

*A  
CELEBRATION  
OF  
REGENERATION  
AND  
RENEWAL*

*PORTRAIT UNVEILING*



LSU Neuroscience Center of Excellence

LSU HEALTH SCIENCES CENTER  

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NEUROSCIENCE CENTER OF EXCELLENCE

*Exploring how to affect the course and cause  
of retina and brain disease, and  
developing novel therapeutic approaches for:*

CEREBROVASCULAR DISEASES (eg STROKE),  
ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE, PARKINSON'S DISEASE,  
EPILEPSY, MENTAL DEPRESSION,  
TRAUMATIC BRAIN INJURY, SCHIZOPHRENIA,  
AGE RELATED MACULAR DEGENERATION,  
RETINITIS PIGMENTOSA, AND  
OTHER EYE, NEUROLOGICAL  
AND PSYCHIATRIC ILLNESS.

# LEADERSHIP

**DR. WILLIAM L. JENKINS**

President, LSU System

**LARRY H. HOLLIER**

Chancellor of LSU Health Sciences Center

**DR. JOSEPH M. MOERSCHBAECHER**

Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs,  
Dean of School of Graduate Studies

**DR. NICOLAS G. BAZAN**

Director of LSU Health Sciences Center,  
Neuroscience Center of Excellence

**MS. FLORENCE ANDRÉ**

President of LSUHSC Foundation

September 27, 2006

Dear Friends:

Today we gather to honor ten individuals who have given of their time, talent and resources to help further the goals of the LSU Neuroscience Center of Excellence. Individually they boast impressive records of accomplishment in their own professional fields. Collectively, they represent hope through leadership in their tireless efforts on behalf of civic, charitable and professional organizations at local and national levels. To the LSU Neuroscience Center of Excellence, they have been quiet, yet essential partners in our success.

With the one year anniversary of Katrina behind us, the LSU Neuroscience Center looks ahead to a bright, promising future. Even with the chaos of the last year, we've managed to stay focused on our mission, securing several new major grants and advancing research that holds promise for new treatment for neurological disease. Eighteen new technologies remain in various stages of the drug discovery patent and testing process, advancing toward the possibility of approval as new drugs for the treatment of stroke, Alzheimer's disease, blinding eye diseases, pain and other neurological conditions.

The LSU Neuroscience Center stands committed as we work in concert with city, state and national interests to renew our city and regenerate its health sciences research enterprise. On behalf of the Center's exceptional scientists, their teams and all of those who work here, I offer my gratitude to today's honorees. I look forward to continued partnerships as we forge ahead in our efforts to translate scientific discovery into new cures for some of life's most challenging health concerns.

In the following pages, Dr. Perry Rigby, LSU Health Sciences Center Chancellor (1985-1994) wrote an overview of the initiation and activities of the Center. I am very grateful to Dr. Rigby for all his support and encouragement during the initial organization of the Center and for his kind remarks.

Thank you for your presence here today.

Sincerely,



Nicolas G. Bazan, M.D., Ph.D.  
Director, LSU Neuroscience Center of Excellence  
Boyd Professor  
Ernest C. and Yvette C. Villere Professor of Ophthalmology

# THE LSU NEUROSCIENCE CENTER OF EXCELLENCE: A PERSPECTIVE

BY

PERRY G. RIGBY, MD

Professor of Medicine, Chancellor, LSUHSC, (1985 – 1994)

## Overview

The Neuroscience Center of Excellence was proposed by Dr. Nicolas Bazan and authorized by the LSU Board of Supervisors and the Board of Regents in 1989. This recognition was supported a few years later by funds from the Louisiana Legislature to begin a comprehensive biomedical scientific center at the LSU Medical Center aligned with the mission components of Education, Research, Patient Care, and Community Service.

This Neuroscience Center, and the Cancer Center, were in subsequent years followed by other LSUHSC centers of excellence. They in turn recruited faculty participants in many related disciplines and across departmental lines, basic and clinical hierarchical relationships that joined together in common purpose and active work.

Dr. Bazan not only founded this new entity in interdisciplinary and interdepartmental endeavor, but effectively managed, grew and expanded the enterprise to include other academic institutions and organizations across the state and around the nation.

