

## THRI Mission

Texas Health Research Institute, in conjunction with other members of Texas Health Resources, their affiliated physicians, and other organizations will conduct medical research, offer educational programs, and undertake development projects that contribute to the prevention, diagnosis and treatment of disease.

## Texas Health Research Institute A Member of Texas Health Resources

# Edge

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## PIMIT Adds New Learning Resources

**T**he PIMIT continues to expand its capabilities through the addition of new learning resources. These additions are part of the PIMIT's continuous effort to broaden the scope of learning techniques and the range of surgical specialties served.

First, catheterization labs and an electrophysiology lab at Presbyterian Hospital of Dallas were made ready for videoconferencing to the PIMIT. This was made possible by a generous grant from the Theodore and Beulah Beasley Foundation.

Two additional resources were made possible through the continuing support of Ethicon

Endo-Surgery, Inc., who made a contribution of two minimally invasive surgery trainers (MIST) and an audience response system.

The response system allows activity participants to electronically respond to queries. The system can then instantaneously report results.

"To be able to poll participants throughout the course of an educational activity assists the faculty in

understanding the level of comprehension, the applicability of the material being presented, and the experience level of the audience. In addition, it adds to attendees' level of participation, making the entire experience more

**"To be able to incorporate 'cath' and EP laboratory procedures into the curriculum for cardiac and electrophysiology courses opens the door to learning for a whole new group of stakeholders."**

**Thomas Franklin, PhD  
President, THRI**

**Continued on Page 2**

## What's New

interactive and meaningful," said Marilyn Peterson, CME director.

The addition of the two MIST trainers provides important experience for novice laparoscopic and endoscopic surgeons. Users can experience the use of a 2-D monitor to manipulate 3-D images, promotes use of the non-dominant hand, and provides valuable "practice time" to novice laparoscopists. "THRI considers these trainers primary learning resources," said Dr. Tom Franklin. "These trainers will be utilized widely in resident training programs and skills-building CME courses."

**"I feel it will offer the opportunity to test attendees' level of understanding and to get instant feedback on lectures given."**

**Brian Feagins, MD  
PIMIT Faculty Member**

Finally, the PIMIT's skills laboratory has been enhanced with the addition of specialized cardiothoracic tool sets for each of its six training stations. This addition was made possible through a contribution from the K.K. Meisenbach Fund of Communities Foundation of Texas.

"To maintain a technologically advanced training center requires constant upgrades and additions to its capabilities," said Dr. Franklin. "The continuing generosity of the community is what helps the PIMIT maintain its level of excellence."

## PIMIT Hosts a Texas First

THRI and the PIMIT recently hosted a skills-based program addressing minimally invasive total hip replacement. Total hip replacement (THR) surgery has been used as a standard treatment for a variety of hip conditions since the 1970s, and according to the American Association of Orthopedic Surgeons, the rising number of procedures has reached over 150,000 annually in the U.S. Researchers continue to look for ways to improve clinical outcomes, and one of the most recent developments is the introduction of a minimally invasive approach for THR that surgeons and product manufacturers believe can help reduce incision size and wound trauma, as well as provide faster recovery times.

On a recent Friday in June, orthopedic surgeons from across North Texas and the United States became among the first in the nation to receive training on this minimally invasive approach. The training was hosted at the PIMIT - THRI's minimally invasive training center on the campus of Presbyterian Hospital of Dallas. Entitled "2002 Minimally Invasive Hip Arthroplasty Techniques," the event was sponsored by DePuy, a Johnson & Johnson company, and the approach utilizes one of

**Continued on Page 5**

## Grant Recipient

Texas Health Research Institute recently received funding for two programs:

- The Gaston Episcopal Foundation has made an unrestricted contribution for support of the PIMIT and its programs. This is the second such grant received from Gaston Episcopal.
- The Walthal Perpetual Charitable Trust has provided a second grant to support the Parkinson's disease Information and Referral Center. This grant was made to support ongoing improvements to the I&R Center's database.

# Education Events

## Course Schedule

### Presbyterian Institute for Minimally Invasive Technology (PIMIT)

*Functional Endoscopic Sinus Surgery:* August 3-4, 2002; Reuben Setliff, MD, Course Chair

*Laparoscopic Ventral Hernia:* August 10, 2002; Ronald Aronoff, MD, Course Chair

*Advanced Laparoscopic Skills and Suturing Techniques:* August 16, 2002; Robert Sewell, MD, Course Chair

*Introduction to Laparoscopic Ultrasound Imaging & Radio-frequency Thermal Ablation of Liver Tumors:* September 13, 2002; Robert Sewell, MD, Course Chair

*Laparoscopic Supracervical Hysterectomy & Pelvic Floor Reconstruction (to Include Vaginal Sling Procedures):* October 4, 2002; John Bertrand, MD, Course Chair

*Dynamic Spine Stabilization:* October 11-12, 2002; Barton Sachs, MD, Course Chair

*Sling-A-Thon: 3rd Dallas Summit on Vaginal Sling Procedures:* November 1-2, 2002; Brian Feagins, MD, Course Chair

