Dear Med Ed Graduating Class of 2013

On behalf of the Office of the Medical Dean at The University of Texas Health Science Center San Antonio and the Med Ed Program of South Texas, we would like to extend our congratulations on your graduation and best wishes for your continued vision, determination, perseverance, and success in all of your personal, academic, and professional endeavors.

You have completed only one phase of your life’s journey and there are many wonderful and challenging adventures ready for you to experience and from which to grow.

Remember to keep your eyes on your goals and dreams while taking thoughtful steps and dreams while taking thoughtful steps and strides towards fulfilling them. Always look for ways to be of service to others, especially those less fortunate than yourself and serve them with an open mind, great love, and compassion—you will be surprised with what you will learn from them.

As we have done in the past, we have chosen a “class song” for you called “Unwritten” by Natasha Bedingfield.

Bedingfield. The lyrics seem fitting whether you are one of our high school, college, or professional school graduates.

YOUR MED ED TEAM

David Jones, Ph.D. Executive Director for Health Science Pipeline Programs jonesd@uthscsa.edu
Belinda Gonzalez, M.P.A. Director for Admissions & Special Programs bgonzalez@uthscsa.edu
Nora Escalon Director of Administrative Services escalon@uthscsa.edu
Esmeralda Latino-Garcia Director, Med Ed Program lozanoe0@uthscsa.edu
Lupita Villanueva, M.P.A. Program Coordinator jonesd@uthscsa.edu
Norma I. Garza, M.P.H. Program Coordinator garzani@uthscsa.edu

IGNITE SCIENCE! SUMMER @ UTPA 2013 • REGISTER TODAY!

Pharmacy In the Hood: June 24-27
• Instructors: Dr. Patricia Gonzales and Dr. Yasar Tasnif, UTPA

This camp is an excellent opportunity to gain experience in a formal laboratory setting. In addition to studying “micro,” you will also learn proper lab techniques and etiquette. Dr. Materon is a professor in the biology department at UTPA and has many years experience in the classroom as well as in the lab. His summer camp will focus on epidermis and current health issues as they relate to microbiology.

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May
10 MED ED @ Lamar Elementary
27 OFFICE HOLIDAY

June
3-6 IGNITE SCIENCE! at Sharyland High School (Sharyland students only)
10-14, 17-21 IGNITE SCIENCE! at Weslaco ISD (Weslaco ISD students only)
24-27 IGNITE SCIENCE! at UTPA: Focus on Pharmacy / Instructors: Dr. Patricia Gonzales, Associate Professor & Dr. Yasar Tasnif, Lecturer

Microbiology: July 9-12
• Instructor: Luis Materon, Ph.D., UTPA

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Anatomy & Physiology (A&P): July 15-18 (MORNING)
• Instructor: Norma Garza, M.P.H., Med Ed Program of South Texas

A&P is an excellent opportunity to familiarize yourself with terminology and the human body systems. This will be a hands-on camp that will involve dissection of various animal organs—a perfect chance to build a strong foundation in the natural sciences.

Chemistry: July 15-18 (AFTERNOON)
• Instructor: Norma Garza, M.P.H., Med Ed Program of South Texas

This is a perfect camp for prospective students interested in any of the health sciences avocations. The basics of college level chemistry will be introduced with hands on activities that will definitely students better understand the foundations of this area in science.

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The Path Towards Becoming a Public Health Professional

Miguel A. Zuniga, M.D., M.H.A., Dr.PH
Assistant Professor at Texas A&M Health Science Center—School of Public Health—McAllen, TX

In closing Public Health Week 2013, Med Ed invited Dr. Miguel Zuniga, Assistant Professor at Texas A&M School of Public Health (SRPH), to visit the Edinburg CISD Career and Technology Building for a talk and hands-on activities with the students regarding Public Health. During the presentation, students learned about Dr. Zuniga’s journey towards becoming a public health professional as well as what it means to be in “risk” for developing cardiovascular disease based on family history, genetics and lifestyle.

Dr. Zuniga’s desire to learn about public health sparked when as a medical resident in Guayaquil, a small island in the Caribbean, he had the task of caring for a community that enjoyed plenty of good health. Visits from patients to his clinic were rare and when they occurred, it was mostly in search for vaccines. He started wondering why no one was visiting him for health ailments and after paying close attention, he realized that the environment and lifestyle played an important role in keeping the people of the community healthy. Living in a small island, most of the people walked to places, enjoyed a healthy diet, and exercise often. After three years of residency, Dr. Zuniga decided it was time to further his education and learn how to maintain a healthy community. And so, Dr. Zuniga left his life as a physician in order to become a public health professional. This led him to Tulane University School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine, where he earned his Master of Healthcare Administration (MHA) and his Doctorate of Public Health (DrPH).

Currently, Dr. Zuniga holds the position of Assistant Professor at the Texas A&M Health Science Center SRPH McAllen Campus and continues to work towards supporting people in making healthy choices and maintaining healthy communities.

The field of public health continues to grow as medicine starts focusing on prevention and maintaining healthy communities. In closing Public Health Week 2013, Med Ed invited Dr. Miguel Zuniga, Assistant Professor at Texas A&M School of Public Health (SRPH), to visit the Edinburg CISD Career and Technology Building for a talk and hands-on activities with the students regarding Public Health. During the presentation, students learned about Dr. Zuniga’s journey towards becoming a public health professional as well as what it means to be in “risk” for developing cardiovascular disease based on family history, genetics and lifestyle.

