



The LSUHSC School of Medicine electronic news

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Month: January 2018

Upcoming Events

[January 9, 2018](#) ~ [ginalaborde](#)

Cardiovascular Center of Excellence:

Cardiovascular Seminar Series

- March 14 – Dr. John Calvert | 12 – 1 pm | CSRB 563 – Emory University SOM
- April 12 – Dr. Jeffery D. Molkentin | 12 – 1 pm | CSRB 563 – Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center

Cardiovascular Works-in-Progress Series

- March 22 – Dr. Flavia M. Souza | 10:30 am – 12 pm | CSRB 563
- April 19 – Dr. Ben L. Kelly | 10:30 am – 12 pm | CSRB 563

Family Medicine

Family Medicine Spring Summit in New Orleans on March 3-4

Otolaryngology-Head & Neck Surgery:

For the second consecutive year, Dr. Robert Peden has been invited to lecture at the 28th Annual Temporal Bone Surgical Dissection Course on March 2018 at the Sam Houston Military Medical Center in Texas.

Dr. Jeffrey Joseph was invited to present “Browlifts: Indications, Approaches & Tips” and “Lip Fillers for Natural Results” at the 25th FFAS State of the Art in Facial Aesthetics Symposium, New Orleans, La, March 1-4, 2018.

Dr. Anna Pou will serve as the moderator for Multidisciplinary Head and Neck Cancers Symposium at the American Society for Radiation Oncology in February. She will also serve as a panelist on The Leadership Forum panel at the Board of Governor’s Meeting of the American Academy of Otolaryngology-Head & Neck Surgery in March 2018.

Dr. Adele Evans authored an article entitled, “Development of Laryngeal Structure and Function: An Otorhinolaryngology Perspective,” that will be published by ASHA in Perspectives, February 2018

Dean’s Seminar Series:

March 14, 2018 – Paul Fidel, Jr., Ph.D. Department Chair, Oral and Craniofacial Biology, Director, Center of Excellence in Oral and Craniofacial Biology, Associate Dean for Research, LSU School of Dentistry



The LSUHSC School of Medicine electronic news ~ [ginalaborde](#)

[Top Stories](#)
Top Stories – December



In Memorium – Dr. Gerald S. Berenson

[November 29, 2018](#)

One of the principal findings of the Bogalusa Heart Study changed our understanding about the onset of adult heart disease. A primary finding of the study is that the major causes of adult heart diseases begin in childhood; this includes atherosclerosis, coronary artery disease, hypertension, Type II Diabetes and obesity, which had never been seen before.

Following his graduation from Tulane University School of Medicine in 1945, Dr. Berenson served in the United States Navy. He was a Navy doctor at Marine Corps Base Camp

Lejeune and a ship's doctor to approximately 400 crewmembers on the USS Tanner AGS-15.

In 1954, he joined the faculty of LSU Health New Orleans School of Medicine, where he remained for the next 38 years. He rose through the academic ranks becoming a professor and Chief of Cardiology. Dr. Berenson became Director of the first National Heart Lung Blood Institute National Research and Demonstration Center – Arteriosclerosis. The program operated out of LSU Health New Orleans. It was the first and only National Research and Demonstration Center for Arteriosclerosis; the funding for the first year of the program was \$2,691,382 and the funding for the second year was \$2,892,631; these are the largest one-year grants he received over the course of his research career, although the total research funding he was awarded was \$55 million.

Dr. Berenson rejoined the LSU Health New Orleans School of Medicine faculty in 2015. His goal was to continue research and to facilitate the development a Center for Healthy Aging and Longevity at LSU Health.

Over six decades of researching the causes of heart disease, Dr. Berenson authored more than 1,000 peer-reviewed publications. He was elected to leadership positions at the Louisiana affiliate of the American Heart Association, the Southern Society for Clinical Investigation and Louisiana Heart Association. Nationally, he served as Governor for Louisiana of the American College of Cardiology and was invited to join the Association of University Cardiologists, an organization that is limited to 125 cardiologists. He was elected Chairman of the Prevention of Cardiovascular Disease Committee of the American College of Cardiology and was named Laureate of the American College of Physicians. Dr. Berenson was also a president of the American Society of Geriatric Cardiology. He was the recipient of professional awards in cardiology, public health and epidemiology, including the Spirit of Charity Award, the American Heart Association Population Research Prize, the American Heart Association Distinguished Scientist Award, and the Paavo Nurmi Foundation International Award. Dr. Berenson was named 2007 Honorary Alumnus by the LSU Medical Alumni Association.

Dr. Berenson was also honored with numerous awards for community service, philanthropy and humanitarian initiatives, including being named a Paul Harris Fellow by the Bogalusa Rotary Club in 2013 when he also received a Certificate of Merit and Key to the City from Bogalusa Mayor Charles Mizell, as well as the A. I. Botnick Torch of Liberty Award from the Anti-Defamation League of New Orleans (awarded jointly with wife Joan Berenson) in 2014.

Dr. Berenson was featured in the multi-part HBO documentary on obesity entitled “The Weight of the Nation,” which includes a substantial segment on the Bogalusa Heart Study.

Among his other interests, Dr. Berenson bred cattle. He received the “Breeder of the Year” Award from Beefmaster Breeders United at the organization’s annual meeting in San Antonio, Texas.

Dr. Berenson is survived by his wife of 67 years, Joan Seidenbach Berenson, four children, Leslie, Ann, Robert and Laurie, as well as nine grandchildren and three great grandchildren.



In Memorium – Seth Bombet
[November 29, 2018](#)

It is with a heavy heart that the School of Medicine mourns the loss of one of its students. Seth Bombet, a member of the Class of 2022, passed away on October 11, 2018 at the age of 24 following a several year battle with bone cancer. Seth, a native of Baton Rouge and a resident of New Orleans, graduated from Louisiana State University, summa cum laude in biological science. He was a medical student at Louisiana State University School of Medicine in New Orleans. Growing up, Seth loved learning, and spending his summers at Henry S. Jacobs Camp, a summer camp for Jewish youth. He went on as a young adult to become a counselor at summer camp programs as well as Camp Dreamstreet, a free program hosted at Jacobs Camp for disabled children. He was an active participant in the Southern Federation of Temple Youth, and was a brother of Theta Xi fraternity at Louisiana State University. He is survived by his father, Charles N. Bombet II; his mother, Carolyn P. Bombet; sisters: Natalie B. Sack and her husband Kenneth and Elizabeth B. Hanson and her husband Justin; paternal grandparents, Julius “Buddy” Bombet and Lizca Bombet and Henry Spielberger; and maternal grandfather, Vincent W. Miranda, Sr. Seth is preceded in death by his brother, Joshua Albert Bombet; his mother, Andrea Clare Miranda; and grandmothers, Ruth Silverman Spielberger and Marion Peltier Miranda.

