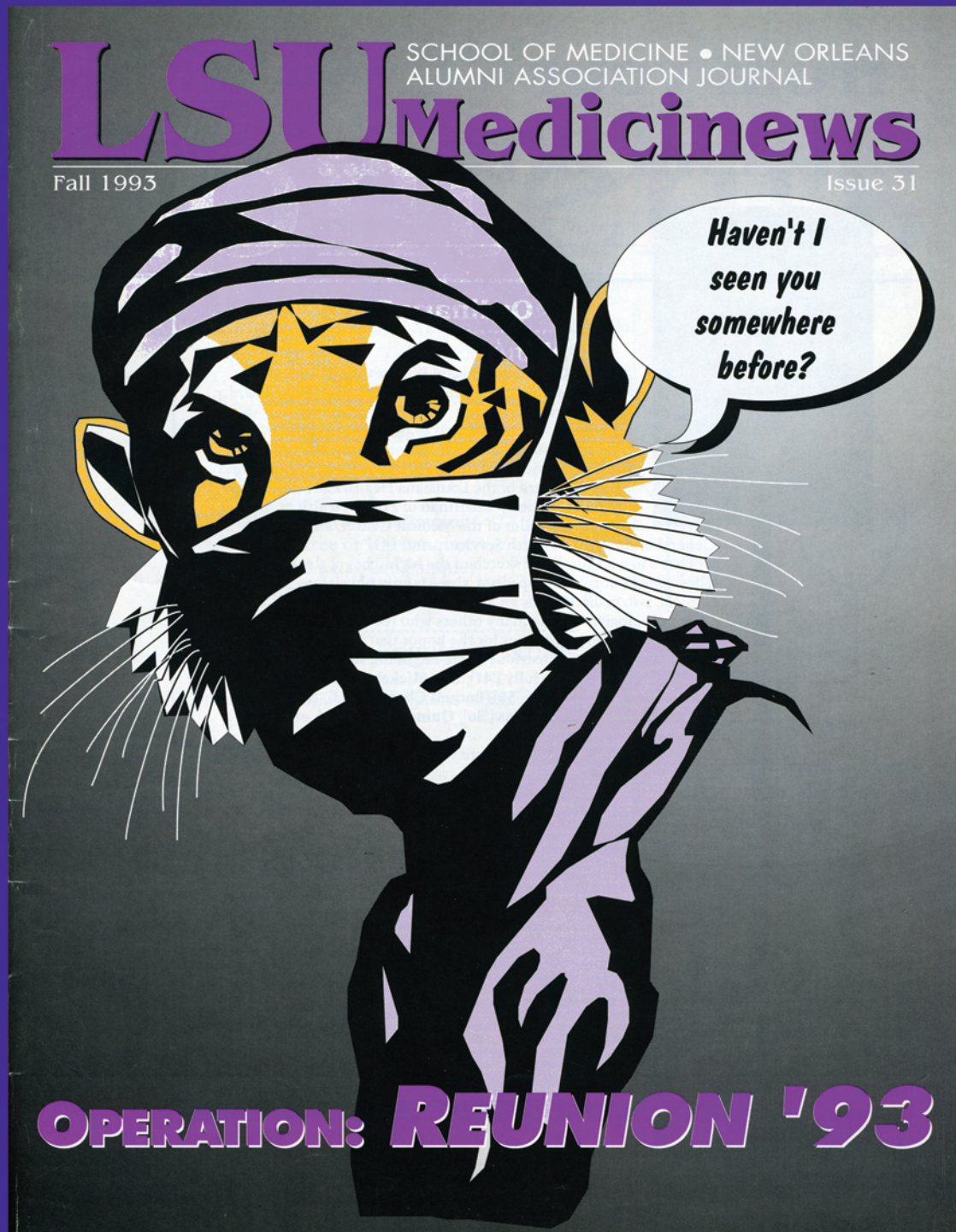


# LSU SCHOOL OF MEDICINE - NEW ORLEANS ALUMNI ASSOCIATION JOURNAL Medicinews

**Volume 37, No. 2 - Fall '20**



The cover from the fall 1993 issue of *LSU Medicinews* is eerily relevant in 2020.



## **Dean's Corner: A Message from Dr. Nelson**

The last several months have been unprecedented in the school's history. We have transformed our educational programs, adapted to new models of outpatient care, and shifted institutional policies to keep everyone safe. Our education leaders, teachers, GME leaders and all of their support staff have demonstrated remarkable dedication to the missions of our school. Researchers have quickly seized the moment to design protocols with experimental medications and convalescent serum, to develop tests, to study COVID pathology and to learn about its pathogenesis. They all deserve our thanks.

No one deserves more admiration and gratitude, however, than the clinicians who served on the front lines of patient care in our partnering hospitals. These physicians put themselves and their families in harm's way to provide exemplary care for our patients. I cannot thank all of them personally by name, so I apologize in advance for those who are not included here.