The core emphasis and focus of these teams of scientists is research; the ideas, experiments, and results that unite and encourage exploration and progress. There are also numerous areas of education by many of the related neuroscience faculty and others, and teams of clinicians, focused in practice settings, arranged, and available to deliver medical and surgical care in neuroscience.

The initial relationship with the community in which we live, broad in scope and diverse in people and talent, has also been nurtured and encouraged by Dr. Bazan. Now the Neuroscience Center is recognized as a concentration of excellence within LSU and its community environment.

The magnitude of growth and accomplishment of the LSUHSC Neuroscience Center has fulfilled the potential of possibilities, envisioned years ago and filled by real work, and continues to escalate, as anticipated by Dr. Bazan and others.

## **Mission and Scope**

The Neuroscience Center pursues multidisciplinary neuroscience research and education. The primary mission of the Center is to foster and conduct science of the highest caliber that advances the understanding of brain function and diseases that affect the nervous system. The Neuroscience Center has research programs relevant to the understanding of Alzheimer's disease, pain, Parkinson's disease, stroke, brain and spinal cord injury, epilepsy, post-traumatic stress disorder, blinding eye diseases, schizophrenia, and developmental and hearing disorders. These diseases have no cure at the present time; thus, new knowledge about their molecular and cellular bases contribute to the understanding of their pathophysiology and to the development of therapeutic approaches that include prevention and slowing down their initiation, progression and/or halting their consequences.

## **Lectureships**

In the 80s, several years before the school funding of the Center began, Dr. Bazan attracted outside funding to develop the Distinguished Lectureship in Neurosciences, Seminars and LSU Neuroscience Center Retreat. These retreats began in 1989, bringing the Neuroscience community together around a major neuroscience leader and of posters highlighting current research. In 2006, the 18th Annual Retreat was held. Several Nobel Laureates participated as guest speakers of these series.

## **Incentive Grants**

Initially, the efforts to develop the LSU Neuroscience Center of Excellence focused on stimulating research activities among neuroscientists of various departments of the School of Medicine. Toward this end, Dr. Bazan developed an innovative Medical School-wide two-year (1991-1993) competitive incentive grants award program utilizing the initial Center budget. This program was very successful; through the gathering of preliminary data, new NIH grants were obtained. Also, this initiative fostered interactions among neuroscientists of different departments.

## **Major Out-of-State Grant Used to Build the 8th and 9th Floors of the Lions Building**

Dr. Bazan organized and led a major interdisciplinary research program on Neural Response to Injury: Prevention, Protection and Repair that attracted 13.8 million dollars from a federal agency. In the mid 90's, the construction of the 8th and 9th floors of the Lions Building, with 65% of the cost funded by this grant, was made possible. Also, major equipment for the two new floors was made available by this grant. In addition, this grant funded \$4 million in equipment and partial research expenses for neuroscientists in the Departments of Anatomy and Cell Biology, Neurosurgery, Neurology, Pharmacology, and Ophthalmology.

## **Environment**

In 1996, the opening of the 8th and 9th floors of the Lions Building allowed the recruitment of promising junior investigators. Overall, an environment of research excellence was increasingly established. High quality students and postdoctoral fellows were attracted by the newly-formed research groups. Dr. Bazan promoted a growing consolidation of a culture of research excellence. Individually, the new investigators became exceptionally productive and obtained competitive federal funding. Several discoveries were made that appeared in major journals. Among them is the recent discovery of neuroprotectin D1 (NPD1), a mediator of neuroprotection relevant to stroke, retinal degenerations and Alzheimer's disease.

## **Center of Biomedical Research Excellence: Fundamental and Translational Research**

The quality of the research groups and the easiness of collaborations and interactions allowed the Center to attract a major program-project type federal grant on sleep deprivation (2000 – 2002) conceived by Dr. Bazan. The Center also attracted a major EPSCoR/NSF grant on Micronanotechnologies in neural signaling (2002 – 2004), that brought together three other academic institutions from Louisiana along with the Neuroscience Center. Another outcome of the collective force is mentoring at various levels: graduate students, postdoctoral fellows, and junior faculty. The Center mentors the development of neuroscientists and clinician-neuroscientists through fundamental and translational research. Four years ago, Dr. Bazan conceived, wrote and received the first COBRE (Centers of Biomedical Research Excellence) award from NIH in the State of Louisiana. This competitive grant has elicited a substantial impact on neuroscience research in this state, and more specifically LSU Health Sciences Center, the University of New Orleans, Xavier University, Nicholls State University, and Tulane University. This grant fostered the development of a culture of mentoring and further brought together investigators from different disciplines. The Neuroscience Center's initiatives have contributed to the development of other COBRE grants in the state. In the months and ensuing chaos following the landfall of Hurricane Katrina, the investigators of the Center have maintained their interactions and have continued to be scientifically productive. In a way, the crisis created by Hurricane Katrina, and the many resulting uncertainties, were a test of the strength of the intellectual bonds and the commitment of the neuroscience investigators and other personnel of the Center.