[LSUHSC Walk to Support Heart Health](#)

[December 3, 2018](#)

Bradley Spieler, M.D.

Suresh Alahari, Ph.D.

Dan Kapusta, Ph.D.

Zee Ali, M.D.

LSU Health Sciences Center was represented at the American Heart Association Heart Walk on November 17th at Lasalle Park in Metairie. Cardiovascular disease is the number one killer of men and women in America and has a higher-than-average incidence in south Louisiana. Each year ~600,000 Americans die of heart disease with an average of one death every 38 seconds. LSU’s Cardiovascular Center of Excellence is at the forefront of research and discovery of treatments for cardiac disease and is supported through grants from the American Heart Association, amongst others.

Forty five LSUHSC faculty, staff, and students signed up to participate or fundraise for the team, raising over \$1300 in funds for the effort. Members from multiple schools such as students from the School of Nursing assisted in staffing the event. LSU’s presence was recognized in formal event materials and with a shout-out during the morning’s warm up.

Thank you to all who participated and contributed; we know that heart disease is something with which many of our colleagues will have personal or family experience with, and are proud of our campus’s

commitment to this endeavor which underscores our passion and pledge to the care of patients with cardiovascular disease.

2018 Medical Student Research Day
[November 29, 2018](#)

Medical Student Research Day – October 19th, 2018

On Friday, October 19th, 2018 the LSUHSC School of Medicine hosted its annual Medical Student Research Day. The event, organized by the Office of Medical Student Research, featured 52 poster presentations.

The School of Medicine invites all medical students and MD/PhD students who are pursuing research studies to submit an abstract and present a poster. Students who participate in the summer research program have committed to submitting an abstract for Research Day. Students must have conducted their research during medical school in order to present at Research Day.

A group of faculty and postdoctoral fellows review the abstracts and award prizes for best presentations. The following students were chosen by the judges to have exemplary research and presentations:

First Place: *Blake Denley*

Mentor: *Grace Athas*

Project: “Exercise, Stress and Happiness in the Pre-Clinical Medical Students”

Second Place (tie): *Jacob Stove & Joshua Grace*

Project: “The Epidemiology of Fatal Accidental Overdoses in East Baton Rouge Parish from 2013 through 2016: A Four Year Survey”

Second Place (tie): *Mariana Tumminello*

Mentor: *Patrick Greiffenstein*

Project: “ Understanding the Relationship Between Pulmonary Contusion and Rib Fracture Severity”

Second Place (tie): *Nicole Dominique*

Mentor: *Amanda Staiano*

Project: “ Healthy Lifestyle Summer Camp for Children at Risk for Type 2 Diabetes: Reduction in Weight and Screen-Time Usage”

Third Place (tie): *Camille Prejean*

Mentor: *Jennifer Lentz*

Project: “Harmonin Expression & Localization in the Retina of Non-human Primates and Mice at Multiple Developmental Stages”

Third Place (tie): *Adam Prevot*

Mentor: *Gerard Munding*

Project: “20 Years of VCFS in South Louisiana: A Look at Cardiac Anomalies and Surgical Palate Repair in 22q11 Deletion Syndrome Patients”

All of Us

NIH’s All of Us Brings the Future of Health to LSU Health New Orleans

November 29, 2018

Leslie Capo, Director of Information Services

On October 11th and 12th LSU Health New Orleans hosted the National Institutes of Health’s *All of Us* Journey, a traveling hands-on exhibit that raises awareness about the *All of Us* Research Program. *All of Us* aims to speed up health research and medical breakthroughs. To do so, *All of Us* is asking 1 million volunteers to share different types of health and lifestyle information—information like where they live, what they do, and their family health history.

New Orleans is one stop on the *All of Us* Journey’s national tour. Unlike a single research study focused on a specific disease or community, the *All of Us* Research Program will create a research resource to inform thousands of studies, covering a wide range of health conditions. This information could help researchers learn more about different diseases and treatments and improve health for generations to come.

NIH and its partners, including LSU Health New Orleans, are creating a research community of one million people who will share their unique health data. This will include answering survey questions and sharing electronic health records (EHR). Some participants may also be asked to provide blood or urine samples. They will be asked to answer more questions from time to time. It’s up to participants to decide how much information they want to share.

The health data gathered from participants will be stored in a database. Approved researchers can access this data to explore how factors like environment, lifestyle, and genes, can impact health. This may help develop new medical treatments that are unique to individuals, and enable a future of precision medicine for all of us.

The *All of Us* Research Program is part of the Precision Medicine Initiative. Precision medicine is health care that is based on individuals. It takes into account factors like where a person lives, occupation, and family health history. Precision medicine’s goal is to be able to tell people the best ways to stay healthy. If someone does get sick, precision medicine may help health care teams find the treatment that will work best. This will help give health care providers the information they need to make tailored recommendations, relevant to people of different backgrounds, ages, or regions.

Researchers can use *All of Us* data to better understand health and disease, which could: 1) Identify risk factors for certain diseases; 2) Join people with the right clinical studies; 3) Figure out which treatments work for different types of people; and 4) Explore how technology can encourage people to take better care of their health.

LSU Health Psychiatry Expertise Tapped For La Response To Opioid Crisis

[November 29, 2018](#)

Leslie Capo – Director of Information Services

NOTE: The following story also appeared in New Orleans' *City Business Magazine*

Working with the Louisiana Office of Behavioral Health, LSU Health New Orleans Department of Psychiatry will receive \$7.2 million to address the opioid crisis in Louisiana. The funding, which will be directed toward the delivery of a combination of treatment, training and consultation activities, is part of \$23.5 million in grants over two years from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration of the US Department of Health and Human Services and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to the Louisiana Department of Health. The Louisiana State Opioid Response Program will follow an evidence-based model that integrates a center of addiction expertise as a hub with spokes – a regional network of providers.