*Advanced Laparoscopic Skills and Suturing Techniques:* November 9, 2002; Robert Sewell, MD, Course Chair

*Introduction to Laparoscopic Ultrasound Imaging & Radio-frequency Thermal Ablation of Liver Tumors:* December 6, 2002; Robert Sewell, MD, Course Chair

**Call 214/345-5383 or 800/279-8657 for additional information  
or visit our website: [www.pimit.org](http://www.pimit.org) for complete 2002 course schedule**

### Hospital-Based One-Time Conferences and Symposia

*Family Violence:* September 7, 2002; Arlington Memorial Hospital; Andrea Green, MD, Course Chair

*Family Violence:* September 13, 2002; Presbyterian Hospital of Dallas; Andrea Green, MD, Course Chair

*Primary Care Update XXXV:* September 14, 2002; Presbyterian Hospital of Dallas; Paul Solomon, MD, Course Chair

*Family Violence:* September 20, 2002; Harris Methodist Northwest Hospital; Andrea Green, MD

*3rd Annual Perinatal Management Conference:* September 20-21, 2002; Marriott Las Colinas; Jack Graham, MD, Course Chair

*Cataract and Refractive Surgery Symposium:* September 27, 2002; Presbyterian Hospital of Dallas; C. Brad Bowman, MD and Henry Gelender, MD, Course Chairs

*Epilepsy Symposium:* September 28, 2002; Presbyterian Hospital of Dallas; J.H. Harvey, DO, Course Chair

*Women's and Men's Health Conference:* September 28, 2002; Arlington THR Auditorium; Gregory J. Phillips, MD, Course Chair

*Pain Management:* October 5, 2002; Presbyterian Hospital of Dallas; G. Tom Shires III, MD, Course Chair

*Oncology Conference:* October 19, 2002; Arlington/Fort Worth; William Jordan, MD, Course Chair

*Oncology Symposium:* October 26, 2002; Presbyterian Hospital of Dallas; Sherron Helms, MD, Course Chair

For additional information please contact  
THR's Continuing Medical Education program  
office at 214/345-2323.

Get a complete schedule of events at  
[www.thri.org](http://www.thri.org)

# THRI Scrapbook

## 2002 Greer Garson Gala

On April 20, 2002, the Greer Garson Gala was hosted at the Fairmont Hotel. Funds raised benefit the American Parkinson Disease Association and the research initiatives of the Fogelson Neuroscience Center. Photos courtesy Kristina Bowman



Gala Chairs Bill and Phyllis Slicker, Dr. Malcolm Stewart, Director of the Fogelson Neuroscience Center and Trustee, Texas Health Research Institute.



Honorary Chairs Margot and Ross Perot.



Master of Ceremonies for the Gala was Tracy Rowlett, Channel 8 news commentator.



Past honorary Gala Chairs Mr. and Mrs. Franco Bertolasi



Gala PR committee members Merry Munson, Linda Goelzer and Mollie McCune



Gala committee member Martha Hawthorne and Texas Health Resources president Doug Hawthorne



Gala Chairs Bill and Phyllis Slicker, and Joanne Slicker Mulcahy

## Texas First, cont.

DePuy's THR prosthetic devices.

"The PIMIT exists to promote the clinical application of new technologies and techniques in minimally invasive surgery," said Tom Franklin, PhD, THRI's president. "THRI is pleased to join with DePuy in providing training that makes total hip arthroplasty available to physicians who can provide this less invasive technique to patients in the community and across the nation."



Participants got hands-on experience at PIMIT's Skills Lab.

## Business Development Efforts at THRI Take on New Director

THRI is pleased to announce Jay Bruner, CFRE, as its new Director of Business Development. Jay has over twenty years of experience in the development field, and brings new insight and leadership to THRI's activities in this area. Jay may be reached at JayBruner@texashealth.org.

## THR Activities

**The Texas Health Research Institute is a member organization of the Texas Health Resources. Texas Health-related news will be reported here each quarter:**

### Check Us Out

- Visit THRI's new website at [www.thri.org](http://www.thri.org) OR [www.pimit.org](http://www.pimit.org)! It has been updated and has a new look that coordinates with THR's website.
- An updated listing of all THR continuing medical education activities are now available on a monthly basis to all physicians on the medical staffs of THR hospitals. This listing is distributed as part of the *Physician Connection*, a monthly THR publication for physicians.

### CME Program

- Marilyn Peterson, MA and Sandra Pinkerton, PhD directed a workshop on skills-based educational techniques at the recent Association of Continuing Medical Education. It was so successful that they were invited to the Society for Academic Continuing Medical Education's meeting to present their findings there.
- As of May 31, 415 activities have been offered to 11,995 registrants through THRI's various educational programs.

### Research Office Activities

THRI is currently helping THR investigators coordinate 107 clinical trials. THRI has research staff located at Presbyterian Hospital of Dallas and Presbyterian Hospital of Plano. Physicians on the staff of a Texas Health Resources hospital interested in participating in clinical research trials may contact Dr. Jeanette Ahrens at (972) 981-3746 for additional information.

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