

Need-to-know info on COVID-19 and flu shots

This week, reformulated COVID-19 vaccines were authorized by the Food and Drug Administration and recommended by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention for nearly all age groups. The updated mRNA vaccines are designed to target the Omicron subvariant XBB 1.5 and are intended to provide better protection against severe illness and hospitalizations from COVID-19.

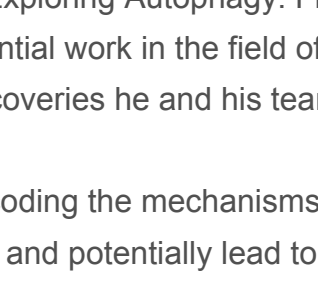
We know many of you are eager to learn more about the timing and arrival of new COVID-19 vaccines, and we want to assure you those plans are being finalized. The Insider will keep you posted, so watch for news in next week's edition.

Meanwhile, we are continuing our preparations for the fall respiratory virus season and will offer flu vaccines to the UTSW community beginning Monday, Sept. 18, through Oct. 31.

As employees, you can already start booking your flu vaccination appointments via ReadySet. For information, instructions, and locations (including UTSW regional sites), visit our [Flu webpage](#).

For questions, please contact [Occupational Health](#).

[Flu shot details](#)



Save the date: Levine Prize ceremony

Early next month will mark the first installment of a very special campus event: the award ceremony for the recently established Beth Levine, M.D. Prize in Autophagy Research.

The Oct. 3 program will feature the award's [inaugural recipient](#), **Noboru Mizushima, M.D., Ph.D.**, an internationally recognized researcher from the University of Tokyo. Dr. Mizushima's lecture, titled "Exploring Autophagy: From Yeast to Mammals," will cover a brief history of his influential work in the field of autophagy research, as well as some of the more recent discoveries he and his team have made in his lab.

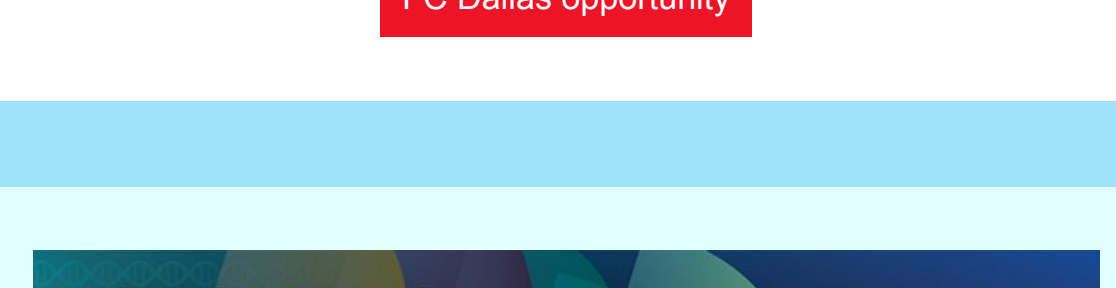
Dr. Mizushima has [said that](#) decoding the mechanisms of autophagy will enable us to pinpoint the cause of disease and potentially lead to cures.

The award – formally established in 2023 – recognizes exceptional scientists who have made significant contributions to the field of autophagy, a process in which cells break down and recycle their own components.

The prize was created in honor of the late Dr. Levine, an internationally revered investigator best known for her groundbreaking discovery of the first mammalian autophagy gene.

The presentation is open to the entire campus community and will be followed by a reception.

