### LSU Medical Alumni Association

## Honor Roll 2014

The 2014 Gala Revisited... see pages 19-21



# IS University of Medicine - New Orleans Alumni Association Journal Medicinews

Volume 32, No. 1 - Spring '15



#### Dear Fellow Alumni,

What a privilege it is to serve! I remember 2005 like it was yesterday, when I received a call from **Russell Klein** ('59) fulfilling a long-held wish, so beginning my now decade-long tenure with the Board of the LSU Medical Alumni Association. Our quarterly meetings have proven better service, support, and promotion of the LSU School of Medicine. Our love and dedication keep LSU School of Medicine in the forefront.

Support is embedded in our members from the very beginning. Entering the LSU School of Medicine is a privilege. Graduation

ensues, and then a look forward to years of private practice. First we begin as interns, then residents, and fellows and beyond... Bringing us all to a common goal to serve the sick and keep them well.

Our common Oath should never be far from our thoughts. We should never rest on our laurels, yet always strive for what is most important and the true reason we became Medical Doctors. The Hippocratic Oath begins, "I do solemnly swear by whatever I hold most sacred, that I will be loyal to the profession of medicine and will be just and generous to its members and will teach those who follow after me in the profession."

Supporting the LSU School of Medicine both professionally and financially promotes this common good. Find that special niche or interest in The Alumni Association, The Center for Advanced Practice, The Committee of 100, Department Chairs, The Gala, and Camp Tiger.

The LSU School of Medicine needs your support. The state of Louisiana needs the LSU School of Medicine. With every opportunity you encounter, speak to friends, colleagues and students.

I invite you to be a part of this special organization. Our leaders, **Larry Hollier** ('68), Chancellor of the LSU Health Sciences Center; Dr. Steve Nelson, Dean of the LSU School of Medicine; and **Cathi Fontenot** ('84), Associate Dean for Alumni Affairs and Development, want to hear from you!

As the Oath of Hippocrates closes, "... These things I do promise and in proportion to the degree that I am faithful to this Oath, may happiness and good repute be ever mine..."

Sincerely,

Elizabeth A. McDonald, MD ('84)

President

LSU Medical Alumni Association

Elipbit A. Madenalh

## SCHOOL OF MEDICINE • NEW ORLEANS ALUMNI ASSOCIATION JOURNAL MEDICINEWS



Volume 32, No. 1

# Inside.



Virginia Boyd
Connally ('37)
(right) reminisced
with author Martha
Holoubeck Fitzgerald,
daughter of the late
Alice Baker
Holoubeck ('38).
See story, page 26.

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To improve and expedite information exchange, the Office of Alumni Affairs is developing a list serve for alumni who prefer electronic communications in addition to our regular mailed publications. If you would like to be included on the electronic list, please send your email address to: roar@lsubsc.edu.

# MARK YOUR CALENDAR for the LSU GALA!

Saturday, 10/24/15 the Hilton New Orleans Riverside music by Louisiana Spice



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## Communitate of 100

The Committee of 100
—Champions of
Excellence was
established in 1983,
with Bernard
Samuels ('57) & Cy
Vaughn ('58) as its
founding members.

Members of the Committee make a pledge of \$10,000 or more to support chairs & professorships.

- Regular members pledge \$10,000, usually \$1,000 a year for ten years. Contributions may be made monthly, quarterly, semiannually, or yearly. Gifts may be through donations of appreciated stock or other assets.
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Jozef Zoldos ('92)

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#### December

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#### 1945

\*F. P. Bordelon

#### 1946

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\*Edwin C. Simonton

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Jack D. Summerlin
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\*Bernard L. Kaplan
\*E. Ralph Lupin
\*Sylvan J. Manuel
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Carl J. Poche
Adrien A. Stewart
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\*James A. Freeman Roland F. Samson James Stanford Shelby Cecil C. Vaughn

#### 1959

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#### 1960

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Dr. and Mrs. Melvin G.
Bourgeois
J. Michael Cage
Wayne G. Elliott
Gerald L. Foret
Hugh A. King, Jr.
J. Hugh Larriviere
Charles C. Mary, Jr.
George F. Monzingo
Lisso Nachman
Leopold Richard, Jr.
James F. Stanford
Kenneth L. Veca

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#### 1963

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\*Richard J. Clement
Erwin H. Engert, Jr.
\*Jacob B. Goff
Warren L. Gottsegen
Rodney F. Kalil
James J. Leonard
Daniel B. Lestage, MD,
MPH
Herbert K. Plauche
\*Robert E. Ruel, Jr.

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\*Clinton C. Aubert Francis T. Cazayoux Lester P. Dulitz James G. Hair Gary J. Lafleur \*Ladislas Lazaro III Bernard L. Manale Clinton G. McAlister Carl S. Merlin Calvin R. Peters Karl J. Pizzolatto Albert C. Rees Earl J. Rozas Ralph C. Sagrera Charles V. Sanders and Julia W. Sanders \*Daniel R. Scullin Enoch M. Toler

#### 1965

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J. Charles Dugal
\*Thomas A. Edwards
Drs. John and Lucie
Elfervig
James B. Godchaux
Edward E. Jeffries
Eugene M. Louviere
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John A. Rock
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#### 1974

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and Priscilla Occhipinti
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Eric J. Schultis
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## From a 2014 end-of-year report by Larry H. Hollier ('68), LSU Health New Orleans Chancellor...

A number of LSU Health New Orleans faculty members have been appointed to top spots nationally, affecting national health policy and resources, research development and direction, patient care, and educational quality and standards.

- Emeritus professor and founding dean of the School of Public Health, Elizabeth Fontham, DrPH, was appointed to the board reviewing the National Cancer Institute's entire intramural research program for allocation of resources and new areas of development.
- Patricia E. Molina, MD, PhD, was elected president-elect of the American Physiological Society.
   When she assumes the presidency next year, she will be the first Hispanic female to lead the oldest US society in the biomedical sciences.
- Nursing dean Demetrius Porche, DNS, APRN, is the first male to be elected President of the Southern Regional Education Board's Council on Collegiate Education for Nursing.
- Eugene Woltering, MD, was appointed Chair of the Neuroendocrine Tumors (NETs) Expert Panel for the American Joint Committee on Cancer (AJCC) Cancer Staging System, 8th Edition. Recognized as the authoritative guide for cancer staging information, it is used by tens of thousands of medical professionals every day.
- NRG Oncology, a national cancer clinical cooperative group funded by the National Cancer Institute, appointed Lorrie L. Powell,

- PhD, RN, to its newly created Cancer Care Delivery Committee.
- Robert Barsley, DOS, JO, was appointed chair of a subcommittee of a National Institute of Standards and Technology committee that establishes national forensic science standards and guidelines for crime labs.

Our research enterprise continues to draw millions of dollars of outside investment to the state. The funding supports our work to solve some of the most urgent health problems affecting Louisianans – cardiovascular disease, alcohol abuse, HIV, diabetes, hypertension, cancer, childhood obesity, deadly intra-abdominal infections and more.

