



Forum in Focus

FALL 2011

President's Letter

Dear Forum Members,

This newsletter is symbolic of new beginnings. It marks the first newsletter of the newly named Texas Biomedical Forum and my first newsletter as President of the Texas Biomedical Forum Board of Trustees. As with anything new, the excitement and energy of the year that lays ahead is palpable.

While many of our members are getting some much needed R & R, several of our 2011-12 Texas Biomedical Forum Board Trustees have been otherwise occupied laying the groundwork for what promises to be an exciting inaugural year.

For example, we have Newsletter Co-Chairs, **Shannon Turner** and **Sheila Mayfield**, to thank for this lovely and timely newsletter. Staying with our motto and theme color of GREEN this year, this newsletter is now available on our website, as well.

Already, a theme has been chosen and the committees formed for this year's Annual Spring Gala by Gala Chair, **Cathryn LeVrier**, Co-Chair, **Raven Labatt** and Gala Assistant, **Courtney Duphorne**.

The final days of our annual membership drive are now complete and **Wendy Garcia**, Membership Chairman and computer whiz extraordinaire, has busied herself with the cumbersome jobs of streamlining our membership process and providing a seamless online approach.

The purpose of the Texas Biomedical Forum is to support the Texas Biomedical Research Institute through community relations, volunteer service and fundraising.



Suzanne Dabbous

Mary Potts and **Lisa Miller**, Directory Co-Chairs, have spent countless hours ensuring an accurate and eye-pleasing look to the 2011-12 Texas Biomedical Forum Directory, which should arrive post haste in your mailboxes.

Website Liaison, **Melissa Marino**, is to thank for her diligence in transforming the Southwest Foundation Forum Website into the new Texas Biomedical Forum Website.

Two ongoing summer investigations by five dedicated Trustees will hopefully result in the reversal of a recent trend of a declining pool of applicants for both the Student Tours and Science Education Awards. Countless discussions to remedy this situation continue to take place with teachers, administrators and board members. A heartfelt thank you for this impressive effort to find solutions goes to Student Tour Co-Chairs, **Dr. Ann Allen Cross** and **Sonya Medina Williams**, and Science Education Co-Chairs, **Kathleen Leflore** and **Ashley Solcher Hixon**. I'd like to thank last year's Student Tour Chair, **Jennifer McLiney**, for providing great continuity in achieving this goal.

Last but by no means least, **Leslie Miller** and **Amanda Bezner**, Special Event Co-Chairs, have a little surprise for you, our loyal members, in regards to our Annual Special Event. Results are pending!

So whether you are sipping lemonade on a chaise lounge by the pool, strolling the streets of Paris, mountain biking in Colorado or just keeping up with the laundry of snow-cone stains, rest assured – we've got it covered . . . at least I think we do! Looking forward to a great year!

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'Suzanne'.

Suzanne Dabbous
President

2012 GALA KICK-OFF PARTY

Gala Chair **Cathryn LeVrier**, Gala Co-Chair **Raven Labatt** and Gala Assistant, **Courtney Duphorne**, proudly announce the 2012 Gala theme: “Dewali”, popularly known in India as the “festival of lights”, a celebration that brings with it good cheer of the triumph of Good over Evil! Save the date – this auspicious festival will be held at on May 5th at 6 p.m. at the Argyle.

The Festival of Lights will incorporate the traditional elements found in Dewali celebrations: Rangoli, symbolic diyas, kandils, colorful lights, and marigolds. The 2012 Gala will be a delight of color, a feast for the senses and a total immersion into the magic of India for one extraordinary evening.

The kick off party for Dewali will be held on September 28th at 5:30 p.m. at the Argyle.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Are you looking for a way to get more involved with the Forum? Consider volunteering your time with the many opportunities the Forum has to offer: greet guests at the Fall & Spring Lecture Luncheons, meet future scientists at a Student Tour of the Texas Biomedical Research Institute or showcase your talents by helping with the Annual Gala. Check the website for upcoming dates that fit your schedule. Thank you for supporting Texas Biomed with your time and skills. Please contact **Erika Silva** with questions regarding volunteer opportunities: 710-6720 or erikacs@mac.com

Fall Lecture Luncheon

The Forum would like to invite you to join us for the Fall Lecture Luncheon on November 9th at 11 a.m. at the Argyle.

