

Bringing New Life, and Life, and Life, and Life, and Life Into the World!

Stacey Holman, M.D. (OBGYN)

On October 4, 2013, at Touro Infirmary, a team of LSU physicians executed a plan they had practiced for many weeks. The babies came one after the other - Dawson, Maxwell, Joseph, Micah, and finally Elizabeth. Quintuplets!!! Dr. Stacey Holman, Assistant Professor of OBGYN at LSU, delivered the babies and coordinated a plan of care that would ultimately lead to this success story. Nadia and Liz Harris, proud moms of these babies, were also managed with expert advice by Dr. Joseph Miller, Section Chief of Maternal Fetal Medicine for LSU OBGYN. In preparation for these tiny babies, the NICU developed a 5-team approach for delivery under the guidance of Dr. Brian Barkemeyer, Division Head of Neonatology for LSU Pediatrics. On the big day, the NICU team included 8 Neonatologists (both faculty and fellows) who were present for delivery. Touro Infirmary provided an amazing team of nurses, doctors, and staff who came together to make this experience possible. Moms and babies are doing well and adjusting to life as a new family! This was a day that truly allowed our LSU docs to "practice what they teach".



Photo by Mike Palumbo

Editor's Pen -- Special Edition

I received a phone call this morning that inspired me to write a special Editor's Pen. Recently I was a co-author on a paper that described how a super-cocktail of phytochemicals (biologically active compounds derived from plants such as soy beans, blue green algae, turmeric, etc.) inhibits the metastatic nature of breast cancer cells in vitro. The call this morning was from a man in New York State whose wife is dying from breast cancer and wanted to get more details on what doses were needed for these reagents and if there were any studies in which his wife could participate. Apparently this work has gone viral on the Internet all over the world. This man was probably searching the Internet and found this work and wanted to reach out to whomever may be able to provide hope for his wife. His desperation to find anything that would give his wife even a few months of life was so raw that it struck a deep emotional chord in me and got me thinking about what exactly it is that we do every day. In our chosen profession of academic/clinical science,

everything is about that dreaded "impact factor", or just how much will your work impact the larger field of science or clinical knowledge. However, this man and his wife could care less about this "impact factor". To them, the impact of our work is very real and very tangible. . . providing hope that this novel treatment will save her life or provide her a little more time on this earth. The phone call from this man was a serious wake up call. It reminded me of why I continue to deal with the constant frustrations of academic science. Yes, I love research. I love investigating the biological underpinnings of why a tumor forms and then devising potential methods to inhibit this process. However, in the midst of trying to bring in that elusive NIH R01 grant, the truth behind why this work is truly important has been lost. Although academic science may have erased my idealistic notions of what academic science is, the phone call from this man reminded me that we work as clinicians and scientists to save lives and to provide people with hope.

In these difficult times it seems like all we ever hear is complaining about raises, about grants, about funding, about decreased budgets, and about increased patient load to compensate for these decreased budgets. However, my experience this morning along with the wonderful picture and story by Dr. Stacey Holman and the quintuplets reminds us that we need to work hard to NEVER lose sight of why we entered the health care profession, either as clinicians or as health related researchers: to cure people, to bring new life into this world, and most of all to provide people with hope. If we can keep sight of this fact it might not make the realities we face any easier to deal with, but it will give us direction and inspiration to keep pushing forward.

Andrew D. Hollenbach, Ph.D.

LSUHSC 10 year SACS Reaffirmation of Accreditation Self-Study Begins

Michael Levitzky, Ph.D. (Department of Physiology)

SACS, the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools, now known as SACSCOC, or Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges, is one of six regional accrediting bodies in the U.S. recognized by the U.S. Department of Education. Regional accreditation is important because it is a requirement of other professional accrediting bodies, including the LCME (Liaison Committee on Medical Education), which is the accrediting body for medical schools in the U.S.

From the LCME's website: The Department of Education recognizes the LCME for the accreditation of programs of medical education leading to the M.D. degree in institutions that are themselves accredited by regional accrediting associations.

Regional accreditation is also required for institutions to receive federal aid funding such as student loans.

LSUHSC must submit a Compliance Certification Document and a Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP). According to SACSCOC "The QEP describes a carefully designed and focused course of action that addresses a well-defined topic or issue(s) related to enhancing student learning." It should include "an institutional process for identifying key issues emerging from institutional assessment and focuses on learning outcomes and/or the environment supporting student learning and accomplishing the mission of the institution." As many Pulse readers know, we have chosen Interprofessional Education (IPE) as our QEP.

Timeline for the reaffirmation process:

- Sept. 10, 2014: LSUHSC's Compliance Certification Document will be due. This is first reviewed by an Off-Site Review Committee, which will judge our compliance with approximately 90 Core Requirements, Comprehensive Standards, and Federal Requirements.
- The Off-Site Committee's response to the Compliance Certification is sent back to LSUHSC. We must then respond to any concerns in a Focused Report, which is due at the same time as our Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP), in February, 2018.
- The SACS On-Site committee will be at LSUHSC from March 24, 2018 through March 26, 2018. They will follow up on any areas in which LSUHSC was deemed non-compliant, on some areas in which we were deemed compliant, and on the QEP. They will meet with faculty and students from all of the schools of the HSC.
- The on-site committee will then make a recommendation to the SACS Board regarding LSUHSC's compliance for reaffirmation/reaccreditation. The decision will be announced at the SACSCOC Annual Meeting in early December, 2018.

Several Medical School Faculty members are playing important roles in the reaffirmation process:

Dr. Robin English chairs the HSC QEP/IPE Committee; Dr. Mary Coleman is also on the committee and Daniel Punecky is our student representative to the committee

Dr. Peter Winsauer is the Medical School Coordinator; Dr. Kathy McDonough is the School of Graduate Studies Coordinator; Drs. Dan Kapusta and Jay Mussell will also write parts of the compliance certification document.

Drs. Joe Moerschbaecher and Mike Levitzky are leading the Self-Study and reaffirmation effort.

Reimagining the Medical School Curriculum

Robin English, M.D. (Department of Pediatrics)

As outlined in the last issue of this newsletter, the Liaison Council on Medical Education (LCME) requires medical schools to review their educational programs periodically. Accordingly, the Dean of the School of Medicine appointed a committee to begin the process for our school last year. An early recommendation from this committee was a change to the existing curriculum committee structure. The Dean has approved the development of two new committees, the Curriculum Steering Committee and the Curriculum Renewal Committee. The Curriculum Steering Committee, which consists of basic science faculty, clinical faculty, and students, conducted a needs assessment of students and

faculty and has recommended some changes to our curriculum goals based on this input. These changes include an emphasis on active learning and



enhanced integration of the clinical and basic sciences across all four years of the curriculum, both of which are LCME standards. Once approved by the general faculty, these goals will serve as the basis

for any changes that are suggested as the curriculum renewal moves forward.

The Curriculum Renewal Committee, which also consists of students and representatives from basic science and clinical departments, is considering curricular models to best help us achieve these goals. The Curriculum Steering Committee is in the process of determining the outcomes that will be measured to examine the success of any changes that are made. Enhancing our students' learning is at the heart of these endeavors. Our students have been successful in the past thanks to hard work and the dedication of our faculty – the curriculum renewal process is meant to improve upon this success.

Editor's Pen

Andrew D. Hollenbach, Ph.D.

As I sat down to write this issue's Editor's Pen I decided to reflect on what many consider the "status quo" at the SOM and talk about the hard work going on by the faculty to map out changes to steer the School of Medicine through the near future. One of these programs is the re-evaluation of the Dean's Strategic Initiative. Originally started five years ago, Dean Nelson charged the faculty with determining what improvements were needed in the School of Medicine and developing a five-year plan to implement these improvements. Believe it or not, those five years have flown by faster than any of us could ever have imagined! The Dean has charged us, the faculty, with once again examining these original plans, determining how well we accomplished the goals set out five years ago, identifying areas where improvements still need to be done, and providing a new five-year road map for implementing these improvements. The other large-scale re-evaluation is the SOM Curriculum Renewal. Under the exceptional leadership of Dr. Robin English, the committee is charged by the Dean to evaluate the present undergraduate medical school curriculum and put together a proposal to restructure the curriculum to better meet the educational needs of our students in the 21st century. These are two massive undertakings, but they are undertakings that are exciting and forward thinking.

We, as an institute, are very fortunate to be lead by a Dean who is forward thinking and more importantly, a Dean who values our input as faculty. Further, by valuing our input and charging us with these tasks he empowers us to be the instruments of our own change and to have a voice in the direction that we take as a unit. The danger that we face, though, is what I like to term "passive obstructionism." The symptoms of passive obstructionism are illustrated by statements like "Nothing ever changes anyway, so why should we waste our time" or "Well, we're only LSU" (implying, why should we try to be better). It's almost like setting up the perfect experiment to answer that key question and then listing all the reasons why it won't work, thereby keeping you from even trying, instead of getting to the bench, DOING the perfect experiment, and then being surprised that it DID work. Don't get me wrong; there are valid reasons that could easily make us slip into the passive obstructive mentality. First, there are people who just plain old don't like change, regardless of whether it's for good or bad. Second, there are academic politics at play at all levels and from all directions and regardless of how good a plan may be these politics will work against us simply for the sake of not wanting to relinquish power and/or possession. Finally, we are fighting a State and Federal government that seem to be making things harder for us day after day rather than working for and with us. However, these issues, regardless of how infuriating they may be, should not deter us from working hard for change. We need to do the leg work now, come up with the plans for change, propose them to the Dean and the Administration, be prepared for potential opposition from the avenues just described, but also be willing to listen to that opposition and work with that opposition (whatever it may be) to compromise thereby creating programs and changes that fit the needs of both sides. This is our chance, it is our opportunity now and it is our own future that we are working towards. Let's not stop it before it even gets started through our passive obstructionism.