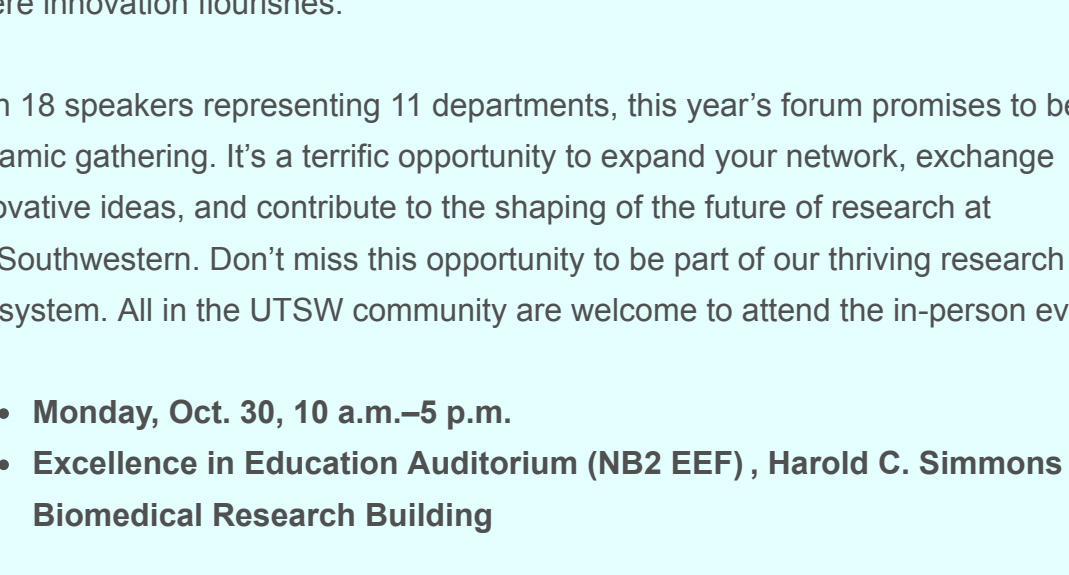
[Register](#)



Take your shot at FC Dallas Fantasy Camp

Calling all soccer superfans: If you're interested in an unforgettable night at FC Dallas Fantasy Camp on Tuesday, Sept. 26, from 5:30 to 8 p.m., fill out the form by clicking the button below. The first 10 employees to complete it will get to participate in a tour of Toyota Stadium in Frisco and the FC Dallas locker room, and then they will suit up in an FC Dallas jersey (with UTSW branding) and run drills with players and coaches. FC Dallas Fantasy Camp also includes dinner with colleagues from UT Southwestern and Children's Health, the Official Health Care Partners of FC Dallas.

[FC Dallas opportunity](#)



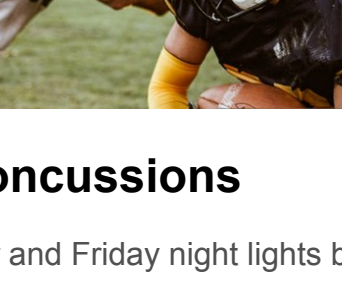
Where innovation flourishes: New Faculty Research Forum

Each year, our recently appointed Assistant Professors are introduced to the UT Southwestern research community through a unique forum. The event is designed to foster interdisciplinary collaborations and cultivate an environment where innovation flourishes.

With 18 speakers representing 11 departments, this year's forum promises to be a dynamic gathering. It's a terrific opportunity to expand your network, exchange innovative ideas, and contribute to the shaping of the future of research at UT Southwestern. Don't miss this opportunity to be part of our thriving research ecosystem. All in the UTSW community are welcome to attend the in-person event.

- **Monday, Oct. 30, 10 a.m.–5 p.m.**
- **Excellence in Education Auditorium (NB2 EEF), Harold C. Simmons Biomedical Research Building**

[Register now](#)



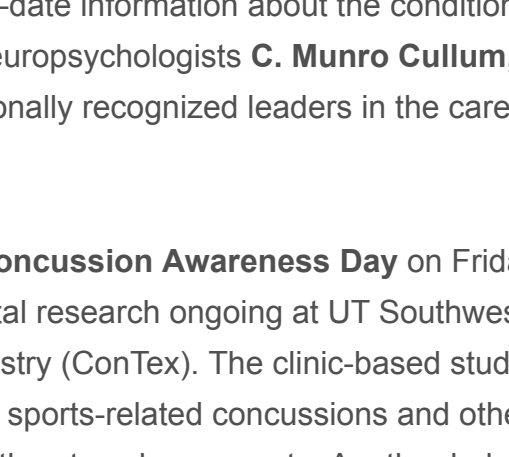
A chance to learn more about your TRS retirement benefits