We are thrilled to have Texas Biomedical Research Institute’s Chief Scientific Officer, John VandeBerg, Ph.D., as our featured guest. His topic, “The Bold Future of Biomedical Research,” will cover the dynamic and cutting edge research in the area of stem cell regenerative medicine.



Dr. John VandeBerg

Texas Biomedical Research Institute, under the direction of Dr. VandeBerg, is participating in this research, a new area of inquiry, which promises to transform clinical medicine by becoming part of the routine arsenal to treat disease in ways never before thought possible.

We hope you will join us for what promises to be an informative and interesting topic about this extremely important research being done right here in San Antonio.

Invitations will go out this Fall. Reservations for tables of 8 or individual tickets will be available for purchase on our website at www.txbiomed.org/Forum/. This event is likely to sell out, so get your tickets early!

A Shanghai Affair

A Shanghai Affair was the theme of The Forum's annual Gala this year, held on April 30th at the Argyle. For 41 years, the Texas Biomedical Forum (formerly the Southwest Foundation Forum) has supported the mission of the Texas Biomedical Research Institute through fundraising and community awareness, with the annual Gala being the primary fundraiser for the Forum. Using the money raised by the annual Gala, Texas Biomed researchers have qualified for more than \$25 million of additional funding in the last nine years alone. That's a \$25 to \$1 return on our investment. Each year numerous volunteers work tirelessly, giving their time and talent to produce this fabulous event and this year was no exception, raising over \$185,000 for Texas Biomed!

Gala Chair, **Julie Zacher**, Co-Chair, **Josie Flesher** and Gala Assistant, **Christy Meador** chose to celebrate the rich and dynamic culture of Shanghai for this year's Gala. An incredibly talented volunteer committee worked for over nine months to create the beauty, glamour and huge success of **A Shanghai Affair**.

Beginning in the early Fall of 2010, tablesales chairs **Whitney Miller and Mary Potts** began the fundraising process. Together, they sold a record number of tables, selling out three months before the Gala! Additionally, Forum Grants chairs **Melinda Hart and Erika Silva** exceeded their goal and raised over \$55,000 in direct donations. Many thanks to our very generous donors and sponsors for making our fundraising efforts such a success!

The journey to Shanghai began when the spectacular red and gold invitation, designed by the very creative **Galeana Younger and Courtney Duphorne**, arrived in the mail. Incredibly talented decorations chairs **Sarah Moore and Tracy Williams** worked for months to create the style and ambience of the evening,



Gala Assistant Christy Meador, Gala Chair Julie Zacher and Gala Co-Chair Josie Flesher

transforming the Argyle parking lot into a fabulous Chinese setting. Inspired by the late Tony Duquette, the designer known for his over-the-top style and flair for Chinoiserie, the decor took on an exotic-yet-elegant feel.

Sarah and Tracy contacted Hutton Wilkinson, the famed Los Angeles-based home and jewelry designer and long-time friend and partner of Tony Duquette, to let him know the Gala was to be inspired by Mr. Duquette's style. Mr. Wilkinson, who is currently the President of Tony Duquette, Inc., was so impressed with their interpretation of Mr. Duquette's designs, that he made the trip to San Antonio from Beverly Hills to partake in the festivities! Honored by his support, the Forum hosted a cocktail party the Friday before the Gala in Mr. Wilkinson's honor at the home of Suzanne and Ash Dabbous. Mr. Wilkinson, who has authored two books about the style of Tony Duquette, sold his books at the event and helped to raise additional funds for Texas Biomed!



As guests arrived at the Argyle the evening of the Gala, they were greeted on the

red carpet with a gingered champagne cocktail and ushered into the magnificently red draped tent adorned with brightly-lit oversized paper lanterns hung from above and beautiful, large-scale Chinese vases with fire red "coral" arrangements. Large turquoise Fu dogs and ornate Chinese fans completed the look of the Gala's gorgeous entry. During the cocktail hour, guests were entertained by the San Antonio Lion Dance Association who performed an array of cultural dances.