As the only medical school in Louisiana certified by the American Board of Psychiatry and Neurology in the subspecialty of Addiction Psychiatry, LSU Health New Orleans School of Medicine is the most qualified entity in the state to deliver and/or coordinate integrated supports and services designed to increase patient access to Opioid Use Disorder treatment. LSU Health New Orleans Department of Psychiatry's role will involve a range of training and consultation services. These services include broad-based patient and programmatic support, as well as consultation to treating physicians participating in the Louisiana State Opioid Response Program. A major responsibility for the Department of Psychiatry will be to assure Opioid Use Disorder (OUD) services are consistent with the program requirements and patient needs. This important and innovative work will be directed by Dr. Howard Osofsky, Chairman of the LSU Health New Orleans Department of Psychiatry. Under Dr. Osofsky's leadership, LSU Health New Orleans Department of Psychiatry has a distinguished history of bringing innovations in care to address serious and complex behavioral health issues affecting the health of Louisiana residents.

According to the National Institute on Drug Abuse of the National Institutes of Health, in 2016, there were 346 opioid-related overdose deaths in Louisiana—a rate of 7.7 deaths per 100,000 persons—compared to the national rate of 13.3 deaths per 100,000.

Since 2012, use of heroin and synthetic opioids has increased dramatically in the state. From 2012 to 2016, heroin and synthetic opioid-related overdose deaths increased from 51 to 149 deaths and from 19 to 89 deaths, respectively.

“The successful implementation of this collaborative endeavor led by the Office of Behavioral Health, will increase much needed access to evidence-based treatment models throughout Louisiana,” notes Dr. Howard Osofsky, Chairman of Psychiatry at LSU Health New Orleans School of Medicine.



**Diversity Workshop
Offered at LSUHSC
November 29, 2018**

*Lisa Harrison-Bernard, Ph.D.
(Department of
Physiology)*

To promote the development of a more diverse biomedical workforce, academic institutions

of higher learning are encouraged to educate faculty and staff on the importance of diversity, equity, and inclusion. Hence, developing and promoting more positive, respectful behaviors and environments through the avoidance of using stereotypes and understanding the negative impact that implicit bias can have in decision-making in the educational environment are paramount key steps.

Drs. Lisa Harrison-Bernard, Allison Augustus-Wallace, Gregory Casey, Flavia Souza-Smith, and Fern Tsien have developed an interactive workshop for faculty and staff at the Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center-New Orleans. The workshop was offered on five occasions this year with 53 attendees in total, inclusive of deans, professors, postdoctoral fellows, and staff. The 3-hour workshops included didactic and teaching modules, in addition to active attendees' participation focused on the understanding, recognition, and development of strategies to overcome stereotypes and unconscious bias in teaching, mentoring, and decision-making processes.

To determine levels of diversity and implicit bias awareness, a quantitative assessment was made using a Likert scale (1-strongly disagree, 5-strongly agree) and multiple-choice quizzes given in pre- and post-surveys. Thus far, our data indicate that the workshops have accomplished the major goals with significant improvement of the attendees' understanding of terms such as status leveling, color-blind racial attitudes, tokenism, and failure to differentiate. By the end of the workshop, participants had an increased awareness of the need for a welcoming academic environment, improved recognition of their biases and use of stereotypes in graduate education, and better understanding of the obstacles that many underrepresented/underserved students encounter in the biomedical sciences.

Most importantly, participants felt more confident in their ability to recognize and mitigate their own implicit biases, thereby improving their mentoring skills and the mentoring experiences for all students, especially students from underrepresented/underserved backgrounds. As workshop participation increases, it is hoped that more faculty and staff will develop an expanded and deepened understanding of and appreciation for the importance of diversity, equity, and inclusion, and promote a more positive experience for all involved. Diversity workshops are offered on an ongoing basis at the LSUHSC. Please contact Dr. Harrison-Bernard at lharris@lsuhsc.edu for further information.

Dean's Corner



[September 23, 2018](#)

We Must First Live in Equity

Robert Maupin, M.D. (Associate Dean for Diversity and Community Engagement)

While there has been a tremendously important and overdue focus on advancing frameworks of equity in addressing the health disparity challenges that our patients face, within our own culture we must first learn to “Live in Equity”. Living in equity acknowledges that we look within and must first heal our own professional communities. At the recent AAMC Learn, Serve, and Lead meeting’s leadership plenary, Dr. Darryl Kirsch the retiring President and CEO remarked that ***“We must be relentless in surmounting the obstacles still in our path from unconscious bias to overt harassment to gender- and race-based gaps in salary equity.”*** A systematic review and meta-analysis of harassment and discrimination in medical training by Fnais et al. (2014), in *Academic Medicine* in reviewing 51 studies reveals that close to 60% of medical trainees have experienced harassment or discrimination during their training. Female gender and nonwhite race/ethnicity were significant in high incidence of harassment and discrimination, and the most cited source of harassment was from consultants.

Adding a balance in perspective in the AAMC leadership plenary, co-presenter Dr. M. Roy Wilson, Chair of the AAMC Board of Directors observed that ***“We must do more to ensure that all segments of the public are included in our profession and that biases, even if unintended, do not systematically exclude persons of certain population groups.”*** A very recent publication in *JAMA Network Open*, *Minority Resident Physicians’ Views on the Role of Race/Ethnicity in Their Training Experiences in the Workplace*, Osseo-Assare et al. (2018), conducted a qualitative study of work place experience of black, Hispanic, and Native American resident physicians. Findings focused on 3 major themes in workplace experience: a daily barrage of micro-aggressions and bias, minority residents tasked as race/ethnicity ambassadors, and challenges negotiating professional and personal identity while seen as “other”. Another study published in *LGBT Health* by Chester et al. (2014), characterized the climate and culture experienced by lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) employees and students at one large academic medical center thru the use of an anonymous, online institutional climate survey to assess the attitudes and experiences of LGBT employees and students. Results revealed that a surprisingly large percentage of LGBT individuals experienced pressure to remain “closeted” and were harassed despite medical center policies of non-discrimination.

