



THE BACKPAGE

...the future in health care

Volume 28, Number 5

Dr. Michael Flynn speaks to TCC Students Leader in chiropractic inspires students to get involved

Dr. Michael Flynn, a 1975 alumnus of Texas Chiropractic College and an experienced leader in the chiropractic profession, visited the TCC campus April 7, to speak to interns about being passionate and supportive of their future profession.

Dr. Flynn, who currently serves on the board of the Foundation for Chiropractic Progress, shared the story of how he came to the profession of chiropractic. He was inspired by his father, Dr. John

Flynn, who was also a chiropractor. Dr. John Flynn, a graduate of Palmer College of Chiropractic, was vital to the licensing of chiropractors in Louisiana, which was the last state to license doctors of chiropractic and formally recognize the profession. His passion for chiropractic was passed on to his son.

"I believe that we are on the cusp of a health renaissance in our country," Dr. Flynn said. "Whether you are for it or against it, did you see what President

Obama just passed? The Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act of 2010. This is important."

He spoke of having a vision for chiropractic, telling the students that even though "you get beaten down and overwhelmed there's got to be an excitement in your step, because you're training to be one of the greatest health care providers on the face of the earth."

Dr. Flynn told the interns how the health care bill is important for *Continued on page 2*

Graduating Ambassadors Honored At Dinner

The Office of Admission hosted an Ambassador dinner at the Saltgrass Steakhouse in Kemah March 23 to honor those Ambassadors who will be graduating this semester. The Ambassadors honored were Joshua LeBlanc, Ashley LaBorde, and Betsy Robinson. All three students, who worked hard while maintaining a good academic standing, were recognized and presented a plaque for their commitment and dedication to TCC, admissions, and the chiropractic profession. This dinner is the first in a new tradition for the TCC ambassadors. Also in attendance were Admission Counselors Kristina Hanson and Martha Phillips, Director of Enrollment Management Dr. David Anderson, Dean of Enrollment Management Dr. Fred Zuker and TCC President Dr. Richard G. Brassard.

Below: Graduating Ambassador Joshua LeBlanc checks out his plaque. The TCC Ambassadors represent their college at all times. They may speak on behalf of the student body. They are sent out to help recruit future students to their chosen college and profession.



Left: Ambassadors Cindy Harden, Aimee Warmath and Ashley Laborde enjoy their dinner at Saltgrass Steakhouse. Ashley was among the honored graduates.



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Texas Chiropractic College...
...the future in health care.

Richard G. Brassard, DC,
FICC, FACC
President

Office of Institutional Advancement
William H. Clements, MSW
Associate Vice President of
Institutional Advancement

Patty Barnes
Communications Director
pbarnes@txchiro.edu

Melissa Bird
Communication Specialist
mbird@txchiro.edu

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chiropractic, because for the first time there is language that specifically mentions the profession as well as the importance of wellness and nutrition.

"This is not the time to get tired or worn down, this is the time to get excited, especially politically," Dr. Flynn said. "We can become a healthier country and chiropractic has to play a role in that."

In closing, Dr. Flynn told the interns how important it was for them to educate and get involved with their patients.

"They won't care how much you know, until they know how much you care." Dr. Flynn said.

Dr. Flynn currently operates the seven-doctor clinic in Louisiana that his father founded years ago. Dr. Flynn serves as first vice-president of the World Federation of Chiropractors (WFC) which represents 90 countries, serves on the boards of the Foundation for Chiropractic Progress and National Chiropractic Legal Action Fund, and is the current ACA advisor to the Student American Chiropractic Association. His numerous recognitions include Chiropractor of the Year by the Chiropractic Association of Louisiana (CAL) and ACA Chiropractor of the Year.

"When I got up at 5:30 this morning and saw all my neighbors with their golf bags, I thought 'Why do I do this?'" Dr. Flynn said, referring to his travel to speak about chiropractic. "I do this because I love this profession, and I love what we offer."

TCC President meets with College of the Mainland President

Dr. Richard G. Brassard, TCC president, and Bill Quin, Chief Fiscal Officer at TCC met with College of the Mainland president Dr. Michael Elam.