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A Shanghai Affair

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At the sound of an antique, Chinese gong, guests proceeded indoors to beautifully adorned tables with red satin table cloths and dramatic centerpieces of gold candelabras, gold leafed bamboo, coral branches, colorful flowers and Chinese porcelain figurines. The delicious meal began with a hoisin duck breast salad, followed by filet mignon and sesame crusted ahi tuna and finished with a beautiful mandarin orange soufflé for dessert. The menu was thoughtfully created by menu chairs, **Terry Gouger** and **Dottie Cooper**, who worked closely with the very talented Argyle Chef, **John Barrios**, and Argyle Manager, **John Marotta**.



Left to Right: Mark and Christy Meador, Peter and Julie Zacher, Josie and Clare Flesher



Lanterns decorating the inside of the tent

Each guest had a special gift on their seat compliments of longtime friend to The Forum, **Julian Gold**. Thanks to **Victoria Roca** and **Caroline Meador** for coordinating with Julian Gold on their generous gift to gala attendees.

Festivities continued after dinner as guests filtered outside into the red hot lighted tent for dancing to the tunes of Delta House. Many thanks to Entertainment Chairs **Jodi Wood** and **Lee Ann Jones** for creating the fun and vibrant atmosphere both before dinner and late into the night.

And a late night it was! After Party chairs **Amelita Mauze** and **Courtney Percy** made sure of that by securing record attendance at this year's Gala After Party!

One of the highlights of the evening is always the spectacular raffle. Our phenomenal raffle committee, led by co-chairs **Lynette Embrey**, **Megan Lindberg**, and **Melany Anderson**, along with the ticket sales committee, **Amanda Bezner**, **Gretchen Hermann** and **Lisa Spielhagen**, put together an



Left to Right: Tracy Williams, Sarah McCamish, Sarah Moore, Gretchen Hermann and Lisa Spielhagen

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A Shanghai Affair

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incredible raffle this year, something that is always a key part of our fundraising effort. This year's packages included a trip to San Francisco and Napa Valley, a trip to Los Angeles to meet with fashion designer Lourdes Chaves for a custom gown, a Tour of Texas trip, a private dinner party at the Argyle, and a trip to Santa Fe! The excitement continued thanks to **Shetler Wade Jewelers** who once again generously donated not one, but TWO fabulous baubles for the "Surprise" coordinated by **Kim Shepperd** and **Allison Zeller**. The keys of two lucky winners opened the case to a pair of beautiful diamond earrings and, the second prize, a lovely pair of pearl and diamond earrings!



