



# Departmental News

Department of Pediatrics ~ LSUMC New Orleans

## KUDOS CORNER

Congratulations to **John Estrada**, who was appointed by Dr. Steve Nelson, new Dean of the LSUHSC School of Medicine, to assume the post of LSU Associate Director of the Research Commercialization and Educational Enhancement Program (RC/EEP), a joint venture between LSU and Tulane health sciences centers. RC/EEP was created to help institutions struggling after Katrina to regain their economic strength and retain their key research and educational faculty. In his new position, Dr. Estrada will be responsible for managing the day-to-day operations of the clinical research program and being responsive to the staff's needs. Our best to you, Dr. Estrada!

## LOUISIANA'S FINEST: TOP DOCS

We've always known it: We have the best pediatricians in Louisiana! And that belief is reaffirmed again by an article in the Autumn 2007 issue of *Louisiana Life Magazine*. The magazine lists 17 LSU physicians among a total of 873 throughout the state rated as Best Doctors in Louisiana for 2007-2008. Using the services of Best Doctors Inc., a Boston-based organization for gathering professional peer ratings, the magazine names the following as among the best in 71 specialty areas:

### Allergy & Immunology

Cleveland Marvin Moore  
Ricardo U. Sorensen

### Endocrinology & Metabolism

Alfonso Vargas

### Medical Genetics

Michael Marble

### Pediatric Allergy & Immunology

Cleveland Marvin Moore  
Ricardo U. Sorensen

### Pediatric Cardiology

Robert Joseph Ascutto  
Theodorus Johannes Mulder  
Nancy Tamara Ross-Ascutto  
Aluizio Roberto Stopa

## TOP DOCS . . . .

### Pediatric Gastroenterology

Raynorda F. Brown  
Eberhard Schmidt-Sommerfeld

### Pediatric Nephrology

V. Matti Vehaskari

### Pediatric Rheumatology

Abraham Gedalia

### Pediatric Specialist/Neonatal-Perinatal Medicine

Brian Barkemeyer  
Sheila Gottschalk  
Staci Marie Olister  
Duna Penn  
Dana L. Rivera

## SCHOLARLY EXCELLENCE

An induction ceremony and reception was held Friday, October 12<sup>th</sup> to honor and celebrate with faculty members who were accepted into the LSUHSC Academy for the Advancement of Educational Scholarship. Congratulations to--

### Academy Fellows:

Mark Dal Corso  
Simone Fogarasi  
George "Jay" Hescocock  
Tamuella Singleton

### Master Teachers:

Rudolfo Begue  
Suzanne LeFevre  
Brian Barkemeyer

### Teaching Scholars:

Robin English  
Bonnie Desselle  
Gary Duhon

Sheila Chauvin, Director of the Academy for the Advancement of Educational Scholarship, said another call for membership applications will be issued later this semester; she looks forward to hearing from interested faculty across the career stages.

## RESIDENCY SCHOLAR

We're pleased to announce that **Jenelle Ferry**, a third-year LSU resident, has been selected by the American Academy of Pediatrics as a 2007 Residency Scholarship Recipient. Jenelle, who'll receive a \$2,000 scholarship, attended medical school at the University of Oklahoma.



**Dr. Abraham Gedalia**

## PUBLICATIONS AND HONORS

**Dr. Abraham Gedalia** is the senior author of an article, "Fibromyalgia syndrome in young children: onset at age 10 years and younger," which appeared in early October in the journal *Clinical and Experimental Rheumatology* 2007; 25(4):639-44.

**Dr. Matti Vehaskari's** invited review article, "Heritable forms of hypertension," was published in the journal *Pediatric Nephrology*. And in other recent achievements, Dr. Vehaskari was the organizer, chairman, and speaker in symposium titled, "Prenatal Programming of Hypertension and Renal Disease," which was part of the 14<sup>th</sup> Congress of the International Pediatric Nephrology Association in Budapest, Hungary, August 31 through September 4, 2007.

Last August, **Renee Gardner** was an invited speaker at the American College of Surgeons' workshop in Chicago. She spoke on the topic, "Post-Katrina needs assessment for patients with hematologic-oncologic disorders."

And Drs. Gardner and **Lily Leiva** were lead authors of an abstract, "The study of immune dysfunction in sickle cell patients in steady state," presented in Washington, D.C., on September 21<sup>st</sup> at the Sickle Cell Disease Association of America meeting.

## DON'T FORGET . . . .

It's not too late to sign up for the all-day workshop on November 30<sup>th</sup> on primary immunodeficiency diseases. This program, to be held at the Hilton-St. Charles Hotel in New Orleans, will tackle such important topics as autoimmunity and immunodeficiency, recurrent fevers, progress in

evaluating antibody deficiencies, radiosensitivity and new ways of treating genetic diseases. The workshop provides 7.5 credit hours of CME.

To register, contact Vicki Salloum-Holley at (504) 896-9800 or via e-mail, [vsallo@lsuhsc.edu](mailto:vsallo@lsuhsc.edu).

## NEW BORN



## PRECIOUS HOPE

Hope Christine, a six pound, five ounce baby girl, was born to Hematologist/Oncologist **Dr. Tammuela Chrisentery Singleton** and her husband, Damon, on July 20<sup>th</sup>. Hope, who measured 19 inches long at birth, joins her two siblings, Rachel, 5, and Joshua, 3.

## NEW HIRE

Our warmest welcome to Kelly Slumber, who began work on October 8th as an editorial consultant in Pediatrics. A River Ridge native, Kelly lived in Boston following Katrina and moved back home last August. We're delighted to have you, Kelly!

Submissions for the next issue of the newsletter must be given to Vicki Salloum-Holley **NO LATER THAN** November 20. You can reach Vicki by telephone (896-9800), FAX (896-2720), or e-mail ([vsallo@lsuhsc.edu](mailto:vsallo@lsuhsc.edu)). All information is subject to Dr. Sorensen's approval.

Also remember to send any changes or updates for our Departmental Website to Vicki. Previous issues of this newsletter can be found on the website: [www.medschool.lsuhs.edu/pediatrics](http://www.medschool.lsuhs.edu/pediatrics)

