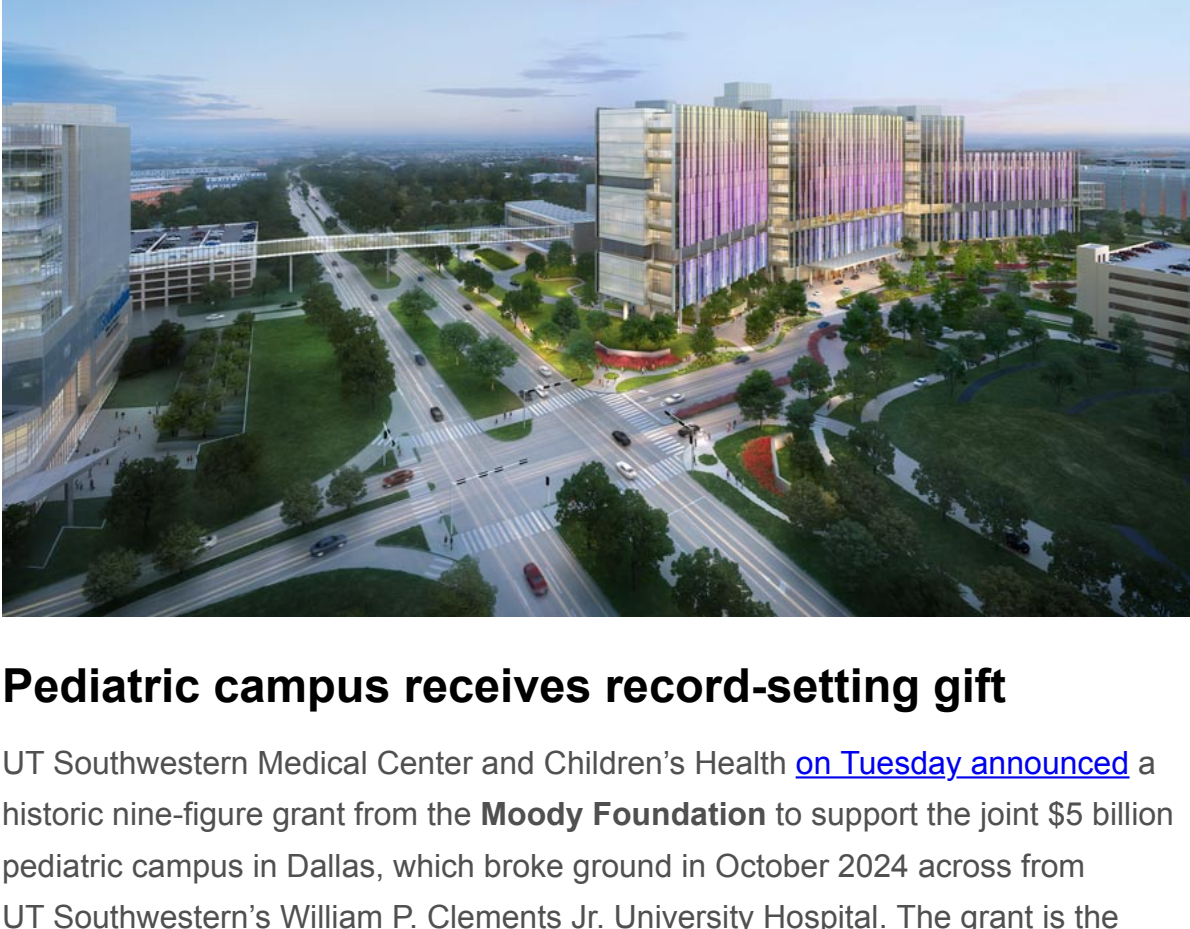




Pediatric campus receives record-setting gift

UT Southwestern Medical Center and Children's Health [on Tuesday announced](#) a historic nine-figure grant from the **Moody Foundation** to support the joint \$5 billion pediatric campus in Dallas, which broke ground in October 2024 across from UT Southwestern's William P. Clements Jr. University Hospital. The grant is the largest gift to date for this landmark facility, which is projected to be completed in 2031.