Whitney and Joe Miller

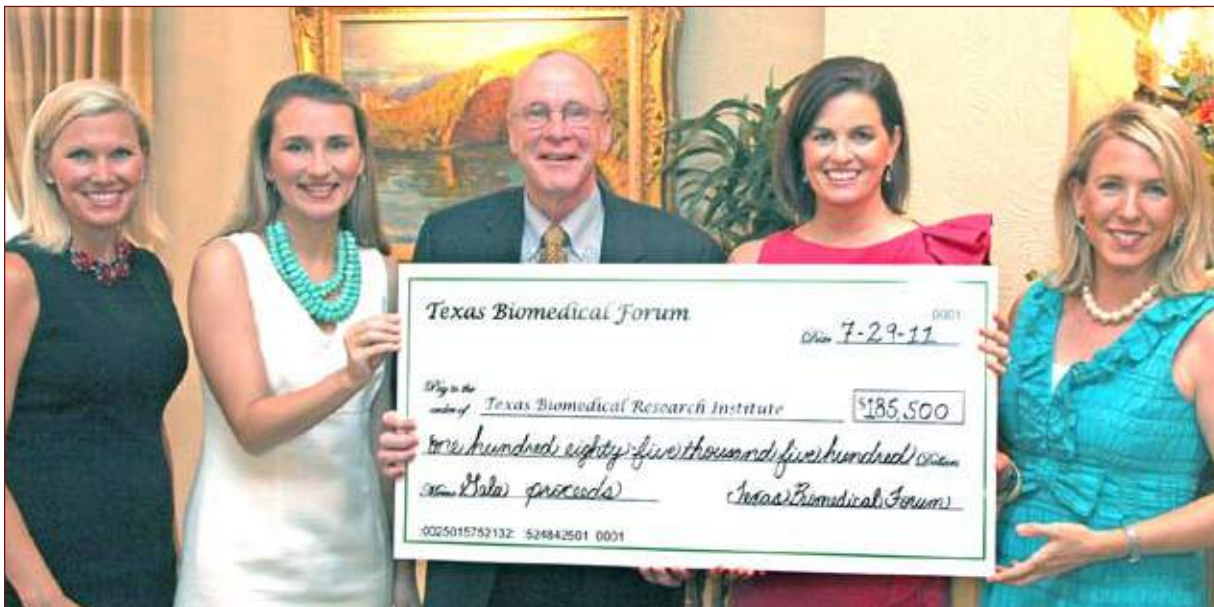


Sarah Moore and Tracy Williams

The evening went beautifully, thanks to the very important, behind the scenes logistics committee, led by **Marybeth Mosbacker** and **Amy White**, who oversaw the transformation of the Argyle from every table and chair moved in to the last folded napkin!

The Gala was also well-publicized to various media outlets in San Antonio thanks to our PR chairs, **Laura Moorman** and **Suzanne Dabbous**. In addition, many thanks to **Leanne Kelly**, Gala Treasurer, who had the tedious task of tracking all of the donations, expenses and managing the bank account!

Last but not least, we are very thankful for our advisors, **Paola Lloyd**, **Marybeth Mosbacker** and **Kathleen LeFlore**, as well as Immediate Past President of the Forum, **Karen Lee Zachry**, for their invaluable guidance in the planning of this event. We are most appreciative to everyone who came and supported our cause. It was a fabulous evening thanks to the effort of many involved. Not only was it an affair to remember but it has allowed The Forum to further the very important research of Texas Biomed.



Left to Right:
Karen Lee Zachry,
Christy Meador,
Texas Biomed
President and CEO
Ken Trevett,
Julie Zacher and
Josie Flesher

Shanghai
Photo
Gallery



Left to Right: Julie Zacher, Hutton Wilkinson, Josie Flesher, Christy Meador, and Suzanne Dabbous



Karen Lee Zachry, Immediate Past President of The Forum, and Suzanne Dabbous, President



Left to Right: Tracy Williams, Jeanette Longoria, Hutton Wilkinson, and Sarah Moore



Table Centerpiece

Photos courtesy of Marks Moore Photography

A Shanghai Affair

April 30, 2011

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Josie and Clare Flesher
Wendy and Eugene Garcia
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Terry and JB Gouger
Melinda and Edward Hart
Ashley and Timo Hixon
Kathleen and Byron LeFlore
Jennifer and Mark McLinzy
Linda and Paul McSween
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Joan and Richey Wyatt
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Jeffrey and Maritza Weiss
You're Invited Fine Stationery and Invitations

Texas Biomed Updates

Hepatitis and the immune system

A team that includes scientists from the Texas Biomedical Research Institute has made a surprising finding in a study comparing hepatitis C virus (HCV) with hepatitis A virus (HAV) infections in chimpanzees. The study sheds new light on the nature of the body's immune response to these viruses.

Understanding how hepatitis C becomes chronic is very important because some 200 million people worldwide and 3.2 million people in the U.S. are chronically infected with HCV and are at risk for progression to cirrhosis and liver cancer. Hepatitis C-associated liver disease is the most common indication for liver transplantation, while liver cancer due to HCV infection is now the most rapidly increasing cause of cancer death in the U.S.



Robert Lanford, Ph.D.

“Remarkably, we found that HAV was more adept at evading the innate immune response than HCV, the virus that ultimately causes chronic infections,” said Robert E. Lanford, Ph.D., a Texas Biomed virologist.

The novel findings demonstrate that HAV is the stealthier virus when it comes to evading the innate immune response, despite the lack of persistent infections.

Hepatitis C infections are characterized by a failure of the immune system to combat and eliminate the virus. “We suspect this failure of the immune system shares attributes with other persistent viruses such as HIV and hepatitis B virus,” said Lanford. By comparing two similar viruses that infect the liver, one that is always cleared by the immune system, HAV, and one that frequently evades the immune response, HCV, the team hoped to unravel the mystery of how HCV causes lifelong persistent infections.

The research team involved scientists from Texas Biomed in San Antonio, the University of North Carolina (UNC) at Chapel Hill, and Nationwide Children's Hospital in Columbus, Ohio. The study performed in chimpanzees at Texas Biomed's Southwest National

Primate Research Center (SNPRC) and funded by the National Institutes of Health, is published in the *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences U.S.A.*

The new study points out the critical need for more information about how the immune system reacts to HCV. It also reinforces the importance of chimpanzee research in this effort. The chimpanzee, the only animal model susceptible to HCV infection, was critical for probing the molecular differences in gene expression in the liver related to infection by the two viruses.