Arthur L. Haas Endowed Lectureship

Sunyoung Kim, Ph.D. (Department of Biochemistry)

The LSU School of Medicine and LSU Health Sciences Center are pleased to announce the establishment of the Arthur L. Haas Endowed Lectureship. An anonymous donor made a \$100,000 gift to fund this lectureship in honor of Dr. Haas' illustrious career in research, mentoring, and academic leadership, and to support higher education within the School's membership and the New Orleans public. University-wide endowed lectureships are rare and this is the first such major philanthropic contribution to the basic science departments in our School. LSU is extremely fortunate to have Dr. Haas in its ranks. Following his faculty member service at the Medical College of Wisconsin from 1983-2004, he began his career at LSU in 2004 as the Roland Coulson Professor and Head of the Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology. He is internationally recognized for his discovery and elucidation of ubiquitin and other ubiquitin-like proteins. This work that began in the early 1980s has had significant and far-reaching impact in the basic and clinical sciences. It has spawned the research field of understanding how protein breakdown is controlled in cells, led to current anticancer drugs used in the clinic, and been cited in the 2004 Nobel Prize in Chemistry awarded to Irwin Rose (his postdoctoral advisor), Avram Hershko, and Aaron Ciechanover. Dr. Haas has served on 12 US and European grant panels, has been an editorial board member of 6 journals, and refereed



scientific manuscripts for 50 journals. He has received over \$7.8 million in research funding and been invited for 95 seminars around the world. He has served on 41 dissertation committees, trained 17 PhD students, and mentored 11 postdoctoral associates.

The Haas Endowed Lectureship will be awarded to outstanding scholar-teachers. Honorees will mirror and embody Dr. Haas' dedication and service to scientific scholarship and academic leadership. Dr. Haas will establish the eligibility criteria, nomination procedure, and candidate selection. An annual Arthur L. Haas Endowed Lecture will be held in perpetuity; the inaugural public lecture will be in 2018 at the LSUHSC New Orleans campus.

who DAT!

Lindy Mills



Position:

Administrative Coordinator for Student Affairs

Years of service:

35 wonderful years

Favorite part of your job:

Working with the Students and Bobbie and Carolyn. Dr. Delcarpio and Dr. Lopez have been great to me. I do miss Dr. Randall (my boss for 27 years) though. We are one big family!! The students are grateful for all that we do for them. It makes coming in each day easier.

Least favorite part of your job:

Disappointment in a student's eyes!!! This tears my heart apart. Most of the time we can make it a happy outcome, but when we can't, it hurts!

Hobbies/likes/dislikes:

I LOVE following the Saints!! I am pretty superstitious and will go as far as wearing the same outfit every Friday for weeks in fear that they will lose if I don't. Well unfortunately the Patriots recently gave me a chance to change my outfit. BOOO!!!

What would you like people to know about you:

I am dedicated to my students and will fight to the bitter end for them. I love being their voice and will continue that love as long as I am at LSUHSC and beyond. They will always be in my heart! By the way, I LOVE to Dance, too.

- interview by Diana Thien, MD (Department of Internal Medicine)

Acadian Pedigree Scrolls Donated

Fern Tsien, Ph.D. (Department of Genetics)

The estate of renowned geneticist Dr. Mary Z. Pelias (1941-2012), former faculty member of the Department of Genetics, generously donated a collection of historical documents to LSUHSC through her son Gus Pelias to Drs. Fern Tsien and Andrew Hollenbach. A total of 169 documents included detailed hand-drawn Louisiana family pedigrees tracing families back to the 17th century. The pedigrees were in the form of paper scrolls ranging in length from approximately 5 feet to more than 100 feet long. Dr. Pelias' work included the study of common genetic disorders in the Louisiana Acadian (Cajun) population such as Usher syndrome. With the families' consent, Dr. Pelias' field research took her to Acadiana, where she collected data via personal interviews, parish church records, and public genealogy documentation. The LSUHSC John P. Isché Library agreed to house the collection. With the guidance of Ms. Debra Sibley, Director of the Isché Library, the documents were catalogued and archived by Valerie Hernandez and Rebecca Bealer in specially designed vellum-lined containers. They are currently housed in the rare books collection area of the library. Due to the personal and private information contained in these documents, they are unavailable for public viewing, but may be available to future researchers.



Photo by Leslie Capo

Debra Sibley, Director of the LSUHSC John P. Isché Library; Dr. Fern Tsien, Department of Genetics; and Jacob Loupe, Department of Genetics graduate student displaying a few of the scrolls from the Mary Z. Pelias Acadian Archives.

In Memoriam

James M. Hill, M.D.

Andrew D. Hollenbach, Ph.D. (Department of Genetics)

It is with a heavy heart that I write of the passing of our colleague and friend, Dr. James Hill who passed away on Wednesday, October 9, 2013. Jim attended Spring Hill College in Mobile, AL, where he met his sweetheart and future wife Barbara. He continued his education at the University of Mississippi Medical School in Jackson, MS and the Baylor College of Medicine in Houston, TX, after which he completed his post-doctorate at Harvard Medical School in Boston, MA. He held positions at the Medical College of Georgia in Augusta and the LSU Eye Center in New Orleans. Dr. Hill was a renowned research scientist and professor in his field. Jim was a survivor of colon cancer in 1992 and a liver transplant in August 1994. Jim had a passion for education, scientific research, theatre, sports, family, and LIFE! He was a big supporter of mine when I was a junior faculty, often imparting his wisdom on the career path. However, what I remember even more was our discussions about all things non-science. He would talk about his children, of which his daughter Kim is a friend of mine, and about their travels. He would also consult me about theater recommendations whenever they traveled to New York or to London, knowing full well that I was an avid theatergoer. I learned a lot from Jim, not only about science, but also about how to balance my personal life with my work life and how to cherish every day. Jim, you will be missed.



Robert Daniels, M.D., Former SOM Dean

Janis Letourneau, M.D.

Dr. Robert Daniels, former Dean of the School of Medicine (1986-1995) recently passed away after a long battle with Parkinson's Disease. Bob had a long and rich career as an academician and medical school administrator. He was renowned for his patience, kindness, wisdom and good judgment; he was also known across the country for his longevity as a medical school dean (LSU was his second run at that post). While his commitment to the faculty, staff and learners at LSU was unparalleled, his commitment to his wife and his family was also exceptional. His grandson, Zach, is a medical student with us and so his LSU legacy continues in a vital way. All of those who knew Bob will miss him very much.

Send Us Your Stories!

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Association for Women in Science (AWIS)

Donna Neumann, Ph.D. (Department of Pharmacology)

The South Louisiana Chapter of the Association for Women in Science (SL-AWIS) is an organization of professional women in science, ranging from graduate students to full professors, with a mission dedicated to empowering women in science and technology. We are proud to announce that this year marks the fourth year that the SL-AWIS chapter has been providing successful networking opportunities, mentoring opportunities and participation in community outreach programs for our students, post-doctoral researchers and faculty from South Louisiana Regional Universities. Last year, the SL-AWIS chapter participated in a number of community outreach programs, including the Adopt an Angel program introduced by the New Orleans Salvation Army, National Chemistry Week at the New Orleans Children's Museum and our SL-AWIS sponsored running team continued to increase our chapter's visibility in the community by participating in 5K run/walks that benefited local and national charities. SL-AWIS has provided a platform for networking opportunities and career

development programs by sponsoring mentoring events as well as social events designed to optimize networking opportunities between scientists. Because of the success of these events, the goals for the SL-AWIS chapter for 2014 are focused on providing ample opportunities for continued mentoring, networking and community outreach. Our highly successful "Speed Mentoring" event will return again in the spring of 2014, and will provide students, post-doctoral researchers and junior faculty with the opportunity to individually meet and solicit career advice from School of Medicine Clinical and Basic Science Faculty. Finally, the continued growth and support from the LSUHSC students, post-doctoral researchers and faculty has provided the SL-AWIS chapter with financial resources to sponsor a yearly Travel Award, and we anticipate the solicitation for applications for the SL-AWIS travel award will be made in early 2014. If you would like to receive information regarding any of the SL-AWIS sponsored events, please contact Donna Neumann at dneum1@lsuhsc.edu.

The Inside Scope

Question:

It's been heard that Sodexo will no longer be managing the cafeteria and coffee kiosks. Given that many of us have interacted with the cafeteria workers for years and consider them friends and part of our LSU SOM family, we are concerned for their jobs. What are the plans for the new dining services and how will it affect the cafeteria workers?



Answer:

LSUHSC Food Services is moving away from contracted service with Sodexo, to in-house management. This movement allows LSUHSC to self-operate campus food service and build their own staff, which is more financially feasible. A new Director has been hired and is in place to allow the transition to occur. Present Sodexo employees have been given ample guidance on the application process and are allowed the same opportunities for hire as new incoming applicants. The process will be competitive with the best qualified candidates being selected. (Joseph Olivieri, Acting Executive Director, LSU Health Sciences Center Auxiliary Enterprises)

Make Your Research Material More Accessible

You've isolated a new population of cells from a mouse embryo. Your graduate student develops a new antibody that recognizes the acetylation of a transcription factor. A colleague creates a novel vector that can be used to easily quantitate gene expression. All of these events share a common component – the development of new and useful research materials. In September, the Office of Technology Management launched a new Research Material Disclosure Program (RMDP), with the ultimate goal of streamlining the commercialization of useful research materials for the benefit of the LSUHSC inventor.

So what exactly are research materials? Research materials are simply defined as "materials that are necessary to perform research." Of course, the types of research materials can vary, but generally include transgenic mice or other unique animal models, cell lines, antibodies, chemical substances or unique media, novel vectors or research hardware, among others. Whether a cell line has been sitting in freezer for years, or if the monoclonal antibody line has just recently been made, laboratories at LSU Health Sciences Center have developed many resources that can be considered research materials.

The commercialization process stands to benefit many parties, but offers a particularly unique solution to the labor-intensive nature of the material transfer process. In fact, commercialization of a research material may eliminate the need for the investigator to participate in the MTA process altogether, as the requesting scientist can simply purchase the reagent. Additionally, commercialization of research materials saves the LSUHSC investigator's lab research funds, as they no longer need to spend resources on preparing, boxing, and shipping samples. Of course, there are also financial incentives- revenue received from commercialization of research material will be treated the same as any other Distributable Royalties. Notwithstanding these benefits, the general public stands to benefit the most from the commercialization of research material, as this process may lead to more productive biomedical research due to research materials being made more widely available to the research community.

To participate in the RMDP, submit your research material for a commercialization review using the "Research Material Disclosure Form" found on our website, or simply contact our office at OTM@lsuhsc.edu or 504-568-8303.
<http://www.lsuhs.edu/administration/academic/otm/>

New Appointments at the SOM Community

Robert Maupin, M.D. became the Associate Dean for Community and Minority Health Education as of November 1, 2013. Dr. Maupin, a native of Washington, D.C., is a graduate of Howard University and the University of Maryland, where he completed his medical degree. He performed his residency training here at LSU in 1989. After a return to Maryland for his fellowship, he joined the faculty of LSU SOM full time in 1995. He has a long standing interest in recruitment and retention of under-represented minorities in biomedical fields and in community outreach and service programs.