Dr. Mason, Dr. DeBoisblanc, Dr. Janz and many others in the section of Pulmonary and Critical Care Medicine managed the ICUs at UMC, Kenner, Baptist, and New Orleans East at a time when new ICU beds were opening daily. Our doctors had some of the best ICU outcomes in the region. Dr. Hunt and the Trauma Division converted the trauma ICU into a medical ICU and took care of COVID patients in addition to their trauma patients who moved to the PACU. Dr. Briere and the pulmonary team in Baton Rouge took care of large numbers of critically ill patients at OLOL and Baton Rouge General. Faculty in the Department of Anesthesiology created a code/intubation team at UMC and they helped staff the ICU in Kenner. Drs. Amoss, Modica, and Nunez at Touro, Drs. Masri, McCarron and the hospitalists at Kenner admitted large numbers of COVID patients to their inpatient services every day. Led by Drs. Guillory and Engel, hospitalists at UMC such as Drs. Walvekar, Sanders, Imsais and others created new teams to care for the daily influx of COVID patients. Our internists and hospitalists in Baton Rouge and Lafayette also created special teams as the number of patients with COVID grew at their hospitals. Dr. Hull, Dr. Figueroa and others in the section of Infectious Diseases saw COVID patients in consultation at UMC, and throughout the city. Dr. Campbell, Dr. Russo and other family medicine faculty in Kenner, Bogalusa, Lafayette and Lake Charles cared for COVID patients in the hospital and clinics. Our Emergency Medicine doctors were on the front lines of patient care and testing every day. Our OB/GYN faculty cared for infected mothers and their newborn children. Drs. Maffei, Sells, and O'Neal served tirelessly as the Infection Control officers at UMC, UHC, and OLOL. Drs. Clement, Benani, and Lawicki developed treatment protocols. Dr. Gordon Love worked diligently to establish several different testing platforms at UMC, and he helped establish testing capabilities at Tulane as well. Dr. Vander Heide and Dr. Fox were among the first pathologists in the U.S. to conduct autopsies on COVID patients in the state of the art morgue at UMC. They have already begun to publish their seminal findings. Residents from all of these services also put themselves in harm's way to care for COVID patients. Some programs, notably Med/Peds, Oral Surgery, Emergency Medicine, Vascular Surgery, and Anesthesiology, reassigned residents to new teams for COVID patients in the ICUs. The sheer magnitude of our response to the COVID crisis was remarkable. Their selflessness has been humbling. In Camus' *The Plague*, Dr. Bernard Rieux relentlessly cared for his sick and dying patients. He concluded that the only ways we can fight a plague are with human decency and by just doing our job. Our physicians combined their exceptional medical skill with humanism and decency. They put themselves at risk every day and did their job.

We do not know what the next 12 months will bring. What we do know is that our doctors will meet whatever challenges we face. Thank you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Steve Nelson". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Steve Nelson, MD, CM, FCCP, FACP  
Dean, LSU School of Medicine-New Orleans

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*How the SECURE and CARES Act Legislation benefits you in 2020*

**SAVE THE DATE: Charitable Gift Webinar**  
**Wednesday, Oct. 7, 2020, at 11:00 am**

*presented by Carole Cukell Neff, Sessions, Fishman, Nathan, & Israel, LLC,  
and Lawrence M. Lehmann, Lehmann, Norman & Marcus, LLC*

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 our electronic list, please send your email address to: [roar@lsuhsc.edu](mailto:roar@lsuhsc.edu).



*Dr. Samuel McClugage retiring as Head of Cell Biology and Anatomy.*

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*Acknowledging Match Day, Pediatrics style*

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### LSU Medicinews Staff

*Executive Editor*  
**Cathi Fontenot ('84)**

*Editor*  
**Virginia Howard**

*Staff Writers*  
Jo Ann Roloff  
Carmen Barreto

*Photography*  
Rusty Cowart  
Daryl Lofaso  
Katherine Diodene

Address all correspondence to:  
LSU Medical Alumni Association  
2020 Gravier, Room 523  
New Orleans, LA 70112  
(504) 568-4009/e-mail: [ROAR@lsuhsc.edu](mailto:ROAR@lsuhsc.edu)

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# Coronavirus Relief Effort

The SARS-CoV-2, also known as Coronavirus, pandemic has dramatically altered life for our neighbors, students, faculty, and patients of the Greater New Orleans community. The LSU Health Foundation New Orleans introduces the Coronavirus Relief Effort to support the various current and long-term LSU Health initiatives related to SARS-CoV-2.

The LSU Health Foundation has identified the most critical campus initiatives in need of support now more than ever. Traditional funding sources can be slow, and accelerating the financial support for this pandemic is crucial. Funds raised from this campaign will support the following initiatives:

## Support Innovative COVID -19 Research

### Research Infectious Diseases Fund

Paul Fidel, PhD, and Michael Hagensee, MD, are leading the charge to secure funding to study the administration of an unrelated live attenuated vaccine, such as MMR (measles, mumps, rubella) and how it could serve as a preventive measure against the worst conditions of coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19). There is mounting evidence that live attenuated vaccines may protect against subsequent lethal infections, such as progressive lung inflammation and eventual sepsis. A clinical trial with MMR in high-risk populations may serve as a “low-risk/high-reward” preventive measure in saving lives during this unprecedented COVID-19 pandemic. Support this research here: <https://give.lsuhealthfoundation.org/infectiousdisease>.

### LEAD COVID-19 Trial

LSU Health New Orleans LEAD COVID-19 Trial tests if aspirin and vitamin D can spearhead our fight against COVID-19. This gold-standard trial will enroll 1,080 patients across seven participating hospitals around the country. While trials like these require funding, traditional funding sources are slow. During this pandemic, which has damaged our economy, speed is crucial. Support this research here: <https://give.lsuhealthfoundation.org/leadcovid>.