Examination of the adaptive immune system by co-author Christopher M. Walker, Ph.D., of Nationwide Children's Hospital in Columbus, Ohio, found that the T cell response to HAV was unique as well. “We expected the immune response to kill all HAV infected cells in a short time frame, and yet we could detect the genome of the virus in the liver for up to one year, long after symptoms of the disease were resolved,” Lanford explained.

“Hepatitis viruses have co-evolved with humans over a very long period of time and they are good at evading the immune system, but nobody understands how hepatitis C becomes a chronic infection,” said co-author Stanley M. Lemon, M.D., of UNC.

“The surprising and exciting results of this research program further highlight the critical value of the chimpanzee model in research on hepatitis,” said John L. VandeBerg, Ph.D., Texas Biomed's chief scientific officer and SNPRC director.

Others on the study included Deborah Chavez, M.S., and Bernadette Guerra, B.S., of Texas Biomed;

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Kathleen Brasky, D.V.M., of SNPRC; Zongdi Feng, Ph.D., and Daisuke Yamane, D.V.M., Ph.D., of UNC; Yan Zhou, Ph.D., Nationwide Children's Hospital; and Alan S. Perelson, Ph.D., of the Los Alamos National Laboratory.

Nutrition during pregnancy and diabetes risk

A research team that includes scientists from the Texas Biomedical Research Institute have reported that inadequate nutrition during pregnancy predisposes offspring to becoming pre-diabetic before adolescence. Diabetes is an epidemic worldwide and a major health concern in San Antonio.

"This is the first time that diabetes has been shown to have prenatal origins in a primate model," said Texas Biomed's Anthony Comuzzie, Ph.D.

Published in the *American Journal of Physiology* and funded by the National Institutes of Health, the study was led by scientists from the University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio (UTHSCSA).

The study to date presents the strongest evidence yet that vulnerability to type 2 diabetes can begin in the womb, giving new insight into the mechanisms that underlie a potentially devastating disease at the center of a worldwide epidemic. The study, conducted in 18 baboon primates at Texas Biomed's Southwest Primate Research Center, finds that when mothers are even moderately undernourished while

pregnant and breast feeding, their offspring are consistently found to be pre-diabetic before adolescence.

"Poor nutrition at critical periods of development can hinder growth of essential organs such as the pancreas, which sees a significantly decrease in its ability to secrete insulin. Our study is the first to show in a primate that poor nutrition during fetal and early life can damage the pancreas and predispose to type 2 diabetes," said UTHSCSA's



Anthony Comuzzie, Ph.D.

Peter W. Nathanielsz, M.D., Ph.D., the senior author of the study.

Type 2 diabetes occurs when the body develops resistance to insulin, a hormone that regulates blood sugar. Although the body may initially compensate by secreting more insulin, eventually the pancreas cannot produce enough of the hormone to keep blood sugar from rising. In poorly controlled diabetes, elevated blood sugar severely damages the heart, blood vessels, eyes, kidneys and nerves. The consequences can be fatal and include heart disease, stroke, amputations, blindness and kidney failure.

Worldwide, diabetes is an escalating public health crisis. According to estimates from the World Health Organization, 366 million people will be diabetic by the 2030, up from 171 million in 2000.

In the study, just before they reached puberty, six young baboons from nutritionally restricted mothers showed increases in fasting glucose, fasting insulin and other hallmarks of pre-diabetes. In contrast, the 12 young baboons whose mothers received adequate nutrition displayed none of these traits.

"The central importance of this observation is that the mothers' food intake was only moderately restricted – similar to the decrease faced in the United States by many people living with food insecurity," Comuzzie added.

Others on the study included Jaehyek Choi, Ph.D.; Cun Li, M.D., Ph.D.; and Thomas J. McDonald, Ph.D., all of UTHSCSA and Vicki Mattern of Texas Biomed.

Infectious disease specialist joins Texas Biomed

Robert Davey, Ph.D., an associate professor at the University of Texas Medical Branch (UTMB) in Galveston, has been appointed to the position of scientist in the Department of Virology and Immunology at the Texas Biomedical Research Institute.