Corey Hebert, M.D. recently joined the LSU SOM in the Department of Pediatrics. One of the most successful physician journalists in the U.S., he has worked on-air as the medical editor for the NBC television affiliate in New Orleans, as well as a frequent on-air contributor to the "Dr. Oz Show". He contributes to the Discovery Channel, the National Geographic channel, Huffington Post, and MSNBC. He is also the Chief Executive Officer of Community Health TV, the parent company of BlackHealthTV.com.



Medical School Faculty Assembly Report

Mike Levitzky, Ph.D., Faculty Assembly President (Department of Physiology)

The Faculty Assembly (FA) has been very active in recent months, representing the Medical School Faculty in discussions of several issues and processes that are important to both faculty and students. (For general information about the Faculty Assembly, including the roster of Delegates, a list of Officers/Executive Board, and meeting minutes, go to: http://www.medschool.lsuhsu.edu/faculty_assembly/)

The Faculty Assembly continues to enjoy an excellent relationship with the Dean of the Medical School, Dr. Steve Nelson. Dean Nelson has met with the Executive Board each month and with all of the delegates twice in the last 6 months. Dean Nelson is always candid and very forthright in his meetings with the FA and has provided much "inside" information on the hospital situations, faculty practice, the new LSU President, the political situation inside and outside the state, and pay raises.

The FA has had extensive reports and discussions about ongoing issues and projects in the Medical School and the Health Sciences Center. Faculty Assembly Delegates are members of virtually all Medical School Standing Committees, and hold 8 positions on the Faculty Senate, representing the largest contingent from any of the schools of the HSC. We have discussed the Medical School Strategic Planning effort; the curriculum renewal process; and the SACSCOC 10 year reaffirmation/reaccreditation process, including the Quality Enhancement Plan (see separate article in this issue of The Pulse).

The FA and Faculty Senate have worked closely with the HSC IT staff on several issues, including Mobile Device Management and CM-42, and making the HSC main web page more friendly and useful to faculty. Under the leadership of Drs. Florencia Polite and Zee Ali, the Faculty Assembly has submitted a draft policy on social media use by Medical School Faculty, House staff, and Students to Dean Nelson for approval.

Finally, the FA worked with Dean Nelson to provide the Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC) with two nominees for the new Council of Faculty and Academic Societies (CFAS). Dr. Robin McGoe of the FA will be representing the LSU SOM faculty, along with Dr. Kurt Varner, on this important council. (I was also elected a member of the Administrative Board of CFAS, representing the American Physiological Society.)

Please note that nominations for the Faculty Assembly Awards are now open! Think of some great candidates for the four awards!

LSUHSC Postdoctoral Association

The LSUHSC Postdoctoral Association (PDA) has completed its transition phase with newly elected officers (Kathryn Carzoli (President), Rajesh Gupta (Vice President), Christophe Dubois (Secretary), Megan L. Armstrong (Treasurer)) who are enthusiastic about providing our postdoctoral community with opportunities for career development, and social/professional networking. We'd like to thank the more senior PDA members for their dedication to this organization and we wish them good luck on their future endeavors.

The PDA has held a few social events over the past few months with more to occur. In June, we had a postdoc meet-up at the Napoleon House in the French Quarter and in September, the new PDA committee organized a pizza party that was sponsored by our faculty advisors (which include Drs. Sonia Gasparini, Paula Gregory, Andrew Hollenbach, Kathleen McDonough, and our newest faculty advisor, Jason Middleton). Additionally, we held our bi-monthly organizational meeting in November. Lastly, the PDA enjoyed the talk by Joanne Kamens, PhD on December 17th addressing careers in industry. This event was hosted by the Department of Physiology.

We invite you to become part of the PDA and welcome your suggestions to improve the quality of the postdoctoral experience. Additionally, if you are a postdoc and have not received e-mails about our group, please contact Kathryn Carzoli at kcarzo@lsuhsc.edu. Hope to see you in the PDA!

M.D./Ph.D. Report

Kathleen McDonough, Ph.D., Director, M.D./Ph.D. Program (Department of Physiology)

We were happy to meet our new MD/PhD students at the monthly forum in August. Three are graduates of Louisiana schools – Logan Sonier from Nichols State; Vivien Jaber from UNO and Christina Giles from LSU. Rishi Trivedi completed his BS (and BA) and MS from Johns Hopkins and Vince Maffei graduated from Emory and worked in a laboratory there for two years. We welcome them to LSUHSC.

Students have been very productive this summer and fall including attending meetings, submitting grants and publishing their research. Congratulations to Sophie Teng for the funding of her F30 grant from the NIAAA. She also has a paper published in the J Neurotrauma, as has Adam Perricone in the J American Heart Association. Miguel Molina traveled to the Society of Neuroscience meeting in San Diego in November and has been awarded a travel grant to the meeting. Stephen Ford received the outstanding early career candidate travel award from the Clinical Science journal for his presentation at the American Heart Association High Blood Pressure Research meeting in September. L2, Jeffrey Wang, won 2nd place in the Medical Student Research Day at which he presented the research he did with Dr. Hamid Boulares this

past summer. Allyson Schreiber worked with Dr. Gilpin, Van Nguyen worked with Dr. Parsons and Steven Eastlack worked with Dr. Alahari for their summer research fellowships.

Our 3 fourth year medical students are busy planning electives and applying for residency programs. Two of them, Mary Beth Hulin and Sun Mi Choi, are hoping to match in Pediatrics programs. Ryan Craig is interested in matching in pathology. Our new graduate students in the program are settling in well in their departments and laboratories and the new L3s are finding their way back in medicine. We have started a new program to help the soon to be PhDs return to Medical School. Our Back to Medicine series invites clinical faculty to give presentations once a month to help review clinical information. So far Drs. Mary Coleman, Lee Engel and Cacky Hebert have met with the students. Dr. Patrick Greiffenstein rounded out the presentations for last year in December. We appreciate the help/input of our great clinical faculty in helping to prepare our students for their return to medical school. They have been so generous with their time and talents.

School of Medicine Alumni Excellence Awards

Congratulations are in order for the following winners of the second annual Alumni Excellence Awards. These awards recognize and honor individuals within the SOM who excel at their work and without whom this school would be a lesser place.

Dr. James Barbeau..... Pathology
Ms. Tina BarcelonaSurgery
Ms. Annette Barnes Otorhinolaryngology
Ms. Brandi BurnesStanley S. Scott Cancer Center
Mr. Chris Callac.....Office of Medical Education
Mr. Michael Carruth Computer Services
Dr. Robert John Cork.....Department of Anatomy
Dr. Luis Del ValleStanley S. Scott Cancer Center
Ms. Thelma Evans.....Pharmacology
Ms. Victoria HarkinOffice of Medical Education
Dr. Judy Johnson Anesthesiology
Ms. Lynn LallierPharmacology
Dr. Fred Lopez.....Medicine/Student Affairs
Dr. Jason MussellAnatomy
Dr. Udai PandeyGenetics
Dr. Florencia PoliteOB/GYN
Ms. Meredith Richard Neurosurgery
Ms. Heather ShieldsGenetics
Ms. Amy WeinbergMedicine
Dr. Peter WinsauerPharmacology

Awards and Honors

Dr. Phillip Griffin, the Mollie Wallick Professor and Chief of Psychology, Department of Psychology, has been appointed to Governor Bobby Jindal's State Board of Examiners of Psychologists.

Dr. Fred Lopez, Professor and Vice Chair of the Department of Medicine, has been elected to Mastership by the Board of Regents of the American College of Physicians (ACP). Mastership is conferred only on a select number of candidates who have been deemed distinguished through the practice of the specialty of internal medicine. They are selected because of "personal character, positions of honor, contributions towards furthering the purposes of the ACP, eminence in practice or medical research or other attainments in science or in the art of medicine."

Dr. Vinod Dasa, Assistant Professor of Clinical Orthopaedics, is among the 39 orthopaedic surgeons nationally recognized by Orthopaedics Today and DePuy Synthes Joint Reconstructions as an emerging leader in orthopaedics at the American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons annual meeting. Dr. Dasa is the only orthopaedic surgeon from Louisiana selected for this honor.

Dr. John D. England, the Grace Benson Professor and Head of Neurology has been named Editor-in-Chief of the Journal of Neurological Sciences, the official journal

of the World Federation of Neurology, effective July 1, 2013.

Dr. Rebekah Gee, Assistant Professor of Health Policy and Management and Obstetrics and Gynecology, was invited to Harvard to give the annual Betty Pitcher lecture celebrating the 180th anniversary of the Boston Lying-in Hospital and the 100th anniversary of the Peter Bent Brigham Hospital and Brigham and Women's Hospital. She was one of three Harvard alumni invited to speak and the third person awarded this lectureship.

Dr. Augusto Ochoa, Director of the LSUHSC Stanley S. Scott Cancer Center, was recently appointed by Dr. Steve Nelson (Dean of the SOM) as the recipient of the Al Copeland/Cancer Crusaders Chair in Neuroendocrine Cancer. The \$1 million endowed chair is funded by support from the Al Copeland Foundation and the Cancer Crusaders, which was competitively matched with funds from the Louisiana Board of Regents Endowed Chairs for Eminent Scholars Program.

Dr. R. Adam Noel, Associate Professor of Pediatrics, was selected by the American Academy of Pediatrics as one of two recipients of the 2013 Outstanding Achievement Award. The Award was presented by the Section on Epidemiology/Council on Community Pediatrics on October 27, 2013, at the American Academy of Pediatrics annual Meeting.



Dr. Marie Acierno Completes Prestigious Training Program

Dr. Marie Acierno, Professor of Clinical Ophthalmology at LSU Health Sciences Center New Orleans, completed the prestigious, very competitive ELAM program. The Hedwig van Ameringen Executive Leadership in Academic Medicine (ELAM) Program for Women is the only in-depth national program dedicated

to preparing senior women faculty at schools of medicine, dentistry, and public health to effect sustained positive change as institutional leaders. ELAM's intensive one-year fellowship program of executive education, personal leadership assessments

and coaching, networking and mentoring activities prepares ELAM Fellows to lead and manage in today's increasingly complex health care environment. Acceptance into ELAM is determined through an annual competitive selection process, in which approximately 54 candidates are chosen each year. Dr. Acierno is the director of the LSUHSC/Ochsner ophthalmology residency program and is responsible for the training of 24 ophthalmology residents. She is also the chief of ophthalmology for the LSU Health Sciences Center in Baton Rouge.



