



On this date in UTSW history ...

1991

At 8:24 a.m. on June 5, 1991, aboard the space shuttle Columbia, **Drew Gaffney, M.D.**, made history as the first UT Southwestern faculty member to launch into space.

The then-Associate Professor of Internal Medicine served as a payload specialist on the mission dubbed “STS-40 Spacelab Life Sciences.” He made the journey into orbit with a catheter that had been placed in his heart days before the flight by UTSW colleague **Benjamin Levine, M.D.** Its purpose was to monitor the effects of a gravity-free environment on the organ in real time while Columbia circled the globe at 17,500 miles an hour and a height of 157 nautical miles.

In all, the crew conducted more than 18 experiments that resulted in more peer-review published medical data than any previous NASA flight. This research explored the responses of the heart, lungs, blood vessels, kidneys, hormone-secreting glands, muscles, bones, and cells to space flight and examined the causes of space motion sickness.

While on board STS-40, Dr. Gaffney spent 218 hours, 14 minutes, and 20 seconds in space and flew 3.2 million miles while the shuttle orbited Earth 146 times before finally landing at Edwards Airforce Base in California on June 14, 1991.

For [more photos](#) of Dr. Gaffney and his mission, visit [@utswarchives](#) on [Instagram](#) or [Twitter](#) and give them a follow!

The image above, courtesy of the UTSW Special Collections Library and Archives, shows Dr. Gaffney aboard NASA’s KC-135, which was used to create 20-25 seconds of “weightlessness” to train crew members. The inset image is the “UT Southwestern in Space” logo, which was created for this mission.

Campus Accessibility Services celebrates first anniversary

Created to manage accommodation requests for faculty, staff, and students, Campus Accessibility Services (CAS) has served more than 1,000 members of the UT Southwestern community – 538 of whom were referred by UTSW employees, supervisors, and other campus leaders.

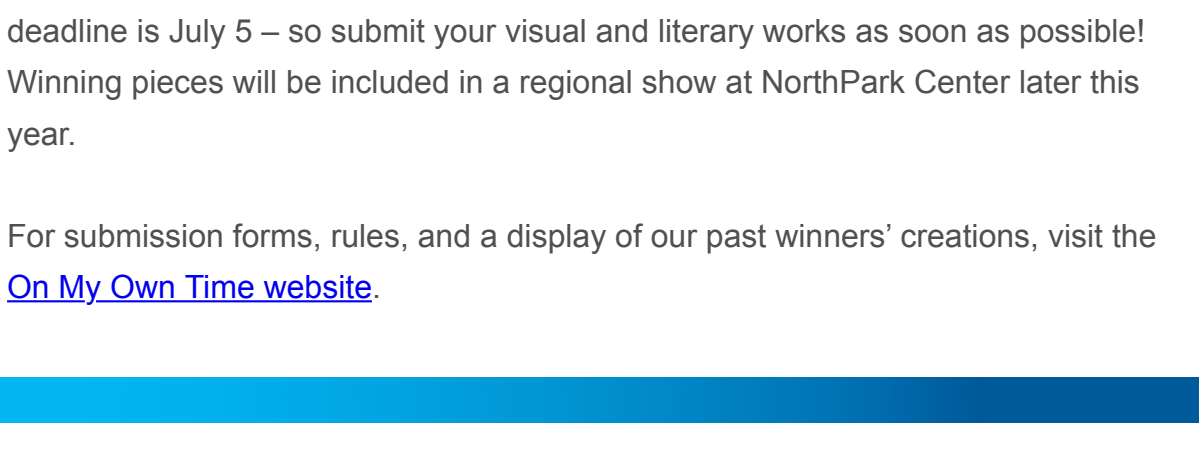
“During our first year, we doubled the number of students who are receiving accommodation to give them equal access to their courses, clerkships, and testing,” said **Lauren Sebel, Ed.D.**, UTSW’s Coordinator for the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Section 504. Dr. Sebel has visited departments and units across the institution to provide training for all members of the UTSW community in this inaugural year.

Congratulations to CAS on this important milestone and for many more to come!

Contact CAS

- If you are aware of an employee who needs accommodation due to disability or pregnancy, please complete the [Refer an Employee for ADA Accommodations](#) form.
- If you are an employee seeking accommodations in the workplace, please complete the [Employee ADA - Requesting a Reasonable Accommodation Due to Disability](#) form.