## **Interdisciplinary Education**

The Center has organized several additional innovative educational programs, such as: the Interdisciplinary Neuroscience Graduate Program (M.S. in Neuroscience, Ph.D. in Neuroscience), which attracts outstanding students from around the world; the Summer Undergraduate Neuroscience (SUN) Program, which mentors top Louisiana undergraduate students through lectures and hands-on research; and the postdoctoral fellowships, which train the next generation of investigators.

## **MOON Program**

The latest addition to these programs, the nascent Medical students' Outstanding Opportunities in Neuroscience (MOON) Program, is mainly focused on LSU medical students and aims to initiate the nurturing of future medical scientists. The program began in 2006 with a small group of students as a pilot program. The positive lessons learned have made the Center decide to continue with the program in subsequent years. The activities immerse the medical students in an intensive hands-on research project during the summer. Students are required to participate in workshops (3 – 4 during the summer) where they share with the faculty a progress report on their specific projects. The end point of this short, although intensive research experience is to encourage the development of the medical students' honors thesis (during their next 3 years of medical school) and of M.D./Ph.D. candidates. These candidates, upon completion of their second year in medical school, will return to work on a specific research project in fulfillment of the Ph.D. requirements. Then they go back to complete their third and fourth years of medical school. Overall, this program, along with the Center's other educational activities; contribute research experience that motivates young persons to choose an active biomedical research career.

## **Impact**

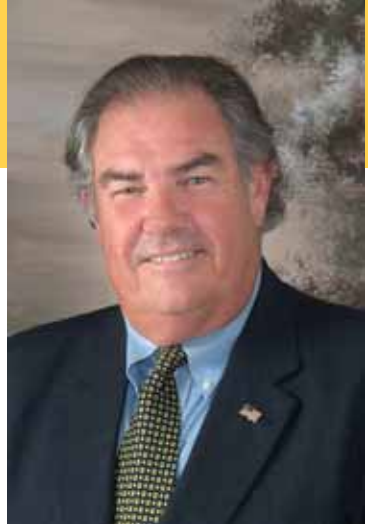
Seminar programs and lectureships host renowned scientists who present their work to the LSUHSC community. The lecture series "Health Through Discovery" promotes the exchange of knowledge at the interface of clinical and research science. Also, the annual statewide Neuroscience Retreat (in its 18th year in 2006) is a forum for the showcasing of neuroscience investigation and discovery and has been the birthplace of many research collaborations. The Center has an economic impact in Louisiana through the federal and private research funding being attracted from outside the state. Innovations from the Center's drug-discovery program have resulted in 18 patents or patent applications; some of these innovations formed the base of a start-up pharmaceutical/ biotechnology company in Louisiana. In addition, the expertise of the Center's investigators took the lead in the establishment of the Neurobiotechnology Program of Louisiana to promote the application of knowledge gained through research. The Center is active in technology transfer aimed at retaining within the state of Louisiana the knowledge, technologic expertise, patents, and income generated through discovery.



## **MR. DONALD (BOYSIE) BOLLINGER**

**Chairman, President and CEO,  
Bollinger Shipyards, Inc.  
Community Leader**

Donald T. "Boysie" Bollinger is Chairman of the Board and Chief Executive Officer of Bollinger Shipyards, Inc., a family-owned business established in 1946 by Boysie's father. Bollinger Shipyards, Inc. is a full service marine construction and repair operation headquartered in Lockport, Louisiana with 12 divisions in Louisiana, one division in Texas, and activities extending into the international market. Boysie Bollinger serves on the Board of Directors of Louisiana Workers' Compensation Corporation (LWCC), American Equity Underwriters, and the University of LA System.



