I would like to congratulate our 2006 Family Medicine Residency graduates. You all have worked very hard, and I wish you good fortune and success in your future practice locations:

Kenner Family Practice Residency
J.K. Daniel, M.D. — South Carolina
Ivo Iatchovski-Baronne, M.D. — New Orleans
John Jin, M.D. — New Orleans
Britt Taylor, M.D. — Florida
Prashanthi Yalamanchili, M.D. — Philadelphia

Lafayette Family Medicine Residency
Gordon Clark, M.D. — Hattiesburg, Miss.
Augusta LaFleur, M.D. — Lafayette
Brian Rich, M.D. — Tulsa, Okla.
Jeanne Theriot, M.D. — Breaux Bridge

Lake Charles Family Medicine Residency
Penny Goodwin, M.D. — Lake Charles
Bradley Loewer, M.D. — Lake Charles
Dang Nguyen, M.D. — Sulphur, La.

I am also proud to announce that Drs. Saira Jamal and Farzana Ajmal have completed our Geriatric Medicine Fellowship, becoming the program’s first graduates. Dr. Jamal will join our Geriatric Medicine faculty in the fall, while Dr. Ajmal will practice in the Washington, D.C., area. In addition, Dr. Dan Walters completed our Sports Medicine Fellowship and is moving to Kenora, Ontario, Canada, where he will practice both Emergency Medicine and Sports Medicine and serve as the team physician for the University of Manitoba, as well as one of the largest triathlon clubs in Canada. Congratulations on these achievements!

I am proud of all of our graduates and wish you the best of luck in the future.

—Kim Edward LeBlanc, M.D., Ph.D., FAAP, FACSM
Marie Lahasky Professor and Chairman

Demand for primary-care physicians rises

Recruitment of primary-care physicians soared over the past year, reflecting a shift in the health-care landscape, which until recently had seen the greatest demand among specialists.

Requests to find family doctors jumped 55 percent from the end of March 2005 to April 1, 2006, while demand for internists rose 46 percent, according to a recently released report by Merritt, Hawkins & Associates, a physician-recruiting firm. The firm conducted more searches for family practitioners and internists than any other type of doctor.

Merritt Hawkins said primary-care physicians haven’t topped its most requested list since the 1990s. Because fewer medical-school graduates have been specializing in general medicine, the need for doctors in the field is growing as the population expands and ages.

SOURCE: ASSOCIATED PRESS
While Hurricane Katrina damaged our clinic space at Lindy Boggs Medical Center, we are working diligently to open up clinical offices in New Orleans once again. In the meantime, many of our physicians are seeing patients at our clinic at Kenner Regional Medical Center, including doctors specializing in Sports Medicine, Integrative Medicine and Geriatric Medicine. For an appointment or more information, call (504) 471-2750.

Nancy Briley, M.D., and Hector Fabregas, M.D., have been selected Chief Residents of the Lafayette Family Medicine Residency Program.

Charles A. Cefalu, M.D., M.S., Professor and Chief, Section of Geriatric Medicine, has been named Co-Director of the LSUHSC Center on Aging. In addition, he has been appointed Medical Director of New Orleans Home and Rehab Center and Chateau de Notre Dame Nursing Center, Associate Medical Director for Cannon Hospice, and Physician Liaison for the Louisiana Department of Health and Hospitals to review nursing-home admissions for medical appropriateness. Dr. Cefalu gave four presentations at the Annual Scientific Assembly of the American Geriatrics Society in Chicago. He spoke on “Salvaging an Academic Geriatric Medicine Program: Trials and Tribulations,” “Lessons Learned from Katrina: The Effects on the Elderly,” “Advocating Grass Roots Advocacy,” and “The AGS Clinical Practice Guidelines for Osteoporosis.” He also gave presentations at the Louisiana Alzheimer’s Association conferences in Alexandria and Lafayette on “Depression” and “Bone Quality.”

Alan LeBato, M.D., Assistant Professor and Director, Lake Charles Family Medicine Residency Program, attended the American Academy of Family Physicians’ Program Director’s Workshop in June.

Kim Edward LeBlanc, M.D., Ph.D., Marie Lahasky Professor and Chairman, presented “Disaster Planning: Lessons Learned” at the Federation of Medical Regulatory Authorities of Canada’s Annual Meeting in Kananaskis, Alberta, Canada, in June. In addition, he attended the Louisiana Academy of Family Physicians’ Annual Assembly in Destin, Fla., where he presented a workshop on “Joint Injections of the Shoulder, Elbow & Knee” and lectured on “Common Musculoskeletal Problems in the Elderly.”

Lara Mashek, M.D., joined the department as a Family Medicine/Obstetrics Fellow. She recently completed her Family Medicine residency in Fort Smith, Ark.

L. Glen Mire, M.D., Assistant Professor and Director, Lafayette Family Medicine Residency Program, was elected to a two-year term on the Board of Directors of the Louisiana/Mississippi Hospice Palliative Care Organization.

Lainie V. Moncada, M.D., Assistant Professor, Lafayette Family Medicine Residency Program, recently published “The Impact of Cognitive Impairment on Short-Term Outcomes of Hip Fracture Patients” in the July/August 2006 issue of Archives of Gerontology and Geriatrics.

Henri J. Roca III, M.D., LAc, Assistant Professor and Chief, Section of Integrative Medicine, was interviewed and took viewers’ questions about Complimentary and Alternative Medicine on WWL-TV/Channel 4’s Eyewitness Morning News.

S. Paul Starr, M.D., Assistant Professor, recently returned from a trip to Las Varas, Mexico, with the Student International Health Organization. The group’s goals were to experience healthcare in a resource-limited setting, introduce first-year medical students to clinical medicine, and learn Spanish. It was also an opportunity to demonstrate how versatile a family physician can be in such a setting.

Dr. Herbert “Skeet” Muncie, Professor and Director, Section of Predoctoral Education, has added a number of new experiences to the third-year clerkship:

- Dr. Marta Fechete, Clinical Instructor, will continue her IUD workshop, which was added at the end of this past year.
- Dr. Richard Friend, who will be joining the Bogalusa Rural Family Medicine Residency Program, will teach procedures done by family physicians.
- Dr. Dennis LaRavia, Professor and Director, Bogalusa Rural Family Medicine Residency Program, will teach a suturing workshop each month using pigs’ feet.
- Dr. Mohamad Sidani, Assistant Professor, Kenner Family Practice Residency Program, will teach a seminar on the evaluation and treatment of vaginitis.