- LSU Health New Orleans faculty successfully competed for \$53 million in grants in FY 2014. The value of research funding for FY 2015 is already approaching \$40 million.
- The innovations of LSU
  Health New Orleans faculty
  have resulted in a number
  of patents, the latest of
  which was awarded last
  month for a new method to
  treat drug-resistant eye
  infections.
- LSU Health New Orleans
  was invited to be the sixth
  site to participate in a
  clinical trial taking a
  revolutionary approach by
  matching patients to
  medications targeting the
  genetic changes fueling the
  growth of their tumors.

Enrollment has risen to a historic high of nearly 3,000 students. We continue to supply Louisiana's health professions work force,

having awarded nearly 37,000 degrees to date.

With our six professional health schools, LSU Health New Orleans is in the vanguard of the shift to interprofessional education – teaching whole teams of health professionals instead of isolated disciplines. We're changing curricula to formalize this emphasis.

Our School of Public Health was ranked #15 in the Top 25 Public Health Grad Programs based on student and graduate ratings.

Construction of the \$27.3 million state-of-the-art Human Development Center facility in our School of Allied Health Professions was completed this year. Move-in will be completed and programs begun early in the new year.

Our Dental School's Summer Enrichment Program is successfully increasing the diversity of our school and the profession.

An economic impact study released this year found that LSU Health New Orleans generated \$888 million in sales, more than \$390 million in earnings, and more than 6,900 jobs (direct and indirect) in metro New Orleans.

We are blessed to have such supportive partners as the LSU Medical Alumni Association and the LSU Health New Orleans Foundation, who each, among other contributions, provided \$2.5 million to construct the Cardiovascular Center of Excellence.

\*Marilyn L. Zimny, PhD

<sup>\*</sup> Deceased Members

## 500 Club Report

Members of the 500 Club, which supports basic science professorships, are listed below.

#### **New Members since June 2014**

Fanancy L. Anzalone ('81) Craig R. Thompson ('94) Marelle M. Yongue ('76)

#### **Double Members**

Dr. John and \*Senator Betty Andujar Charles N. Aprill ('67) Hubert C. Ashman (D'43) Leah Wilkinson Brockway ('83) \*Thomas Campanella (M'43) \*Robert S. Daniels Clyde E. Elliott ('67) \*Robert C. Fortenberry ('55) Jerry D. Jordan ('55) Richard A. Keller ('86) Alan D. LaCoste ('75) Michael D. Manuel ('75) J. Nelson Perret ('77) Robert Roskoski, Jr., MD,

Brent D. Videau ('87) Williams Davis Wall ('61) Paul C. Young ('58)

#### **Regular Members**

#### 1935

PhD

\*Morton L. Levy

#### 1936

\*Julius H. Mullins, Sr.

#### 1937

\*Don B. Williams

#### 1938

Edmond K. Edelson

1939 \*Alvin Stander

1940

\*M. M. Thompson

#### 1941

- \*James E. Ball
- \*Henry W. Jolly, Jr.
- \*Fred A. Marx
- \*Simon V. Ward

#### 1942

10

- \*Oren Depp
- \*Philip B. Watkins

#### 1943 - March

\*Howard A. Buechner \*Thomas Campanella \*Tillye Cornman

#### 1943 - December

Hubert C. Ashman Ignacio Medina \*Joseph M. Perret \*Leon Pordy \*Ross C. Tilbury

#### 1948

Charles L. Fellows

\*Robert C. Fortenberry Jerry D. Jordan

#### 1956

Robert E. Ball

#### 1957

Bernard Samuels

#### 1958

Cecil C. Vaughn Paul C. Young

#### 1959

Walter H. Daniels Thomas W. Graves

\*Kenneth L. Perego

Gerald L. Foret Lisso Nachman Thomas G. Latour Williams D. Wall IV

#### 1963

\*Richard J. Clement Curtis R. Duplechain

#### 1965

William J. Dimattia Henry W. McGowen

#### 1967

Charles N. Aprill Clyde E. Elliott William P. Newman III and Diane Newman

#### 1968

F. H. Metz, Jr.

Edward M. Haile Paul M. Mann

\*H. Thomas Ellender Edmond J. Leroux

#### 1972

Robert M. Alexander

#### 1973

Barbara B. Morgan

#### 1974

Richard D. Marino

#### 1975

Libeau J. Berthelot Lvnn E. Foret Alan D. Lacoste John Wesley Magee Alfred A. Mansour Michael D. Manuel Alan E. Sheen Marvin D. Tark

#### 1976

Charles W. Hilton, Jr. Marelle M. Yongue

#### 1977

Sidney G. Chetta Manoj Narayanan J. Nelson Perret

#### 1978

Leon C. LaHaye Bruce M. Thompson Charles S. Walker Lucy Borne Walker

#### 1980

Barry A. Bruggers William F. von Almen III

Fanancy L. Anzalone Walter J. Birdsall

#### 1982

Charles E. Ray

#### 1983

Leah Wilkinson Brockway Bradley I. Chastant \*Joseph W. Crookshank Robert W. Dugas James A. Paulson

#### 1984

Gregory J. Ardoin Samuel J. Lorenzo Elizabeth A. McDonald Michael W. McElderry Penny G. Viator

#### 1985

Ralph J. Bourgeois Robert T. Mazurek

#### 1986

Steven A. Guarisco

Richard A. Keller

#### 1987

Nicholas J. Persich, MD Brent D. Videau

#### 1988

Michael L. Nance

#### 1989

Keith P. Samuels

#### 1991

Robert C. Witcher, Jr.

#### 1993

Barry J. Breaux Mark L. Merlin Dominique H. Nguyen

#### 1994

Craig R. Thompson Mai P. Nguyen

#### 1997

Anh T. Nguyen Tram N. Nguyen

#### 1998

Vincent M. Galiano

#### 2000

Stephen B. Manale Deepesh Rubin Patel, MD

#### **Faculty and Friends**

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Biochemistry) \*Robert S. Daniels, MD

\*George D. Davis, PhD (Emeritus Professor of Physiology)

Emel Songu Mize, PhD (Professor of Pharmacology and Experimental Therapeutics)

R. Ranney Mize, PhD (Professor of Anatomy)

Robert Roskoski, Jr., MD, PhD (Emeritus Professor of Biochemistry)

H. Adele Spence, PhD (Emeritus Professor of Microbiology, Immunology and Parasitology)

Marilyn L. Zimny, PhD (Emeritus Professor of Anatomy)

\*Deceased

#### **CONTRIBUTORS — LSU MEDICAL ALUMNI ASSOCIATION**

Members of the Committee of 100 are listed beginning on page 4. Members of the 500 Club are listed on page 10.

The funds of the Medical Alumni Association, Inc., are audited annually by Erickson Krentel and La Porte, L.L.P. A copy of the audit is available on request to the Office of Alumni Affairs.