"We are delighted that Dr. Davey will be joining Texas Biomed," said Jean L. Patterson, Ph.D., the Virology and Immunology Department

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chair. “He is an outstanding researcher and educator, and brings expertise in cell biology, the development of therapeutics and high-containment research.”



Robert Davey, Ph.D.

San Antonio’s Ewing Halsell

Foundation donated \$2 million to Texas Biomed to fund the new position. “We are very grateful to the Foundation for making this recruitment possible. It is truly a transformational gift,” said Kenneth P. Trevett, Texas Biomed’s President and CEO. Davey will start at Texas Biomed August 1 and his title will be Scientist and Ewing Halsell Scholar.

“The facilities at Texas Biomed are precisely what I need for doing my drug discovery work with high containment viruses,” said Davey. “The high containment lab is excellent and the opportunity to work with the trained veterinary staff will be invaluable for helping discoveries move into the clinic.”

Davey, 43, a native of Melbourne, Australia, became a U.S. citizen last year. He joined UTMB in 2000 from Harvard Medical School in Boston where he was an instructor in medicine. His work focuses on the identification of cellular factors important for establish-

ing infection by retroviruses and more recently, filoviruses which cause hemorrhagic fever. He is trained to work in biosafety 4 laboratories (BSL4s) and operates a multidiscipline laboratory applying modern molecular techniques to these little-studied pathogens. This has culminated in a deeper understanding of the entry and cell signaling pathways that are used by viruses to penetrate the cell membrane and establish infection.

Davey’s work includes discovering and understanding how new antiviral drugs work. Presently, in collaboration with the National Chemical Genomics Center in Bethesda, Md., he is performing a drug screen using 350,000 small molecules to help identify new drugs for prevention and treatment of disease caused by some of the world’s most dangerous viruses. This has never been done before on this scale. Texas Biomed will purchase a custom designed microscope that will allow his team monitor how viruses move into cells. This approach should enable major discoveries about virus infection and open up new ways to treat disease.

Davey’s research has been published in the journals *Nature and Science* and, more recently, his work with Ebolavirus has been published in the high-impact journals *PLoS Pathogens* and the *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*.

The Ewing Halsell Foundation is a private charitable trust dedicated to improving the quality of life for Texans by providing access to the arts, education, and quality health

care, and by helping provide opportunities for the economically disadvantaged.

Architectural firms chosen to design new building

The Texas Biomedical Research Institute has selected Lake Flato Architects of San Antonio and FKP Architects of Houston to design new facilities that will add 70,000 square feet of new construction, including 30,000 square feet of laboratory space.

“It will be an exemplary facility that reflects San Antonio – paying homage to our local culture, craft, landscape, and climate,” said Greg Papay of Lake Flato. “It will also be imbued with the spirit of ingenuity and discovery that defines the Texas Biomedical Research Institute. Our goal is to create laboratory, office, and public spaces that are transformational, environmentally responsible and efficient.”

FKP is a renowned biomedical research designer, having worked with many of the nation’s top institutions to transform, expand and propel the process of scientific discovery. “We design with flexible infrastructure to expand and contract programs expeditiously,” said the firm’s Cynthia Walston. “We accommodate change with laboratories designed on a standard module, generic in nature with organized systems for structural, mechanical and piped services that enable efficient long-term adaptability.”

Texas Biomed Board Chair John R. Hurd praised the selection of

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these firms that will result in the construction of new facilities to enhance and expand existing programs. “This will dramatically accelerate our research efforts,” he said.

The project will provide state-of-the-art space for research as well as space for support units that are currently scattered around the campus. It will create new laboratories and offices for the Southwest National Primate Research Center, including a regenerative medicine program, and additional areas for the Virology and Immunology Department.

HMG & Associates of San Antonio and Austin will design the building’s

mechanical, electrical and plumbing engineering systems. Design is expected to be complete by the end of 2011, with construction to begin in the first quarter of 2012. Construction is projected to be completed by the summer of 2013.

“We are excited to be working with these two world-class architectural firms,” said Kenneth P. Trevett, Texas Biomed’s president and CEO. “The competition for this work was intense as we received several outstanding proposals from local and national firms, which teamed to do the project. The new space will allow us to more aggressively pursue our international health mission – here and in foreign lands – and to more quickly translate the

fruits of our discoveries into practical applications.”