### COVID Research Lab

The COVID Biorepository is a centralized resource that collects and provides biospecimens from COVID-19

patients and uninfected control samples. Those biosamples will include plasma, serum, peripheral blood mononuclear cells, nasal swabs, nasopharyngeal swabs, saliva, and stool samples. The COVID-19 biorepository functions under standard operating procedures (SOPs), quality control for sample collection, and a database to track consent, the samples, and requests to dispense biological samples and data. Support this research here: <https://give.lsuhealthfoundation.org/COVIDLab>.

## Support our Community with Mental Health Counseling

### Recovery & Community Resilience Fund

Disasters such as pandemics worsen mental health and increase substance abuse in affected communities. Research has shown that traumatic events exacerbate mental health problems like depression, anxiety, PTSD, and substance abuse disorders. Benjamin Springgate, MD, serves as the Chief of Community and Population Medicine in the Department of Medicine and Director of the Center for Healthcare Value and Equity at the LSU Health Sciences Center. Dr. Springgate believes that the coronavirus pandemic represents not only a public health crisis but also gives rise to a mental health crisis and that evidence-based solutions need to target both. Furthermore, just as important as treatment for the individual in need is, bolstering the resilience of individuals and communities to ensure that people can adapt and bounce back when faced with future stressors or disasters is critical. Support community and mental health counseling here:

<https://give.lsuhealthfoundation.org/wellness>.

### Mental Health Support Hotline Fund

The LSU Health Department of Psychiatry provides essential training and treatment services through rural and urban parishes and responds to critical needs of the state following catastrophic events. First responders are the backbone of rescue and recovery from these events. Firefighters, EMTs, and law officers protect the general public often at a grave personal cost. The Mental Health Support Hotline will provide first responders and other crisis support personnel with helpful counseling and behavioral health professional interventions. The Department of Psychiatry developed a significant response to address the impact of COVID-19 on multiple aspects of the behavioral health of our communities in Louisiana. Support the mental health hotline here: <https://give.lsuhealthfoundation.org/hotline>.

## Support LSU Health Professionals and Students on the Front Line

### LSU Health Resident Wellness Fund

Hundreds of LSU Health professionals have been on the front lines of healthcare since the outbreak of COVID-19 in Louisiana. Resident physicians have traded their regular 80-hour week learning environment for a life of uncertainty but guaranteed to include ever-changing rotations, timelines, and guidelines in the presence of an advancing and unpredictable infectious disease unknown even to experts. To help these taxed residents, a group of

medical health professionals calling themselves the NOLA Doc Project is fundraising to cover the cost of meals to feed them. Feed LSU Health residents here:  
<https://give.lsuhealthfoundation.org/residents>.

LSU Health School of Medicine Student Emergency Fund

The LSU Health New Orleans' School of Medicine Parent's Council strengthens LSU Health's commitment to community outreach programs that diversify, provide, and enhance educational and service opportunities on campus as well as the quality of life for students. The council works closely with the LSU Health Foundation, New Orleans, to raise critical funding in support of medical students. As part of its mission to provide a supportive environment for learners, the council also offers emergency funding for medical students, which is needed now more than ever. The School of Medicine Student Emergency Fund assists students with financial hardships associated with the coronavirus pandemic and other unforeseen circumstances. Support the student emergency fund here:  
<https://give.lsuhealthfoundation.org/somparentscouncil>.

**Support the Manufacture of Critical PPE**

Dental Innovation & Technology Fund

Guided by his compassion for COVID-19 front-line healthcare workers, 14 of whom are LSU School of Dentistry residents, Dr. Robert Laughlin collaborated with Dr. Karen Bruggers to produce a reusable and easy-to-clean N95 mask. The team created the crucial PPE using the school's innovative 3-D printer. These masks comprise a complex polymer and a filter that prevents the transmission of 99.99% of bacteria and viruses. The team is also able to print reusable visors of the same polymers that are easy to disinfect and provide a barrier against aerosol and respiratory droplets. Support the manufacture of critical PPE here:  
<https://give.lsuhealthfoundation.org/innovation>

**Please join us in thanking Dr. McClugage**

After many years of distinguished service to the School of Medicine and the Health Sciences Center, Dr. Samuel McClugage, Department Head for Cell Biology and Anatomy and Associate Dean for Admissions, will step down from these important leadership positions. Dr. DiCarlo and I extend our personal thanks, and those of the entire LSUHSC community for his years of dedication to the core missions of the school. He will remain on the faculty as Professor of Cell Biology and Anatomy and assist with the transitions in both offices. Dr. Carmen Canavier has agreed to serve as Interim Department Head for Cell Biology and Anatomy. Dr. Robert Eubanks will continue in his role as Chair of the Admissions Committee and serve as the Interim Director of Admissions while we conduct an internal search for a new Associate Dean. We are thankful that they both agreed to serve in these important positions during a time of transition.



*Dr. McClugage*

Dr. McClugage joined the faculty in 1971. He has been an outstanding teacher to countless numbers of medical and dental students. He is an accomplished scientist and an excellent mentor to many junior faculty. He was promoted to Professor of Cell Biology and Anatomy in 1993 and he became Department Head in 2007. In 1996 he became the Assistant Dean of Admissions, and he was appointed as the Associate Dean for Admissions in 2000, serving in that role for 20 years. He has admirably led numerous other committees and initiatives. Notably, he chaired the curriculum committee for many years and he chaired the search that brought Dr. Hollier back to the campus as Dean in 2004.