Donations received: 1/1/14 through 12/31/14

Donations received in 2015 will be acknowledged later.

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\*Dave Kaminsky

#### 1943 (Dec) \$275.00

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#### 1944 \$300.00

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#### 1945 \$50.00

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#### 1946 \$383,314.90

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#### 1947 \$590.00

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#### 1948 \$1,600.00

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#### 1949 \$550.00

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#### 1951 \$250.00

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Raymond L. Landreneau
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Ronald D. Alvarez Kirk J. Banquer Gregory S. Bienvenu n behalf of all of the students invited to the alumni gala, thank you so much for allowing us to attend this year. We always love being a part of this annual event.

We so appreciate the generosity of the alumni.

Best Regards, the Student Government

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#### LSU School of Medicine receives national award

In August 2014, LSUHSC School of Medicine-New Orleans won one of six Association of American Medical Colleges 2013 Clinical Care Innovation Challenges Awards. The Clinical Care Innovation Challenge awards recognize teaching hospitals and medical schools that have implemented or are developing programs to address clinical care innovations, including new delivery, payment and training models, which integrate education and research to improve value and quality.

The School was recognized for an internal medicine residency training program that involves medical, nursing, pharmacy, and social work students in the management of patients with uncontrolled diabetes. The care management team visits with registered high-risk diabetic patients, who are invited to meet for a planned visit and subsequent follow-up encounters, via phone or in person. The goal is to address patients' medical and related psychosocial problems to improve their functional health status, enhance coordination of care, eliminate duplication of services, and reduce the need for expensive medical services. Each member of the team addresses different aspects of care.

The 2014 Clinical Care Innovation Challenge opened on October 13, 2014.

This article appeared in the New Orleans Advocate, September 8, 2014.

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#### **TOTAL CONTRIBUTIONS**

January 1, 2014, through December 31, 2014

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Isidore Cohn, Jr., MD, Learning Center	18,295.00	Sidney Guyol and Jay G. Chetta Scholarship	2,500.00
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500 Club	12,166.58	Class of 1964 50th Anniversary Scholarship	24,475.00
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Julius Mullins, Sr. MD, Professorship	1,000.00	Pathology Department	2,000.00
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Percy Rosenbaum, MD, Professorship	1,500.00	Physiology Department	1,500.00
Warren Summer, MD, Professorship	4,600.00	Student Affairs	500.00
Ronald Welsh, MD, Professorship	166.66	Camp Tiger	250.00
Warren L. Gottsegen, MD, Vascular Surgery		LSUHSC Foundation	350.00
Award	6,650.00	TOTAL	1,434,667.58
Fred Allison, MD, Scholarship	1,000.00	TOTAL GIFTS	2,460
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## LSUHSC School of Medicine Parents' Club

The LSUHSC School of Medicine Alumni Association would like to extend an invitation to all parents, spouses, and family members of current LSUHSC School of Medicine students to join the newly-formed Parents' Club. The goal of this organization is to establish relationships and strengthen ties between students, their parents, and alumni at LSUHSC School of Medicine to develop a strong network of communication and cooperation.

#### Benefits of joining:

- Receive discounted ticket prices to the annual LSUHSC Purple and Gold Gala and other LSUHSC events
- Stay informed of recent developments at LSUHSC through the Alumni mailing list
- Assist the second-year class with orientation for the incoming medical school class
- Connect with other parents of students in your local area

To join, please email the LSUHSC Alumni Association - ROAR@lsuhsc.edu

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Purple & Gold Gala 2014

he LSU School of Medicine Alumni Association celebrated the Purple & Gold Gala on Saturday, October 11, 2014, at the Hyatt Regency New Orleans. Silent and Live Auctions featured artwork, sports items and vacation packages. Entertainment was provided by The

Topcats. Photographs from the Gala are featured on the next three pages.



Standing, *left to right*, Mihran Naljayan, MD, and Cristin Clement. Seated, *left to right*, Gerald Berenson, MD; Julia Sanders; and **Bo Sanders** ('64)





left to right, Al Copeland, Jr., and Larry Hollier ('68)



Joyce Leonard and Jim Leonard ('63)



PHOTO, LEFT

left to right, Nicolas Bazan, MD, PhD; Haydee Bazan, PhD; and Steve Nelson, MD, Dean, LSU School of Medicine

### Purple & Gold Gala 2014



PHOTO, LEFT

left to right, Felton Winfield ('94), Danielle Winfield, Troylynn Maupin, and Robert Maupin, MD



PHOTO, RIGHT

Amanda Martin and

Aaron Martin ('06)



Terry Soileau and Jay Soileau ('83)



Jennifer Peltier and Henry Peltier ('90)



left to right, Robert Batson ('72); Susan McSherry, MD; Beverly Jakes; Brian Jakes, Sr.

### Purple & Gold Gala 2014

PHOTO, RIGHT

left to right, Margaret Morrow, Robert Morrow ('69), Anne Monlezun, Lee J. Monlezun ('69)





Ron Gardner, Vice Chancellor for Community and Security Affairs, and Cynthia Gardner



PHOTO, RIGHT

left to right, Rene deBoisblanc ('74), Liz deBoisblanc, Barbara Fredericksen, and Ben deBoisblanc ('81)



 $\it left\ to\ right,\ Janine\ Parker\ ('86),\ Samantha\ Parker\ (L2),\ Matthew\ Berlinger\ (L3),\ and\ Abhita\ Reddy\ (L3)$ 



left to right, Annie Harding, Kelsey Bradbury, and Chloe Renshaw

#### Means to free immune system to destroy cancer identified

Research led by Paulo Rodriguez, PhD, an assistant research professor of Microbiology, Immunology & Parasitology at LSU Health New Orleans' Stanley S. Scott Cancer Center, has identified the crucial role that an inflammatory protein known as Chop plays in the body's ability to fight cancer. Results demonstrate, for the first time, that Chop regulates the activity and accumulation of cells that suppress the body's immune response against tumors. The LSU Health New Orleans research team showed that when they removed Chop, the T-cells of the immune system mounted an effective attack on the cancer cells. These findings reveal Chop as a target for the development of new immunotherapies to treat cancer. The research is described in a paper published online September 18, 2014, in Immunity, a Cell Press journal.

"Although we know what MDSCs do, very little has been known about what governs how they function," notes Dr. Paulo Rodriguez, assistant research professor of Microbiology, Immunology & Parasitology at LSU Health New Orleans' Stanley S. Scott Cancer Center. "This has limited the development of strategies to block the harmful activity of MDSCs."

The LSU Health research team discovered that the stress sensor C/EBP-homologous protein (Chop) regulates the function of MDSCs. They learned how Chop is distributed within the tumor environment in different types of cancer. They also determined how Chop controls tumor growth. The team confirmed their findings by deleting Chop and studying the effect. They found that the absence of Chop not only reduced the ability of MDSCs to inhibit T-cells

and suppress immune response, but also boosted the effectiveness of treatment.