The project LEED will be designed for certification, an internationally recognized green building certification system. This certification verifies that a building was “designed and built using strategies aimed at improving performance across all the metrics that matter most: energy savings, water efficiency, CO2 emissions reduction, improved indoor environmental quality, and stewardship of resources and sensitivity to their impacts.”

For more information on the architectural firms, please go to:

<http://www.lakeflato.com> and to <http://fkp.com>.

Past President’s Letter —

Dear Forum Friends,

One of my favorite sayings is that if you see a turtle atop a fencepost, you know he didn’t get there by himself.

In so many ways I feel that describes my wonderful, fun, exciting and challenging year as president. It seems everywhere I turned, I was on the receiving end of compliments for the fine work of the Forum – from the informative lecture luncheons to the interesting Insider’s Tour of Texas Biomed to our amazing gala. I could not personally take credit for any of these things since the credit was all properly owed to our outstanding volunteers who made it all happen. Still, it always made me smile and made me so proud to be the turtle atop the Forum fencepost. It gave me a glimpse about how much the Forum means, not only to our members, but to the larger community.

What an exciting year it was and what remarkable accomplishments! Our lecture luncheons both hosted record-breaking crowds, our gala exceeded its fund-

raising goals and was one of the most successful on record, our student tours and science education awards extended our commitment to fostering interest in science in the community’s students and, of course, we ended the year with a new name to reflect our tie to the newly-christened Texas Biomedical Research Institute.



Karen Lee Zachry

It was my great privilege to serve as your president. While it is bittersweet to move on, I can’t think of anyone who could be a stronger or more charismatic leader for our organization than Suzanne Marlar Dabbous. Under her leadership, the Forum is poised to have its best year ever! Thank you again for the wonderful opportunity of serving our fine organization. It has been a richly rewarding experience and I am so grateful to all of you for your support and encouragement.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Karen Lee".

Karen Lee Zachry

NOW IS THE TIME TO RENEW YOUR FORUM MEMBERSHIP!

The Forum year runs from August 1 to July 31, so now is the time to submit your membership renewal fees.

Since 1971, women throughout San Antonio and the surrounding areas have been working together to educate and inspire fellow community members to learn more about the positive, life-changing research that is conducted at the city's biomedical research jewel, the Texas Biomedical Institute (Texas Biomed).

As a Forum member, you are part of a very special circle of individuals whose fundraising efforts are furthering the mission of Texas Biomed. An internationally renowned, independent biomedical research institution, Texas Biomed is a pacesetter in the race to find new preventions, treatments and cures for many of life's most serious diseases.

Membership includes invitations to attend two lecture luncheons each year at The Argyle, a tour of the Texas Biomed campus and an invitation to attend our Spring Gala. You will also receive a complimentary membership directory and a copy of this newsletter, *Forum in Focus*, three times a year.

The simplest way to renew your membership is online at https://txbiomed.org/Forum/SecDir/membership_join_renew.aspx. If you prefer to send a check or have any questions, please contact Membership Chair Wendy Garcia at wendygarcia@satx.rr.com.

Texas Biomedical Forum Insiders' Tour

The Texas Biomedical Forum is proud to host an insiders' tour evening event for our members on Wednesday, October 19, 2011 at The Argyle.

A briefing on recent research in these areas will be shared. The event affords Forum members the opportunity to learn more about the Foundation's extensive research and fundamental mission. The event will include remarks by Forum President Suzanne Dabbous and Texas Biomedical Research Institute's President Ken Trevett. Discussions led by TBRI scientists who have received Forum grants will provide educational entertainment during the event.

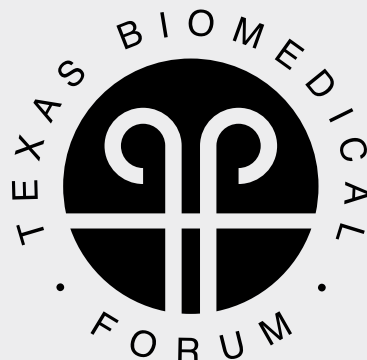
Don't miss a wonderful opportunity to learn more about the Texas Biomedical Research Institute and its dedication to advancing the health of our global community through innovative biomedical research.

For more information, please contact:

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