Additionally, Boysie devotes considerable time to professional and civic organizations in the following capacities: Chairman, Nicholls State University Foundation; Chairman, Shipbuilders Council of America (SCA); Co-Chairman of the Committee for a Better New Orleans/Metropolitan Area Committee (CBNO/MAC); Vice Chairman, United States Coast Guard Foundation; Commissioner, American Battle Monuments Commission; Member, Louisiana Recovery Authority and Bring Back New Orleans Commission, both of which are involved in the rebuilding of New Orleans and Louisiana after Hurricanes Katrina and Rita. Boysie has served as Chairman of the following and actively participates in the: National D-Day Museum, National Ocean Industries Association (NOIA), Business Council of New Orleans, The Nature Conservancy of Louisiana; Young Presidents Organization, United Way of South LA and New Orleans Region of the Boy Scouts of America, to name a few. He has served as a delegate to Louisiana's Constitutional Convention in 1973 and served on the Louisiana board of Regents (for Higher Education).

Boysie Bollinger participates at both national and state levels in the political area. He served as a delegate to every Republican National Convention since 1976, and was the State of Louisiana's Finance Chairman for the George W. Bush for President Campaign and Campaign Chair for his General Election. Boysie Bollinger was State Finance Chairman of the Louisiana Republican Party on three occasions and served on the Louisiana Republican State Central Committee.

Boysie Bollinger currently serves on the National Petroleum Council. He previously served on the President's Export Council under the administration of President George H.W. Bush. He is past Chairman of the Governor's Maritime Advisory Task Force, on the board of the Governor's Advisory Commission on Military Affairs, and former Chairman of the Board of Commissioners, Port of New Orleans.

Boysie Bollinger was awarded the Louisiana Republican Party's "Donald G. Bollinger" Award, was chosen as a Louisiana Legend by Louisiana Public Broadcasting, received the Distinguished Citizen Award from the Boy Scouts of America; the C. Alvin Bertel Award (given to an individual who promotes the success of the Port of New Orleans), Entrepreneur of the Year Award, Junior Achievement Laureate, including Lifetime Achievement Award, Woodrow Wilson Award, New Orleans Area Propeller Club's Maritime Man of the Year, and numerous awards from local chambers and volunteer groups.

In 1971, Boysie Bollinger earned his Bachelor of Science Degree in Business Administration from the University of Louisiana, Lafayette. He is married to Joy LeBlanc and has 3 sons.



## MRS. ANA ESTER GERSHANIK

**The Times-Picayune columnist  
and community activist**

Born in Rosario, Santa Fe, República Argentina. She is married to Dr. Juan Jorge Gershanik, a physician specialized in Neonatology. They have three children: Alex, Viviana and Esteban. They have lived in New Orleans since 1979.

Ana is the writer of the “Nuestro Pueblo” weekly column in The Times Picayune. She has undergraduate degrees in Elementary Education and in Political Science, a Master’s Degree in Secondary Education and a degree in Piano. She is a Fellow of the Institute of Politics at Loyola University and is listed in Outstanding Young Women of America, 1981. In 1997, she was selected as one of the 1997 Role Models by the Young Leadership Council; the same year she was recognized by Family Service of Greater New Orleans as one of 1997 Ten Outstanding Persons and in 2000 she was selected as a YWCA Role Model



In 1994, the New Orleans Professional Chapter of Women in Communications granted her the Helicon Achievement Award for Merit for her work as a columnist. She also received the 1993 “Aqui New Orleans Aplauso” Award and the 1994 “Que Pasa New Orleans” Award for outstanding work in the field of communications.

She is a member and past officer of many civic and charitable organizations at city, state and national levels. At present, she serves on the Boards of Trustees of Healthy Lifestyles Choices, Jewish Federation of Greater New Orleans, Louisiana Children’s Museum, New Orleans International Ballet Conference, United Way Women’s Leadership Initiative and Young Audiences. She also serves on CADA (Council on Alcohol and Drug Abuse) Hispanic Committee, the Louisiana Cancer Research Consortium Directors Council, Louisiana Philharmonic Orchestra Community Advisory Board and the advisory committee to Tulane Cancer Center.

Ana is a past member of the board of trustees of the Greater New Orleans Foundation, CADA, VIA and the United Way of Greater New Orleans. She has been a consultant in arts education and developed music enrichment programs for Caddo Parish Schools and for schools in the New Orleans area. As a singer, she has performed with the Coro Estable de Rosario, the Shreveport Gilbert and Sullivan Society, the New Orleans Symphony Chorus and various musical theatre productions.