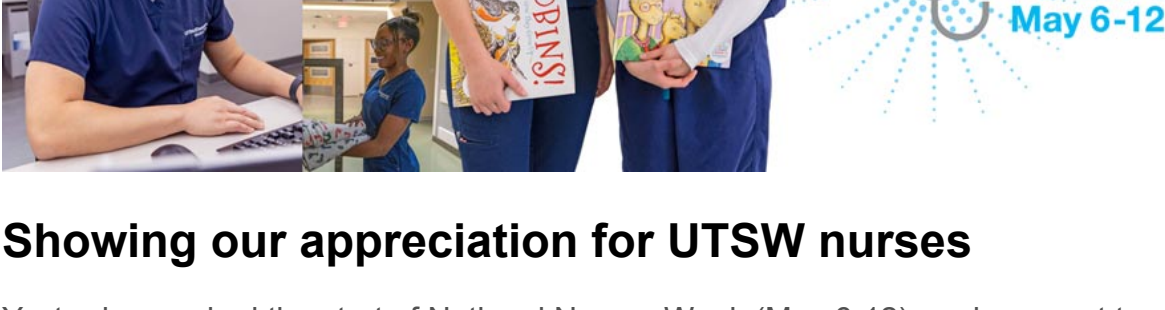
Once opened, Moody Children's Hospital will include two 12-story towers and an eight-story tower, significantly expanding inpatient, surgical, and ambulatory care.

"The Moody Foundation's transformative investment in the well-being of future generations of children and youth marks a pivotal moment in our ability to reshape pediatric care across Texas, train the next generation of caregivers, and accelerate vital discoveries that will continuously enhance our capacity to heal," said UT Southwestern President **Daniel K. Podolsky, M.D.**

The region's pediatric population is expected to double by 2050, underscoring the urgent need for expanded access to top-tier pediatric health care. This grant from the Moody Foundation is the third, and largest, nine-figure gift to support the new pediatric campus project, which has reached the halfway mark in its ongoing community fundraising efforts.

The pediatric campus will comprise 4.9 million square feet of construction in totality.

[Read the news release](#)



Showing our appreciation for UTSW nurses

Yesterday marked the start of National Nurses Week (May 6-12), and we want to express our gratitude for the 4,100-plus nurses at UT Southwestern. They are caregivers and critical thinkers, vital partners and educators, and researchers and leaders. Their work is indispensable to advancing our mission.

Nurses, thank you for choosing to practice your calling at UT Southwestern. Your expertise, compassion, and dedication make a positive difference in the lives of our patients and our community, every day.

We're providing a few different ways to give our nurses a well-deserved lift this week:

- You can send them your own message of gratitude by filling out [this form](#), which will instantly deliver an email to their inbox.
- Visit UTSW's social channels (@utswmedcenter), such as Instagram, to watch a special [video tribute](#), and give our nurses a shoutout in the comments.

[Tell a nurse you appreciate them!](#)



Cap and gown season is here!

Commencement is upon us at UT Southwestern, and this year's ceremonies are packed with milestones and inspiring guests. Notably, the Peter O'Donnell Jr. School of Public Health will celebrate its first graduating class since the school's establishment in 2022.

The 2025 UTSW graduates across our three schools will be honored in a series of commencement ceremonies. As we cheer on our graduates, we encourage the UT Southwestern community to tune in to the [livestreams](#), as these are ticketed events.

O'Donnell School of Public Health

May 14, 10 a.m., Excellence in Education Foundation Auditorium (NB2.EEF)

Keynote: Ambassador **Kay Bailey Hutchison**

Medical School

May 16, 11 a.m., Morton H. Meyerson Symphony Center

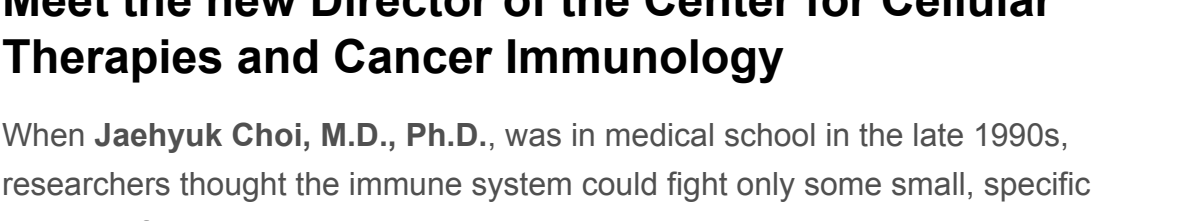
Keynote: **Ross Perot Jr.**, Chairman of The Perot Companies

Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences

May 22, 7 p.m., Tom and Lula Gooch Auditorium

Keynote: **Zhijian "James" Chen, Ph.D.**, Professor of Molecular Biology and Director of the Center for Inflammation Research, UT Southwestern

[Get prepped for graduation!](#)



Meet the new Director of the Center for Cellular Therapies and Cancer Immunology

When **Jaehyuk Choi, M.D., Ph.D.**, was in medical school in the late 1990s, researchers thought the immune system could fight only some small, specific subsets of cancer.