Collectively these examples speak to the heightened urgency for our academic medical centers to prioritize the health of our institutional climate in a way that fully embraces a true culture of



inclusion. Constructive approaches to find an effective path forward are embodied in examples provided in recent publications in OB/GYN literature – *Sexism in obstetrics and gynecology: not just a “woman’s issue”*, Hughes & Bernstein (*AJOG* 2018), and *Institutional Responses to Harassment and Discrimination in Obstetrics and Gynecology*, Eichelberger *et al.* (*Obstet Gynecol* 2018). The authors collectively focus on range of interventions which include (but

only represent a few from a larger list): create open forums to listen to others' perspectives on issues of disparity, examine the problems of unconscious bias and gender disparity and how peers participate in it, intentionally build teams that are diverse and inclusive, train in the identification and response to micro-aggressions, and actively track data on harassment and discrimination events as exists with other quality measures. Most importantly such efforts will reflect first steps in our recognition and commitment that we must transform our internal climate and culture in a way that allows us to Live in Equity first before we can be effective in our accountability in advance equity for our patients.

In the Spotlight – Dr. Danielle Gottlieb

Dr. Danielle Gottlieb-Sen, the LSUHSC Department of Pediatrics and Children's Hospital

Danielle Gottlieb-Sen, MS, MD, MPH

Assistant Professor of Surgery

Section of Pediatric Surgery

Pediatric Cardiovascular Surgery and Congenital Heart Center

LSUHSC-New Orleans/Children's Hospital New Orleans



Danielle Gottlieb-Sen, MS, MD, MPH

Throughout the United States, Heart Centers deliver specialized, multidisciplinary care to children and families with diagnoses of CHD. As part of a \$300M renovation at Children's Hospital, new state-of-the-art operating rooms, cardiac catheterization and electrophysiology labs, and a cardiac intensive care unit are being expanded. The Heart Center team is also expanding, with the vision of comprehensive care exceeding the standards established elsewhere in the country. The surgeons and Heart Center at

Children's Hospital New Orleans operate on the spectrum of patients with congenital heart disease, from simple to complex, from newborn to adult. Newborns represent a particularly vulnerable population for whom Dr. Gottlieb-Sen focuses her efforts.

For kids with congenital heart disease, comprehensive care is really more than the sum of the parts. Established Heart Centers have longitudinal relationships with patients, providing medical and surgical care and family support. Adult patients with congenital heart disease are growing in number. As the Heart Center develops additional services to care for more patients through adulthood, we are poised to learn from the diagnosis and treatment of their diseases over time.

Patients with congenital heart disease also represent an exciting population for research, and the research efforts of national and international Heart Center teams have resulted in many strides in clinical care for patients with CHD. Dr. Gottlieb-Sen has done extensive research collecting data from the current patients at Children's Hospital to improve care for the future. Her work holds the goal of having a meaningful impact on the clinical care patients with congenital heart disease and spans the gap from clinical and quality improvement projects to translational and basic science projects. She is interested in improving the quality of care in underserved communities. Since moving to New Orleans, Dr. Gottlieb-Sen has developed research infrastructure to serve the Heart Center and research community as additional clinician-researchers are recruited to the area. Efforts are underway to establish a biorepository focused on congenital heart disease, the first of its kind in Louisiana, to provide the ground-breaking foundation for a multitude of research projects focused on the health of patients with CHD in years to come. Dr. Gottlieb-Sen is currently supported by a grant from LaCATS to evaluate prenatal diagnosis of congenital

heart disease in Louisiana. Dr. Gottlieb-Sen has been honored with multiple national awards for research.

Dr. Gottlieb-Sen's basic science research laboratory is housed at the Cardiovascular Center of Excellence at LSUHSC. The center's newly renovated laboratories total approximately 6500 square feet and provide support and academic collaboration for Dr. Gottlieb-Sen's work. Dr. Md. Abdur Razzaque PhD, Research Scientist, and Marla Johnston RN MSN, Research Coordinator, complete her research team.

[Dr. Gottlieb-Sen is a highly accomplished surgeon and scientist in the Department of Surgery at Louisiana State University Health Science Center (LSUHSC), New Orleans, Louisiana. Her full-time tenure-track appointment at as an Assistant Professor of Clinical Surgery and Children's Hospital New Orleans comes after extensive training at prestigious universities with mentors who are leaders in their fields. Dr. Gottlieb-Sen holds an additional faculty appointment in the Department of Surgery at Vanderbilt University/Monroe Carell Children's Hospital. She received an MS and MD from University of California, Berkeley and San Francisco in the Joint Medical Program. She completed her residency in General Surgery at Harvard University/Massachusetts General Hospital. During her clinical training, Dr. Gottlieb-Sen completed four dedicated years of laboratory research, during which time she also completed a Masters of Public Health at the Harvard School of Public Health. She then pursued fellowships in Cardiothoracic Surgery and Pediatric Cardiac Surgery at Columbia University, and an ACGME-approved fellowship in Congenital Cardiac Surgery at Harvard University, working at Boston Children's Hospital. After completing three sets of surgical boards, Dr. Gottlieb-Sen is the 204th board-certified congenital heart surgeon in the United States.]



The Editor's Pen – December

*Andrew D. Hollenbach, Ph.D.
Head Editor, The Pulse*

The following story is one of those stories that are difficult for me to write. I know that in writing it I'm saying goodbye to a good friend. I'm not saying goodbye in

the sense that I'm never going to see her or talk to her again; just in the sense that she is moving on in her professional life and as such I know that I won't have the joy of working with her anymore.

[Gina LaBorde](#) has been the genius behind the graphic design of *The Pulse* almost from the beginning. After the inaugural issue was released, containing what I now see as my VERY amateur self-taught graphic design, I remember this woman coming to my office to talk to me. She laid out her vision for the design of the newsletter, and pointed out (very professionally I might add) the mistakes made in the inaugural issue. Needless to say I jumped on the chance and the rest, as they say, was history.