We are deeply grateful that Dr. McClugage has worked at LSU for his entire career. He has shared his wisdom, warmth, and humor with many students, faculty, and leaders. We look forward to working with him on the successful transitions of leadership in the Department of Cell Biology and Anatomy and in the Admissions Office. Please join us in thanking him for giving us so many years of leadership, service and friendship.

Steve Nelson, MD  
Dean

**National search underway**—LSU Health Sciences Center New Orleans and LCMC Health have commenced a national search for the LSU Health New Orleans Cancer Center Director. Appointment of a strong, experienced Director is the first step in preparing to apply for NCI Designation, a designation which will move us closer to the common goal of preventing or curing cancer for patients in our state regardless of their means and diagnosis.

The overarching charge of the Cancer Center Director will be to create a premier cancer care service line supported by nationally recognized research programs that qualify for NCI designation. Consistent with NCI guidelines and best practice, the Director will also be responsible for community outreach and engagement, cancer research education, and faculty leadership related to cancer fund-raising, marketing and communications, and governmental and civic relations.

This search underscores the strong commitment of both LCMC Health and LSU Health New Orleans to build programs that will improve the lives of our community and patients.

# Match Day Congratulations in Pediatrics



LSUHSC-NO student Jesse Coren couldn't wait to wear his purple and gold.



**P**ediatric department faculty, staff, and residents came up with a number of creative ways to congratulate their new pediatrics, medicine/pediatrics, pediatrics/emergency medicine and child neurology residency programs for successfully matching for the 2020-2021 academic year.

With Match Day celebrations canceled, Pediatrics Program Director **Chelsey Sandlin ('09)** and her chief residents, Monica Hajirawala and Jordan Lim, created a video of residents and faculty welcoming the Class of 2023. Watch it here: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FE4ML\\_6GDBU&feature=youtu.be](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FE4ML_6GDBU&feature=youtu.be)

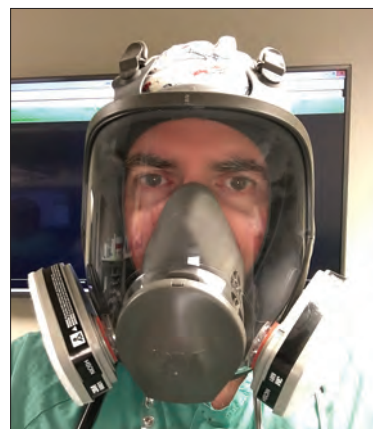
Dr. Sandlin decided to bring the party to her local matched applicants, at a safe distance of course! She delivered bags of goodies including the department's new LSU Peds t-shirt and a water bottle from Children's Hospital Office of Medical Education.



The residents figured out a way to hold their annual celebration to welcome their new class with a virtual karaoke night

## Ongoing coronavirus work...

First samples of convalescent serum provided by Jefferson Parish Sheriff's Office deputies are processed by (from left to right) Matthew Dean (post-doc), Phaethon Philbrook, MD/PhD student; and Dorota Wyczechowska, PhD, director of immunology core. Submitted by Dr. Augusto Ochoa, Director, Stanley S. Scott Cancer Center.



When N95 masks were in short supply, LSU/UMC obtained reusable full-face masks by 3M for our Covid-19 intubation teams. Dr. Brett Arron, Associate Professor of Clinical Anesthesiology, demonstrates the 3M full-face mask. Photo submitted by Dr. Arron.

## With a sharp knife and a soft touch: Cutting out Women's Cancer in Louisiana

When a woman is diagnosed with a gynecologic cancer, it is a deeply personal experience. She deserves the best treatment available and to have those treatment options tailored to her unique goals. At LSU Health in New Orleans, we believe that the women of Louisiana deserve the very best. We know that when a woman is diagnosed with a cancer of the gynecologic tract, their chance of cure is maximized when they have been evaluated by a gynecologic oncologist. We also know that it is vital too that these women are seen by a gynecologic oncologist in a timely fashion. Partnering with LCMC, LSU has answered the call and expanded their gynecologic cancer service line.

As of this fall, there will be three fellowship trained gynecologic oncologists working with LSU Health in New Orleans. Drs. Jernigan, Nair and Castellano are all experts in comprehensive gynecologic cancer care and are passionate about bringing world-class gynecologic cancer care to all of the women of South Louisiana and beyond. As active clinician scientists and leaders in the gynecologic oncology community, they're pushing the envelope and raising the bar for women's cancer care in South Louisiana.

We have built a gynecologic cancer service line based on excellence and our mission is to make our services available to the women of our region. We hope to tackle barriers to care that many women in South Louisiana experience and to serve as a resource for the physicians and healthcare providers who care for them. It is our great privilege to get to be on your team.

### LSU New Orleans Gynecologic Oncologists

*Amelia Jernigan, MD – Division  
Director*

Dr. Jernigan joined LSU New Orleans in September of 2016. She fell in love with Louisiana in college and it was

always her dream to return. She attended medical school at Jefferson Medical College in Philadelphia before completing her residency in Obstetrics and Gynecology at Johns Hopkins Hospital and Fellowship in Gynecologic Oncology at the Cleveland Clinic. She is an active national leader and avid researcher. She is enthusiastic about engaging trainees in research and bringing cutting edge therapies to the women of our region, such as Hyperthermic Intraperitoneal Chemotherapy (HIPEC) and immunotherapy. It has been one of her greatest pleasures to see the expansion and elevation of gynecologic cancer services that we've been able to offer the women of the region; she's grateful to LSU Health New Orleans and our clinical partners for their shared vision and support.

