



## TANG CENTER

# BEAR TALK

NEWS AND INFORMATION FROM UNIVERSITY HEALTH SERVICES

ON REVERSE:

WELCOME FROM THE  
MEDICAL DIRECTOR

HEALTH FEE Q&A

SHIP CHANGES  
FOR FALL

## NEW AT TANG THIS FALL! EXPANDED HOURS, IMPROVED SERVICES

Last March, students voted for a health fee that would protect and improve services at University Health Services (UHS)-Tang Center.

With input from a student health fee advisory committee and a student survey, a number of new services and improvements are underway.

**Beginning with fall semester, the Tang Center is offering:**

■ **Extended hours in Urgent Care and Pharmacy.** Both services will be open until 6 pm weekdays. This was a top item on the student advisory committee agenda -- giving students an extra hour to get to the Tang Center at the end of the day.

■ **Urgent Care and Pharmacy open on Saturdays.** Formerly only Urgent Care was open Saturdays. Now, if a student comes to Urgent Care on a Saturday and needs a prescription -- or can't get over to Tang to pick up a prescription until the weekend, he/she won't have to go to an outside pharmacy.

■ **Additional counselors and Urgent Care clinicians.** This fall, we will be hiring six new licensed medical and mental health clinicians. More medical providers and counselors will result in less wait time to get an appointment.

■ **More same-day medical appointments.** Students also wanted more same day access to medical services, especially during the afternoon. The Tang Center is converting some of what we call "future medical appointments" during the afternoon to same day appointments.

YOUR \$43  
HEALTH FEE  
AT WORK

ments. This will give sick students another good option beside the Urgent Care clinic.

■ **An expanded Group Counseling program.** Students will have more opportunities to take advantage of this successful treatment mode. For example, UHS will provide additional depression/anxiety groups and offer new semester-long groups, including groups designed specifically for graduate students.

More improvement are planned for the coming months. Please check the web site for updated information.

# WELCOME TO NEW STUDENTS!

## & WELCOME BACK CONTINUING STUDENTS

I am proud to introduce the Tang Center as the home of one of the best campus health centers in the country.

We are fortunate to have an outstanding professional staff, providing services that include urgent care, primary care, gynecology, specialty care, counseling, psychiatry, social services and health education.

Our clinical staff includes board-certified physicians and highly qualified nurse practitioners who are geared to take care of students' health needs, from prevention to complex treatment. And, if we don't provide the service on-site, we work closely with providers in the community.

Please know that all registered students are eligible to come to the Tang Center. You don't need to have the Student Health Insurance Plan to receive care here. Many services, including urgent care and regular medical care visits, are covered by student registration fees.

Please take a few moments to become acquainted with our web site at [www.uhs.berkeley.edu](http://www.uhs.berkeley.edu). By going to the



MESSAGE FROM THE  
MEDICAL DIRECTOR

**PETER DIETRICH,  
MD, MPH**

A-Z index for students, you'll get a feel for the many services you can take advantage of while at Cal. Another information source is the UHS brochure, available at the Information Center. And don't be afraid to ask questions!

I wish you a fine academic career at Cal. I hope we at the Tang Center assist you well.

And, I hope, after you graduate, you'll look back favorably on the care and assistance you received here.

## HEALTH FEE Q & A

The following may answer some of your questions about the new \$43 health fee voted in by students last spring. If you have additional questions, do not hesitate to ask Tang Center personnel.

### **What does the Campus Health Care Fee pay for?**

The health fee supports your access to affordable, convenient on-campus medical care, counseling and health education throughout the academic year. The fee is helping to restore some services lost during past budget cuts and also allowing UHS to make improvements (see reverse). If students had not voted in the health fee, they would have paid additional fees at Tang this year, including a new visit fee (or "co-payment") for every medical or Urgent Care visit to the Tang Center and increased user fees for other health and counseling services.

### **Will I experience other fees at the Tang Center?**

You may see a doctor or other clinician for primary medical care, receive counseling from a social worker or speak with a health educator at no cost. Fees you paid during registration (e.g., the Regis-

tration Fee and the Campus Health Care Fee) cover the cost of most primary care visits. However, there are fees for procedures, lab tests, x-rays and medications if they are required. The Tang Center makes every effort to keep fees as low as possible. SHIP members pay 20% of most fees and UHS submits the claim to Blue Cross.

---

---

### **THE HEALTH FEE SUPPORTS YOUR ACCESS TO AFFORDABLE, ON-CAMPUS CARE**

---

---

### **If I already have health insurance, why do I need to pay this fee?**

The Campus Health Care Fee supports on-campus care. Student health insurance is for off-campus care, for instance, hospitalization or care while you are traveling.

### **Can I waive this fee?**

No. This is a mandatory student fee, paid by all registered graduate and undergraduate students who pay the Berkeley Campus Fee.

## SHIP CHANGES

### **Changes in the Student Health Insurance Plan for 2005-06 include:**

- Meningococcal (meningitis) immunization is covered by SHIP.
- Inpatient hospital services are covered at 90% of negotiated rates for Blue Cross network hospitals and 80% of non-negotiated rates for hospitals not in Blue Cross network.
- Emergency department services continue to be covered at 100% of Blue Cross negotiated rates for treatments provided within 72 hours for injuries or sudden and serious illness. Emergency department charges for non-emergent services are reimbursed at 80% of Blue Cross network rates, or 60% of non-network rates.
- Ground Ambulance charges are covered at 100% of customary and reasonable charges, up to \$1,000 maximum per trip, if patient receives emergency treatment or is hospitalized.
- Air Ambulance charges will be covered at 90% of customary and reasonable charges, up to \$5,000 maximum per trip, if patient receives emergency treatment or is hospitalized.

Please see the web site for a complete list of SHIP benefits.