Ana and her husband Juan are very active working with Latino students in Orleans and Jefferson Parish Public Schools implementing programs aiming at self esteem, motivation, and prevention of alcohol and drug abuse. Last year, they were presented with the Galvez Cup by the New Orleans Hispanic Heritage Foundation and were recognized as Champions of Public Health by Tulane University School of Public Health.



## LEO HAPPEL, JR., PH.D.

**Professor, Department of Neurology  
Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center**

Leo T. Happel joined the faculty of LSU Health Science Center in January of 1970, having received his Master's degree in Physiology from Tulane Medical Center. He was appointed to the departments of Neurology, Neurosurgery and Physiology where he combined further graduate study with research related to evoked potential methods in both peripheral nerve and CNS disorders. He received his doctorate in physiology with a minor in biochemistry from LSU in June of 1972. He then participated in extensive teaching activities while continuing research in evoked potential methods and the electrophysiology of peripheral nerve.



Dr. Happel is a native New Orleanean whose family goes back four generations here. Particularly since Katrina, he takes great pride in that fact and remains dedicated to the recovery of his family, the city, and the LSU Health Science Center.

From the outset, the value of his work to physicians became apparent. Neurologists and neurosurgeons recognized that the information gained through evoked potential methods had application to patients undergoing hazardous surgery. These methods had the potential to prevent injury and postoperative neurologic complications following hazardous surgery. The field of operative neurophysiology, operative monitoring, evolved rapidly at a national level during this time and Dr. Happel was one of the leaders in the development of this field.

In recognition of his work in peripheral nerve Dr. Happel was elected into membership of the Sunderland Society in 1995 in Vienna. This group includes a collection of some of the most prominent peripheral nerve specialists in the world. He has served the Society as Secretary-Treasurer and remains a member today.

Dr. Happel was also involved in the early stages of the American Society of Neurophysiological Monitoring and was elected a Fellow of that Society. He was a founding member of the American Board of Neurophysiologic Monitoring in 1995, a body that certifies professionals in the field of operative neurophysiology. He currently serves as an active member of the board. He became a diplomate of the Board in May of 2005.

Today, Dr. Happel remains very active in the field of operative neurophysiology in the New Orleans area. He provides monitoring for most of the major hospitals in the area, serving more than 20 surgeons. He is actively involved in basic science teaching programs to students of the LSU Health Science Center and also at a national level to professional and technical personnel learning the new field of operative monitoring. He will continue to serve the LSU Health Science Center and remains dedicated to its recovery from Katrina.



## **RANNEY MIZE, PH.D.**

**Co-Director, Interdisciplinary Graduate Program in Neuroscience, Julius H. Mullins Professor  
Department of Cell Biology and Anatomy,  
and Neuroscience**



Dr. Mize is the Julius H. Mullins Professor of Cell Biology and Anatomy and Co-Director of the Interdisciplinary Training Program in Neuroscience at LSU Health Sciences Center, New Orleans. He earned his B.A. Degree from Northwestern University and his M.S. and Ph.D. Degrees from the University of Chicago. He was a Research Fellow at the Institute of Neurological Sciences, University of Pennsylvania (1975-1977), and an Assistant, Associate and Full Professor of Anatomy and Neurobiology at the University of Tennessee Health Science Center, Memphis (1977-1991) where he also served as Co-Director of the Center for Neuroscience.

He was Visiting Professor, Institute of Ophthalmology, University College London in 2002. He served as the Department Head of Cell Biology and Anatomy at LSUHSC from 1992-2003. Under his leadership, the department recruited a number of funded researchers, expanded the department's core research facilities, and increased NIH funding 15-fold.

Dr. Mize's research focuses upon transmitter-specific synaptic circuits in the visual system and upon activity dependent modifications during brain development. He has received funding from the National Institutes of Health since 1975 and is the author of over 200 journal articles, book chapters and published abstracts. He has edited four books: *The Microcomputer in Cell and Neurobiology Research*, *GABA in the Retina and Central Visual System*, *Neural Development and Plasticity*, and *Nitric Oxide in Brain Development, Plasticity, and Disease*. He has served on the Editorial Boards of the *Journal of Neurocytology*, *Visual Neuroscience*, and *Brain Research Protocols*, and was the Associate Editor of *Journal of Neuroscience Methods*.