"Our data demonstrate the central role of Chop in MDSCs' suppressive activity and suggest the feasibility of overcoming it by blocking Chop," concludes Dr. Rodriguez.

The LSU Health New Orleans research team also included Drs. Paul Thevenot, Rosa Sierra, Patrick Raber, Amir Al-Khami, Jimena Trillo-Tinoco, Parisa Zarreii, Augusto Ochoa, Yan Cui and Luis Del Valle from its Stanley S. Scott Cancer Center and departments of Microbiology, Immunology & Parisitology and Pediatrics.

The research was supported in part by National Institutes of Health (NIH) grant.

#### A key to preventing blindness and stroke devastation discovered

Research led by Nicolas Bazan, MD, PhD, Boyd Professor, Ernest C. and Yvette C. Villere Chair of Retinal Degeneration Research, and Director of the Neuroscience Center of Excellence at LSU Health New Orleans, has discovered gene interactions that determine whether cells live or die in such conditions as age-related macular degeneration and ischemic stroke. The paper is published online in Cell Death & Differentiation, a Nature journal at http://www.nature.com/cdd/journal/v aop/ncurrent/full/cdd2014233a.html.

Dr. Bazan and his research team discovered Neuroprotectin D1 (NPD1), which is made from the essential fatty acid, docosahexaenoic acid (DHA). Previous work showed that while it protected cells, the molecular principles underlying this protection were not known.

"During the last few years, my laboratory has been immersed in studying gene regulation," Dr. Bazan says. "We have uncovered a novel control that makes definitive decisions about whether a retina or brain cell will survive or die when threatened with disease onset. The gene mechanism that we discovered is the interplay of two genes turned on by the messenger Neuroprotectin D1."

The research team worked with human RPE cells and an experimental model of ischemic stroke. They discovered novel mechanisms in cells with the ability to activate pathways that crosstalk one to another and then assemble consolidated responses that decide cell fate. The researchers found that the powerful messenger, NPD1, is produced on-demand in the brain and

retina and that it elicits a network of positive signals essential for the well-being of vision and cognition. They showed that NDP1 bioactivity governs key gene interactions decisive in cell survival when threatened by disease or injury. They demonstrated that not only does NPD1 protect photoreceptors, but it also promotes remarkable neurological recovery from the most frequent form of stroke in humans.

In addition to Dr. Bazan, the LSU Health New Orleans Neuroscience Center research team included Drs. Jorgelina M. Calandria, Aram Asatryan, Veronica Balaszczuk, Eric Knott, Bok Kyoo Jun, Pranab K. Mukherjee and Ludmila Belayev.

This work was supported by National Institutes of Health (NIH) – grants R01 EY005121 (National Eye Institute) and P30 GM103340 (National Institute of General Medical Sciences) – and by the Eye Ear Nose and Throat Foundation of New Orleans, LA.

### Cardiovascular Center of Excellence receives grant

he newly created Mikie Mahtook Foundation has selected the LSU Health New Orleans Cardiovascular Center of Excellence as its first grant recipient. Mikie Mahtook, LSU baseball champion now a Tampa Bay Rays outfielder, presented a \$5,000 check to David Lefer, PhD, Director of the LSU Health New Orleans Cardiovascular Center of Excellence, at the Foundation's kickoff event on January 31, 2015. The event was hosted by LSU coaching legends Skip Bertman and Paul Mainieri.

"We are so honored to be recognized by the foundation created in the memory of Mikie Mahtook's father," notes Dr. Lefer. "We share a common goal – preventing heart disease through education and research. We will use the funds to advance training of future cardiologists in the Cardiology Fellowship Program at the LSU Health New Orleans School of Medicine."

The LSU Health New Orleans Cardiology Fellowship Program provides three additional years of training beyond residency to develop the outstanding clinical skills that translate to patient care of the highest quality. The Cardiovascular Center of Excellence at Louisiana's flagship health university is a nationally and internationally recognized center in cardiovascular research and medicine.

The Mikie Mahtook Foundation is a nonprofit organization dedicated to the education and prevention of heart disease, as well as other charitable causes. The Foundation was established in 2014 by professional baseball player and LSU College World Series Champion Mikie Mahtook in honor of his father Michael, who died of heart disease at the age of 32 when Mikie was only four years old. To learn more, visit http://www.mahtookfoundation.org.

#### Researchers find novel compound that switches off epilepsy development

Researchers at the LSU Health New Orleans Neuroscience Center of Excellence have found that a novel compound they discovered helps curtail the onset and progression of temporal lobe epilepsy. The finding is published online in the journal PLOS ONE, available at

http://journals.plos.org/plosone/article?id=10.1371/journal.pone.0116543

Working in a mouse model, the research team led by Drs. Nicolas Bazan, Boyd Professor and Director of the LSU Health New Orleans Neuroscience Center of Excellence, and Alberto Musto, Assistant Professor of Research, Neurosurgery and Neuroscience, found that brief, small electrical microbursts, or microseizures, occur before the onset of clinical recurrent seizures. When they systemically administered Neuroprotectin D-1 (NPD1), the researchers discovered that NPD1 regulated these bursts of brain electrical activity that not only reduced the aberrant brain cell signaling leading to severe generalized seizures, but also spontaneous recurrent seizures. Neuroprotectin D-1, discovered in the

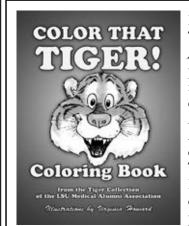
Bazan lab, is derived from docosahexaenoic acid (DHA), an essential omega 3 fatty acid found in fish oil.

"We have searched for years to unravel the significance of the mechanism by which DHA is released in the brain at the onset of seizures," notes Dr. Bazan. Called the "Bazan Effect" in the literature, with the discovery of NDP1, another piece of the puzzle fell into place.

"These observations will contribute to our ability to predict epileptic events, define key modulators of brain circuits, especially after a brain injury, and provide potential biomarkers and therapeutic approaches for epileptogenesis," says Dr. Musto.

The research team also included Chelsey P. Walker from the LSU Health New Orleans Neuroscience Center of Excellence and Nicos A. Petasis from Loker Hydrocarbon Research Institute at the University of Southern California, Los Angeles.

The research was supported by a grant from the National Institute of General Medical Sciences of the National Institutes of Health.



For almost thirty years, Virginia Howard's Tiger artwork has been used in *LSU Medicinews* and for other Alumni Affairs projects. Now a selection of those illustrations has been compiled as a coloring book, for only \$5.00 per copy. All proceeds go to the LSU Medical Alumni Association. For information on ordering copies of COLOR THAT TIGER! Coloring Book, email ROAR@lsuhsc.edu. Give them to your children or grandchildren, or color the pictures yourself (we won't tell anybody).

