On July 12, 2013 we celebrated Dr. Judd Shellito's tenure as Pulmonary and Critical Care's Section Chief. He has served in that capacity since 2008 after taking over from Dean Nelson. We celebrated the occasion by sharing a delicious lunch with colleagues and friends at the Chancellor’s reception room. Dr. Shellito has decided to scale down his clinical work load and focus more on his grant efforts. Since then, he has been dedicating more time to his family, woodworking and traveling.

Dr. Carol Mason was appointed as the Acting Section Chief. Dr. Mason is the Louis R. Cabiran MD Professor of Medicine and Vice Chair of Academic Affairs. Her research endeavors center around pulmonary host defenses against infection. Dr. Mason is also Medical Director for ILH, Ochsner Kenner and St. Theresa LTAC Respiratory Therapy departments, and Medical Director LSUHSC School of Allied Health Cardiopulmonary Sciences Program.

The Global Pulmonary Exchange Program (GPEP) 2013 visitor from Ege University in Izmir, Turkey was Dr. Alev Gurgun. She had a chance to observe the section's clinical activities, attend pulmonary conferences and lectures, and enjoy New Orleans. Dr. Jonathan Richards traveled to Turkey in June and Abdul Khan, a 2nd year pulmonary fellow, was selected to travel to Turkey in March 2014 as part of the program.

In June, we also had the pleasure to host Dr. Le Thuong Vu thanks to the support of Dr. Warren Summer’s professorship. Dr. Kantrow had worked with the faculty at Ho Chi Minh City University to establish the site as part of GPEP and this year we will be sending our first fellow to Vietnam. Dr. Brian Parker, who is a 2nd year fellow, will be traveling to Ho Chi Minh City in March 2014.

Dr. Juzar Ali also had a chance to travel to Vietnam this year as a recipient of the 2013 Vietnam Educational Foundation (VEF) U.S. Faculty Scholar Grant Program. VEF is a U. S. Federal Government independent agency dedicated to conduct teaching programs in Vietnam. Under this program, Dr. Ali visited Thai Binh Medical University near Hanoi to provide face to face lessons in Pulmonary Medicine and also taught a class to both Vietnamese and LSUHSC medical students remotely.

We want to hear from you! Please, send us any news, updates or just say hi. Also, tell us what do you want to see in the future issues of Inspire. E-mail us at: PulmNews@lsuhsc.edu
**More Section News**

The American Lung Association (ALA) “Fight For Air Walk” took place on Saturday, October 5th at Audubon Park. Although there were fears of a storm coming, all members of LSUHSC Pulmonary team, Breathe Easy in the Big Easy participated in the walk. We also managed to surpass our fundraising goal. Thanks to all who donated to ALA. The “Fight For Air Walk” raises awareness of lung disease and educates the public on the importance of air quality.

Ms. Chicquita Mayberry (Quita), who has worked as an Executive Assistant for Dr. Juzar Ali for more than three years, has accepted a new position at Interim LSU Hospital’s (ILH) Ambulatory Services Department. She will be working as a Telemedicine Coordinator. Although Quita was a Health Care Services Division employee, she had a vital role in the Section of Pulmonary and Critical Care. She has been coordinating Dr. Ali’s academic and clinical efforts in both of his roles as ILH’s Chief Medical Officer and Faculty member of the section. We will miss Quita and we wish her all the best.

**New Faces**

V. Ted Barnett, MD, MA
Dr. Barnett was appointed Clinical Associate Professor of Medicine with our section. He works with Dr. deBoisblanc in recruiting ICU patients to the ARDSNet clinical trials and supervises and teaches Pulmonary Fellows at Ochsner Medical Center. Dr. Barnett recently joined Ochsner as Director, Medical Critical Care.

Stuart R. Hart, MD
Dr. Hart became Clinical Assistant Professor of Medicine with our section. He is currently working with Dr. Kantrow to improve fellowship procedural educational competencies by focusing on intubations and central lines. He is supervising fellows who are on the Airways Procedure rotation at Ochsner Medical Center - West Bank Campus.

Jessica L. Johnson, PharmD, BCPS
Dr. Johnson, whose primary appointment is with Xavier University, was appointed as Clinical Assistant Professor of Medicine with our section. She supervises fellows while participating in multidisciplinary rounds at Interim LSU Hospital and is also collaborator on some of the section’s clinical studies.

Lesley A. Saketkoo, MD, MPH
Dr. Saketkoo, Assistant Professor of Clinical Medicine, officially became a member of our section in June 2013. She collaborates with Pulmonary faculty in clinical studies of pulmonary complications of some connective tissue disorders, primarily pulmonary hypertension and interstitial pulmonary fibrosis.

David L. Smith, MD
Dr. Smith, who is Assistant Professor of Clinical Radiology, received a secondary appointment with our department and section. He is in charge of supervising the thoracic radiology fellow rotation and collaborating with pulmonary faculty members and fellows in various research and teaching activities.

**Where are they now?**

Sent by Dr. John Gunter
Class of 1991

Hello to all my LSU Pulmonary/Critical Care Alumni and Friends! I graduated the University of Tennessee School of Medicine in Memphis in 1985 and then did an Internal Medicine Residency from 1985-88 at UT, Chattanooga. During my Pulmonary/Critical Care Fellowship at LSU between 1988-91, I helped enroll patients into the Exosurf surfactant trial in ARDS (another good idea that just didn’t work). I also had my own research project testing the utility of synchronized external counter pulsation in septic shock in both pigs and humans. Although we did publish our work in the Blue Journal, it never caught on and I have yet to receive a royalty check. I have fond memories of hanging out on Dr. Ben’s houseboat and of driving around town in Warren’s BMW or Carol’s 300Z. Hats off to my co-fellows (Brian Burlew, Carl Walker and Joy Cohen) who were the best. When we dispersed, I came to Chattanooga and I practice primarily at Erlanger Hospital, which is a community teaching hospital within the UT system. I have a combined private practice and teaching service. Of note, I have sent some stellar fellows back to LSU, e.g. Stephen Chitty, Richard Morrison and Jody Haddock. My professional interests are still ARDS and severe sepsis.

I am married to a very loving wife, Jeana. Jeana is also a respiratory therapist, so she knows when I am BS-ing. My eldest daughter, Sarah, is in nursing school and is due to graduate this year. It’s kinda cool having her rotate thru my ICU! I like riding motorcycles (a.k.a. donorcycles) and tinkering with old muscle cars. I also love to travel and try out a different beer or two or three or... wherever I go. Recently, when I have not been reading medicine, my eyes have turned to the crime novel series by Joe Nesbo or the TV series “The Walking Dead.”