That woman, of course, was Gina. Before *The Pulse* went completely electronic and we were still creating pdf files of the newsletter, Gina and I would sit for hours finalizing the final layout. We would work side-by-side tweaking images, making minor adjustments to the placement of stories and graphics, working with a synergism that was almost eerie. With her hard work and vision, *The Pulse* came out with its polished and professional look, time after time.

Once we went electronic, it was her ideas and thoughts that directed the formation of the online format, it was her ideas that created the structure, and it was her work that took all of the stories and pictures and organized them into the final form.

Naturally, over time, Gina went from a valued work colleague to a trusted and dear friend. The synergism we had about design was also present in our personal interactions. There was a connection and friendship there that is rare to find, but something that I hold onto very tightly when it comes into my life.

Gina, thank you for all of your hard work over the years and your dedication to this publication and helping us provide an information network for the School of Medicine. Thank you for your graphic design genius. Thank you for being a wonderful (and fun) work colleague. Most of all, thank you for being my friend.

Note from Gina:



I am humbled and honored that I have been part of *The Pulse*, and the LSUHSC family. My experience with LSU and the School of Medicine has been and continues to be amazing. I know its tradition will live on and continue to give the School of Medicine the accolades that it deserves.

SOM Achievements



Awards and Honors



[Dr. Gregory on NIH Expert Panel](#)

[December 4, 2018](#)

The National Heart Lung and Blood Institute invited Dr. Paula Gregory to participate in an expert panel on Short Term Training on October 1. The purpose of the panel was to review existing programs and to make recommendations to the NHLBI concerning ways to improve the existing programs and recommendations for new types of programs. Panelists had expertise in areas ranging from distance learning to training grants and they came from universities from all across the country.

Osofsky Co-Edits Important Two-Volume Handbook on Childhood Trauma

[November 28, 2018](#)

Leslie Capo – Director of Information Services



Joy D. Osofsky, PhD, Paul J. Ramsay Chair and Professor of Pediatrics and Psychiatry at LSU Health New Orleans School of Medicine, is the co-editor of a new two-volume handbook being called a must-read for families, those who work with children, and policymakers. “Violence and Trauma in the Lives of Children,” Praeger Publishers, ABC-CLIO, 2018, edited by Joy D. Osofsky and Betsy McAlister Groves, details the implications of the types of traumas that occur at the individual, family, community, and national levels on children, as well as strategies to build resilience. Children are rarely at the forefront of people’s minds when violence occurs, whether it be on the streets of cities, in rural communities, or in homes. The volumes explore the significant influence the increasing exposure to violence and trauma has on children’s development, longer-term impacts over time, as well as how to best respond to improve their lives.

The handbooks explain the neurological, emotional, and behavioral impacts of violence and trauma experienced by newborns, infants, children, and teenagers. They detail the effects of a range of types of violence and trauma, including child abuse, sexual abuse, family violence, teen dating violence, loss of parent or caregiver, exposure to natural disasters, and more. The editors share mental health interventions and treatment strategies to encourage resilience and posttraumatic growth.

The editors stress that it is very important to raise awareness about the impact of violence and trauma on children including interventions and treatment strategies that are helpful. Many people avoid talking about violence with children thinking that if it is not talked about or discussed in front of or with children, it will “go away.” Others talk openly about the violence or traumatic events ignoring children who are hearing their discussions, believing that the children won’t be listening and, that if they hear, they won’t pay attention or understand what is being said.

The handbooks are being lauded by pediatricians, psychiatrists, child stress professionals and judges evidenced by the following reviews on Amazon.com.

SOM Grants

[November 28, 2018](#)

Congratulations to the following individuals for obtaining extramural funding from federal, state, and/or independent sources between August 1 – September 30, 2018!

NOTE: The Office of the Dean provided the information below to The Pulse. If there is any information that was inadvertently omitted, please contact the editor (aholle@lsuhsc.edu) so a correction can be printed in the next issue of The Pulse.

National Institutes of Health (P20):

Augusto Ochoa, M.D. (Director, Stanley S. Scott Cancer Center)

National Institutes of Health (R01):

Scott Edwards, Ph.D. (Department of Physiology)

Minghao Jin, Ph.D. (Neuroscience Center of Excellence)

National Institutes of Health (R21):

- Nicholas Gilpin, Ph.D. (Department of Physiology)

Pharmaceutical and Company Grants:

Clifford Crutcher, M.D. (Department of Neurosurgery)

- Medtronic

David Lefer, Ph.D. (Cardiovascular Center of Excellence)

- Ochsner Clinic Foundation

Gabriel Tender, M.D. (Department of Neurosurgery)

- SI-BON

New Appointments

December 4, 2018

Ken Boe Appointed Assistant Vice Chancellor for Information Technology

Kenneth J. Boe, Jr. was appointed to the position of Assistant Vice Chancellor for Information Technology/Chief Information Officer at LSUHSC-New Orleans, effective October 10, 2018. Ken brings more than 26 years of experience in the information technology arena, with 20+ years at LSUHSC-New Orleans in several technology leadership roles, including Manager of the Server Group, Assistant Director for Database and Support Services, IT Director for Security, Database and Support Services and more recently IT Executive Director/Deputy CIO/IT Operations Officer.

In his new role, Ken will provide leadership in building and enhancing the institution's information technology infrastructure to support the expanded use of technology in LSUHSC missions of education, research, patient care, and community outreach. Other equally important aspects of his new position are improving business processes and ensuring access to secure, high quality, and timely information for faculty, staff, and students. Additionally, he will be responsible for providing advisory-level direction related to day-to-day operations, problem solving, oversight of IT budgets, resource management, and will promote the confidentiality, integrity, and availability of university data.

Ken holds a Bachelor of Science in Physics from Tulane University and a Master of Computer Science and Engineering from Auburn University.

Please join us in congratulating Ken on his new position!

Welcome Newcomers!

December 5, 2018

We'd like to extend a warm welcome to the following faculty members who have joined the School of Medicine Family between the dates August 1 – September 30, 2018!