## **Faculty News**

Dr. Joseph Ortenberg, Professor of Urology and Pediatrics at LSUHSC and Director of the Urology Department at Children's Hospital, has been elected president of the American Association of Pediatric Urologists.

Dr. Jayne Weiss, Professor and Chair of the LSU Health New Orleans
Department of Ophthalmology, has been appointed Chair of the
Ophthalmic Devices Panel by the
Food and Drug Administration
(FDA) Commissioner – for the second time. Dr. Weiss, who is also the recipient of the Herbert E
Kaufman, MD, endowed Chair in
Ophthalmology, Professor of
Pathology and Pharmacology, and
Director of LSU Eye Center at LSU
Health New Orleans, will serve a four-year term.

The Ophthalmic Devices Panel reviews and evaluates data concerning the safety and effectiveness of marketed and investigational devices for use in the eye and makes appropriate recommendations to the Commissioner of Food and Drugs. First-of-a-kind medical devices and applications that raise new issues of safety and effectiveness are reviewed by the panel. Devices that are not approved cannot be sold in the United States.

The Food and Drug Administration selects nationwide experts in their fields with experience interpreting and analyzing detailed scientific data with understanding of the public health significance. The panel consists of seven voting members, one nonvoting consumer representative and one nonvoting industry representative.

William Gallaher, PhD, Emeritus Professor of Microbiology, Immunology & Parasitology at LSU Health New Orleans School of Medicine, has discovered a fragment of an Ebola virus protein. The findings were published online January 20, 2015, in the open access journal, *Viruses*, available at http://www.mdpi.com/1999-4915/7/1/285.

Following his discovery, Dr. Gallaher contacted Robert Garry, PhD, Professor of Microbiology and Immunology at Tulane University School of Medicine, a longtime collaborator, to produce a structural model and potential mechanism of action. The results of that modeling work are being made public only after acceptance into a special issue on "Advances in Ebolavirus, Marburgvirus, and Cuevavirus Research 2014-2015" in *Viruses*.

He and his colleagues are also developing inhibitors of the toxic mechanism, which may ultimately be useful as drugs, should a role for Delta peptide in Ebola virus disease become established by future studies.

The work was supported, in part, by grants from the National Institutes of Health.

## Work on finding shared pathways for psychiatric disorders

Nancy Buccola, MSN, APRN, PMHCNS-BC, CNE, Assistant Professor of Clinical Nursing at LSU Health Sciences Center New Orleans School of Nursing, contributed samples used in a study reporting shared genetic risk factors and common pathways for schizophrenia, major depression and bipolar disorder. The results are published online January 19, 2015, in *Nature Neuroscience*.

Buccola collected samples as part of the Molecular Genetics of Schizophrenia (MGS) study, part of genome-wide association study data being analyzed by the Psychiatric Genomics Consortium (PGC), a large international collaboration. Researchers examined data from 60,000 participants, including people with schizophrenia, bipolar disorder, major depression, autism spectrum disorders and attention deficit hyperactivity disorder as well as healthy individuals, to identify biological pathways for psychiatric disorders.. The findings confirm known mechanisms and suggest several new insights into the development of psychiatric disorders.

## MEDICAL ALUMNI REUNIONS 2015

for the following classes: '50, '55, '60, '65, '70, '75, '80, '85, '90, '95, '00, '05

June 5 and 6, 2015 New Orleans Hilton, Poydras at the River

To volunteer to help with your 2015 reunion, contact the Office of Alumni Affairs at (504) 568-4009 or e-mail: ROAR@lsuhsc.edu

See you there!

#### Robert Daniels, MD, Professorship in Medical Education

On Tuesday, February 24, 2015, after several years' hiatus and a request by the Daniels Family, the School of Medicine reinstituted the Robert Daniels, MD, Lectureship in Medical Education.

Dr. Daniels retired as the Dean of LSU School of Medicine in 1995. Upon his retirement, an endowed professorship in medical education was established by the LSU Medical Alumni Association. Dr. Daniels and his wife, Dr. Vikki Ashley, a PhD psychologist and author, were lifelong and passionate supporters of medical education.

Robert Nolan, Jr., MD, Associate Dean for Graduate Medical Education at the University of Texas Health Sciences Center, San Antonio, was the guest lecturer. Dr. Nolan's presentation on the ACGME Next Accreditation System was an opportunity to facilitate the understanding of the time commitment and financial resources necessary to move GME programs into the next phase of continuous accreditation. In addition, the audience of LSU School of Medicine—department heads,



Pictured, *left to right*: Charles W. Hilton, Jr. ('76), The Robert S. Daniels, MD Professor of Medical Education; Stephen Daniels, MD (son); Zach Daniels ('14) (grandson); Robert J. Nolan, Jr., MD, 2015 Guest Speaker; Allen Daniels (son); Steve Nelson, MD, Dean of LSU School of Medicine

program directors, coordinators and chief residents—was provided with tools and strategies necessary to assist both departments and training programs in preparation for the new Self Study process and yearly ACGME Review Committee monitoring.

Participants learned more about the criteria and metrics such as aims, Action Plan development and SWOT Analysis to be used for Annual Program Evaluations (APE's). Dr. Nolan shared UTHSCSA Graduate Medical Education Office ideas and templates they have used in planning for this new accreditation system. The audience was given time to ask questions and present some of their comments and concerns to the group.

Immediately following the Daniels Lecture, program directors and coordinators were offered the opportunity to attend a workshop that focused on the tasks and responsibilities of the Clinical Competency Committees and Program Evaluation Committees in the overall program preparation towards improvement.

Contributing to the Daniels Lectureship fund will ensure this important series continues. To make a donation, please send check payable to: The Foundation for the LSU Health Sciences Center, Attn: Daniels Lecture (Acct# 489070), 2000 Tulane Avenue, 4th Floor - New Orleans, LA 70112.

### Grant awarded to provide early data on cancer in children

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention awarded LSU Health New Orleans School of Public Health's Louisiana Tumor Registry a \$1.3 million grant over five years to more rapidly find and report cases of cancer in children and young adults. One of only eight state registries to successfully compete for this funding, the award will support efforts to increase the availability of these data for surveillance and research activities at the local, state, and national level.

This continuation funding will enhance and build the existing infrastructure of the LSU Health New Orleans Louisiana Tumor Registry to capture these data more quickly and promote their use for research and cancer control programs. LSU Health New Orleans will enhance its cancer data on children and young adults by linkages with secondary data sets, providing a more robust research resource.

Key partners include the LSU Health New Orleans Pediatric Cancer Program at Children's Hospital, where about 50% of new pediatric cancer cases are diagnosed and/or treated; major medical centers that treat pediatric cancers; St. Jude-affiliated clinics throughout Louisiana; and out-of-state children's hospitals.

"The data obtained from this award provide a unique opportunity for research to better understand why survival of a particularly vulnerable subgroup of adolescents and young adults has not improved over the last two decades and to change that," concludes grant principal investigator Dr. Vivien Chen, LSU Health New Orleans Professor of Epidemiology. Dr. Chen led the Registry for many years and secured its designation as one of only 18 registries in the National Cancer Institute's SEER Program.