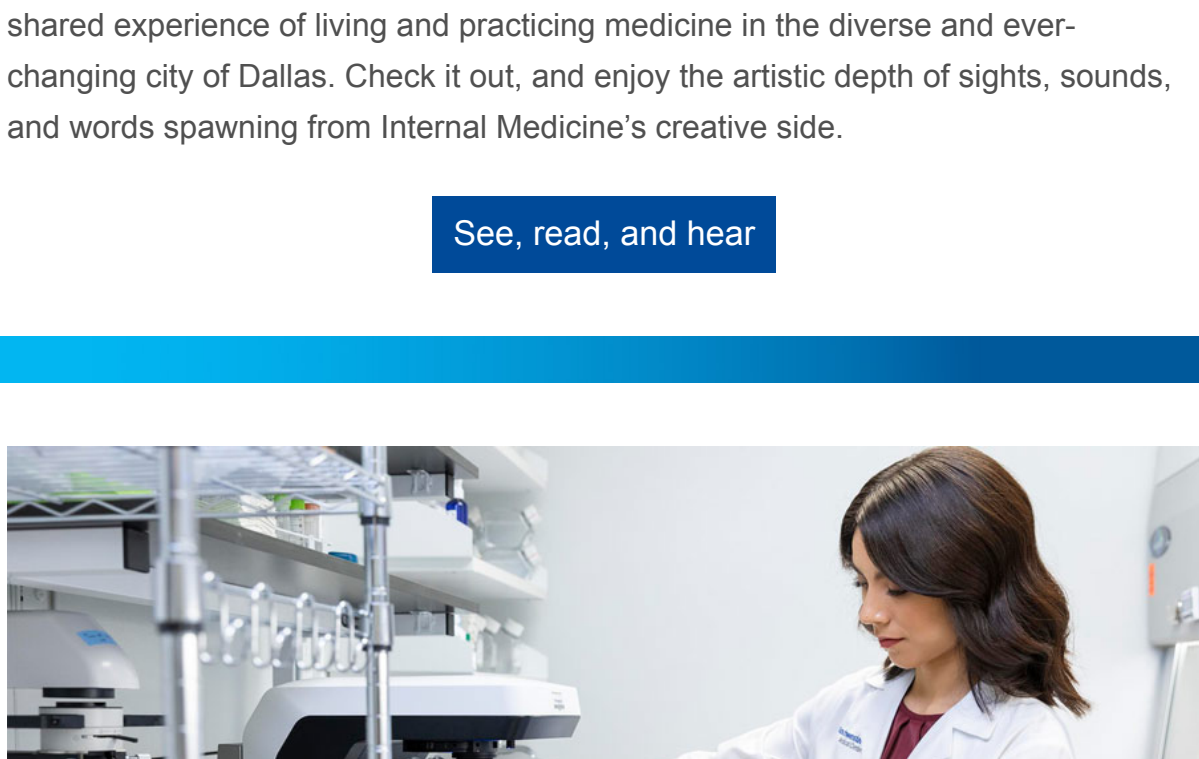
[UTSW Accessibility](#)



Calling all UTSW artists!

We are excited to announce that submissions are now being accepted for this year’s On My Own Time employee art show and competition, a program of the Business Council for the Arts. The submission period ends earlier than usual – this year the deadline is July 5 – so submit your visual and literary works as soon as possible! Winning pieces will be included in a regional show at NorthPark Center later this year.

For submission forms, rules, and a display of our past winners’ creations, visit the [On My Own Time website](#).



Internal Medicine’s *The Healing Arts* fosters creativity

Keeping with the arts theme, UT Southwestern’s Internal Medicine Residency Program annually publishes *The Healing Arts*, a collection of original prose, poetry, photography, music, and art created by the Department’s clinical faculty, fellows, and residents. The eye-catching online exhibition serves as an outlet for artistic expression, introspection, and growth, according to the publication’s editors.

This year’s theme, “Medicine in Dallas: A Mosaic of Perspectives,” explores the shared experience of living and practicing medicine in the diverse and ever-changing city of Dallas. Check it out, and enjoy the artistic depth of sights, sounds, and words spawning from Internal Medicine’s creative side.

[See, read, and hear](#)



Sponsored Programs Administration offers expertise in securing funding

UT Southwestern’s Sponsored Program Administration (SPA) helps our researchers secure funding for basic science, translational, and clinical research, paving the way for the important discoveries for which UTSW is known. SPA provides faculty, staff, and learners with a wide variety of support throughout the detailed award life cycle.

The UTSW research community is invited to take advantage of these offerings, which include:

Virtual office hours

Need guidance on an upcoming submission? Schedule a one-on-one appointment through virtual office hours with SPA team members. These 30-minute appointments are available on Wednesdays between 10 a.m. and 11 a.m. To schedule, visit the [SPA website](#) and click [Schedule Appointment](#) in the bottom right corner of the screen.

Monthly “Research Roundup” series

On the first Thursday of each month, SPA hosts a virtual Research Roundup meeting (live via Teams) to communicate sponsor updates, implement new procedures, and highlight upcoming projects. The next meeting is from 11 a.m. to noon on June 6. To be added to future meetings, submit a ticket in [ServiceNow](#). Recordings of past sessions are available on the [SPARK SPA Education Channel](#) in SharePoint.

Insider Guide

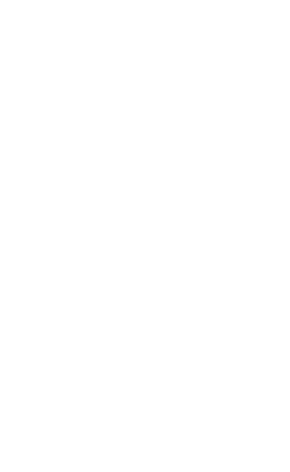


Your Time Away info session

1-2 p.m., June 20 | Virtual

Please join Human Resources to hear about UTSW’s new comprehensive leave program: Your Time Away. In this session, employees will learn more about the program and have the opportunity to ask questions. Check the Your Time Away [events listing](#) for additional information sessions.

[Register to attend](#)



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

This is an internal email and not intended for external distribution. Please do not forward.
Copyright 2024 UT Southwestern Medical Center. All rights reserved. *UTSW Insider* is a publication of Communications, Marketing, and Public Affairs (CMPA) at UT Southwestern Medical Center.