Anesthesiology

- Paul Delahoussaye, M.D. – Assistant Professor, Clinical
- John Helmstetter, M.D. – Assistant Professor, Clinical
- Cassandra Armstead-Williams, M.D. – Assistant Professor, Clinical
- Artemus Flagg, M.D. – Clinical Assistant Professor
-

Cell Biology and Anatomy

- Terrell Master, Ph.D. – Assistant Professor, Research

Family Medicine

- Ronald Gagne, M.D. – Clinical Professor

Medicine:

- John Harrington, M.D. – Clinical Assistant Professor

Medicine – Hematology and Oncology

- Alejandra del Toro, M.D. – Assistant Professor, Clinical

Medicine – Hospital Medicine

- Lauren Nunez – Assistant Professor, Clinical

Medicine – Nephrology

- Ramzi Vareldzis, M.D. – Assistant Professor, Clinical

Obstetrics and Gynecology

- Jamie Sias, M.D. – Clinical Assistant Professor
- Navya Nair, M.D. – Assistant Professor, Clinical
- Neelima Sukhavasi, M.D. – Assistant Professor, Clinical

Ophthalmology

- Mallika Doss, M.D. – Clinical Assistant Professor

Orthopedics

- Anna Cohen-Rosenblum, M.D. – Assistant Professor, Clinical
- Rutledge Clement, M.D. – Assistant Professor, Clinical

Otorhinolaryngology

- Larissa Sweeny, M.D. – Assistant Professor, Clinical

Pathology

- Shaun Lawicki, M.D. – Assistant Professor, Clinical

Pediatrics

- James Krulisky, M.D. – Assistant Professor, Clinical
- Alexis Morvant, M.D. – Assistant Professor, Clinical
- Elizabeth Wisner, M.D. – Assistant Professor, Clinical

Pharmacology

- Qinglin Yang, Ph.D. – Professor

Psychiatry

- Maeghan Davis, M.D. – Assistant Professor, Clinical

Earl K. Long Medical Center – Medicine

- Katherine LaVie, M.D. – Assistant Professor, Clinical

University Medical Center (UMC):

Family Medicine

- Shaawn Ali, D.O. – Clinical Assistant Professor

Medicine

- Melanie Bienvenu, M.D. – Clinical Assistant Professor
- Shantell Ceaser, M.D. – Assistant Professor, Clinical

Seen in the Papers – December



Are you interested in seeing what your colleagues and co-workers are publishing? Are you curious to see how prolific scientists and clinicians are in their research publications? If so, then click [here](#) to see a list of all of the work published by LSU investigators:

If you're just interested in seeing some highlighted works, you click [here](#) on a monthly basis to see a few select articles highlighted by the library staff:

Once there, click on the year and month to see all highlighted publications for that month.

If you do not see one of your publications listed in the comprehensive list, please contact [Kathryn Kerdolff](#) to have your publication included.

[Publications of Note](#)

Congratulations to the following individuals for the publication of their work in respected journals from August 1 – September 30, 2018 as reported to The Pulse by individual departments:

Pediatrics

Herdes RE, Clark C, Patel N, Wasilewska E, Ashoor I. Midaortic Syndrome in a Pediatric Patient. *Clinical Journal of the American Society of Nephrology*. 2018 Sept 7; Volume 13, Issue 8, Cover.

The Students Forum



[Espiritu Poem Published in *The Pharos*](#)
Espiritu Poem Published in *The Pharos*

[November 29, 2018](#)

Congratulations go out to Gabrielle V. Espiritu, a third-year medical student, was honored to have her poem published in the Alpha Omega Alpha Honor Medical Society's quarterly journal *The Pharos*. The poem titled "Her Mother's Hands", Ms. Espiritu's entry in *The Pharos Poetry Award* competition, won Third Place.

Please find the link to this poem [here](#):

Graduate Research Day

[November 29, 2018](#)

Graduate Research Day was held on Friday, November 2nd. It provided a forum for the graduate students working in the labs of School of Medicine faculty to present their research in a variety of forums, including poster session, three minute talks (3MT), and ten minute talks. Thank you to all the participants, judges, and research committee for their hard work. Congratulations to the winners!

Poster presentations:

First place – Laura Erwin (Pharmacology)

Second place – Katelyn Robillard (Neuroscience/Cell Biology & Anatomy)

Third place – Jessica Cucinello (Physiology)

10 Minute presentation:

Van Ninh (Physiology)

3 MT presentations:

First place – Dr. Rebecca Buckley (Biochemistry)

Second place – Whitney Walkowski (Neuroscience/Cell Biology & Anatomy)

Third place – Diana Battaglia (Microbiology, Immunology, and Parasitology)

Chancellor’s Award

Dr. Allyson Schreiber (Physiology)

Jack D. Hines Memorial Award:

Dr. Hamilton Farris
L3 and L4 Students “Adopt a Family”

[November 29, 2018](#)

Antonia Traina (Medical student)

It’s the most wonderful time of the year...” The classic song begins to play, and with the smell of pine and mistletoe in the air, we can be certain the holiday season is upon us. Our hearts are overjoyed, as we fill those “wish” lists with gifts for family and friends and await the long-anticipated Christmas morning.

But what if this wasn’t the case? What if the holiday season was not a time of joy and blessings, but instead a time of hopelessness and despair? Imagine a single mother whose only wish is to give to her young children, but she is burdened with three jobs that still don’t pay the bills. Picture a pair of siblings separated from their mother by immigration and forced to live with their single uncle this holiday season.

Once again, Catholic Charities of New Orleans and LSU School of Medicine Classes of 2019 and 2020 have partnered to bring joy to this families who would otherwise go without. Through the Adopt a Family program, the two classes pulled together to raise money and fulfill the wish lists of eight New Orleans families in need. It is a tradition that was started four years ago and has been successful ever since.

Last year Catholic Charities, with the help of many local organizations, was able to give food and gift baskets to over 1,300 New Orleans individuals in need. For most who participate in this service project, it is hard to imagine a holiday season without the love and warmth of family and friends. We travel far and wide, enjoying the gifts that we have been given, cherishing the moments we have together, and making sure our holidays are everything we wished for.

