



Celebrating 30 years of discovery in molecular biology

More than 800 scientists gathered recently for a symposium marking the 30th anniversary of UT Southwestern's Department of Molecular Biology. The event celebrated its founder and Chair, **Eric Olson, Ph.D.**, as well as the scientists and team members who make up the Department and have made so many notable discoveries over the years.

The April 10 event began with a humorous look at the somewhat unorthodox beginnings of the Department: It was created to lure its Chair to UTSW, and ultimately involved a Willie Nelson Professorship. Fourteen scientists then spoke about their research.

The Department is recognized worldwide for its studies in developmental biology and intracellular signaling, as well as for elucidating the role of the molecule cGAS in turning on an immune response. Other key areas of research include stem cells and RNA biology.

"The true legacy of this Department is exactly what it should be: The discoveries and the substance of the science that have been carried out by its faculty working alongside graduate students and postdocs," said UT Southwestern President **Daniel K. Podolsky, M.D.**

[Insider's look at a 30-year legacy](#)



Come along for a day in the Bann Lab

After a heart attack, your heart gets battle scars – literally. **Glynis Garry Bann, M.D.**, a physician-scientist in the Department of Molecular Biology, and her team aim to turn those scar cells back into hardworking heart cells using cellular reprogramming. The goal? Less scarring, more strength, and a better beat. Check out a day in the Bann Lab on Instagram to learn more!

[Go behind the scenes at the Bann Lab](#)



Save the date: Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month Celebration

Get ready to celebrate Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month on May 7 with an afternoon full of culture, community, and inspiration!

Festivities will kick off with a light lunch reception at 11:30 a.m., featuring a menu of Asian dishes. The ceremony will follow at noon with a keynote address by **W. P. Andrew Lee, M.D.**, Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost of UT Southwestern Medical Center, and Dean of UT Southwestern Medical School. There will also be a tai chi demonstration by Sifu Mui, head instructor of Wah Lum Kung Fu & Tai Chi of Dallas.

Hosted by the Office for Institutional Opportunity, this event will be held in D1.600 on South Campus and livestreamed on UTSW's [YouTube](#) channel for those unable to attend in person.

Registration is required.

[Mark your calendar for fun and food](#)



FY25 performance evaluation period opening

The FY25 Annual Performance Evaluation period will open tomorrow, covering May 1, 2024, through April 30, 2025. This process is a valuable opportunity to reflect on accomplishments and progress, align on goals and expectations, and identify areas for future development.

Who is included: Classified and Administrative and Professional (A&P) employees who work 20 or more hours per week and were hired on or before March 1.

Due date: All steps must be completed by Aug. 31.

Guidance and training: To help navigate the process, the Human Resources team will host live virtual training sessions for [employees](#) and [managers](#).

Upgraded platform: The iPerform platform has been upgraded to improve user experience and make it easier to navigate evaluation tasks, view feedback, and track progress.

To learn more:

1. Log in to [iPerform](#).
2. Scroll to the bottom to find the "News and Announcements" section.
3. Click on the article related to FY25 Annual Performance Evaluation.

If you have additional questions or need support, contact the Human Resources team [via email](#).

[Performance Management SharePoint site](#)



School of Public Health certificate program applications due July 1

The O'Donnell School of Public Health offers the Graduate Certificate in Public Health program to equip students with introductory skills and knowledge to tackle contemporary health challenges. This program for non-degree-seeking students comprises in-person coursework covering areas such as epidemiology, health system science, biostatistics, and health promotion and equity. The program can be completed in 12-18 months, and the primary eligibility requirement is a bachelor's degree.

Whether you are new to the field or seeking to sharpen existing skills, consider taking the next step in your public health and research careers.

[Apply by July 1](#)

Insider Guide



Art and Culture: Latino Art Expressions Tour

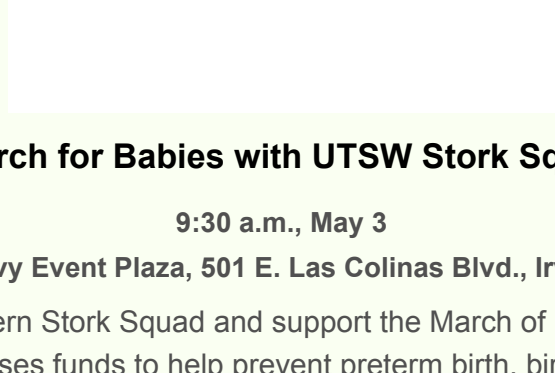
5:30-6:30 p.m., May 1

Simmons Cancer Care Outpatient Building, NM03.930

Step into a colorful world of creativity at a special art walk honoring the richness and spirit of Latin culture as part of the Cinco de Mayo celebration. Enjoy a guided tour led by Art Curator **Courtney K. Crothers**, who will share the stories behind the artwork and the artists who brought them to life. The event is hosted by the Hispanic Latino Alliance BRG.

Questions? Reach out to [Judith Ramos](#).

[Art tour details](#)



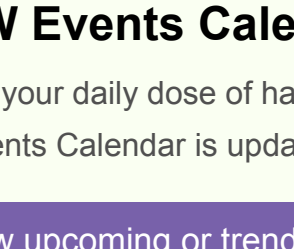
March for Babies with UTSW Stork Squad

9:30 a.m., May 3

Levy Event Plaza, 501 E. Las Colinas Blvd., Irving

Join the UT Southwestern Stork Squad and support the March of Dimes March for Babies! This annual walk raises funds to help prevent preterm birth, birth defects, and infant mortality. Register today to walk with UTSW's Neonatal-Perinatal Medicine team and enjoy a fun morning outdoors for a great cause. Questions? Email [Madison McEwen](#).

[Join the Stork Squad!](#)



UTSW Events Calendar

Looking for your daily dose of happenings?

The UTSW Events Calendar is updated every day.

[Click to view upcoming or trending events](#)