Paulo C. Rodriguez, PhD,

Assistant Professor or Research (Department of Microbiology, Immunology & Parasitology) was selected as the 2013 recipient of the Presidential Award by the Society for Immunotherapy of Cancer (SITC). Established in 1991, the SITC Presidential Award is the most prestigious of the young investigator awards in immunotherapy, which are based upon excellence in quality of research and presentation, the strength of results and methods, and whether the reported research significantly advances the field of cancer immunotherapy. The award was presented to Dr. Rodriguez during the SITC 28th Annual Meeting, November 7 - 10, 2013 in National Harbor, MD.

Special Awards Given at Graduate Research Day

Dr. Anasheh Halabi received the Chancellor's award, and Dr. Fern Tsien receives the Jack Hines Jr. award. For the Chancellor's award, four very competitive graduates from August or December, 2012 or May 2013 were nominated. "Selection of the awardee is based upon research performance as demonstrated by the quality of the dissertation and related research accomplishments while a student in the School of Graduate Studies. Selection is made by a committee of the faculty appointed by the Dean. This award was established by the Chancellor of the Health Sciences Center in 1979." Anasheh did her dissertation research with Dr. Ed Grabczyk of the Department of Genetics.



Dr. Anasheh Halabi receives the Chancellor's Award by Drs. Moerschbaecher and McDonough.



Dr. Fern Tsien received the Jack Hines, Jr. award which is named in honor of our former Director of Graduate Studies. Dr. Fern Tsien is accompanied by members of Jack Hines' family.

2013 Summer Internship Poster Session

Every summer sees LSU full of undergraduate and high school students who are participating in the summer research program directed by Drs. Fern Tsien and Paula Gregory. This summer-long experience culminates with a poster session. Congratulations are in order for the following winners of this year's event:

Undergraduate Category:

First Place:

Alexander Cammack (Tulane University), Mentor: Ed Grabczyk Ph.D. (Department of Genetics)

Second Place:

Meghan Doherty (University of Wisconsin), Mentor: Jason Gardner, Ph.D., (Department of Physiology)

Third Place:

Charity Sylvester (Xavier University), Mentor: Imran Mungroe, Ph.D., (Department of Pharmacology and Experimental Therapeutics)

High School Category:

First Place:

Reuben Hogan (Jesuit High School), Mentor: Annie Whitaker, Ph.D. (Department of Physiology)

Second Place:

Cullen Walsh (Jesuit High School), Mentor: Robert Siggins, Ph.D., (Department of Physiology)

Third Place:

Jacqueline Spangenberg (Academy of the Sacred Heart), Mentor: Megan Armstrong (Department of Physiology)

Graduate Research Day Winners!

The annual Graduate Research Day was held on Friday, November 8 at the Dental School.

Congratulations to the following winners:

Oral Presentation:

First place:

Felix Nau, Jr. (mentor Dr. Charles Nichols – Pharmacology)

Second place:

Patrick Raber (mentor Dr. Paulo Rodriguez – Microbiology, Immunology, and Parasitology)

Third place:

Manqi Wang (mentor Dr. Matthew Whim – Neuroscience)

Posters – Graduate Students:

First place:

Hannah Albritton (mentor Dr. Alison Quayle – Microbiology, Immunology, and Parasitology)

Second place:

Lu Zhang (mentor Dr. Tekada Ferguson – Epidemiology)

Third place:

Kayla Fuselier (mentor Dr. Ed Grabczyk – Genetics)

Posters – Postdoctoral Fellows:

First place:

Dr. Annie Whitaker (mentor Dr. Nicholas Gilpin – Physiology)

Second place:

Dr. Lyndsey Buckner (mentor Dr. Alison Quayle – Microbiology, Immunology, and Parasitology)

Third place:

Dr. Emily Roltsch (mentor Dr. Nicholas Gilpin – Physiology)

Medical School Research Day!

Congratulations are in order for the following winners of this year's Medical School Research Day:

First Place:

Stephen Xue (Mentor – Tammy Dugas, Ph.D., Department of Pharmacology, Toxicology, and Neuroscience, LSUHSC Shreveport)

Second Place:

Jeffrey Wang (Mentor – Hamid Boulares, Ph.D., Department of Pharmacology and Experimental Therapeutics, LSUHSC, New Orleans)

Third Place:

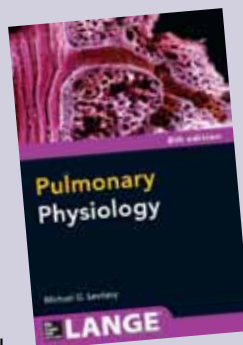
Jessica Chu (Mentor – Frank Greenway, M.D., Outpatient Clinic, Pennington Biomedical Research Center, Baton Rouge, LA)

Available at a Bookseller Near You...

Michael G. Levitzky, Ph.D. (Department of Physiology) recently published the 8th Edition of the book "Pulmonary Physiology" with McGraw-Hill as part of its Lange Physiology series. Considered the preeminent textbook for pulmonary physiology, this book has been the first choice and primary educational tool worldwide for more than 30 years.



Andrew D. Hollenbach, Ph.D. (Department of Genetics) published his first book entitled "A Practical Guide to Writing a Ruth L. Kirschstein NRSA Grant" with Elsevier's Academic Press. In this book he shares his "insider knowledge" of how applications for one of the nation's most prestigious training grants are reviewed and provides invaluable tips, insights, and key suggestions for writing these grants.



Both books are available on the respective publisher's website, Amazon.com, Barnes and Noble.com, and other on-line booksellers.

Researching the Researchers

Background:

Born and raised in Thibodaux, LA, my parents drove me to New Orleans every day so I could graduate from Jesuit High School. I was accepted into a combined 6 year accelerated medical program through Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute and Albany Medical College. After completing my medical degree, I matched at LSU Health Sciences Center in New Orleans for Internal Medicine/Pediatrics residency under the direction of Dr. Betty Lo-Blais. I then moved to Houston, TX where I completed a combined Adult and Pediatric Endocrinology fellowship at Baylor College of Medicine and Texas Children's Hospital under the direction of Drs. Ashok Balasubramanyam and Katherine Hwu. My research interests were focused both on obesity and diabetes especially in children. Under the mentorship of Drs. Morey Haymond, Agneta Sunehag, and Mary Brandt, I performed studies examining the glucose metabolism in obese adolescent patients under consideration for bariatric surgery. In a retrospective analysis, we determined low screening rates for co-morbidities in children with a BMI >50. In addition, I led an effort to determine the morbidity and mortality of patients admitted for diabetic ketoacidosis who developed clinical cerebral edema over a 12 year period at Texas Children's. In 2012, I came back home to Louisiana to join the faculty at Pennington Biomedical Research Center and LSU Health Sciences Center.

What do you want to tell people about your research?

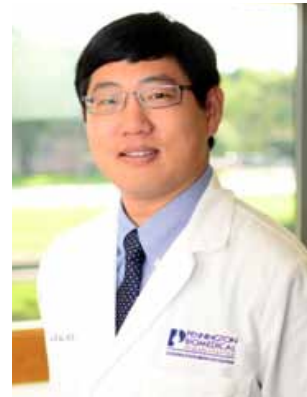
Earlier this year I received a \$50,000 pilot grant through the Louisiana Clinical and Translational Science (LA CaTS) Center for my project "Metabolic Effects of Short Term Sugarcane Bagasse Supplementation," which is a collaboration among Pennington Biomedical Research Center, the LSU AgCenter, and the LSU Department of Food Science. Pre-clinical studies have shown sugarcane fiber supplementation attenuates weight gain and improves insulin resistance. This is one of the first human studies using sugarcane fiber, and the fiber is being added to brownies and cookies that were developed by the LSU Food Science Department. My co-investigators on this study are: Drs. William Cefalu, Frank Greenway, Catherine Champagne, John Finley, and Donal Day. We plan to use the results of this study to support larger studies in the future.

To learn more about our research studies or to participate in a clinical study go to <http://www.pbrc.edu/clinical-trials/>

In addition to these nutrition studies, I am also involved with industry funded studies examining new therapeutics for both type 1 and type 2 diabetes. Because there are few therapies for the rising incidence of type 2 diabetes in children, we are studying a new GLP-1 agonist that may be beneficial in this younger age group. In addition, there is a new oral medication that lowers blood sugar by decreasing glucose absorption in both the gut and the kidneys that may be beneficial for patients with type 1 diabetes. Pennington is one of 7 centers that are conducting this clinical trial.

Currently, I am a co-investigator on 2 large NIH multi-center clinical trials: Dr. William Cefalu is the principal investigator for GRADE (Glycemia Reduction Approaches in Diabetes: A Comparative Effectiveness Study) and Dr. George Bray is the principal investigator for D2d (Vitamin D and type 2 diabetes); both studies are currently open for enrollment. The GRADE study will directly compare 4 of the most commonly used types of glucose-lowering medications (the sulfonylurea glimepiride, the DPP-4 inhibitor sitagliptin, the GLP-1 agonist liraglutide, and the basal insulin glargine), in addition to metformin, over an average of four years. The goal of the D2d study is to determine whether vitamin D supplementation is safe and effective in delaying the onset of type 2 diabetes in people at risk for the disease and to gain a better understanding of how vitamin D affects glucose metabolism.

Finally, some very exciting news is that we will be opening the new Translational Research Center for Children (TRCC) at Pennington Biomedical Research Center early in 2014. This will allow us to perform more pediatric studies so that we may learn more about obesity and diabetes in children.



Daniel S. Hsia, M.D.

Assistant Professor, Joint Diabetes, Endocrinology, and Metabolism Program, Pennington Biomedical Research Center and LSU Health Sciences Center

Seen in the Papers

Charles Nichols, Ph.D. (Department of Pharmacology) published a report in PLOS ONE describing a powerful new anti-inflammatory mechanism that could lead to the development of new oral medications for atherosclerosis and inflammatory bowel disorders (IBD).

(<http://dx.plos.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0075426>)

Dr. Nichols also published his work in Cell Reports describing the successful translation of a new technology (Designer Receptors Exclusively Activated by Designer Drugs) to better study behaviors and cellular function to fruit flies. This technique allows scientists to selectively, rapidly, reversibly, and dose-dependently remotely control behaviors and physiological process in the fly.

(10.1016/j.celrep.2013.08.003)

"cultivates" bacteria beneficial to it, thus changing our thinking about which comes first – infection or bacteria. They also discovered a previously unknown species of these bacteria.

(<http://jid.oxfordjournals.org/content/early/2013/04/04/infdis.jit100>)

Ya-Ping Tang, M.D., Ph.D. (Department of Cell Biology and Anatomy) published in PNAS that the action of a specific gene, CCKR-2, occurring during exposure to adolescent trauma is critical for the development of adult-onset Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD).