As medical students, we serve as a unique part of the patient care team within the hospital. Most of the time, we get to know our patients in ways that other members of the team do not. We develop a personal connection and discover aspects of their personal lives that may have otherwise gone unknown. It is because of this personal relationship with our patients that helping others remains of utmost importance. With the season of giving approaching, the class of 2019 and 2020 has made every effort to give back to

the community that we serve. Through the fulfillment of wish lists and desire to support the NewOrleans community, it is our hope that we can make each of these families' holidays merry and bright.

Organizational Reports – December



[November 28, 2018](#)

AWIS Association for Women in Science (AWIS)

[November 28, 2018](#)

The Southern Louisiana chapter of the Association for Women in Science (AWIS) held a successful fundraiser on September 19 at Painting with a Twist in Metairie, with over 35 participants (left, Carmen Canavier, president, the owner of Painting with a Twist presenting the check, and fundraising chair and former president Angela Amedee. We ran a booth at a STEM outreach event for Girl Scouts at the University of New Orleans on September 29, organized by Crescent Combe. Activities included “dress like a scientist” and “squishy circuits” (center, demonstration by Katelyn Gurley). We had a business meeting on Tuesday, October 2 at which Lisa Harrison-Bernard presented Ayesha Umrigar with her travel award (right panel). Our next planned event is a potluck Thanksgiving luncheon on November 14th. We have a new website where people can join and also apply for the travel award.

<https://sites.google.com/site/southlouisianaawis>



LOCUS is Now Tiger Pride!



[November 28, 2018](#) ~ [ginalaborde](#)

Ayesha Umrigar (Co-President, Tiger Pride)

Since its inception almost seven years ago we were known as LGBT+Allies Organization for the Cultural Understanding in the Health Sciences (LOCUS). This was a mouthful, so we simply called ourselves “LOCUS”. However, without saying the full name, it was not obvious that we were an organization for all LGBTQ individuals and their allies. Therefore, in order to make it clearer that we are the campus LGBTQ+ organization, we have changed our name from LOCUS to Tiger Pride, with our logo including a rainbow colored Tiger. We feel that this new name will make it easier for students and other organizations to identify us as an inter-professional student organization aimed at advancing awareness and advocating for the LGBTQ community.

One of our current Co-Presidents, Ayesha Umrigar, is graduating next year, and will be stepping down as Co-President in December in order to focus on her research. Please email either Ayesha (aumrig@lsuhsc.edu) or Mirandy Li (mli2@lsuhsc.edu) if you or someone you know may be interested in the position. Mirandy Li will be remaining as Co-president.

We are currently brainstorming topics for our annual LGBTQ Healthcare Symposium, which will be held in April. Some previously suggested topics were drug/substance abuse in the LGBTQ Community, and domestic abuse in the LGBTQ community. If you would like to suggest any other topics or recommend a panelist then please email Ayesha or Mirandy.

Tiger Pride has a new web page manager. Kacey Hashm from the School of Nursing will now be managing the Tiger Pride website. Be sure to check out the site (<https://www.medschool.lsuhs.edu/cmhe/locus/>), which provides links to resources for LGBTQ students, in addition to the general community. This site is also where we post information about any upcoming events. If there is anything else that you think should be on the website, please email either Kacey Hashm (khashm@lsuhsc.edu) or Ayesha Umrigar.

If you would like to receive emails from Tiger Pride, there is an option on our website to subscribe to our listserv. To protect the privacy of our members, we use the “blind carbon copy” for email correspondence. This means that you can’t see the other recipients of the email and they can’t see you. If



you are interested in joining our listserv, please email co-presidents Mirandy Li, or Ayesha Umrigar (aumrig@lsuhsc.edu).

We are currently selling rainbow caduceus (shown below) pins for \$5 to raise money for Tiger Pride. If you are interested in purchasing a pin, please email Ayesha.

As always, feel free to reach out to Co-Presidents Mirandy Li or Ayesha Umrigar if you have any questions or concerns.

Faculty Assembly

[November 28, 2018](#)

Chris Taylor, Ph.D.

Faculty Assembly President

Recent activity of the School of Medicine Faculty Assembly has been largely concerned with gathering and disseminating information related to faculty benefits changes that have occurred this year. This has been a time-critical process due to decisions that faculty needed to make during the annual enrollment period that ran from October 1 through November 15th. This year included changes in 403b retirement providers and provider offerings. In addition, faculty assembly has been heavily involved with resolving recent issues that have arisen with one of our health care providers with regard to pharmacy benefits management. A special meeting was held for the faculty to have open discussion with this provider’s representatives on October 9th and the issues raised have been elevated to the highest level. The assembly will continue to monitor progress on a resolution to these issues.

Faculty assembly has also recently worked to obtain clarification from administration on policies regarding travel and the new Louisiana State Board of Ethics form 413f. This form must be filled whenever a faculty member attends a meeting for which any part of the meeting is paid for by an outside entity that is not a governmental agency. This includes any waiver of registration fees for the meeting in addition to direct payment of airfare, lodging, meals, etc. The form must be filed within 60 days of accepting the invitation to the meeting.

Lastly, faculty assembly has continued to gather and disseminate information related to several planned renovation projects that will impact our faculty including the planned expansion to CSRB for animal care, and the proposed renovations to the 5th, 6th, and 7th floors of the MEB.

Editorial Note:

Since the last faculty assembly meeting, a resolution was achieved regarding the health insurance issue. The e-mail from Dean Nelson reads as follows:

“Chancellor Hollier, Vice Chancellor Murray, Director of External Relations Vidrine and myself met with the Audit Committee of the LSU Board of Supervisors on Friday to discuss the repayment of funds to LSU First for certain prescriptions that were in question. It was decided that prescriptions filled before the August 2018 letters that our physicians received from LSU First will be forgiven and anyone who paid LSU First the amount requested in that letter would be reimbursed.

I want to thank President Alexander and the Board of Supervisors for their support of this important faculty issue.”

What’s Going on in Your Neck of the Woods?



Cardiovascular Center of Excellence

CV Center was awarded a NIH R56 grant with University of Pittsburgh: ‘Cardioprotective Role of Humanin’ NIH R56 PI: David J. Lefer, PhD Co-PI: Traci Goodchild, PhD Start Date: 9/15/18 – 8/31/19

Genetics

Jorge Peñas, graduate student in the labs of Drs. Fern Tsien and Andrew Hollenbach, received a Travel Award to attend the American Society of Human Genetics (ASHG) annual meeting. He was given this award for his abstract entitled “Molecular Cytogenetic Characterization of RH4 and RH30 Alveolar Rhabdomyosarcoma (ARMS) Cell Lines.