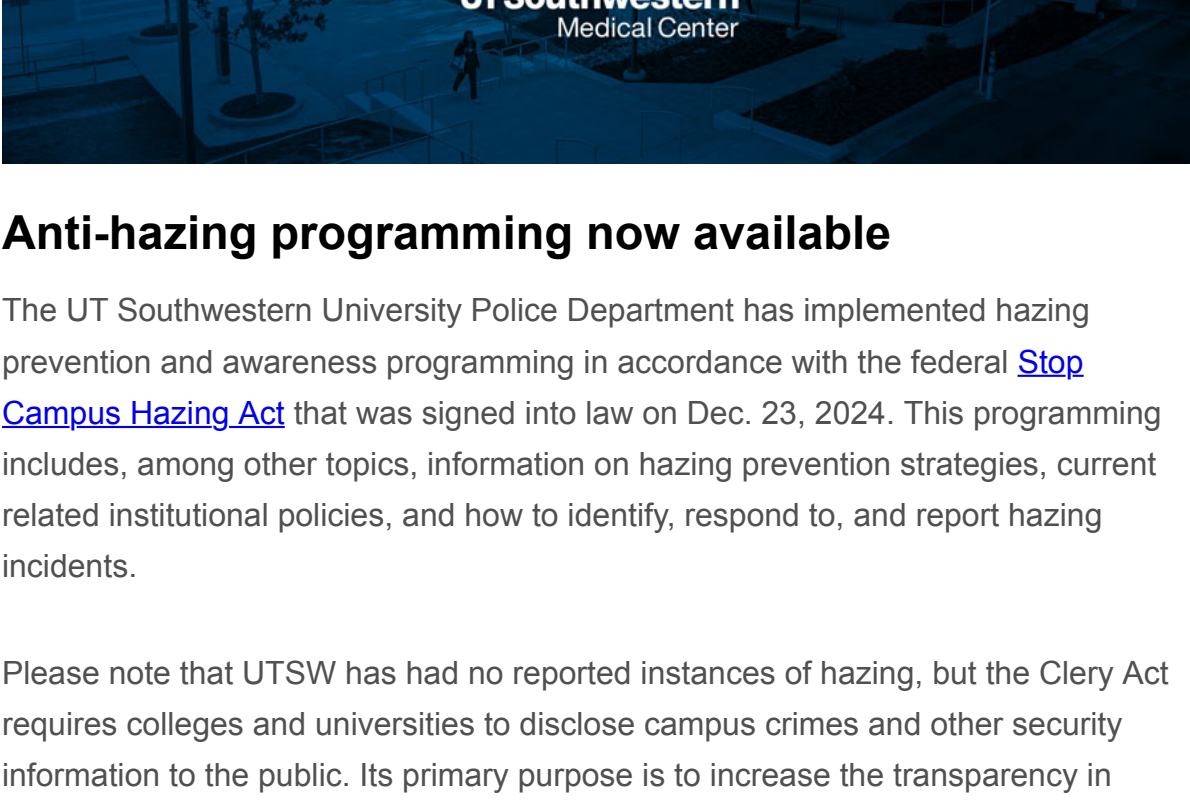
"We now know that cancer cannot be explained without understanding how it interacts with the immune system. We think most patients' immune systems can recognize cancer but aren't strong enough to kill it," said Dr. Choi, who joined UT Southwestern on April 1 as the inaugural Director of the Center for Cellular Therapies and Cancer Immunology in UT Southwestern's Harold C. Simmons Comprehensive Cancer Center.

Dr. Choi is a physician-scientist whose discoveries have transformed the field of cancer immunology.

"Our goal at the new Center," he said, "is to enhance immune cells so they can selectively kill cancer cells while being strong enough to withstand cancer's defenses, creating not only a cure but long-lived immunity against cancer."

Dr. Choi also serves as Vice Chair for Translational Research and Innovation in the Department of Dermatology. Learn more about him, his research, and his goals in a new Q&A on *Center Times Plus*.

[Get to know Dr. Choi](#)



Anti-hazing programming now available

The UT Southwestern University Police Department has implemented hazing prevention and awareness programming in accordance with the federal [Stop Campus Hazing Act](#) that was signed into law on Dec. 23, 2024. This programming includes, among other topics, information on hazing prevention strategies, current related institutional policies, and how to identify, respond to, and report hazing incidents.