(<http://www.pnas.org/content/early/2013/03/29/1219601110>)

Postdoctoral fellow **Virginia Ronchi, Ph.D.**, working in the lab of **Arthur Haas, Ph.D.**, (Department of Biochemistry) revealed for the first time the inner workings of a master regulator that controls functions as diverse as the ability of nerve cells to "rewire" themselves in response to external stimuli and the mechanism by which certain viruses hijack normal cellular processes. This work was published in the Journal of Biological Chemistry.

(<http://www.jbc.org/content/288/18/10349>)

David H. Martin, M.D. (Department of Infectious Diseases) reported in Journal of Infectious Diseases (later published as a Research Highlight in Nature Reviews Urology) that a common sexually transmitted infection-causing parasite



Funding in a Rough Environment:

Congratulations to the following researchers for obtaining extramural funding from federal, state, and independent sources since April 1, 2013:

NIH R01:

Haydee Bazan, Ph.D. (Ophthalmology)
Yan Cui, Ph.D. (Microbiology, Immunology, and Parasitology)
Paul Fidel, Jr., Ph.D. (Microbiology, Immunology, and Parasitology)
Augusto Ochoa, M.D. (Pediatrics, Director – Stanley S. Scott Cancer Center)
Alison Quayle, Ph.D. (Microbiology, Immunology, and Parasitology)

NIH R00:

Robert Siggins, Ph.D. (Physiology)

NIH R21:

Guoshun Wang, D.V.M., Ph.D. (Microbiology, Immunology, and Parasitology)

NIH R03:

Catalin Filipeanu, M.D., Ph.D. (Pharmacology)
Jason Middleton, Ph.D. (Cell Biology and Anatomy)

NIH R56 (High Priority, Short-Term Project Award):

Donna Neumann, Ph.D. (Pharmacology)

NIH R13 (Support for Conferences and Scientific Meetings):

John Estrada, M.D. (Pediatrics)

NIH F30 M.D./Ph.D. Training Grant:

Xu “Sophie” Teng (Physiology)

National Science Foundation:

Xiao Ching Li, Ph.D. (Cell Biology and Anatomy)

Louisiana Board of Regents:

Andrew Catling, Ph.D. (Pharmacology)
Judy Crabtree, Ph.D. (Genetics)
Jason Gardner, Ph.D. (Physiology)
Imran Mungrue, Ph.D. (Pharmacology)
Alberto Musto, M.D., Ph.D. (Neurosurgery and Neurosciences)
Xinping Yue, M.D., Ph.D. (Physiology)

American Heart Association:

Srinivas Sriramula, Ph.D. (Pharmacology)

American Lung Association:

Kyle Happel, M.D. (Internal Medicine)

Independent Foundations:

Jameel Ahmed, M.D. (Internal Medicine)
United BioSource Corporation

Angela Amedee, Ph.D.
(Microbiology, Immunology, and Parasitology)
University of North Carolina

Nicholas Bazan, M.D., Ph.D. (Ophthalmology)
Vietnam Education Foundation

Lauri Byerley, Ph.D. (Physiology)
California Walnut Commission

Richard Campeau, M.D. (Radiology)
Pierrel Research USA, Inc.

Andrew Conger, M.D. (Neurosurgery)
DePuy Synthes Power Tools

Frank Culicchia, M.D. (Neurosurgery)
Globus Medical

Shyamal Desai, Ph.D. (Biochemistry and Molecular Biology)
Ataxia telangiectasia Children's Project

Bennett Deboisblanc, M.D. (Medicine and Physiology)
Denver Health & Hospital

Luis Espinoza, M.D. (Rheumatology)
Quintiles Pacific, Inc.

Maofu Fu, M.D., Ph.D. (Internal Medicine)
Altor Bioscience Corporation

Nicholas Gilpin, Ph.D. (Physiology)
Alcoholic Beverage Medical Research Foundation

Amparo Gutierrez, M.D. (Neurology)
Biogen

Pamela Kozlowski, Ph.D.
(Microbiology, Immunology, and Parasitology)
PaxVax, Inc.
Emory University

Jennifer Lentz, Ph.D. (Neuroscience Center of Excellence)
Foundation Fighting Blindness

Benjamin Levy, III, M.D. (Gastroenterology)
The American Gastroenterological Association

Christopher McGowin, Ph.D.
(Microbiology, Immunology, and Parasitology)
Roche Laboratories, Inc.

Stephen Morse, D.O.
(Internal Medicine)
Davita

Charles Nichols, Ph.D. (Pharmacology)
American Asthma Foundation

Daniel Raines, M.D. (Gastroenterology)
Crohn's & Colitis Foundation of America, Inc.

Alistair Ramsay, Ph.D. (Microbiology, Immunology, and Parasitology)
U.S. Department of Commerce

Efrain Reisin, M.D. (NIH/NIGMS Center of Biomedical Research Excellence)
Shire Regenerative Medicine, Inc.

Perry Rigby, M.D. (Internal Medicine)
Millennium Pharmaceuticals, Inc.

Frank Smart, M.D. (Internal Medicine)
Bayer Healthcare Pharmaceuticals

Stephanie Taylor, M.D. (Microbiology, Immunology, and Parasitology)
Gen Probe Incorporated
Identigene, LLC
Roche Molecular Systems, Inc.

Mark Townsend, M.D. (Psychiatry)
INC Research, Inc.

Guoshun Wang, D.V.M., Ph.D. (Microbiology, Immunology, and Parasitology)
Acres

David Welsh, M.D. (Internal Medicine)
Social & Scientific Systems, Inc.

Eugene Woltering, M.D. (Surgery)
Caris MPI, Inc.

Xiao Cheng Wu, M.D. (Stanley S. Scott Cancer Center)
Vanderbilt University

Moving Ever Higher and Better!

Congratulations are in order for the following members of the SOM faculty who successfully achieved promotion and/or tenure:

Professor with Tenure:

Hamid Boulares (Pharmacology)
Chu Chen (Otorhinolaryngology)
Paula Gregory (Genetics)

Clinical Professor:

Cristobal Mandry (Medicine)

Professor of Clinical:

Susan Berry (Pediatrics)
Bonnie C. Desselle (Pediatrics)
Marcia Robin English (Pediatrics)
Maria Velez (Pediatrics)

Associate Professor with Tenure:

Shyamal Desai (Biochemistry and Molecular Biology)
Timothy Foster (Microbiology, Immunology, and Parasitology)
Ben Kelly (Microbiology, Immunology, and Parasitology)

Tenure Only:

Mary Coleman (Professor – Family Medicine)
Luis Del Valle (Associate Professor – Medicine)
Sigiong Liu (Associate Professor – Anatomy)
Matthew Whim (Associate Professor – Anatomy)

Clinical Associate Professor:

Michele Larzelere (Family Medicine)
Anil Paramesh (Surgery)
Mirupa Patel (Medicine)

Associate Professor of Clinical:

Murtuza Ali (Medicine)
John R. Amoss (Medicine)
Vinod Dasa (Orthopaedics)
Ricardo Gomez (Pediatrics)
Angela Johnson (Medicine)
Judy Johnson (Anesthesiology)
Edward Mader (neurology)
Lanie Moncada (Family Medicine)
Jaime Morales/Arias (Pediatrics)
Ryan Pasternak (Pediatrics)

Marco Ruiz (Medicine)
Claudie Sheahan (Surgery)
Shannon Paul Starr (Family Medicine)
Hugo St. Hilaire (Surgery)
Matthew Wise (Surgery)

Assistant Professor (Tenure Track):
Robert Siggins (Physiology)

Clinical Assistant Professor:
Michael Fahr (Surgery)
Tomas Jacome (Surgery)

Assistant Professor of Clinical:
Jaime Alleyn (OB/Gyn)
Vijayendra Jilagam (Medicine)

the students' forum

Camp Tiger – Providing Fun for All

Peter Casey (SOM L2)

This year's Camp Tiger was a great success. Camp Tiger is an annual camp run by first year medical students that serves children with special needs from all over the Southeast Louisiana area that usually cannot attend summer camp. The children attending the camp had disabilities including Down's syndrome, autism spectrum disorders, cerebral palsy, and epilepsy. This year the camp was conducted from May 20th to May 24th, 2013. In its 28th year, the class of 2016 was able to set new records in children attending the camp, 123, and money raised, \$140,000. The class of 2016 had over 90% participation in both the fundraising for the camp and the week of camp itself. In addition over 100 students from the incoming class of 2017 participated in camp.



This year's camp consisted of many exciting activities. We had many of the typical Camp Tiger favorite activities such as the Audubon Zoo, Aquarium of the Americas, Storyland at City Park, and Kids Sports at Elmwood. Also we had some new activities which consisted of a visit to the LSU football facility in

Baton Rouge and a tour of Mardi Gras World. The final day was a carnival at Jesuit which was a fun way to conclude a week that the class of 2016 will never forget. The class of 2016 would like to give a special thanks to our faculty advisor, Dr. Joseph Delcarpio, and the members of the Camp Tiger Committee who worked tirelessly planning and executing Camp Tiger 2013.



The Camp Tiger Auction this year was one of the best on record. We had everything from a South African Safari trip, to rare wines, to artwork from our very own classmates up for grabs. The food was delicious, and best of all, everything was donated by the generous business owners of this great city. In the end, we raised over \$70,000 and had around 1,000 attendees. It was the celebration of the year... at least for us "shut-in" medical students. With a location as beautiful as NOMA, and people as wonderful as the LSUHSC community, it couldn't help but be anything less than spectacular.



SOM House Mentoring – a Student's Perspective

Ally Darga (SOM L2)

On the first day of medical school, the first years all clamber into boats to make passage across the lake bordering the school, meet a nearly-headless ghost, and ultimately, are assigned to houses for the duration of medical school by a well-worn talking witch's hat in front of the entire student body and faculty. Ok, that is not exactly how it goes, but some of the concepts of the newly-implemented school of medicine house system do very much mimic that portrayed in the Harry Potter series. Each house is made up of 30 students from each year as well as basic science and clinical faculty mentors. As more classes become part of the houses, each student will be assigned a faculty member, a big buddy from the year prior to guide them and a little buddy from the year below whom they will mentor.

