

University of Texas Health Science Center San Antonio School of Medicine
Introduction Distinguished Alumnus Award 2012
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What I would like to say is thank you David and all of us on the Alumni Board would like to welcome you here to the Gala, the final event of the reunion weekend. We also would like to say how much we have enjoyed speaking to you, to hear your stories, to hear how the class of 1972 used to shoot dove in the parking lot where the VA Hospital now is and all the other fun stories about your families and things you've done since then.

It is my great honor and privilege to present tonight the 2012 winner of the Distinguished Alumnus Award. But first let me give you a little bit of background about the award. The award started in 1991, when we wanted as the Alumni Association to recognize those people who have had outstanding principles in the medical profession, who have made outstanding contributions to society, the field of medicine through patient care, basic research, clinical research and / or health services in administration.

So the Alumni Association Award Committee gets together and they use three criteria in order to select a nominee. First is the nominee's service to the medical profession, second is service to the community and third is service to the school of medicine.

This year's recipient I am proud to say and very honored to say the Distinguished Alumnus Award goes to Dr Larry Holly, a member of the Class of 1973.

The hardest part about introducing Dr. Holly is the fact that our time is short. I am going to keep it about eight minutes, I think it is going to be seven because I will talk really fast, it is just my nature. He has done wonderful things, so these are the highlights that I want to actually talk to you about.

Dr. Holly has made an indelible impact on the School of Medicine and the Health Science Center, the Beaumont community and the medical profession not only locally but nationally. First in the area of service to the school, Dr. Holly served as the President of the School of Medicine Alumni Association from 2006 to 2010, and I might say those were big cowboy boots to step into. During his tenure as President he has led the Association to the most significant achievements to date. More specifically let me name a few of them.

In 2009, thanks to Dr. Holly's vision we kicked off the student education enhancement fund. This a campaign I know you have all heard about over the weekend, its one that transforms the educational experience of our medical students, this one has also given things like the Holly Auditorium, the tutoring services, the ability for students to go off to things like India, Ethiopia, Haiti and we also provide scholarships.

Also during his time he breathed new life into the Host Program. The Host Program is one when you are a medical student and you go off to do your residency training programs, for your interviews, that alumni will actually host them in their homes and met with them and give them support. So we invite all to participate in giving and thank the ones who have already done so.

In addition under his leadership we were able to establish The Rio Grande Valley Alumni Chapter and I am proud to say that this is the very first regional chapter in the associations history and since that time we have actually been able to establish now the Dallas Chapter and... who has been really instrumental in that collaboration

In addition to serving as President of the Alumni Association, Dr. Holly has made a true impact on the whole medical school in general. He is actively participating in the primary care education for students and happily on campus as Adjunct Professor Family and Community of Medicine at the Health Science Center. He has also presented a CME's on electronic health record in which he has been a leader. When it came time for the search committee to be put together for the Dean of School of Medicine as well as the President of the Health Science Center, you can bet Dr. Holly's leadership was very instrumental in that selection.

In addition, Dr. Holly and his lovely wife Carolyn have also invested generously into our school, with student scholarships, faculty endowments and in the educational programs. Among the many, many contributions that they have made to the Health Science Center, they made the actual lead gift to the student educational enhancement fund which actually enabled us to start. He also has established the class of 1973 as well as the class of 2010 endowed scholarships.

They have also together endowed the Dr. and Mrs. James L. Holly Distinguished Professorship in the Patient Centered Medical Home and the Wirt E. Bellue and William Richmond Holly, Sr. Distinguished Lecture Series also on medical home. They have made the initial gift to the Primary Care Institute.

So if that is not enough, lets move on to the next criteria, service to the community. Dr. Holly is the founder and CEO of Southeast Texas Medical Associations, which is fondly called SETMA. SETMA is actually a progressive multi-specialty practice that exemplifies the concept of the patient-centered medical home. He has worked tirelessly to build a practice that is unsurpassed nationally in all the key quality of care and efficiency matrix's. SETMA is one of the few and maybe the one and only clinic in America that received both NCQA Patient-Centered Medical Home recognition and AAAHC Medical Home Accreditation.

Since 1998, Dr. Holly has written a health column for the local newspaper which is called "Your Life and Your Health" and it is a wonderful column, it addresses not only the common and unusual health problems but also addresses a wide range of policies that are related to the transformation of healthcare in America. So if you have the opportunity you really would like to get on his e-mail list because it is absolutely delightful. Not only is it intellectually stimulating, it is spiritually uplifting, it is incredibly inspiring.

In addition there is more, Dr. Holly created the SETMA Foundation which has provided healthcare funding for those who are unable to afford their healthcare. In the last three years, the partners of SETMA have actually given 1.5 million dollars to the foundation.

So if that is not enough, in the area of service to the profession. Dr. Holly has become a recognized national leader in the electronic health records, clinical decisions support, deployment of quality metrics, health reporting and provider performance and guess what, the

Patient-Centered Medical Home. He also keeps a busy travel schedule as you can image. He meets with medical school educators, software companies, as well as hospital leaders and clinical practitioners around the country, to share his incredible insights about applying technology to the improvement of patient care.

Dr. Holly has also done a great service to us as physicians because he has gone before Congress and testified several occasions on the issue of healthcare reform. In addition to this, Dr. Holly participates in development of national healthcare policy for the National Quality Forum and the Patient-Centered Primary Care Collaborative. He also serves on the Patient Safety and Quality Outcome steering committee for the Healthcare Information and Management Systems Society and contributes to their website.

So I must admit that we were actually very thrilled when we received our very first letter of recommendation for Dr. Holly from Dr. Dean Halbert who is right here among us, a graduate of the class of 1989 and a partner with Dr. Holly at SETMA. I am happy to say that Dean and his lovely wife Gina are here tonight to help us honor Dr. Holly.

So as I have mentioned here they are with a great gratitude for your excellent letter that said everything so perfectly. I am also happy that Dr. Holly and Mrs. Holly's son, Richmond as well as his wife Jennifer and their beautiful grandchildren who now are either under the table or disappeared. If it were my child, they would be under the table. But just wonderful children, just aside really quickly as we honor Dr. Holly as you know contribution was made to him for the Holly Auditorium in his name, it is huge over a million-dollar contribution from one of his prior partners and we had a celebration in February and his grandchildren got up to speak and it was the most heartwarming thing that you could have ever seen by talking about their love of the grandfather which is so wonderful. I could only hope my children would do such things.

So just one quick thing as a personal note, to me and all of us on the Alumni Board, Dr. Holly has been a true inspiration, its your compassion that you not only show your patience, its your passion that you have shown in healthcare around the country and it is also your deep commitment you have to your family and your love that you have expressed to us that has been also very heartwarming to us all and very wonderful to see that someone so great in the area of medicine can also balance their life and have such a wonderful, wonderful family. So ladies and gentleman, it is my pleasure to congratulate this years Distinguished Alumnus Award to Dr. Larry Holly.