### *Navya Nair, MD, MPH*

Dr. Nair was raised in New Orleans and was passionate about returning to help improve the quality of care women with gynecologic cancers receive. She attended medical school at New York University before completing residency in Obstetrics and Gynecology at Emory University and Fellowship in Gynecologic Oncology at Mount Sinai in New York. Since joining us in September of 2018, she has been instrumental in developing the academic rigor of our program – designing a state-of-the-art gynecologic oncology tumor board and initiating a multi-institutional gynecologic oncology journal club that keeps the local gynecologic oncology community informed and helps teach learners how to properly read and interpret clinical research papers. She's a national and international leader – serving on committees with the Society for



Gynecologic Oncology, the National Research Group and was recently awarded a prestigious fellowship with the International Journal of Gynecologic Oncology.

### *Tara Castellano (13)*

Dr. Castellano is a New Orleans, Louisiana native. She attended medical school at LSU in New Orleans and had always hoped to return home. She completed her residency in Obstetrics and Gynecology at UNC Chapel Hill and fellowship in Gynecologic Oncology at University of Oklahoma. She's had a rich and productive career to date and we are very excited for her to join our team.

### Unique Services Offered

Our gynecologic oncologists are expert robotic and laparoscopic surgeons and are passionate about the benefits of advanced **minimally invasive surgery**.

We administer **chemotherapy and systemic therapies** (such as immunotherapy, targeted therapy, hormonal therapy) for women with gynecologic

*Continued on page 8*

cancers. Medicine is becoming increasingly complex and can be difficult to stay up-to-date on all of the newest developments. As experts in our specific field, we can make sure that no stone is left unturned and that patients have access to the latest, most cutting-edge therapies.

Instilling heated chemotherapy into the abdominal cavity, known as **Hyperthermic Intraperitoneal Chemotherapy (HIPEC)** at the time of cytoreductive surgery for ovarian cancer has been shown to prolong survival. This cutting edge, complex procedure requires the mobilization of a multidisciplinary team and resources; the first HIPEC procedure for ovarian cancer was performed by our team in New Orleans.

We have grown our **clinical trials program** and now offer more options for women with gynecologic cancers than any other group in the state. Access to these trials is important because women who participate on clinical trials have been shown to have superior outcomes and because it allows for access to new, exciting therapies that are not available off trial.

**Local leadership and academic rigor** improves the landscape for women with gynecologic cancer in Louisiana. Our multidisciplinary gynecologic tumor board ensures that women throughout our state receive well thought out, evidence-based treatment recommendations. Both our tumor board and our regional gynecologic oncology journal club push providers in the region to thoughtful process emerging data and train the next generation of healthcare providers. We collaborate with other teams in our region in scientific investigation.

Navigating **genetics counseling and testing** for cancer patients and at-risk patients is increasingly complex. We have a process for sending tumor and patient samples for genetics evaluation. We also work closely with a certified genetics counselor which can be indispensable in complex cases.

The Shared Telehealth through Multidisciplinary Gynecologic Cancer Survivorship (**STEEL MAGNOLIAS**) program is a novel model for gynecologic oncology care delivery that allows us to partner with physicians who serve women in more remote parts of the state who cannot travel to physically see us. We use a

virtual health platform to remain engaged in cancer care survivorship of these women and support the referring providers.

### Clinic locations

**Metairie Multispecialty Clinic**  
3601 Houma Boulevard, Suite 203  
Metairie, Louisiana 70006  
Phone: 504-412-1650  
Fax: 504-412-1660

**University Medical Center, New Orleans**  
2000 Canal Street  
New Orleans, Louisiana 70112  
Phone: 504-702-3311  
Fax: 504-702-5739

**West Jefferson Cancer Center**  
1101 Medical Center Boulevard  
Marrero, Louisiana 70072  
Phone: 504-349-6360  
Fax: 504-349-6363

**St. Charles Clinic**  
3700 St Charles Avenue  
New Orleans, Louisiana 70115  
Phone: 504-412-1520  
Fax: 504-412-1534

**Do you want more information?**  
Please visit our website for more information about our program.  
<https://www.medschool.lsuhsu.edu/obgyn/oncology/>



## LAMMICO Scholarship Recipient

Jantzen Collette (shown in photograph) has been named the recipient of the LAMMICO Scholarship this year. He is a 4th year medical student from Breaux Bridge.

Since 2000, LAMMICO has presented this merit-based award to solidify their commitment to the future physicians of Louisiana.

The School of Medicine is thankful to LAMMICO for their steadfast support of our medical students.