I was part of the inaugural class for the house system. I was placed in Rampart house, which is led by Dr. Swartz, professor of Cell Biology and Anatomy. The house mentor system has already become an effective means of uniting current students and faculty and with time, will allow the growth of ties to alumni throughout the nation and worldwide. The level of activity in every house will depend on each entering class, the connections between current students and graduated members and the involvement of faculty mentors. Each week in our Science and Practice of Medicine class, faculty members join our group and help guide and enhance discussion on

ethical, clinical and current research topics based upon their experiences. These same faculty are assigned three to four students as mentees in the house each year and basically, make themselves available to us for any educational, career development and overall life questions.

Furthermore, the connection between students in different years has already begun in Rampart house. At the beginning of the year, we modified the traditional big buddy little buddy lunch by going to one restaurant and making it a house affair. Not only did we avoid the awkward moments that can come with one-on-one lunches with people you do not know, but also, immediately, every L1 was able to make a connection with 15 different L2's that can all serve as resources rather than just counting on one person.

All in all, while there is already so much benefit from the house system, the potential is incredible. Once house members begin graduating and dispersing for residencies and their careers, each house will have a networking system that extends far beyond the doors of LSUHSC. Some of my best friends from medical school are in our house, and these are the people who will continue making an impact in my life well beyond graduation day.

Fun During "PHUN" (Physiology Understanding) Week!

Brittini Baynes (Department of Physiology)

Physiology Understanding (PhUn) Week is a nationwide outreach program funded through the American Physiological Society (APS) that helps build connections between scientists and local K-12 schools. PhUn Week activities are aimed at increasing students awareness of physiology in their daily lives and to enhance interest in studying physiology as a possible career path. The Physiology Department at LSUHSC organized the participation of over 200 elementary school aged New Orleans students in this years PhUn Week. Participating schools included St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, Langston Hughes, Florida Avenue Elementary School, and St. Peters. Among this year's participating scientists are Dr. Annie Whitaker, Jacques Mayeux, Sophie Teng, John Maxi and Brittini Baynes. This years' presentations included: what is a physiologist, review of the scientific method, how fast is your brain activity and a hands-on experiment to determine the student's lung capacity.



Students from St. Elizabeth Ann Seton model the various lab accessories worn by scientists.



John Maxi (Physiology) helps students at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton determine their lung capacities using the Lung-o-Meter experiment during PhUn Week.

Alcohol and Drug Awareness at New Orleans Center For Creative Arts

Brittini Baynes (Department of Physiology)

On November 1st, graduate students, post-doctoral fellows, psychiatry residents and medical students from LSUHSC volunteered their time to participate in the first Anti-Drug Workshop at New Orleans Center for Creative Arts (NOCCA) high school. This is a new outreach program designed to bring awareness to high school aged students about the harmful effects of using drugs and alcohol. Over 160, full time NOCCA students participated in the hour-long event. It is the goal of this outreach event to bring this workshop to more high schools in the local area for a yearly presentation in the hopes of educating the youth of New Orleans on the harmful physiological and psychological effects of alcohol and drug abuse. The activities coordinated by Dr. Fern Tsien, David Ward and Brittini Baynes included: drunk simulation goggles, symptom:drugs of abuse matching games, and normal/abnormal livers, lungs, kidneys, hearts and brains.



Stephen Ford (Physiology), Jyothi Vijayaraghavan (Genetics) and Brittini Baynes (Physiology) teach students about the detrimental effects of alcohol on coordination first hand using intoxication simulation goggles.



David Ward (Clinical Anatomy and Biology) demonstrates the effects of drug abuse in the heart and brain.

Alcohol and Drug Abuse Center of Excellence (ADACE) Retreat

Brittini Baynes (Department of Physiology)

On December 13th, the 2nd LSUHSC Alcohol and Drug Abuse Center of Excellence (ADACE) retreat took place from 9:00 am -1:00 pm in the Lions Building, Neuroscience Center of Excellence Conference Room 8th floor. The keynote speaker was Dr. Bruce Hope, Ph.D., Chief of the Neuronal Ensembles in Drug Addiction section of the National Institute on Drug Abuse Intramural Research Program. Presentations from the first 2013 pilot grant awardees, Dr. Andrew Hollenbach and Dr. Jason Gardner, were followed by short oral presentations from selected pre- and post-doctoral fellows from LSUHSC and other participating institutions. Attending were by faculty and trainees from both LSUHSC-NO and other campuses in Southeast Louisiana who participate in research in or relating to the alcohol and drug abuse field.

A Right of Passage – The White Coat Ceremony

Kelsey Hundley (SOM L2)

We had been waiting almost a year for this moment, and many had been dreaming of it for even longer. Let's be honest, the excitement of carrying a stethoscope wore off when we realized we had nowhere to put it, and nothing says SWAG to a medical student quite like owning and wearing a white coat. And so, the School of Medicine's Class of 2016 gathered with family and faculty on July 27, 2013 for our White Coat Ceremony at Holy Cross School. This milestone in every doctor's career traditionally represents the first year medical student's matriculation into medical school; however, at LSUHSC it marks the second year medical student's transition into clinical medicine. For LSU medical students, this distinction renders the White Coat an accomplishment, something that we earned and a goal for our L1 colleagues.

Dr. Fred Lopez served as our Master of Ceremonies, and we listened to moving and inspiring words from Humanism in Medicine Award Nominee, Dr. Zee Ali and Humanism in Medicine Essay Contest Winner, L4 Bradley Fossier. It was hard to miss the symbolism behind being coated by first-year basic science faculty chosen by my class as the most dedicated to teaching and preparing us for our clinical years. They were proud parents booting us from the safety of the MEB's Lecture Hall B prepared with the tools for L2 success and that ever-desirable White Coat as a parting gift. Class officers lead the freshly-coated members of 2016 in an Oath of Ideals, co-written by myself and class president, Spandana Induru, that reflected our acceptance of the responsibilities symbolized by the White Coat. Afterwards, as my classmates and I posed for pictures in our fresh coats with each other and our families, there was a strong feeling of joy and accomplishment to have reached this milestone together.



Participants at the first ADACE retreat on May 31, 2013. include (left to right) Dr. Souza-Smith, Sophie Teng, Dr. Annie Whitaker, Key Note Speaker Dr. Antonio Noronha (Director of the Division of Neuroscience and Behavior at the NIAAA), Dr. Emily Roltsch and Whitney Nichols

Spanish in Medicine Interest Group

Jessica Baity, Katie Fellner, and D.D. McCord, MPH

The rapidly growing Spanish-speaking population in Southeastern Louisiana has long been overlooked by our healthcare system. According to the US Census Bureau, Spanish is the second most commonly spoken language in the U.S. at 12.9% of the population. We, as students, recognize the need to serve this expanding population in the best way possible. The Spanish in Medicine Interest Group (SMIG) aims to address Latino and Hispanic healthcare disparities in the greater New Orleans area by offering education, community outreach, and volunteer opportunities to its members and to the LSUHSC community. We accomplish these goals through bilingual and volunteer healthcare opportunities such as community clinics and health fairs, clinical shadowing, and interactive panels of guest speakers offering first-hand experiences. We hope to educate our colleagues in order to reduce stigma regarding Hispanic healthcare in this region. Our intention is to inform future clinicians of the disparities these patients face, as well as to provide opportunities to overcome them.

Recognizing the lack of Spanish speaking medical personnel in Louisiana, Carl Mickman, Medicine class of 2014, organized a beginning level medical Spanish class offered as an elective to students. For the past two years, the class, taught by Dr. Caroline Good of Tulane University, has provided a way for medical students to learn basic Spanish conversation skills to use with their patients. The elective is offered each spring to any interested student with basic Spanish knowledge. Students meet in the evenings for a few hours to learn medical vocabulary and to practice common conversations they may have with their patients. The goal of the class is to improve patient interview skills and communication with the Spanish-speaking community.

In addition to the beginner Spanish class, Dr. Patricia Molina, Department Head of Physiology, conducts an intermediate level Spanish class for fluent second year LSUHSC students. Fluent students have the opportunity to practice using conversational and medical Spanish before entering their third year clinical rotations. Both bilingual physicians and researchers lead classes. Lecture topics range from cultural competency in healthcare to the effective delivery of healthcare in the bilingual setting to conducting the history and physical interview and exam in Spanish. The goal of this class is to enable students to overcome language barriers while respecting cultural customs and beliefs in order to serve this patient population effectively and efficiently.

In an effort to serve the Spanish population on a global level, the Student International Health Organization (SIHO) and SMIG co-promote a medical mission trip to Guatemala. Students have the opportunity to travel to Guatemala for ten days during which they provide much-needed health services to communities of the Guatemalan highlands. Oftentimes, these patients have never seen a doctor before. The intention is to offer basic healthcare services to this population. These services include medicine, dentistry, and pharmacy. The mission is a wonderful opportunity to experience another culture while providing basic but essential services to an underserved population in need. As one of the fastest growing groups in the SE Louisiana region, it is important to address the healthcare needs of the Hispanic community. Through joint efforts, the LSUHSC student body is committed to improving Hispanic patient care on not only a local level, but also a global level. Ultimately, we hope to overcome and remove barriers to care, as well as eliminate healthcare disparities in this burgeoning population.

LOCUS report

Jacob Rickoll, LSUHSC BSN Class of 2016

Hi there, med students! My name is Jacob Rickoll and I'm the new president of LOCUS. The LGBT+Ally Organization for Cultural Understanding in the Health Sciences (LOCUS) is a student organization aimed at advancing awareness and understanding of and for the LGBT community at LSUHSC and in New Orleans. Our goal is to serve at LSU by educating future healthcare professionals of the specific concerns of LGBT individuals and to serve the community through multiple outreach programs with local organizations. Finally, and perhaps most importantly, we strive to foster an environment that supports LGBT individuals at LSUHSC, with strict confidence, and provides them with a safe place in which to grow as healthcare professionals."

As well as being a nursing student at LSU, I've been working at the NO/AIDS Task Force for 7 years and involved with a number of other LGBT political, spiritual, and athletic organizations in New Orleans. I know very well the importance of having medical providers that understand the complexities involved with treatment of the LGBT community. The goal of LOCUS is to provide an opportunity for LSUHSC students to be

able to not only network but also to learn about medical issues that disproportionately affect the LGBT community, both locally and abroad. LOCUS is also here to empower you with the knowledge of resources available to assist you in providing the highest quality care to your LGBT patients, as well as listen to any suggestions that you, as the future leaders of the medical community, might have to improve such resources. Plus, we also have a lot of fun! Events can range from formal dinner presentations about the newest treatments and medical breakthroughs for diseases such as HIV and other STDs to participating in AIDS Walks and health fairs and so many other wonderful activities in New Orleans that promote education and overall wellness in the LGBT community. I encourage you to please email me so that I can add you to the LOCUS email list and keep you updated. You may also call my cell anytime at 504-473-6943 for questions regarding community resources and activities.