#### Dec '43

Herbert Derman, Hilton Head, SC – "Read the *Medicinews* faithfully and note sadly how my era is gone. But pride in LSU and joy in its successes go on unabated. Now I am off to watch TV to watch the Tigers. Geaux Tigers!!"

#### '49

**John M. Hamilton**, St. Petersburg, FL – "I am still quite active. I play the clarinet in two bands and assist in the Free Clinic."

#### **'53**

Martha Haley Pope, Baton Rouge, LA – "Life is good in Baton Rouge – blessed with good health that allows me to exercise, care for my roses and work two days per week!! Also, sing in the church choir, and play with our grandchildren."

#### **'54**

Raymond Landreneau, Mobile, AL – "Enjoying retirement but do miss practicing Pediatrics."

Richard Vines, Monroe, LA – "Enjoyed seeing the picture of the Class of '54 in the Alumni News. Due to my wife's battle with esophageal cancer, I had to cancel my plans to attend. Deeply regret couldn't be in picture with my *old* classmates."

#### **'55**

Mary Lou Applewhite, New Orleans, LA – "I want to remind my classmates that next June will be our 60<sup>th</sup> reunion so make plans early to attend!!"

#### **'57**

Kingsley Fife, Pacific Palisades, CA – "We flew to London for Christmas to visit our daughter's family and our new granddaughter. Enjoying the Alumni News & keeping in touch with my classmates. Grateful to be alive and well."

#### **'62**

**James Bergeron**, Shreveport, LA – "Still actively practicing Dermatology. I was inducted into LSMS Hall of

#### A Time to Reminisce

Martha Holoubeck Fitzgerald, author of *The Courtship of Two Doctors*, met with **Virginia Boyd Connally** ('37) at her home in Abilene, TX, in November 2014. Dr. Boyd knew author Fitzgerald's mother, the late **Alice Baker Holoubek** ('38). Fitzgerald's book *The Courtship of Two Doctors: A 1930s Love Story of Letters, Hope, & Healing* (Little Dove Press, 2012) offers an insider's look at 1930s medical training through the letters Dr. Baker exchanged with her future husband, Dr. Joe Holoubek, co-founder of LSU School of Medicine in Shreveport.

Of her visit with Dr. Boyd, who also attended a book talk given by the author, Martha H. Fitzgerald reported "Dr. Boyd will be 102 in December. She is a retired ENT and still lives alone. She

remembered Alice Baker—'Didn't she marry a doctor?' — and **Dorothy Mattingly** ('36) and other early woman LSU SoM grads. Her best friend was **Ellanor Lockhart** ('37), mentioned in the book as an intern who contracted
TB. I gave her a copy of the book and she bought two more."

Dr. Boyd was not only the first woman to practice medicine in Abilene, TX, but the first female chief of staff at Hendrick Medical Center, the first chair of the staff at St. Ann Hospital, and the first female president of the TJHC County Medical Society. She received the 2012 Distinguished Service Award of the Texas Medical Association, its highest honor.

The Courtship of Two Doctors was featured in a five-page spread in the current issue of Louisiana Cultural Vistas magazine (winter 2014-15), the quarterly publication of Louisiana Endowment for the Humanities. The letters excerpted speak of Charity Hospital and the fateful New Orleans visit of JAMA editor Dr. Morris Fishbein. The article begins as follows: "With the dismantling of Louisiana's Charity Hospital system, the final chapter closes in a centuries-long story of public health care in New Orleans. Alice Baker of Alexandria, a medical student and intern in the 1930s, witnessed an earlier chapter, when critical overcrowding at the old Charity Hospital scandalized the country."



Author Martha Holoubeck Fitzgerald (*left*) shares her book, *The Courtship of Two Doctors*, with **Virginia Boyd Connally** ('37).

Fame-2011. Named outstanding Louisiana Tree Farmer-2013."

**Paul Snow**, Cumberland, MD – "I am not skinny. I gained 30 lbs."

#### **'63**

**David Hunter**, Colorado Springs, CO – "Retired and living in Colorado Springs, CO. Our home burned in the Black Forest Fire but we are now in our new home."

#### **'64**

Karl Pizzolatto, Lakewood, WA – "Enjoyed 50th reunion June 2014. Enjoying life on the left coast with our two grandchildren, 4-year-old and 6-year-old. Had aortic valve replaced September 2014 – (wasn't too bad)."

#### **'65**

Margaret Wheat Carter, Natchitoches, LA – "I have been retired seven years."

#### **'66**

Nathan Wexler, New Orleans, LA – Recently awarded the Kaplan Compassionate Physician Award at Touro Infirmary. Position of Physician Advisor at Touro since 2007.

#### **'68**

Charles Olivier, Lafayette, LA – Working in Lafayette for Hamilton Medical Group since 1975.

Michael Turner, Lake Charles, LA – Still active in cardiology practice in Lake Charles. Son, Chris Turner ('98) is working as hospitalist in Baton Rouge. Son, Jason Turner, MD, recently completed Pediatric Cardiology Fellowship (2013) LSU Service at Children's Hospital in New Orleans.

#### **'69**

Sidney Tate, Searcy, AR – "I 'retired' from my medical practice with the Searcy Medical Center in 2002. The next five years were spent in Zambia working with a rural health center and village health centers. I finally retired from doing this and other volunteer work in Arkansas in 2012 and am now enjoying other pursuits."

#### **′70**

Victor (Tory) Gunderson, Lafayette, LA – "Happy in Lafayette and Bay St. Louis fishing with wife Tracey. Retired for two years, and don't miss work. Go Tigers!"

#### **'71**

Bennie Nobles, New Orleans, LA – "Pray that my classmates continue in good health and prosper. Privileged to still be able to work and serve our patients."

#### **'72**

Patterson Moseley, Bokeelia, FL – Retired from Cardiac Surgery. "Enjoying fishing and golf in beautiful Southwest Florida!"

#### **'73**

John Hybart, Pensacola, FL – "Still working as ER doctor in busy ER at Sacred Heart Pensacola (there are three doctors from '73 Class and we have at least six LSU medical docs here). Also, work part-time at Navy ER Pensacola. My son is still living in Lafayette, LA – Good excuse to visit and partake of the irresistible food!"

Jon "Skip" Palmintier, Lafayette, LA
– Five years retired after 25 years of
Colon & Rectal Surgery in Richmond,
Virginia. "Wife, Joan, and I returned
to Cajun Country. Volunteering
working on enlarging VA Clinic in

#### **Tiger in the News**

William P. Newman III ('67) was recognized by the College of American Pathologists (CAP) with a Lifetime Achievement Award in September 2014. CAP President Gene N. Herbek, MD, FCAP, stated, "Dr. Newman has been an ardent supporter of the CAP over the years as a regional commissioner for the CAP Laboratory Accreditation Program. He is also recognized for his distinguished service as a professor of pathology at Louisiana State University School of Medicine during which he played an enduring and integral role in the pathology education of medical students, residents and fellows."