# Tiger Cubs



Ashley Clement (Cub) and Richard J. Clement ('00)



The Clements (above), on a successful fishing expedition



THE FORETS, UNMASKED (below), left to right: cousin Gerald Lee Foret III ('15), grandfather Gerald L. Foret, Sr. ('61), Ashley Foret (Cub) and father Christopher Foret ('94). [not pictured: uncle Gerald L. Foret, Jr. ('85)]



Christopher Lee Ingram ('90) and Ellen Ingram (Cub)



Christina Erwin, Madeline Erwin (Cub) and Kevin G. Erwin ('94). Granddaughter of the late William J. Erwin ('57) [not pictured: uncle William A. Erwin ('88)]

# Tiger Cubs



*Kathy L. Chauvin ('93), Bradley Chauvin (Cub) and Bradley J. Chauvin, Sr.*



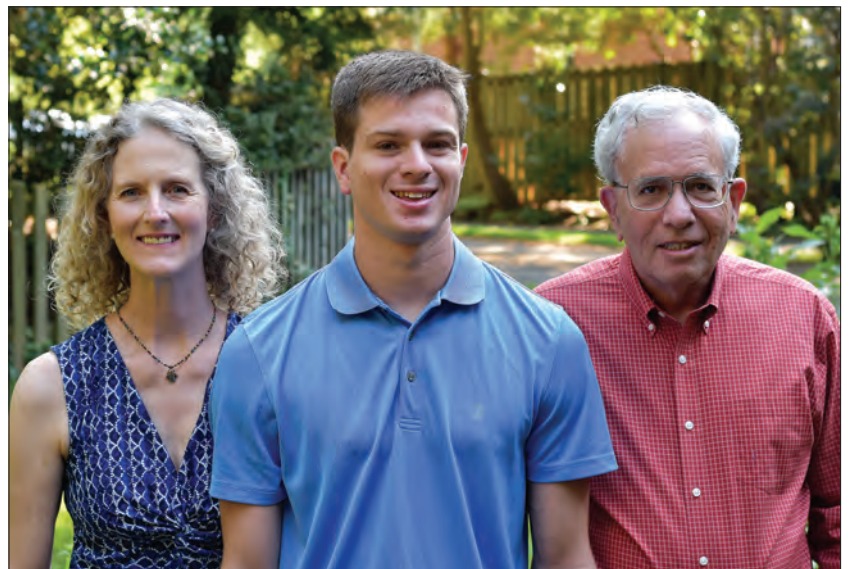
*Robert Mipro III (Cub) and Robert C. Mipro, Jr. ('90)*



*Benjamin Creel (Cub) and Terry G. Creel ('85).  
[not pictured: Callender R. Creel ('19)]*



*Ardenne Martin (Cub) and Pamela Canale Martin ('79). [not pictured: Hope Martin Retif (L3) and Brandon Retif ('14)]*



*Danella Halle, Samuel Halle (Cub) and Michael B. Halle ('89)*

# Tiger Cubs



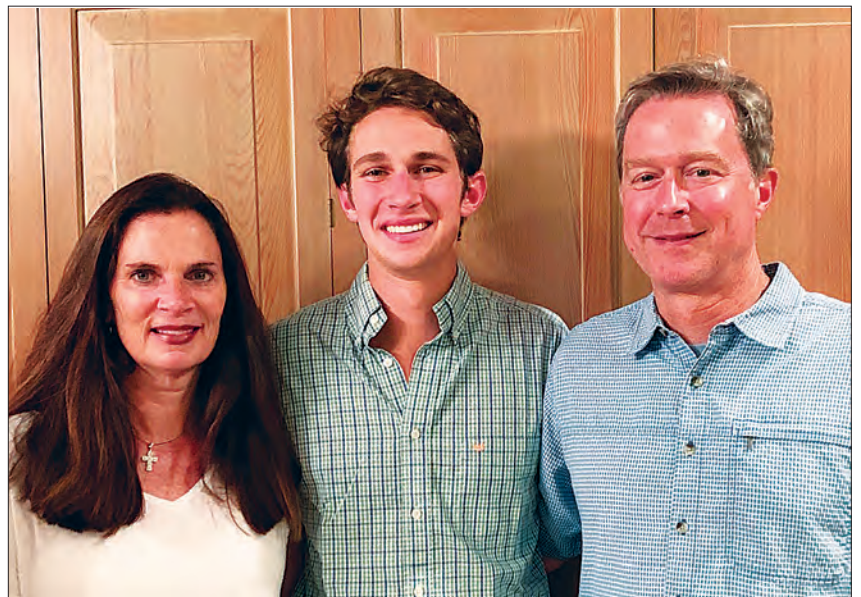
*Mark S. Forshag ('85), Margaret Forshag (cub) and C. Ann Forshag ('85)*



*Keith P. Melancon ('91), Drew Melancon (Cub) and Susan Melancon*



*Eva Mace (Cub) and James E. Mace ('85)*



*Kathryn Barham, William Barham (Cub) and Wilson T. Barham ('90)*

## When Corona Comes Knocking

Death has always been around us  
on a bad day we felt it seize a patient from our care  
many good days we could feel victorious and look the other way  
Now death is our greeter as we walk in to work  
sometimes we see it walk in the door  
other times it is wheeled in  
sometimes death announces itself upfront  
other times it's more subtle giving us the hope of being able to defeat it  
then crushing our dream with irreverent gusto

My friends  
my colleagues  
I see your sadness through your goggles and masks and face shields  
I sense your grief through your isolation gowns  
I feel your fear even as you try to hide it  
And I have my sadness  
my grief  
and my fear  
which I too try to conceal

And still we journey on  
True soldiers of healing  
this is rough terrain we're in  
and there are no foxholes to hide in  
and no way to take cover  
we have no tanks and no big guns and scant armor  
Our only ammunition is our caring hands and our searching minds  
as we try to devise strategies for survival  
of our patients  
and ourselves