A representative from the Teacher Retirement System of Texas (TRS) will be on campus Wednesday, Sept. 20, noon–2 p.m. to provide an overview of member benefits, including plans, eligibility, calculating estimates for service retirement, employment after retirement, tiers, and insurance. A brief Q&A will follow. [Submit questions](#) online in advance.

- **D1.502, Richardson Lecture Hall.**
- **Seating is limited (225) and is first come, first served.**

You can also join virtually via Zoom. Contact the [Benefits team](#) for more information.

[Event details](#)



Get smart about concussions

As pro football kicks into gear and Friday night lights burn bright, concussions continue to generate conversations and debate.

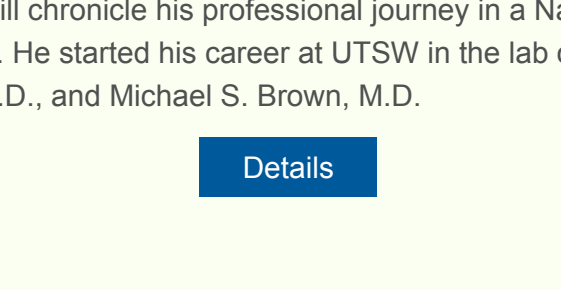
Sharing accurate, up-to-date information about the condition is a particular passion for UT Southwestern neuropsychologists **C. Munro Cullum, Ph.D.**, and **Nyaz Didehbani, Ph.D.**, nationally recognized leaders in the care and research of concussions.

With the approach of **Concussion Awareness Day** on Friday, Sept. 15, we want to highlight some of the vital research ongoing at UT Southwestern, such as the North Texas Concussion Registry (ConTex). The clinic-based study is capturing comprehensive data on sports-related concussions and other mild traumatic brain injuries (mTBI) in more than two dozen sports. Another helpful resource is a UTSW Medblog authored by Drs. Cullum and Didehbani that dispels some common misconceptions.

[12 Concussion Myths](#)



Insider Guide

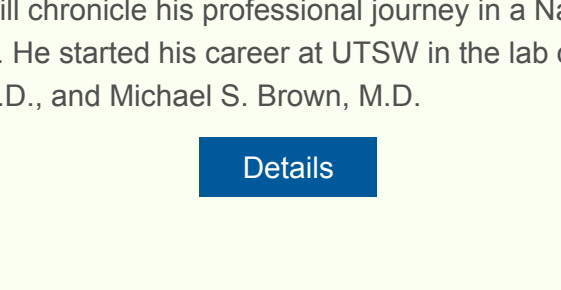


“Emerging Therapies in Neuroblastoma”

Thursday, Sept. 14
9-10 a.m., virtual event

Arhanti Sadanand, M.D., Assistant Professor of Pediatrics in the Division of Hematology and Oncology, will be the featured speaker at tomorrow's Hamon Center Lab Conference. Dr. Sadanand specializes in the research and treatment of this rare form of pediatric cancer, which typically starts in the adrenal glands.

[Details](#)



“A 25-Year Fascination with Cholesterol Metabolism”

Monday, Sept. 18
Noon-1 p.m., NL3.120

Russell DeBose-Boyd, Ph.D., Professor of Molecular Genetics and a National Academy of Sciences member, will chronicle his professional journey in a National Postdoc Appreciation Week talk. He started his career at UTSW in the lab of Nobel Laureates Joseph L. Goldstein, M.D., and Michael S. Brown, M.D.

[Details](#)

UTSW Events Calendar

Looking for your daily dose of happenings? Check out the UTSW Events Calendar, which is updated every day.

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

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