Robert C. Batson, MD  Department Head of Surgery

We are pleased to announce the appointment of Robert Batson, MD as Department Head of Surgery and the Isidore Cohn Chair of Surgery. Dr. Batson graciously agreed to serve as Interim Department Head this past fall; it was clear from the outset that Bob had a firm grasp on the strengths, challenges, and opportunities that the Department faces.

Dr. Batson's educational and professional histories are deeply rooted in LSU, as a graduate of LSU in Baton Rouge, LSU School of Medicine in New Orleans (AOA), and LSU New Orleans Surgery Residency Program. He undertook vascular surgery training at Baylor University. He has been active on our faculty since 1975, returning to full-time professorial status in 2007. Dr. Batson is known for his excellent surgical skills, calm demeanor, and deep commitment to the faculty, trainees, and staff in his Department as well as to the LSU School of Medicine.

Mary Thoesen Coleman, MD, PhD  Director of Community Health Clinics

Mary Thoesen Coleman, MD, PhD will be appointed as Professor in the Department of Family Medicine and Director of Community Health Clinics, a Dean's Office position. In her administrative role, she will work on the development of a LSU network of primary care health clinics; this network of clinics, conforming to the “medical home” model or “accountable care organization” paradigm, will be developed to enhance our educational programs and outcomes research. Additionally, she will be involved in our educational efforts in rural medicine, in curriculum development, and in mentoring initiatives.

She completed her doctoral work in physiological chemistry and medicine at Ohio State University. After several years in community practice she returned to full time academic medicine, serving on the faculties of both Ohio State University and University of Louisville, where she was Associate Dean for Curriculum. Dr. Coleman recently served as Dean at Ross University School of Medicine.

Frank W. Smart, MD  Section Head of Cardiology

Dr. Frank Smart has been named Professor of Medicine and the new Section Chief of Cardiology; he will also serve as the Director of the Cardiovascular Center of Excellence. He is an internationally recognized expert in heart failure and is renowned for his clinical expertise and his clinical research.

Dr. Smart is a LSU medical graduate; he completed his training at Ochsner Foundation and Baylor College of Medicine. He has served on the faculties of LSU New Orleans, Tulane, Baylor and Mount Sinai (New York). Since 2007 Dr. Smart has been the Dorothy and Lloyd Huck Chair of the Department of Cardiovascular Medicine Gagnon Atlantic Health in northern New Jersey.

Jayne S. Weiss, MD  Department Head of Ophthalmology

It is our pleasure to announce that Dr. Jayne Weiss will assume the position of Professor and Head of the Department of Ophthalmology at LSU New Orleans; she will also hold the Herbert Kaufmann Chair in Ophthalmology. Dr. Weiss is an accomplished academic ophthalmologist, specializing in corneal diseases; she takes great pride and interest in her clinical work.

A graduate of SUNY Buffalo and Mt. Sinai Medical Center (AOA), she trained at the prestigious Bascom Palmer Eye Institute in Miami. She also completed fellowships at Harvard and Emory. Most recently she has held the post of Professor at Wayne State University, Department of Ophthalmology, and Director of Ophthalmic Pathology; she previously held a faculty appointment at the University of Massachusetts. She is known as a superior clinician and a thoughtful scholar.

Amy E. Young, MD  Department Head of Obstetrics and Gynecology

We are pleased to announce the appointment of Amy E. Young, MD as Professor and Department Head of Obstetrics and Gynecology and the Abe Mickal Chair of Obstetrics and Gynecology. Dr. Young has a broad set of experiences in medical student and resident education (a former residency program director), clinical operations, and professional societies. She is President Elect of the Association of Professors of Obstetrics and Gynecology.

Dr. Young is a graduate of Vanderbilt and University of Mississippi School of Medicine; she trained at Emory and Baylor College of Medicine. Most recently she held the Henry and Emma Meyer Endowed Chair for Education in Obstetrics and Gynecology and served as the Executive Vice Chair of the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology at Baylor and also the Chief of Obstetrics and Gynecology at the Harris County Hospital District.