Reinforcements for our side are few  
And we know that our casualties will rise more than we could ever fathom  
This time we have no magic bullets  
So what to do  
We can look into each other's eyes and see our strength and determination  
We can speak with hope and faith that we will get through this together  
We can hug each other even if we are 6 feet apart  
We can be grateful for and celebrate every battle won and take that in deeply  
and know that our actions have made a difference  
We have been drafted without warning  
And we are on the front lines fighting with every ounce of strength we have  
Not knowing how long this fight will last  
Victory must be redefined  
if fewer people die than expected we will know we have done well  
And if that doesn't happen  
we will take solace in having fought hard and given everything we could  
We will find our way through this wilderland  
We will guide others to the other side of this tragedy  
We will know that we are a band of brothers and sisters connected forever  
by our spirit and our passion for helping others live

*Jay Kaplan, M.D., FACEP 03/26/2020  
Medical Director of Care Transformation  
LCMC Health*

# Tigerlines

**'54**

**Robert J. Cangelosi**, New Orleans – “Still practicing ophthalmology 62 years with son, **Glen Cangelosi ('81)** in Gentilly.”

**Alvin Friedland**, Livingston, NJ – “I made 98 years old this summer. Still grateful and fortunate.”

**'56**

**James W. Jackson**, Thibodaux, LA – “Wake up all you old people in the Class of 1956 – Come to the reunion next year!!!!”

**Charles Reininger**, Eunice, LA – “Granddaughter finished medical school in June. Proud of her!”

**'62**

**James R. Bergeron**, Shreveport, LA – “Still practicing Dermatology 51 years and will continue to do so as long as God allows me.”

**'63**

**Fran Hagaman**, Tyler, Texas – “Miss having fellow MDs to chat with, otherwise retirement is ok. Keep up with LSU via internet and social media.”

**'66**

**Duane J. Williams**, Greenville, AL – “I am still in full-time practice in Pediatrics and still love it.”

**'67**

**Charles Fontenot**, Ville Platte, LA – “Retired after 50 years of family practice in Ville Platte, and serving 35 years as Coroner of Evangeline Parish. Now enjoying retirement raising deer, farming and banking.”

**Samuel M. Richardson**, Columbia, TN – “I am still practicing medicine part-time. Doing alcohol & drug

rehab. Volunteer at half way house. Went on mission trip to Honduras.”

**James T. Evans**, Bluffton, SC – “Celebrated five years at Bluffton-Jasper County Volunteers in Medicine, one of America’s free clinics serving the uninsured. Now do telehealth visits, use EHR and e-prescribe. What a great life I have had in Medicine. Would do it again!!”

**'68**

**Thaddeus Carter**, Pass Christian, MS – Retired, still living in Pass Christian, Mississippi.

**Sharon G. Daspit**, Decatur, GA – “Enjoying retirement in the Atlanta area with my son Clayton, his wife Laura, daughter Shannon, and her three girls. I visit Denver as often as possible to see my son Corey, his wife Marisa and their four children.”

**Charles A. Olivier**, Lafayette, LA – “Enjoying retirement but not Covid-19 restrictions.”

**'69**

**James Frederick Cardwell**, Prairieville, LA – “Practiced Ob/Gyn in Raceland for 40 years then retired. Volunteered for 4 years as clinical instructor for LSU residents and students at Woman’s Hospital LSU Residency Program in Baton Rouge and retired again.”

**Doris K. Medlin**, Conroe, TX – “Better late than never news: It was not an option in 1959 but on November 25, 2019 (my birthday), I married my first love/soulmate, Barbara Johnson! At 79, we quite possibly became the oldest and happiest newlyweds in Texas!”

**'70**

**Parker Griffith**, Huntsville, AL – “**Tom Griffith ('66)** and I are well. **Robert Len Baird ('70)** still with Alzheimer, going on 9<sup>th</sup> year.”

**'71**

**Bruce Gordon**, Sacramento, CA – “Still practicing emergency medicine at Sutter Medical Center, Sacramento, and enjoying working with my son **Nathaniel ('10)** (critical care/pulmonary.) However, currently “settling in place” until safer to return.”

**Bennie Nobles**, Kenner, LA – “Praying for safety during this pandemic and for peace. I was so encouraged by **Chancellor Larry Hollier’s ('68)** letter of hope and encouragement, through prayer for everyone at this time. I’m reminded of the words of Solomon (Proverbs 3:5-7) to trust in the LORD!”

**'75**

**Alfred Mansour**, Alexandria, LA – “I am still in practice in Alexandria. Maryetta and I have downsized. We have 8 grandchildren and number 9 on the way. Three of our kids are in Houston and one in New Orleans. All doing well. We feel very blessed. Our 45<sup>th</sup> year reunion was postponed to next summer.”

**'78**

**Mickey J. Viator**, Manvel, TX – Currently working in occupational medicine at All American Screening and Medical in Deer Park, Texas.

**'79**

**Andy Olinde**, Baton Rouge, LA – Presently Chief Medical Officer Baton Rouge General Medical Center.

**'80**

**Henry Davis**, Fairhope, AL – Retired from Eastern Shore Family Practice in Daphne, AL in 2016. Still working locum tenens in community health in Seattle area and Eugene, OR, and now at Franklin Primary Health in Foley, AL.