Lafayette and state coordinator of "Reel-Recovery" – (retreat for fly-fishing and counseling for men with cancer). Enjoying fly-fishing, birding, photography and travel. Kids and grandkids are in Colorado."

Al Seyfer, Bethesda, MD – "I run the Gross Anatomy Course at the F. Edward Hebert School of Medicine (USUHS) and consult in Surgery at Walter Reed National Military Medical Center. Glenna works at the National Institutes of Health as a Pheresis RN. We have two adorable little granddaughters!!"

#### **′76**

**Julius Mullins**, Baton Rouge, LA – Still practicing in Baton Rouge – Ob/Gyn.

H. Jane Chihal, Carrollton, TX – "I retired in 2006 because of scoliosis and arthritis. David Chihal ('79) retired from ENT Practice, November 1, 2014. Building house on farm between College Station and Austin, Texas."

#### **'78**

Walter Larimore, Monument, CO – "Just published my 32<sup>nd</sup> book – *The Ultimate Girls' Body Book: Not-So-Silly Questions about Your Body.*"

#### **'80**

Robert Welch, Detroit, MI – Recently appointed Director and Chief of Maternal-Fetal Medicine at Wayne State University Medical School and Vice-Chair of Clinical Operations in Ob/Gyn at Detroit Medical Center Hospitals.

#### **'81**

Susan Edelman, Palo Alto, CA – "My new book, *Be Your Own Brand of Sexy: A New Sexual Revolution for Women*, came out Valentine's Day 2015! In it, I encourage women to develop their instincts and intuition rather than simply follow harmful cultural norms. Hope you're all well!"

#### **'82**

Robert Davis, Houma, LA –
Practicing Occupational Med with All
Industrial Medical Services in Houma,
Louisiana. "Dana and I are doing well.
We are kept busy following our
children: Dr. Robin Davis Beducian –
Chief Resident, Neurology,
UNC-Chapel Hill and Captain Hunter
Davis – USAF Special Operations.
Never a dull moment – from
cutting-edge Neuro developments to 'I
could tell you but then I'd have to kill
you' family conversations."

James Martin, Jr., Sugarland, TX – "My oldest son, Matthew, began his freshman year at LSU Vet School. My daughter Lindsay, is living in Colorado working for Young Life. My youngest son is a senior at U.T. in Austin and is planning to apply to medical school this fall."

James Orr, Atlanta, GA – "Two sons: Daniel, teaching catholic religion in Michigan. Steven, is in Orthopedic Residency in New York. Two grandchildren: William and Martin – both in Michigan."

#### **'83**

Mike Haas, Covington, LA -"Just wanted to drop you guys a line. I have done Family Practice, but also started a medical device development company, called CryoPen. It was originally designed for skin use (cryosurgery), thence got a grant to do cervical freezing. The cervical freezing part led us to a bunch of nonprofits in the US that go to developing countries to help solve the cervical cancer epidemic around the world. I developed the device and we recently got to present at the US African Summit."

Brett Koder, Shreveport, LA – Practicing in Shreveport at Ark-La-Tex ENT. "Married to Elaine since 1980. Daughter Morgan, graduated UNC Chapel Hill 2013."

#### **'85**

Albert Romanosky, Millersville, MD – "Janice and I have become empty-nesters. Youngest daughter off to one of Maryland's Honors Colleges – Cellular and Molecular Biology. Still working on health & medical disaster preparedness response and recovery. Most recent concerns are Ebola and MERS. Conducted and developed an Ebola exercise for the governor. Call me if you get to Washington, DC."

#### **'87**

**Gigi Lefebvre**, Pinellas Park, FL – "Doing full-time work as Principal Investigator for Meridien Research, and part-time running my solo Family

#### **Tiger in the News**



Dr. Jolissaint

J. Gregory Jolissaint ('86), chief medical officer and senior clinical advisor of the Military & Veterans Services Section of General Dynamic Information Technology (GDIT), was inducted into the LSU Military Hall of Honor on November 8, 2014.

Practice office. Trying to get to LA every 4-6 weeks to spend time with family and friends."

**Brent Videau**, Pensacola, FL – "Our son, Paul, just started LSU this fall! We will be back for lots of games now!"

#### **'88**

Rebecca Doise, Lafayette, LA – "Still hanging in there as ED Medical Director at Women's & Children's. Youngest, Douglas, is in college and Claire now has four children. Wishing retirement was a possibility!"

#### **'90**

Keith Goodfellow, Gulfport, MS – Practicing Ob/Gyn in Gulfport, Mississippi. "Married to Darla for 28 years. Our children are: Samantha, 26 y/o; Hillary, 23 y/o; Thor, 21 y/o; and Desiree, 16 y/o.

#### **'91**

Kirk LeBlanc, Lafayette, LA – Practicing solo Ophthalmology in Lafayette. "Michie and I have five kids ages 20-8. Best wishes to the class of 1991."

#### **'99**

Michael "Luke" James, Durham, NC – Promotion to Associate Professor at Duke University-Departments of Anesthesiology and Neurology effective November 1, 2014. Elected to Board of Directors of Society for Neuroscience in Anesthesiology and Critical Care effective October 10, 2014. Elected Fellow of the American Heart Association for Stroke Council effective February 10, 2014.

#### **'04**

Suzanna Jamison, Roanoke, VA – Working as an Internist and Psychiatrist for Carilion Clinic in Roanoke, Virginia. "A large portion of the patients I care for are underserved. Won second place in "Our Health" Magazine's Best Bedside Manner Award for Internal Medicine in 2013. I recently got promoted to Lieutenant Colonel in the U.S. Army Reserves."

#### **'09**

Andrew Nakamoto, Gulfport, MS – "Starting December 1, 2014, I took over as offline medical director of American Medical Response South Mississippi, the EMS system for Hancock and Harrison County. I also work full-time at Memorial Hospital in Gulfport, Mississippi, in the Department of Emergency Medicine."

#### **'11**

Jennifer Braaten, New Orleans, LA – Graduated from Internal Medicine residency at Virginia Commonwealth University this spring and is now practicing primary care at Ochsner Main Campus in New Orleans.