Office of Academic & Multicultural Affairs Hosts Book Club

The Office of the Associate Vice Chancellor for Academic & Multicultural Affairs hosted a campus wide book club on Nov. 14th where they discussed *Po-boy Contraband: From Diagnosis Back to Life*, by Patrice Melnick. *Po-boy Contraband* is the engaging memoir of a local woman who could easily be any one of us. All of us know her or know someone like her. She takes what was initially a dire

situation and flips the script. "She decides to live her life to the fullest, appreciating music, food, and literature--and finding love." This creative non-fiction book is an enlightening and entertaining story of one woman's journey from "diagnosis back to life". This journey includes a very diverse spectrum of people who help to shape the protagonist's outlook and disposition. Once again New Orleans is a central character in this story just as it was in last year's Book Club selection, *Nine Lives*. You will recognize a great deal of this trip because you've seen some of it before. The book's author, Ms. Melnick joined them for this discussion.



Office of Multicultural Affairs Hosts Recruitment Caravans

Our annual LSUHSC Recruitment Caravan is an opportunity to highlight our many academic programs with prospective students at local undergraduate institutions. Faculty and student representatives from each of our six schools join us on our Caravan as we share general and specific information about our various programs of study. Brochures and PowerPoints accompany informal conversations with groups and individuals at each stop along the Caravan. Refreshments and door prizes were also provided. The Recruitment Caravan occurred on Nov 13th in Baton Rouge at Southern University and at LSU. On Nov. 19th we were at Xavier University and on Nov. 20th we were at Dillard University.

Supporting LSU Health Sciences Centers Needed to Care for Louisiana Residents & Enhances Economic and Quality of Life Measures

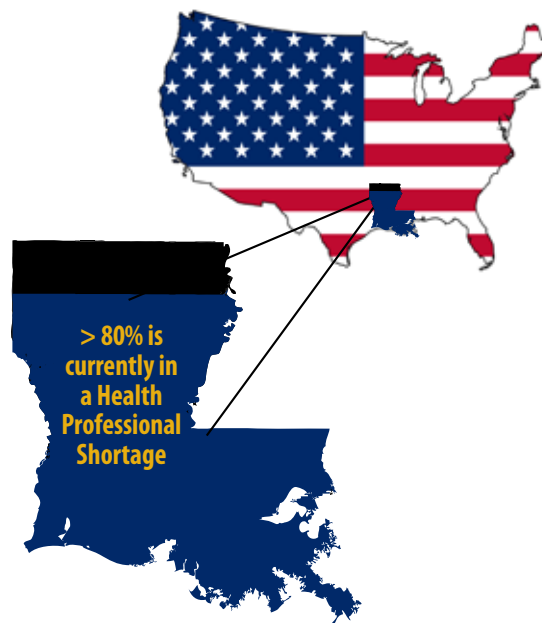
National Rank preferring Healthcare Provider

Primary Care Physicians	42nd
Dentists.....	40th
Nurse Practitioners	37th
Physician Assistants	44th

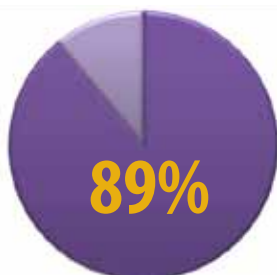


Louisiana ranks top 20 for having the oldest Physician and Dental workforce

- 28% Active Physicians age 60 +
- 30% Dentists age of 60 +



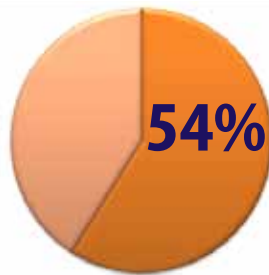
High Return on Investment in LSU Health Sciences Centers



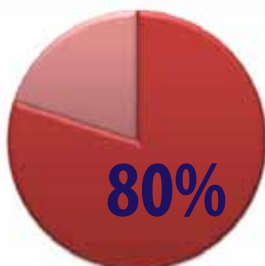
Louisianians accepted to any Medical School(s) choose to attend in state #5 in the nation.



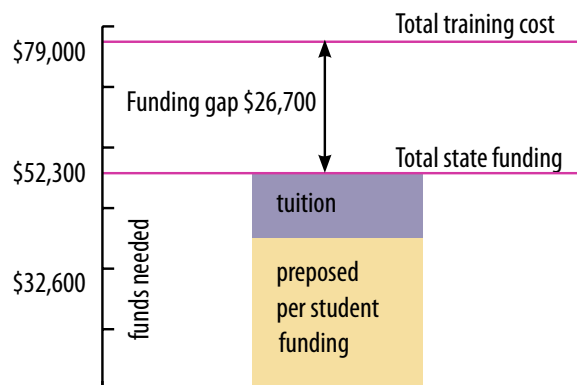
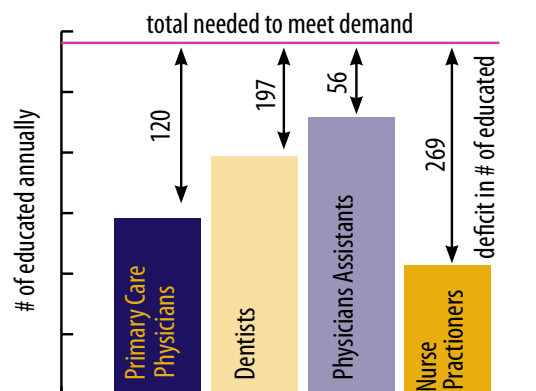
67% Louisiana medical school graduates who train at a Louisiana teaching hospital practice regionally.
 • Annual Economic Impact of Office-Based Physician:\$2.2 M
 • Annual Economic Impact of Office-Based Dentist:\$1.3 M



Public Louisiana medical school graduates stay in Louisiana to train - #5 in the nation



Nearly 80% of the actively practicing dentists graduated from the LSU Dental School.



LSU Health Sciences Centers Increased Student Enrollment due to Increased Demand

2008 to 2013 Student Increase	Allied Health	School of Medicine	Dentistry	Average Student Increase
HSC- Shreveport	16%	18%	N/A	17%
HSC- New Orleans	27%	7 %	5%	17%

Increasing investment in LSU Health Sciences Centers increases the ability to Louisiana's healthcare providers, supports economic development & business recruitment.

Board of Regents Approves FY 14-15 Higher Education Budget Request

Chris Vidrine (LSU Health Sciences Center-New Orleans Director of External Relations)

The Board of Regents approved the preliminary budget request for FY 2014-2015. The request has been forwarded to the governor's Division of Administration for consideration in the Executive Budget. A collaborative effort is needed to ensure that this request is included in the governor's recommendation. Below is a general review of the request which has three key components.

Part One: Maintain current operational budgets and provide additional dollars for formula equalization:

- \$36 million above the existing operating budget base to bring 2 and 4 year institutions to a 65% formula implementation rate to simplify the formula by eliminating the stop-loss which is capped at 4%. For FY 13-14, \$484 million was distributed through the formula and an additional \$40 million was provided to each system. This year, we are requesting a total of \$560 million for distribution through the formula.
- \$10 million for LSUHSC-NO and \$7 million for LSUHSC-S requested above the existing operating budget
- \$3.3 million requested above the existing operating budget base of \$13.4 million for Pennington to open a new facility and hire research teams.
- Louisiana Universities Marine Consortium (LUMCON), \$750,000 requested above the existing operating budget base of \$2.3 million to stabilize operations.

TOTAL: \$57 Million

Part Two:

Maintenance of Tuition Increases:

The budget request includes the following statement: Please keep in mind that this request assumes that any tuition increases approved by the management boards and legislature will not be offset by a state general fund reduction. For LSUHSC-NO, this would result in nearly \$5 million.

Workforce & High Demand Program Backlogs (One-Time Funds)

- \$30 million funding pool was requested for the Higher Education Initiatives Fund to reduce significant backlogs in high demand programs such as nursing, engineering, medicine and dental hygiene. The allocation will be based on robust data collection and in-depth analysis by the Board of Regents. These funds will be used as start-up costs for programs that have a demonstrated need. Tuition from the additional students will sustain the programs.

TOTAL: \$30 Million

Part Three: Revolving Loan Fund (Prior Year Surplus Funds)

- 50 million from the FY 13 budget surplus to create the Higher Education Deferred Maintenance Revolving Loan Fund. This fund will provide a source of money from which low interest loans are made to institutions demonstrating the need to address emergency and time-sensitive capital projects. There is a significant need to fund the \$1.8 billion backlog of deferred maintenance projects among higher education institutions. Act 426 of the 2013 Regular Session established a Building Use Fee implemented by management boards and institutions to construct, acquire, repair, maintain, operate, or improve the facilities and physical infrastructure of the institution collecting the fee. This fee can be used to repay the loan.

TOTAL: \$50 Million

What's Going On in YOUR Neck of the Woods!

Biochemistry and Molecular Biology

Dr. Suresh Alahari's research details exactly how the Her2 cancer gene promotes the progression and spread of breast cancer cells, providing new drug targets for HER-2 related breast cancer.

Jing Liu was selected to receive a Graduate Student/Postdoctoral Fellow travel award to attend the 2013 ASBMB Annual Meeting in Boston, MA.

Jessica Richard was selected to give an oral presentation for the ASBMB platform session at the Annual Meeting in Boston, MA. Her talk was "Plasticity of the kinesin-microtubule interaction is encoded by the motor domain beta sheet."

Microbiology, Immunology, and Parasitology:

Dr. Jennifer Cameron was awarded the first LA CaTS Roadmap Scholar Award.

Dr. Ben Kelly was asked to serve as scientific review officer (SRO) for the Leishmania (LEI) pre-application peer review panel of the 2013 fiscal year Peer Reviewed Medical Research Program (PRMRP) for the Department of Defense.

Dr. Christopher McGowin was invited to be a member of the National Scientific Advisory Board for Roche Diagnostics.

Evelyn Nash was awarded the "Best Ph.D. Student Talk" prize at the combined annual meeting of the Texas and South Central Branches of the American Society for Microbiology meeting held at the Marriott Hotel in New Orleans. Her presentation was entitled "Morphogenesis is not required for *Candida albicans*-*Staphylococcus aureus* intra-abdominal infection-mediated dissemination and lethal sepsis."