TCC Students Take First in Soccer Competition



Top row (l to r): Dru Lopez, Kurt Martin, Brett Martin, Josh Akerman, Chris Verhuel, Jesse Selsser, Joe Fast. Bottom row (l to r): Travis Curd, Shane Henry, David Blocksom and Reid Amedee.

The team took the division II championship at Gameday Soccer Stadium in Pasadena. This is the team's second championship after a previous win in 2003.

Congratulations to all those who participated!

This week, Dr. Brassard would like to share with you this information from the ACA regarding the recently passed Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act.

After the U.S. House of Representatives passed HR 3590, the Senate-passed version of national health care reform legislation President Obama signed it into law March 23.

This means that the provisions contained in HR 3590 will now be enacted. These provisions include an important provider non-discrimination provision long championed by the American Chiropractic Association (ACA). Incorporation of this provider non-discrimination provision, also known as the “Harkin Amendment,” was achieved primarily due to the efforts of Sen. Tom Harkin (D-Iowa), with help from other key players such as Sen. Chris Dodd (D-Connecticut). Although he did not support the final bill overall, Sen. Orrin Hatch (R-Utah) also lent his support for the advancement of the non-discrimination provision.

“Regardless of how you feel about this legislation and its overall impact on the nation, it has to be recognized as an historic first for the chiropractic profession. We now have a federal law applicable to ERISA plans that makes it against the law for insurance companies to discriminate against doctors of chiropractic and other providers relative to their participation and coverage in health plans. Such discrimination based on a provider’s license is inappropriate and now must stop,” said ACA President, Rick McMichael, DC. “While this does not fully level the playing field for doctors of chiropractic in our health care system, this is a highly significant step that has the potential for positive, long-range impact on the profession and the patients we serve. Congress has finally addressed the issue of provider discrimination based on one’s license, and they have said that such discrimination must stop.”

The provider non-discrimination provision (Section 2706) to be enacted into law reads in part: “A group health plan and a health insurance issuer offering group or individual health insurance coverage shall not discriminate with respect to participation under the plan or coverage against any health care provider who is acting within the scope of that provider’s license or certi-



President’s Message

**Richard G. Brassard, DC,
FICC, FACC
President - Texas
Chiropractic College**

fication under applicable State law.”

Regarding this provision, John Falardeau, ACA’s Vice President of Government Relations said, “The Harkin non-discrimination language will be applicable to all health benefit plans both insured and self-insured. National health care reform is designed to eventually cover 30 million currently uninsured Americans. The non-discrimination language will, over time, apply to those individuals as well. However, that number of covered individuals pales in comparison to the 55 percent of workers who are currently covered by self-insured plans that will be affected by the Harkin non-discrimination language. The potential impact in this regard cannot be overstated.”

Additionally, the legislation passed by the House includes two other provisions that impact the chiropractic profession. Doctors of chiropractic are specifically included as potential members of interdisciplinary community health teams. These teams support the development of medical homes by increasing access to comprehensive, community based, coordinated care. Community health teams are integrated teams of providers that include primary care providers, specialists, other clinicians, licensed integrative health professionals and community resources to enhance patient care, wellness and lifestyle improvements. The language in the bill ensures that doctors of chiropractic can be included in these patient-centered, holistic teams. Dr. McMichael noted, “This language was a critical inclusion to give doctors of chiropractic increased opportunities to be fully engaged as part of the health care team.”

Furthermore, the legislation establishes a National Health Care Workforce Commission to examine current and pro-

jected needs in the health care workforce. The commission specifically includes doctors of chiropractic by defining them as part of the health care workforce, and includes them in the definition of health professionals. In addition, chiropractic colleges are included among the health professional training schools to be studied. The National Health Care Workforce Commission is tasked with providing comprehensive, unbiased information to Congress and the Obama Administration about how to align federal health care workforce resources with national needs. Congress will use this information when providing appropriations to discretionary programs or in restructuring other federal funding. The language in the bill guarantees that the need for doctors of chiropractic will be addressed when considering federal health care workforce programs, another very important inclusion.