#### Passage of an icon Wilfred J. Briley ('44), 1920-2014

In 1956 my first wife, Suzanne "Sally" Dugas Bourgeois ('52), and I started our practice of medicine in Opelousas. We joined a group of local physicians in forming the first medical staff of Opelousas General Hospital, which opened in 1957. The group was generally affable, but I was particularly impressed by the personal and professional integrity and competence of a young physician, just a few years older than I. His name was Wilfred J. Briley ('44). We soon developed a close personal and professional relationship. Personally, we enjoyed time on the golf course or riding the bus to LSU games. More recently, we enjoyed an occasional breakfast or lunch together in the doctors' lounge at the hospital. Professionally, I

considered it signal honor that he allowed me to reciprocate with him on medical coverage when one of us was to be away. As the years passed, it was heartwarming and encouraging to see him modestly and progressively carve his niche in the medical history of Opelousas and St. Landry Parish. This was readily apparent in the love he showed for his profession and his patients, and they for him. Over the years we have, by natural attrition, witnessed the inevitable decline in the number of our original group that remained alive. In recent months Dr. Briley and I occasionally reflected that we were the only two left.

And then there was one. It is I.

George S. Bourgeois ('53)

#### Residency - '93

Jane Curry, Reston, VA – "I have returned back to school in the Master of Public Health Online Program with Creighton University as of August 2014. My anticipated graduation date is in the Spring 2016. My husband, Michael Hannan, and I are relocating to the Four Corners Region where I will join the Pediatric Department of the Northern Navajo Medical Center. Wishing all of my fellow tiger alums the sweetest of dreams to catch!"

#### LAST ONE STANDING

We started school as a group of four; Towards life's goal, seeking medical lore. A small apartment was our humble abode, Devoid of frills or luxurious mode.

Alarmingly naive and without a care, We knew not what to learn of that which was there

So we studied it all, anatomy, physiology Neuro, micro and of course biochemistry.

We recited to each till we knew it by heart, But the biochemistry gave us a start. Finally the first year came to an end. We ranked high in class, all in the top ten.

The next year we went our separate way, One even to his wedding day. Joe and I moved to another apartment. Eddie left too, I don't recall where he went.

We all graduated, after four years, Then specialized, and sought new peers. We all stayed married and had great careers, Distantly separated over the years.

We retired from medicine, one after one, But Eddie succumbed before he was done. Then Pete was next to end his life, Leaving his family and adoring wife.

A chronic illness caused Joe's health to wane. Then sadly, this world's loss was heaven's gain. I'm still here, in reasonably good health, Enriched by wife and family, not by wealth.

Sometimes, singly or before I go to sleep, I think of that first year and memories to keep. Why am I still standing, why me alone? The worldly reason will never be known.

Robert J. Turner III ('54)

#### **DECEASED**

1935 Dave Kaminsky 1943 (December) Joseph M. Perret, Jr.

1946 David W. Aiken 1950 Armant C. Touchy

Julius E. Isaacson

1954 Warren J. Stassi

1955 Joseph T. Crapanzano 1958

Mary Ann Johnson **1960** 

James L. Christopher John R. Davis **1966** Eric H. Amos

Eric H. Amos **1967** 

Wilmot F. Ploger 1971

Walter R. Abbott

**1972** Stephen Kuplesky

1980

Dorcas M. Hough

#### ™ In Memoriam ™

It is with great sadness that the Foundation for the LSU Health Sciences Center announces the loss of one of its most generous benefactors, Billy A. Beer, who passed away on January 21, 2015, at the age of 84.

Billy was born and raised in New Orleans, Louisiana, graduated from Alcee Fortier High School in 1947, and attended LSU. He spent three years in the U.S. Navy before returning to New Orleans to work in the finance industry.

The same year the Salk polio vaccine was licensed, Billy, at age 25, arrived at the Charity Polio Unit in the acute stage of polio. Crediting an iron lung, found in the basement of Charity, with saving his life, he didn't miss a beat in structuring a loving life with his wife Marcia. He loved big band music, relished good cooking and had an insatiable curiosity about people, politics, and history, enjoying recounting life's amusing anecdotes.

He spent 13 months (6 months in an iron lung) being treated and cared for by doctors, nurses and staff of LSU Medical School and Polio Center before being sent to Warm Springs, Georgia for rehabilitation. Billy was one of the oldest living polio survivors that was completely ventilator dependent.

In the early 1990s, the Beers established the Marcia and Billy Beer Endowed Scholarship Fund to support four year scholarships to the LSUHSC School of Medicine for tuition, fees, books and essential lab equipment with the request that upon beginning medical practice, each recipient repay this gift by offering one free day of medical care each month for those patients unable to afford medical care.

As Billy once humbly remarked, "I'm not a humanitarian but I know what it's like to come from a background without wealth and success. If I could help someone from that kind of background obtain a quality education, then I feel my life would stand for something."

Billy is survived by his loving wife of 42 years, Marcia H. Beer, and predeceased in death by his parents, Abram Beer and Janet Heyman Beer.



CONDOLENCES MAY BE OFFERED AT beercondolences@gmail.com.

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## From your Alumni Office...



#### Dear All,

Greetings on behalf of the Medical Alumni Office.
2014 was a great year for your Alumni Office.
Donations to support the activities of the School and the Capital Campaign for the Cardiovascular Center of Excellence exceeded \$1 million for the first time in my tenure in the Alumni Office, thanks to the generosity of our alumni. Two major gifts were in the form of bequests by alumni who included the Alumni Association in their planned giving. It's a great way to

honor your School and create a legacy for your estate.

We are now getting ready for Reunion Weekend, which will be held at our usual location, the New Orleans Hilton Riverside Hotel on Friday, June 5<sup>th</sup> and Saturday, June 6<sup>th</sup>, 2015. This year's events will honor the classes of: '50, '55, '60, '65, '70, '75, '80, '85, '90, '95, '00, and '05.

Our 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Purple & Gold Gala is scheduled for Saturday, October 24, 2015, so plan to attend and celebrate with friends and family. It's a great opportunity to spend a weekend in New Orleans.

Thanks for supporting our Alma Mater – where we all received a great education at bargain-basement prices. Please call or stop by this office when you are in New Orleans. I would love to show you around our campus.

Sincerely,

Cathi Fontenot ('84)

Associate Dean for Alumni Affairs and

# Opening in August 2015 University Medical Center New Orleans

With a project as large and complex as University Medical Center, adjustments in timelines are not unusual. I'm writing to share such a change. After careful consideration and much discussion with the state, our board and academic partners, we are announcing a new Move Day target of August 1, 2015.

We've made this adjustment to ensure that we and the facility are in the best state of readiness for our patients:

There are over 400 pieces of medical equipment and almost 200 pieces of facility equipment, as well as new building systems, that staff must be trained on.

- The requirements for accreditation from many different agencies, such as the Department of Health and Hospitals, The Joint Commission and the Office of Public Health, are exhaustive and we want to make absolutely certain we are prepared.
- Additionally, we will be welcoming a new group of residents and interns on July
  1, so we want to ensure that everyone on our team is sufficiently oriented to our
  new building prior to that time.
- Our transition plans have been advancing well, and I'm very proud of the hard work that has been taking place throughout the organization.

I know that the next few months will be a busy and exciting time as we continue our planning, orientation and training for our move to UMC.

As always, please feel free to contact me if you have questions or concerns.

Cindy Nuesslein President & CEO ILH - Interim LSU Hospital