Dr. Alistair Ramsay in partnership with the New Orleans BioInnovation Center was awarded a \$300,000 grant by the EDA to seed the Center for Bioscience Research Innovation, and Commercialization. This Center aims to promote and support bioscience research commercialization and training of students and junior researchers in this area, building on the work of the Louisiana Vaccine Center. Tapping into federal funding agencies outside of the NIH is of increasing importance in these challenging times and plans are to support the growth of this center through further funding from EDA and commercial sources.

Dr. Arnold Zea was appointed to the board of the New Orleans Charter, Sciences and Mathematics High School (5 year term). The school provides a rigorous education in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) to traditionally underserved high school students in Orleans Parish. He will serve as a member of the Scientific Committee and Curriculum Advisory Committee.

Genetics

Dr. Judy Crabtree was named the Director of the School of Medicine Genomics Core effective Oct 1, 2013.

Dr. Paula Gregory was awarded the American Heart Association award to support three medical student stipends for twelve weeks as part of the Summer Research Internship Program.

Dr. Diptasri Mandal received a National Cancer Institute award for her project "Prostate Cancer Susceptibility: the ICPG Study"

Dr. Fern Tsien continues to direct the LSUHSC/Patrick Taylor Science Education and Career Workshops and the LSUHSC New Orleans Schools Science Partnership Programs.

Drs. Fern Tsien and Paula Gregory, in collaboration with Ochsner Clinic, received funding from the NIH to support an exciting outreach program for local high school science teachers. The program "BEST Science!" offerings include paid summer professional development workshops for teachers and curriculum supplements of hands-on laboratory modules directly aligned with Louisiana curriculum standards.

Dr. Fern Tsien partnered with two of New Orleans Historically Black Colleges and Universities (Xavier University and Dillard University) as part of the Science and Career Education Partnership.

Pathology

Dr. Caroline Alquist and **Dr. Ellen Connor** gave an oral presentation entitled "Autopsy quality assurance evaluation of electronic medical record efficacy" at the Tri-State Pathology conference in Mobile, AL on April 2013. Drs. Alquist and Connor also present a poster entitled "Autopsy quality assurance (AQuA) and improvement: a baseline evaluation" at the LSU School of Medicine Quality Improvement and Patient Safety Forum in New Orleans.

Dr. Brad Cheek, Chief Resident, gave an oral presentation entitled "Acute spontaneous rupture of anterolateral papillary muscle" at the Southern Medical Association meeting in Destin FL on November 2013. Dr. Cheek, along with Dr. Robin McGoey and Dr. William P. Newman, III, published two articles entitled "Acute onset of extreme shortness of breath" and "Splenic nodules at autopsy" in the May/June 2013 issue of the Journal of the Louisiana State Medical Society.

Dr. Randall Craver published an article entitled "Rapidly Growing Papillary Fibroelastoma in a teenager with Sickle Cell Disease" in the May 2013 issue of Echocardiography. Dr. Craver also published an article entitled "Giant vascular malformation with thrombocytopenia in a newborn" in the November 2013 issue of the Clinical Pediatrics Journal.

Dr. Carmen Frias-Kletecka was elected to the editorial board for JSM Cell, published by JSciMed, a publisher of forty-nine internationally peer reviewed science and engineering journals.

Adam Perricone, in collaboration with Dr. Richard Vander Heide, Ben Bivona, and Fannie Jackson, presented a poster entitled "Examining the role of cytoskeletal signaling in cardiac ischemic preconditioning" at the Experimental Biology Conference in Boston, MA.

Dr. Fred Rodriguez was named President of the National Accrediting Agency for Clinical Laboratory Sciences and President of the University of New Orleans International Alumni Association. He was also named Alumnus of the Year by the LSU Medical Alumni Association in June 2013.

Dr. Kelley Willis Sherling, Chief Resident, in collaboration with Dr. Robin McGoey published an article entitled "Bilateral renal artery stenosis" in the Sep/Oct 2013 issue of the Journal of the Louisiana State Medical Society. In addition, Dr. Sherling and Dr. Theresa Nuttli, in collaboration with Dr. McGoey and Dr. Newman published an article entitled "Left ventricular noncompaction" in the May/June 2013 issue of the Journal of the Louisiana State Medical Society.

Dr. Richard Vander Heide published an article entitled "Conditional knockout of myocytes focal adhesion kinase abrogates ischemia precondition in adult murine hearts" in the September 2013 issue of the Journal of the American Heart Association.

Dr. Tong Yang, in collaboration with Dr. McGoey, published an article entitled "Fatality following acute onset of shortness of breath" in the July/Aug 2013 issue of the Journal of the Louisiana State Medical Society.

Pharmacology

Dr. Gin Chuang was awarded a Postdoctoral Travel Award by the Cardiovascular Toxicology Specialty Section at the Annual Society of Toxicology meeting where Gin's presentation was "Mitochondria and intrinsic apoptotic pathway mediated cardiac toxicity of environmentally persistent free radicals."

The Rape Aggression Defense System

The Rape Aggression Defense (R.A.D.) System is a program of realistic self-defense tactics and techniques for women. The R.A.D. System classes consist of three classes of 3-4 hours each. The classes begin with a lecture regarding awareness, prevention, risk reduction and risk avoidance, and progresses on to physical resistive strategies training on the basics of hands-on defense. R.A.D. is not a martial arts program. Courses are taught by nationally certified R.A.D. Instructors and provide each student with a workbook/reference manual that outline the entire Physical Defense Program for reference and continuous personal growth. More information about the R.A.D. System can be found at <http://www.rad-systems.com/>

Free classes are sponsored and organized on campus by the LSUHSC Police Department and are open to all LSUHSC female students, faculty, staff and family members (14 years or older). Classes are scheduled for a minimum of 10 participants, are limited to a maximum of 14 participants and are filled on a "first come - first served" basis. Contact Sergeant Hall (rhall1@lsuhsc.edu or 504-799-8061) for further information

- ❑ **OTM recently launched a Research Materials Disclosure Program (RMDP)**
- ❑ **Research materials include animal models, cell lines, antibodies, chemical substances or unique media, novel vectors or research hardware**
- ❑ **Commercialization of research materials offers unique alternative to MTA process, and may provide financial incentives to inventor, their department, and the institution**
- ❑ **Contact the OTM to learn more about the RMDP today!**

LSU SOM Designated MDA/ALS Clinic

LSU SOM was recently designated as the first Muscular Dystrophy Association (MDA) ALS clinic in Louisiana. The MDA made this designation last May. This recognizes the high standards of care offered by a team of specialized physicians and therapist for people of the greater New Orleans area living with amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS, also known as Lou Gehrig's disease). LSU SOM is the 44th such center in the country and has built a comprehensive team of clinicians including a board-certified neurologist, a pulmonologist, and respiratory, physical, and speech therapists.

AOA Inductees

Congratulations are in order for the following newly inducted members of the Beta of Louisiana Chapter of Alpha Omega Alpha Honor Medical Society:

Kate Accardo Sarah Bankhead
Elise Boos
Erin Cahill
Erin Conlin
Carol Faulk
Michael "Mickey" Garitty
David Impastato
David Kilpatrick
Jolie LeBlanc
Mary Maher
Rebecca Meyers
Kyle O'blanc
Ross Parkerson
Caitlin Robinson
Stephanie Rosales
Randy Sorge
Trevor Stubbs
David Theriot
Ashley Veade

Senior Medical Students
(elected as Juniors):
Aimee Coscarart
Ariane "CoCo" Fraiche
Nicholas Frank
Ryan Gravolet
Hongvan Le
Maverick LeBlanc
Elizabeth Marston
Komal Metha
Michael Modica
Adam Tosh
Nicholas Walker



When
Jack Hines
passed away
over a year ago,
LSU School of Graduate Studies
lost more than just a staff
member...
they lost a generous
person and friend.
A fund was set up in his memory.

*If you would like to donate to this fund go to
<https://give.lsuhealthfoundation.org/>
click on "Make a Gift Now", and select the
"Jack Hines Memorial Fund"
from the drop down list
of designated recipients.*

New Orleans Schools Science Partnership School Drive

Fern Tsien, Ph.D. (Department of Genetics)

The LSUHSC/New Orleans Schools Science Partnership Program is proud to announce our new partner, Medard Nelson Elementary School.

The goals of the program include:

- making science more interesting, easier to understand, and accessible in the classroom through hands-on science activities in coordination with the school administrators and teachers based on their current curriculum
- improving 4th grade science standardized test scores
- introducing 4th graders attending New Orleans schools to positive and diverse science professionals and trainees as role models

Volunteer instructors include students, post-doctoral fellows, and faculty from the Schools of Graduate Studies, Medicine, Allied Health Professions, Dentistry, Public Health, and Nursing.

More than 200 items were collected from a campus wide school supply drive held at LSUHSC-New Orleans. The supplies were donated to partnering schools, including Medard Nelson. Other schools currently receiving science instruction by LSUHSC faculty, staff, and trainees include St. Peter Claver Elementary School and Langston Hughes Elementary (Recovery School District).

Welcoming us to our new partner school, Medard Nelson Elementary, were New Beginnings School Foundation CEO Sametta Brown, Board Member Autumn Snyder Harrell, Esq., and Principal Ms. Deidra Bradley.



Fall Food Drive

The Food and Toiletries Drive for our neighbors at the St. Joseph Rebuild Center (1803 Gravier St) was a huge success thanks to the contributions from the entire Health Sciences Center. The final tally was: 325 packages of dry food products (cereal, rice, beans, soup mix, seasonings, crackers, dry baby food, etc); 318 canned and bottled food items (vegetables, fruits, soups, sauces, etc); 201 toiletries (deodorant, razors, shaving cream, shampoo, toothbrushes, toothpaste, lotions, etc). Sister Anna Raimon who manages the Pantry at the Rebuild Center, was very excited to receive the delivery of the supplies from the first year graduate students, SGA President Felix Nau, and members of the Graduate School Multicultural/Diversity Committee (see photo). The Drive was an outreach activity initiated as part of the orientation session for the incoming Graduate Students, who were very happy to make multiple trips to empty the overflowing boxes! Many thanks to everyone who contributed to the Drive!



Left to right: Dr. Dereck Rovaris, (Vice Chancellor for Multicultural and Academic Affairs); Dr. Tracy Dodd (Physiology); Felix Nau, (Pharmacology, Graduate Student Association President); David Vumbaco (Interdisciplinary Program (IDP) student); Van Nihn (IDP student); Kirsten Wood (IDP student); Adrienne McGinn (IDP student); Alyssa Fournett (IDP student); Chelsea Organ (Pharmacology student); Dr. Fern Tsien (Genetics); Dr. Sonia Gasparini (Neuroscience Center); Sister Anna Raimon, St. Joseph Rebuild Center.