rolando Jocson Jr.

THE DPT’S VOLUNTEER IN ADAPTIVE WATER SPORTS DAY AT MOODY GARDENS!

Front row: Amethyst Guerrero, Adrienne Fairchild, Rachel Lange
Back row: Lindsey Wells, Megan Berg, Whitni Lueck, Lauren Martin, Kelsey Gallagher, Kelli Gunter, Rochelle Rhyne, Jaime Gonzalez Jr.,
Happy Holidays in Spanish: Felices Fiestas!

DPT Class of 2017 with Adaptive Sailing Participants

Left to right- JC Trejo, Kristi Wolkenstein, Megan Berg, Adrienne Fairchild, Kelli Gunter, Amethyst Guerrero,

Various DPT Class of 2017 Students Volunteering at Sea Scout Base Adaptive Sailing

Happy Holidays in Spanish: Felices Fiestas!
DPT Intramural Flag Football Team Making the Playoffs!
Jason Ryu, Ryan Vick, Braden Lewelling, Mark Jones, Nate Jones, Kevin McGuyer, Trevor Watson, Josh Watson, Louie Guajardo, Mollye Mlcak, Dylan Riedesel

DPT Class of 2017 and Class of 2016 Intramural Volleyball Team Placing 4th
Front/center- JC Trejo
From left to right: Unidentified, Whitni Lueck, Ashley Mitchell, Amethyst Guerrero, Mollye Mlcak, Lindsey Wells, Rolando Jocson Jr.
**THE ROTARACT CLUB**

Rotaract is Rotary’s global network of young adults, ages 18-30. As a student member who interacts with the local Rotary Club, you will have the opportunity to develop mentors and contacts throughout the business world, utilize group study exchanges, learn leadership skills, earn educational scholarships, promote and publicize projects, and gain resources locally and internationally. For more information, scan the QR code to learn more.

[galvestonrotaract@gmail.com](mailto:galvestonrotaract@gmail.com)  Join our [Facebook group](https://www.facebook.com/groups/)

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**SCHEDULE OF EVENTS**

**DECEMBER**
- 1—Online Registration Opens
- 8—Study Day
- 9—12 Final Exam Period
- 12—Last Day of Class for Fall 2014
- 24—1 Winter Holidays

**JANUARY**
- 7—Classes Begin Spring 2015
- 19—MLK Holiday (no classes)

**FEBRUARY**
- 16—President’s Day Holiday (no classes)

**MARCH**
- 16—20 Spring Break

**APRIL**
- 24—Spring Semester Ends

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**DID YOU KNOW... ?**

Academic and Student Affairs provides a FORMS webpage for students and faculty? Please take a moment to view all of the forms that are provided for you. [ASA Forms](mailto:)

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Happy Holidays in Swedish: Trevlig Helg!
Seasons Greetings from Your SGA Representatives!

We are here to serve YOU!
If you have any suggestions, ideas, comments, or concerns, please contact any one of us.

Voice your concerns, suggestions, ideas or comments with any of your new SGA senators. They will be happy to take them to the SGA for resolution! Many changes have occurred on campus because of the works of our SGA senators. Some changes in the past include healthier foods in the café’s, more bike racks, more tables and more places to sit outside. Please take the time to thank them for their great service to SHP.

2014-2015 Student Ambassador Society

Happy Holidays in Indonesian: Selamat Hari Raya!
Respiratory Care Students Celebrating Their Profession

Happy Holidays in Portuguese: Boas Festas!
SOCLS (Student Organization of Clinical Laboratory Science) Holds Fundraiser at “The Spot”

Dagi Worku, Anh Ta, Vi Lai, Stephanie Katzenmeier, Hillary Hohn, Mr. Hank Thierry, Rommel So, Stefany Thomas, Uyen Tran, Robert Alvis, Ronald Thornton.

Happy Holidays in Latin: Felix
Halloween Party & Costume Contest

Natasha Cano, Stefany Thomas, Amy Conto, Sarah Krueger, Zachary Kennedy, Ricardo Gonzalez, Ronald Thornton, Young Choi

1st Place: Young Choi
2nd Place: Ricardo Gonzalez
3rd Place: Zach Kennedy

Happy Holidays in Mandarin: Jie Ri Yu Kuai!
CLS Volunteers for D'Feet Breast Cancer Run at Moody Gardens

Mr. Information Volunteer: Vince Picone

Walk participants: Melyssa Ross and Laura Fincannon

Volunteers: Dagi Worku, Shawn Khan, Dr. Enderle, Uyen Tran, Ahn Ta

Volunteers Front row: Huy Le, Amy Conto, Uyen Tran
Volunteers Back row: Fikru Daniel, Madison Carbaugh

http://www.dfeetbreastcancer.com/

Happy Holidays in Slovenian: Vesele Praznike!
The Student Ambassador Society Hosted an All School Potluck and Toy Drive Benefitting the Ronald McDonald House!

Student Ambassador Society President Vince Picone, Events Co-Chair Rebecca Burnett and Events Chair Sheril Marek hold the toys which our students donated to the Ronald McDonald House.
Get involved!

The School of Health Professions needs your help.

All departments have been asked by Dean Protas to participate by volunteering prior to and on race day. Each department will handle a logistical aspect of the run, for example preparing race packets, setting up and tearing down the event, assisting with registration and packet pick-up, etc.

Details coming soon on how to sign up to volunteer with your department.

In the meantime, for more information, please contact Michelle Conley, 772-3006 or log onto http://shp.utmb.edu/fundrun/
CLINICAL LABORATORY SCIENCES
- Student Organization of Clinical Laboratory Sciences (SOCLS)
  - Lambda Tau CLS Honor Society

NUTRITION AND METABOLISM

OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY
- Pi Theta Epsilon-National Honor Society-Occupational Therapy
- Student Occupational Therapy Association-SOTA

PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT STUDIES
- Texas Academy of Physician Assistants-TAPA
- American Academy of Physician Assistants
- Pi Alpha Honor Society for Physician Assistants

PHYSICAL THERAPY
- The American Physical Therapy Association
- Texas Physical Therapy Association

REHAB SCIENCES

RESPIRATORY CARE
- Respiratory Care Student Association
The Office of Academic and Student Affairs offers the following services to our students:

Academic Calendar, Clinical Affiliation Contracts, Commencement, Degree Audits, Liaison Roles with the Book Store, Enrollment Services, the Library, Financial Aid and SIS Access Information, SHP Bulletin, Background Checks, Grades, Grievances, New Student Orientation, Exam Proctoring, Liaison Roles with SHP Student Organizations, Tutoring, the View Book and the student e-newsletter Splash Page!

If you have any questions, please call our office at (409)772-9411 or contact us by email.