He also serves on the Advisory Panel of Progress in Brain Research. He has served on review panels of the National Science Foundation and the National Institutes of Health. Dr. Mize has been active in graduate neuroscience education for his entire career, both in the Neuroscience Center where he serves as Co-Director of the Neuroscience Training Program with Dr. Nicolas Bazan; and nationally where he was a Councilor and President of the Association of Neuroscience Departments and Programs. He has been a member and served on committees of a number of national scientific organizations, including the Society for Neuroscience, International Brain Research Organization, Anatomy Cell Biology and Neuroscience Chairpersons, and the Association for Research in Vision and Ophthalmology. He has won numerous teaching awards and has developed innovative methods in computer-aided instruction. He has a life-long devotion to the cultural arts, and currently serves on Boards of the New Orleans Opera Association, the Louisiana Philharmonic Orchestra, the Friends of Music, Southern Rep Theater, and other arts organizations. He is married to Dr. Emel Songu Mize, a Professor of Pharmacology at LSUHSC.

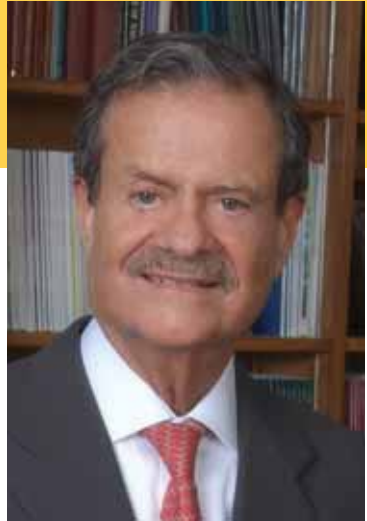




## HOWARD J. OSOFSKY, M.D., PH.D.

**Chairman, Department of Psychiatry  
Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center**

Howard J. Osofsky, M.D., Ph.D. is Professor and Chair of the Department of Psychiatry at LSU Health Sciences Center and John and Kathleen Bricker Chair of Psychiatry. He is also a psychoanalyst on the faculty of the New Orleans Psychoanalytic Institute. Dr. Osofsky's career is marked by a strong commitment to scholarly pursuits and a fine academic Department of Psychiatry. He and his faculty have played key roles in the development of the Neuroscience Center at LSUHSC with particular focus on mental illness and Alzheimer's disease.



Dr. Osofsky established and directed both the Woldenberg Center for Gerontological Studies and the Rosa Keller Campus to foster educational opportunities for the elderly. His career has also been marked by his strong commitment to the community as evidenced by his many civic interests, service on city, state, and national boards, and senior roles in developing health services systems for the region and the state.

He has played an important role in developing training programs for first responders, community-based psychosocial preparedness programs related to complex emergencies, and international programs to provide stress aid and mental health treatment for refugees and traumatized children and families. He has been a key consultant in developing regional and statewide disaster and terrorism plans. In this light, with a grant from the U.S. Bureau of Justice Assistance, he has been developing model training programs for State Police to meet community needs and help children and families in the face of disasters, terrorism, and violence.

In the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina, he has been asked to be Clinical Director both for the State Office of Mental Health Crisis Services for Louisiana Spirit and for services for first responders and their families in Metropolitan New Orleans. In recognition of his efforts, he was awarded the Medal of Honor by the Mayor of New Orleans and the New Orleans Police Foundation's Badge of Honor. The American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry named him the first recipient of their award: Best Chair of a Department of Psychiatry.



## **P.K. SCHEERLE, RN**

**Founder, American Nursing Services, Inc.  
Community Leader**

P.K. Scheerle, RN, founded American Nursing Services (ANS), a privately held, highly successful nurse staffing company in 1982. Under her direction, the company grew from five employees to over 2,500 employees with locations in 9 states providing local nurse staffing, travel nurses, therapists and private duty nurses. During her tenure, ANS received numerous awards including the American Business Ethics Award from the Society of Financial Service Professionals, a Top 100 Business by New Orleans CityBusiness for eleven consecutive years, and America's Top 500 Women Owned Business by Working Women's Magazine.



