

Wednesday, September 18, 2002

Fairmont Hotel

Benefitting The Alzheimer's Association Greater New Orleans Chapter

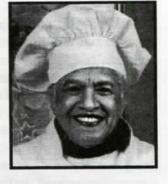
Honorees



Nicolas G. Bazán, M.D., Ph.D.

Ernest C. & Yvette Villere
Professor of Ophthalmology
Boyd Professor & Director, LSU Neuroscience Center of Excellence

Leah Lange Chase
Chef and Owner, Dooky Chase Restaurant





Cecilia Bisso Slatten
Chairman of the Board, Bisso Towboats
Company, Incorporated

"In special recognition of your long term commitment to improve the life and health of our community."

NICOLAS G. BAZÁN, M.D., Ph.D.

Dr. Nicolas G. Bazan, M.D., PhD., is the Director of the Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center Neuroscience Center of Excellence, as well as Professor of Ophthalmology, Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, and Neurology. He holds the Ernest C. and Yvette C. Villere Endowed Chair for the Study of Retinal Degenerations and the Boyd Professorship, the highest academic honor in the LSU System.

Dr. Bazan received his MD from the University of Tucuman (Argentina) and continued his postdoctoral training at Columbia University and Harvard Medical School. He is an esteemed teacher and prolific writer, publishing over 400 original articles, editing 18 books, and serving on the editorial board of 16 scientific journals. He has developed multi-disciplinary educational and research programs that have attracted international scientists to New Orleans for his annual scientific retreats and ongoing neuroscience seminars. He is actively involved in activities that will foster the development of a knowledge-based economy in the metropolitan area. His work led to the formation of St. Charles Pharmaceuticals, a local biotech/pharmaceutical company. This Research and Development Company is envisioned as the model of the type of start-up companies that can be fostered. In the late 1980's, Dr. Bazan chaired the LSU Task Force "Research as an Economic Force" and currently sits on the Board of the University of New Orleans Research and Technology Task Force.

Dr. Bazan has achieved international renown for his pioneering studies on the release of lipid messengers in brain trauma, seizure, or ischemia. He is investigating and trying to prevent the death of brain cells called neurons. His studies have direct benefit to treating stroke, epilepsy, head injury and eye inflammation, glaucoma, neurodegenerative diseases, retinitis pigmentosa, diabetic retinopathy, age-related macular degeneration, and Alzheimer's disease. He has served as President of the American Society for Neurochemistry and has received numerous awards, including the Jacob Javits Neuroscience Investigator Award from the National Institutes of Health.

Dr. Bazan is also a civic leader who sits on the Boards of the Lighthouse for the Blind and the Willwoods Community of the Malta Park among other community agencies.