Please note that UTSW has had no reported instances of hazing, but the Clery Act requires colleges and universities to disclose campus crimes and other security information to the public. Its primary purpose is to increase the transparency in campus safety and crime reporting and help reduce campus violence.

Individuals who witness or suspect hazing are strongly encouraged to report it. You can do so through the following channels:

- Anonymous Report: File with the University Police Department via the online [Hazing Violations Reporting Form](#), which you can also find on the UT Southwestern Police Department's [intranet webpage](#).
- Dean of Student Affairs: Contact 214-648-2168 or visit the [Office of Student Affairs](#) in the Student Support Services (S) Building during office hours.
- UT Southwestern Police Department: For immediate threats to safety, call **214-648-8911** (emergency) using a cell phone or 911 when using a campus phone. The non-emergency line is **214-648-8311**.

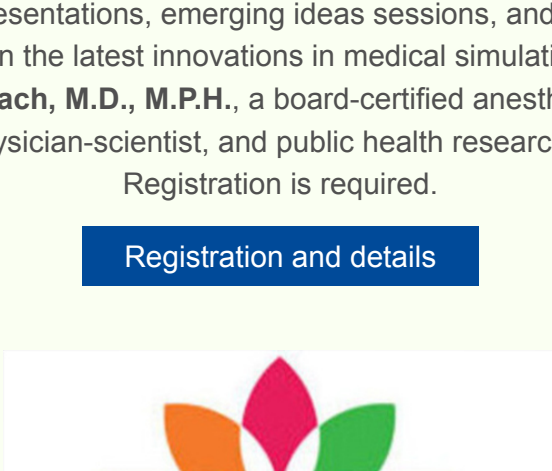
Any University department or interested group of staff, faculty, or students can request specialized presentations on hazing from the University Police Department. For more information, visit the Department's [Hazing Prevention and Response webpage](#) (campus network or VPN connection required).

To schedule a presentation or if you have specific concerns, contact our Clery Coordinator, Cristy Gonzalez, at 214-633-1621 or

cristy.gonzalez@utsouthwestern.edu.

[Hazing Prevention and Response](#)

Insider Guide



Charles Morris Ginsburg Simulation-Based Quality Improvement and Research Forum

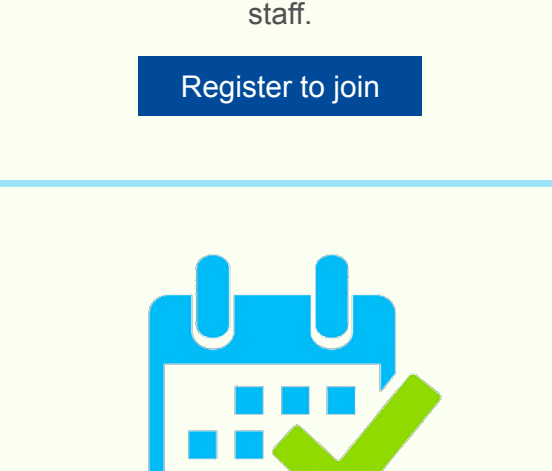
7 a.m.-3 p.m., May 21

T. Boone Pickens Auditorium, North Campus

UT Southwestern Simulation (SIM) Center will host a daylong, hybrid event featuring poster and oral presentations, emerging ideas sessions, and hands-on learning experiences focused on the latest innovations in medical simulation. The keynote will be delivered by **Paul Barach, M.D., M.P.H.**, a board-certified anesthesiologist, critical care physician-scientist, and public health researcher.

Registration is required.

[Registration and details](#)



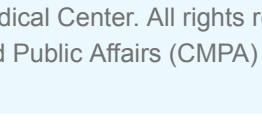
Empower Your Career: Asian-Pacific Islander Alliance Lunch and Learn

Noon-1 p.m., May 15

Virtual event

Join Certified Professional Coaches **Anand Rohatgi, M.D., M.S.C.S., FACC**, **FAHA**, Cardiovascular Director of Academic Development, and **Anupama Wadhwa, M.D.**, Professor of Anesthesiology & Pain Management, for an inspiring session on how coaching, distinct from mentoring or therapy, can drive personal and professional growth. Experience a live "laser coaching" demo and find out how you can access free 1:1 coaching to support your development journey. This event is open to UTSW faculty and staff.

[Register to join](#)



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](#)

Share your *Insider* suggestions by sending them to utswinsider@utsouthwestern.edu. Looking for an item in a past edition of this newsletter? Check out our [Insider archive](#).

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