Ms. Scheerle, a Registered Nurse with a clinical background in pediatric intensive care, is a self-made entrepreneur who saw a need in the nursing industry to keep experienced and talented nurses at the bedside. By utilizing her remarkable vision and tremendous determination she created one of the nation's leading nurse supplemental staffing companies.

In addition to graduating from the Executive Program of Harvard Business School, Ms. Scheerle served on numerous not-for-profit and for-profit boards. She has also received many awards for contributions to the community and the nursing profession including, but not limited to, the Humanitarian of the Year Award from the Southeast Chapter of the American Red Cross, induction into the Junior Achievement Business Hall of Fame, the Boggs-Bourque Woman of Distinction Award, and the New Orleans CityBusiness Women of the Year Award for three consecutive years. She also served as Chairman of the Young Presidents Organization for Louisiana and served on their Southern Regional Board.

In addition, Ms. Scheerle continues to be in great demand as a consultant and speaker for nursing, business and community organizations. Additionally, she is regularly sought after and relied upon for her expert opinion by successful CEO's. P.K. is married to Bruce Bolyard and they have three daughters and a son.



## **MR. PAIGE SENSENBRENNER, ESQ.**

### **Community Leader**

Mr. Paige Sensenbrenner is a partner in the law firm of Adams and Reese, where he devotes most of his practice to advising and representing health care providers, drug and medical device manufacturers and health care institutions. Mr. Sensenbrenner graduated from Charity Hospital School of Nursing in 1978. He received a BS in nursing from Loyola University in 1983, his Juris Doctorate from the Loyola University School of Law in 1987 and he was a Fellow in the Loyola University Institute of Politics in 1988. Before attending law school Mr. Sensenbrenner practiced clinical nursing, primarily in critical care units at Charity Hospital.



Additionally, Mr. Sensenbrenner has been active with a number of boards and organizations. He served on the first board of directors of the Young Leadership Council. He has also served as Vice-Chairman of the Health Education Authority of Louisiana, Vice Chairman of the New Orleans Alcoholic Beverage Central Board and Co-Chairman of the New Orleans Bar Association Committee on Healthcare and Biotechnology. Mr. Sensenbrenner was also a member of the Children's Hospital Institutional Review Board and he currently sits on the GNO, Inc. Life Sciences Committee.

Of particular relevance, however, Paige has been a friend and supporter of the LSU Health Sciences Center. For several years he has been a member of the LSU Health Sciences Center Foundation Board of Directors and he currently serves as Chairman of the Board. He also sits on the LSU System Research and Technology Foundation Board of Directors and has been a member of the LSU Neuroscience Center Advisory Committee.

Paige is married to Judge Madeleine Landrieu and they are the proud parents of four daughters.



## **ROGER D. SMITH, M.D.**

**Clinical Professor of Neurosurgery  
Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center**

Roger D. Smith M.D. is Chairman of Neurosurgery at Ochsner Medical Center and Clinical Professor of Neurosurgery and Program Director for the LSU Department of Neurosurgery.

He did his undergraduate education at Stanford University and completed medical school and internship at the University of Southern California School of Medicine.



After military service in Viet Nam, he was a surgical resident at Tulane University School of Medicine and completed his neurosurgical residency at Barrow Neurological Institute in Phoenix. During his residency he developed an interest in cerebrovascular disease and spent a year at the University of Zurich with Professor Gazi Yasargil. After finishing residency he returned to Zurich to finish a textbook of microsurgery authored by Professor Yasargil and spent six months with Professor Lindsay Symon at the National Hospital for Neurological Disorders, Queen Square, London, studying the pathophysiology of cerebral blood flow and stroke.

He was a member of the International Society of Cerebral Blood Flow and Metabolism for many years. He joined the Department of Neurosurgery at LSU School of Medicine in 1979. Shortly after Dr. Bazan arrived in New Orleans, he obtained funding for his stroke project studying lipid signaling in the evolution of stroke and potential treatment. Clustered around this project were Dr. Happel, Dr. Smith and numerous LSU neurosurgical residents at the Delta Primate Center over many years.

The LSU Neuroscience Center coalesced under Dr. Bazan's leadership, and has been extremely productive in advancing scientific knowledge of the basic molecular mechanisms of cerebral ischemia and many other neuropathological conditions. Dr. Smith's son, Douglas L. Smith, M.D., an otolaryngologist in Phoenix, worked for Dr. Bazan in the lab over several years. Dr. Smith was president of the Orleans Parish Medical Society in 2003 and remains on the Board of Governors of the Louisiana State Medical Society.

