The UTMB Telehealth Center was honored to welcome Dr. Dena Puskin as its fifth telemedicine visiting scholar on July 1. Dr. Puskin is director of the Federal Office for the Advancement of Telehealth and chairs the Joint Working Group on Telemedicine, an interagency committee that coordinates the development of federal telemedicine initiatives.

During her visit, Dr. Puskin presented a highly informative lecture about the past, present and future of telemedicine to more than 40 attendees. Part of her lecture focused on the role of the federal government in fostering the adoption of telehealth technologies for the provision of health care services and education. She also discussed the pivotal functions that telemedicine and telehealth are likely to play in the near future in areas such as rural health care delivery and home health care.

The Telemedicine Visiting Scholars Program brings nationally recognized experts in telemedicine to UTMB to provide an opportunity for continuing discussion of current and future issues in telemedicine.