A Message from the Executive Vice President, Provost and Dean, School of Medicine

Welcome to the University of Texas Medical Branch at Galveston – UTMB Health! We hope that your time here is most productive and look forward to helping you build your skills for a successful research career.

In 2009, a task force on doctoral and postdoctoral education was convened by the University of Texas system Board of Regents. They recommended establishing the Office of Postdoctoral Affairs (OPA) and a professional development certificate program exclusively for postdoctoral fellows and trainees. We followed those recommendations and now require all postdoctoral scientists to enroll in the certificate program each term for a minimum of four credit hours for the duration of their postdoctoral appointment at UTMB Health.

You must be thinking: “I just finished n years of university education – I don’t want to be a student any longer.” We understand. However, this program is unlike undergraduate or graduate education. It is a career development program that will enable you to earn a variety of certificates, all of which are designed to provide additional training that can help advance and broaden your career opportunities. We offer certificates in:

- Advanced Academic Management Skills
- Advanced Biomedical Research Strategies
- Bioinformatics & Systems Biology
- Effective Teaching and Mentoring
- Translational Burns Research
- Translational Research Team Management

All courses are structured to accommodate and not interfere with daily laboratory activities. In fact, postdoctoral scholars can earn course credit for the research they conduct every day by enrolling in the Mentored Research course, CTPS 6001.

It’s also important for you to know that all tuition and related fees are paid by the Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences – there is no cost to you for the postdoctoral certificate program.

The Office of Postdoctoral Affairs is available to offer guidance and assistance with respect to the Certificate Program and other matters unique to the postdoc community at UTMB. If you have questions or concerns, please contact the Administrative Manager, Tammie Taylor, at tamtaylor@utmb.edu or by phone at 409 772-3661. Again, I am very pleased to welcome you to UTMB Health.

Sincerely yours,

Danny O. Jacobs, MD, MPH, FACS
Executive Vice President, Provost and
Dean, School of Medicine
Thomas N. & Gleaves T. James Distinguished Chair