He was past president of the Louisiana Neurosurgical Society and represented the Society at a national level for 12 years. He maintains his interest in cerebrovascular diseases and takes great pride in the accomplishments of Dr. Bazan and the LSU Neuroscience Center. He looks forward to the future contributions of the LSU Neuroscience Center to the successful treatment of many currently incurable neurological diseases.





## **AUSTIN SUMNER, M.D.**

**Professor and Chairman of Neurology  
Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center**

Dr. Austin J. Sumner is the Richard M. Paddison Professor and Chairman of Neurology at Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center. He was born in Hokitika, New Zealand where he received research training in neurophysiology and graduated with his medical degree from the University of Otago in 1963.



After completing his internship and residency at Wellington Hospital, he received his specialty board equivalent as member of the Royal Australasian College of Physicians, later Fellow of the RACP.

In 1967, he was awarded the Nuffield Foundation Postdoctoral Traveling Fellowship in Medicine which he took up at the National Hospital for Neurology and Neurosurgery, Queen Square, London, England.

At the completion of his neurology training in England, he was appointed assistant professor of neurology at the University of California San Francisco and later was appointed assistant through full professor of neurology at the University of Pennsylvania in Philadelphia.

Since arriving at LSU as the department head in 1988, he has been involved in many aspects of the clinical, academic and research aspects of neurology. He currently serves as Vice-Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the Louisiana Chapter of the National Multiple Sclerosis Society.

At a national level, Dr. Sumner serves as Chairman of the Board of the American Academy of Neurology Foundation, is past chairman of the American Board of Electrodiagnostic Medicine and a member of the American Neurological Association. He is also active in the European Neurological Society, serves on the editorial board of several medical journals and is Editor in Chief of AANnews.

Dr. Sumner's research interests focus on the diagnosis and treatment of peripheral neuropathies, neuromuscular diseases, multiple sclerosis, and clinical neurophysiology.

Dr. Sumner was the recipient of the 2004 Distinguished Researcher Award from the American Association of Electrodiagnostic Medicine. He is an internationally renowned expert in his field.



## **MR. BERT WALLACE**

**President Emeritus**

**Director, LSU Biomedical Research Fund**

**LSU Health Sciences Center Foundation**



If one had to coin a theme for Bert Wallace's career it might be "when life gives you lemons, make lemonade". But often, he didn't even have the lemons.

After becoming President and Chief Executive Officer of the LSU Health Sciences Center Foundation in 1991, Bert Wallace has used his innovative business skills and creative marketing strategies to increase the Foundation's assets from \$6.85 million to over \$100 million. He's accomplished this with a self-generated budget and a skeleton staff as compared to other large health sciences institutional fund development operations. Because of Bert's leadership, the Foundation has transcended its traditional function of fund development, administration and management, and has acted as agent for the campus' technology development process as well serving as the principal in real estate transactions.

The technology development operation has generated six patents and spun off New Orleans' first biotechnology start-up corporation. The Foundation purchased land adjacent to the campus to help satisfy future expansion needs and purchased and renovated a 100 year old building at the main entrance to serve as its own corporate office as well as provide office space for campus operations. Bert also served as incorporator and an original director of the Center's faculty group practice, the LSU Healthcare Network which generates annual revenues of \$50 million.

Bert's path to the LSU Health Sciences Center Foundation began after graduating with a business degree from Southern Methodist University in Dallas and serving three years in the United States Marine Corps. He became a Marketing Executive for Lederle Laboratories and established an unsurpassed record while progressing through a series of sales and management responsibilities at the field level, later advancing to a national marketing fast track status.

From Lederle, Bert moved into the world of "turn-around" management. He thrived in situations from which most would beg to retreat.

A move back to New Orleans in 1991 led Bert to the LSU Health Sciences Center and the challenge of being the first President and Chief Executive Officer of its affiliated Foundation. The move back into the healthcare field brought his career full circle after his early experience with Lederle Laboratories. Ironically, it is with the start-up help of several of his colleagues, along with a small but extremely smart, creative and talented staff, that Bert was able to initiate the transformation of the Foundation from a basic banking operation into a dynamic, integral part of the LSU Health Sciences Center campus.

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