## Deceased

**1941**

Thomas M. Deas

**1948**

Bernard DeHovitz  
Ike Muslow

**1950**

Ralph Levin  
Jack S. Zoller

**1954**

Cecil W. Lovell  
Henry D. Olinde  
Robert A. Tucker

**1956**

William E. Godfrey

**1957**

John E. Firestone  
Ernest C. Hansen, Jr.  
Charles D. Langford

**1958**

George N. Baquet

**1961**

Lloyd H. Boulet  
Bobbie W. Deshotel  
J. Richard Enright  
William A. Martin

**1962**

Ben B. Singletary

**1964**

Stephen M. Wilson

**1965**

Richard F. Bergeron

**1966**

John Z. McFarland  
Victor E. Tedesco III

**1970**

Gary F. Carroll

**1971**

Leon N. DeMent

**1972**

Robert E. Songy

**1976**

Corrie L. May

**1978**

David E. Gaudin

**1980**

James B. Elston

**1984**

Stephen W. Speeg

**'81**

**Eric Bloomfield**, Rochester, MN – “I am still in practice at the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minnesota. Planning a move to St. Augustine, Florida by 2022. Then I will revert to part-time.”

**Wayne Pharo**, Thibodaux, LA – “This is in honor of Bobbie Millet, who helped us get by during our 1<sup>st</sup> year of medical school!! I will never forget her kindness and smile!! RIP Bobbie.”

**'82**

**James J. Crawford**, Roanoke, VA – Still practicing Anesthesia with 50+ - partner group at 750-bed hospital.

**Jim Martin**, Sugar Land, TX – “Damn this corona virus! Still plan to retire at the end of this year in the mountains of western North Carolina. Our blended family of 5 are doing well. 5 grandchildren. 2 kids live here and the other 3 are scattered (California, Tennessee and Maryland).”

**'83**

**Diane Mayer**, New Orleans, LA – “Was in semi-retirement but back full-time. No grandchildren. One grand dog, Stella. Still very active, running, biking, skiing, hiking and DANCING!”

**John Reeves**, Shreveport, LA – “Daughter **Ashley E. Reeves ('20)** will start Pediatrics Residency at LSU-Children’s Hospital.”

**'86**

**Carol P. Becker**, New Orleans, LA – I was elected to the Office of Secretary of the Radiological Society of Louisiana, The State Chapter of The American College of Radiology, on 7/26/2020. I served as Alternate Councilor from Louisiana to the National ACR Meeting in May 2020.”

**Catherine McDonald**, Lafayette, LA – “I lost my husband of 50 years. I turned 72 and now work part time.”

**'90**

**Staci Fischer**, Bristol, RI – “Continue to work for ACGME in the CLER program, visiting teaching institutions across the country with a focus on resident, fellow and faculty members well-being. Missing home!!”

**'99**

**Michael L. “Luke” James**, Durham, NC – “Just plugging along. Will go up for tenured full professor at Duke later this year.”

## LSU System

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*President*

## LSU Health Sciences Center

**Larry H. Hollier ('68)**  
*Chancellor*

**Steve Nelson, MD**  
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*Senior Associate Dean for Faculty  
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**Catherine M. Hebert ('97)**

*Past President*

# *From your Alumni Office. . .*



**Dear All,**

Greetings on behalf of the Medical Alumni Office.

2020 has been a year vastly different for all of us.

Reunions, originally scheduled for June 2020, were postponed until June 2021. Although the 50-year reunion, Class of 1970 held a “virtual” reunion via Zoom. The Annual Purple and Gold Gala was cancelled due to restrictions on crowd sizes in New Orleans.

Operations at the Medical School have continued at all levels and educational programs, although altered in some ways, continue for students and residents.

The Medical School depends on your support more now than ever. LSU has weathered many storms and, in every instance, has come through them stronger and more resolute. The same applies to “The Covid Year.” Thanks for your continued commitment to our institution. I pray for your health and safety.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Cathi Fontenot". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

**Cathi Fontenot ('84)**

Associate Dean  
for Alumni Affairs and  
Development

# LSU School of Medicine Participates in STEM Fest

*Geri Davis, Outreach Coordinator, ODCE*

*Daryl Lofaso, Director of Simulation Operations, OME*

The SOM Office of Medical Education (OME) and Office of Diversity and Community Engagement (ODCE) recently participated in STEM Fest, held in the Mercedes-Benz Superdome and the Smoothie King Center. More than 8,000 children and parents attended the event, which aims to ignite curiosity and interest in STEM in K-12 students.

STEM Fest participants stopping by the ODCE table were able to touch actual organs provided by the department of anatomy, including a gall bladder, liver, spinal cord, brain, lung and heart. Dr. Robert Maupin and Geri Davis were on hand to represent the SOM and ODCE. Several medical students came throughout the day to volunteer as well.

"The parents were just as interested in the organs as the children," said Geri. "In addition, we were able to interact with six pre-med students from Xavier who are now planning to begin the application process to our school. STEM Fest was a wonderful way for us to engage the community and show the larger community what we have to offer."

Daryl Lofaso represented OME and brought a patient simulator. Visitors were able to interview the patient, listen to heart and lung sounds, take the pulse, and observe blinking patterns. They were then asked to make a diagnosis.

"The best part of the event was watching the faces of participants as they felt the pulse or listened to the heartbeat," Daryl said. "It was also rewarding to have repeat visitors and visitors who came back with friends and said, 'You have to see this!'"

The LSU School of Nursing also participated in STEM Fest.