Pediatrics

Dr. Bonnie Desselle organized several events in the month of September to celebrate Women in Medicine Month:

9.5.18: Grand Rounds: Diversity and Equity in Academic Medicine, Dr. Angela McClean, Children’s Hospital State Street Conference Center.

9.12.18: Women's Breakfast Celebration, 7am – 10am, Children's Hospital 2 Center – networking social event with slide show and videos of Women in Medicine pioneers and leaders

9.20.18: Women's Forum on Challenges and Barriers to Women Leaders, 12pm – 1pm, Children's Hospital State Street Conference Center

9.26.18: Women's Networking Social & Journal Club, 5:00-7:00pm, The Columns Hotel, 3811 St. Charles Ave

Several of our residents organized our second annual school supply drive benefiting children in the foster care system through CASA, Court Appointed Special Advocates of Orleans and Jefferson Parishes. These organizations collect school supplies, year round, for children in need as they are often switching homes and schools, frequently leaving supplies behind in the shuffle. Items included school supplies such as: nap mats, 24-packs of crayons, baby wipes, scissors, composition notebook, dry-erase markers, tissues, glue sticks, construction paper, Elmer's glue, quart and gallon size Ziploc bags, hand sanitizer, pink erasers, packs of paper, folders, pens of different colors, etc.

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and schools, frequently leaving supplies behind in the shuffle. Items included school supplies such as: nap matts, 24-packs of crayons, baby wipes, scissors, composition notebook, dry-erase markers, tissues, glue sticks, construction paper, Elmer's glue, quart and gallon size Ziploc bags, hand sanitizer, pink erasers, packs of paper, folders, pens of different colors, etc.

Words from the Library December

[September 26, 2018](#)

Kathy Kerdolff, Librarian

We are happy to announce that the Libraries now offer OpenAthens as an alternate way to get to resources when off-campus. With OpenAthens you can use your LSUHSC-NO e-mail address and current password to log in.

This new way to log in works with all Library resources. You will probably first see the option when going through a link from the Library's web page or the Library catalog. The EZproxy log in page has changed to provide the ability to use OpenAthens:

From there you will see the LSU Health New Orleans log in page that you may be familiar with from webmail or Office 365:

Be sure to enter your **complete** LSUHSC-NO e-mail address (including the @lsuhsc.edu). Once you've done this, you will be logged into both the OpenAthens and EZproxy systems, so any Library link you follow that requires off-campus authentication should work with no trouble.

Another feature of OpenAthens is the ability to log in directly at a number of database, ebook, and journal sites. We've noticed that many of you have already discovered this option, but one thing to keep in mind is that not all

publishers or sites support logging in through OpenAthens. We have a list of sites that support OpenAthens [here](#).

If you have trouble using Library resources with OpenAthens, you may be having issues with your LSUHSC-NO password and/or account. You can use the [LSUHSC-NO password change page](#) or you may need to contact the [Help Desk or your local computer supporter](#) if you need more assistance with your account.

EZproxy is still available as a way to use Library resources. If you are affiliated with LSU Health New Orleans but are not assigned an LSUHSC-NO e-mail address, you may still

be eligible for Library privileges. In those cases, you will need to use a Library-issued barcode and your PIN to use our resources.

More information about logging in off-campus is available via our new Off-Campus page: <https://www.lsuhs.edu/library/offcampus.aspx>. There is also a new OpenAthens LibGuide that provides more information about this service: <https://libguides.lsuhs.edu/openathens>.

For those who are in the hospitals and clinics, we understand that you deal with more hurdles than anyone, and OpenAthens may make your search for and use of resources a little easier. One example of this may be if you are having troubles accessing an article, it might be easier to log in at the journal's site (if it supports OpenAthens) and get the article in a more direct way.

If you need any help with this new service or any other Library resources, please do not hesitate to [contact us](#).

Calendar of Events



Do you have an upcoming event? Is your department hosting a seminar or grand rounds of interest to the SOM? If so, place it on the Calendar of Events! Would you like to see what events are coming down the road that might be of interest to you? The Calendar of Events is there! The more we use it, the more effective it will become! [For directions on how to access and use the Calendar of Events, click on the "How to Use" link under the Calendar of Events heading.

How to Use the Calendar of Events

[April 6, 2017](#)

Let's work together and encourage our departmental administrators, seminar coordinators and group leaders to add upcoming seminars, grand rounds, special classes, open-to-the-public meetings, and any other events that your department may feel is of general interest to the SOM.

The more people use the Calendar of Events, the more informative it will be and the more people will WANT to use it. Help us make the SOM Calendar of Events YOUR source for SOM information!

Using the Calendar of Events, which is part of the Outlook program that we use to access our e-mail, is as easy as knowing where to look and how to add events! Here's how to do it:

Instructions for PC users:

1. Open Outlook and log in as if you are checking your e-mail
2. Within Outlook, click on View → Folders (or click on the small folder icon at the bottom of the left navigation panel)
3. Within Folders, double click on Public Folders, then All Public Folders
4. Look for "Medical School NO"
5. Under that folder, open SOM Calendar
6. Double click on your date of interest and fill in the appropriate information just as you would for any appointment
7. When finished, click "Save and Close"
8. **Timesaver Tip:** Right click on SOM Calendar and click Add to Favorites. A shortcut to the SOM Calendar will then be available when you click the Calendar button at the bottom of the left navigation.

Instructions for Mac users:

1. Open up Outlook and log in as if you are checking your e-mail
2. Click on "Public Folders"
3. Look for "Medical School NO"
4. Under that folder, look for SOM Calendar
5. Double click on your data of interest and fill in the appropriate information
6. When finished, click "Save and Close"
7. **Timesaver Tip:** Right click on SOM Calendar and click Copy Folder. A shortcut to the SOM Calendar will then be available when you click the Calendar button at the bottom of the left navigation.

If you are having trouble accessing the calendar or need assistance please contact your IT representative