Assuming final modifications to the bill are ultimately agreed to by the Senate; ACA will then publish a detailed analysis of the entire legislation, including a timeline for when certain provisions become effective. Additionally, ACA will maintain an active watch over the implementation of the legislation over the next several years and will offer its views regarding proposed regulations that will likely be developed in order to fully implement the new law. ACA will also respond to any future legislation such as “technical corrections” and other modifications that might be considered. Dr. McMichael noted, “Our partners on the Chiropractic Summit were important team members in securing these critical inclusions for the benefit of our profession and our patients. We thank all team members for their good collaborative work on this major effort and future efforts to come.”

AROUND CAMPUS

Mixed Schedule Students Should Take Special Notice of the Procedures for Final Examinations

Final exams will be held Tuesday, April 13- Tuesday, April 20. The final exam schedule is now available in the registrar's office. Mixed schedule students need to look at the exam schedule and see if they have two exams scheduled at the same time. If there are exam overlaps, the mixed schedule students must advise the registrar's office by noon on Monday, April 5th.

Wednesday, April 21st will be utilized to allow mixed schedule students to take any overlapping finals. A full two hours will be set aside for affected students at 9 a.m. in L-203. Only those students with more than one makeup exam to take on that Wednesday will be allotted time beyond the 9-11 a.m. time frame.

The procedure will allow mixed schedule students a full two hours for each of their final exams and avoid the necessity of receiving an incomplete grade due to scheduling conflicts.

Saturday, April 17

10 a.m. - 12 p.m.

Spring Commencement

Connie and Shelby Elliot Auditorium

Thursday, May 13

7 p.m.

Recognition Ceremony

Connie and Shelby Elliot Auditorium

Student Scholarship Opportunities

Applications for all Scholarships listed below can be picked up in the Institutional Advancement Department in the Harris Building, Rm 201

Scholarship opportunities offered through TCC Scholarship Funds (deadline 4/30/10):

Rhoden Calder Scholarship

Amount: \$1000, Number: 1 per Fall, Spring & Summer Trimester

RQ: Trimester 4-10, 2.75GPA. 1 page essay demonstrating financial need/merit.

C. Mathews Scholarship

Amount: \$1000, Number: 1 per Fall, Spring & Summer Trimester

RQ: Trimester 4-10, 3.25 GPA. 1 page essay demonstrating financial need/merit.

TCC General Scholarship

Amount: \$1000, Number: 1 per Spring, Summer & Fall Trimester

RQ: Trimester 3-10, 3.25 GPA. 1 page essay demonstrating merit.

Barbara Brassard Scholarship

Amount: \$1000, Number: 1 per Fall & Spring Trimester only

RQ: Trimester 2-10, 2.50 GPA. 1 page essay demonstrating financial need/merit.

B. Vohringer Scholarship

Amount: \$1000, Number: 1 per Fall & Spring Trimester only

RQ: Trimester 4-10, 2.75 GPA. 1 page essay demonstrating financial need/merit.

E.F. Steele Scholarship

Amount: \$1000, Number: 1 per Fall Trimester only

RQ: Trimester 4-10, 2.75 GPA. 1 page essay demonstrating financial need/merit.

Urban Terbieten Scholarship

Amount: \$1000, Number: 1 per Fall Trimester only

RQ: Trimester 2-10, 2.75 GPA. 1 page essay demonstrating financial need/merit.

Loretta Mohle Scholarship

Amount: \$1000, Number: 1 per Fall Trimester only

RQ: Trimester 1-10, 3.50 GPA. 1 page essay demonstrating financial need/merit.

Ashcroft Success Scholarship

Amount: \$500.00, Number: 1 per Fall, Spring & Summer Trimester

RQ: Trimester 1-10, 2.5 GPA, must be a Female applicant. 1 page essay demonstrating financial need/merit.

Must be working on faculty approved research project and submit accumulative data (below)

Elliott/Lindner Research Scholarship

Amount: \$1000, Number: 1 per Fall & Spring Trimester only

RQ: Trimester 1-10, 3.25 GPA.