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DENTAL EARLY ACCEPTANCE PROGRAM (DEAP)

Eligibility Requirements

- Student high school graduates with academic excellence and a demonstrated interest in Dentistry.
- Student can apply after 12 college hours but no more than 30.
- Acceptance based on application, interview, and collegiate academic achievements.
- Students must attend all three years in partnering college.
- Grades of “C” or better must be earned in all pre-requisite courses in addition to a minimum GPA of 3.4.

NIGHT WITH THE DENTISTS 4/8/13

High school and college students interested in learning more about the academic and professional field of dentistry came together for a very special presentation led by our very own Dr. Segura and Dr. Balderas from our UTHSCSA School of Dentistry. Both of our San Antonio guest presenters shared their own stories with those in our audience in addition to admissions requirements, the importance of clinical experiences, special matriculation programs, and financial aid options.

A very special thank you also goes out to UTPA’s Dr. Scott Gunn, Associate Professor and Pre-Medical / Pre-Dental Advisor and to the department’s Special Programs Coordinator Terri Mendez-Montalvo for providing our students with meeting space on the UTPA campus.

Med Ed parents, thank you so much for your ongoing support to our professional development event.

Your support is so important and invaluable.

Visit www.asdanet.org for more information on DEAP.

Check Out These Websites

http://dental.uthscsa.edu
http://dental.uthscsa.edu/admissions/DEAPinfoSheet.pdf

More information can be found at DEAPinfosheet.pdf.
The Path Towards Becoming a Public Health Professional

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Assistant Professor at Texas A&M Health Science Center—School of Rural Public Health—McAllen, TX

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During the presentation, students learned how our health is not only based on family history, genetics and lifestyle but also by our lifestyle choices, the environment we live in, and by the health care system available to us. Students had the opportunity to experience the role health professionals play in health promotion and disease prevention by conducting a small hands-on activity. Students were divided into groups based on their lifestyle choices can positively or negatively influence the risk of developing a particular disease and the reason of why public health professionals focus on prevention and maintaining healthy communities.

Further, students also learned that while a higher risk means a greater chance of developing cardiovascular disease, it does not always mean that you will develop it; just as while a lower risk means there is a reduced chance, it is still possible for a person to develop cardiovascular disease.

The field of public health continues to grow as medicine starts focusing on disease prevention, education, and wellness. So students, do not be afraid to explore other health care career options and start looking for new to learn!

Thank you, Dr. Zuniga, for taking the time out of your busy schedule and sharing your story and message with our students. Your time, effort, and resources are deeply appreciated.

High school and college students interested in learning more about the academic and professional field of dentistry came together for a very special presentation led by our very own Dr. Segura and Dr. Baldaras from our UTHSCSA School of Dentistry. Both of our San Antonio guest presenters shared their own stories with those in our audience in addition to admissions requirements, the importance of clinical experiences, special matriculation programs, and financial aid options.

The Med Ed Program of South Texas is very grateful to the UTPA Pre-Dental Society for their help in spreading the word about the event and in putting up directional balloons and signs in addition to helping our team disseminate the information earmarked for our attendees.

A very special thank you also goes out to UTPA’s Dr. Scott Gunn, Associate Professor and Pre-Medical/Pre-Dental Advisor and to the department’s Special Programs Coordinator Terri Mendez-Montaño for their generosity and assistance in providing our students with meeting space on the UTPA campus.

Med Ed parents, thank you so much for driving your sons/daughters to our professional development event. Your support is so important and invaluable.

The Doctor of Dental Surgery degree is awarded upon successful completion of the four year dental curriculum.

 eligibility requirements

- Student must score a 19 minimum on the Academic Average of the Dental Admission Test (DAT).
- Application deadline: March 31st of every year.
- Interviews conducted April and May.

As the student completes required courses in Dental School, credit for designated courses will be applied to undergraduate degree requirements as well. The Bachelor Degree is awarded by the partnering university attended once the student has completed the first or second year of dental studies.

NIGHT WITH THE DENTISTS 4/8/13

WELCOME
NEW MED ED STUDENTS Cont...

Palmview High School

Villarreal, Jazmín
Rojas Yvette
Resendez Kathryn
Abigail
Rios Genesis
Sanchez Jassel
Soto Lizett
Rodríguez Belinda
Jiyoon I. Baek
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“Unwritten”—Natasha Bedingfield

I am unwritten, can’t read my mind, I’m undefined,
My beginning, the pen’s in my hand, ending unplanned
Staring at the blank page before you,
Open up the dirty window
Let the sun illuminate the words that you could not find
Reaching for something in the distance
So close you can almost taste it
Release your inhibitions
Feel the rain on your skin
No one else can feel it for you
Only you can let it in
No one else, no one else
Can speak the words on your lips
Drench yourself in words unspoken
Live your life with arms wide open
Today is where your book begins
The rest is still unwritten

Oh, oh, oh
I have a tradition, sometimes my tries, are outside the lines
We’ve been conditioned to make mistakes, but I can’t live that way
Staring at the blank page before you
Open up the dirty window
Let the sun illuminate the words that you could not find
Reaching for something in the distance
So close you can almost taste it
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15-18 IGNITE SCIENCE! at UTPA: Focus on Chemistry (Afternoon) / Instructor: Norma Garza, M.P.H. / Seats limited: 24