



ON THE INSIDE

LSU Health Sciences Center in Shreveport

Dr. Johnson Earns Recognition for Injury Prevention Efforts



Lester Wayne Johnson, M.D.

Lester Wayne Johnson, M.D., Professor of Clinical Surgery and Chief of Surgery at E.A. Conway Medical Center, was recognized recently by the Louisiana Charity Hospital's Trauma Program for his efforts in reducing traumatic injuries in Louisiana.

Dr. Johnson was honored as a co-recipient of the 2004

Lowering Injuries and Fatalities through Education (L.I.F.E.) Award. The award was presented to Dr. Johnson and Jimmy Guidry, M.D., State Medical Director, Department of Health and Hospitals, October 30 in New Orleans. Dr. Guidry is a 1978 graduate of the School of Medicine in Shreveport.

The award recognizes medical professionals who have worked to create improvements in the area of injury prevention.

Dr. Johnson is responsible for spearheading the effort that resulted in legislation to develop a statewide trauma system, and for educating legislators and health care providers on the necessity of injury prevention as a vital component of the system.

In addition, Dr. Johnson is a member of the American Association for the Surgery of Trauma, a group dedicated to decreasing the number of trauma related deaths through education and research.

Dr. Johnson also serves as Chairman of the Louisiana Emergency Response Network Governor's Regional Trauma-Patient Care Statewide System Task Force.

The group works to provide leadership to community, regional and national organizations to develop strategies to improve care for severely injured patients. ■

Search Begins for New Medical School Dean

John C. McDonald, M.D., LSU Health Sciences Center Chancellor/Dean, has announced the formation of a search committee charged with finding a new dean for the School of Medicine in Shreveport.

The move comes as a natural progression in the maturation of the school in which the position of Chancellor of LSU Health Sciences Center and Dean of the School of Medicine in Shreveport has been divided. Dr. McDonald will continue in his role as LSUHSC-S Chancellor.

Nominees for consideration may be sent to any member of the search committee:

Dennis O'Callaghan, Ph.D., *Chairman, Boyd Professor and Head of the Department of Microbiology and Immunology*

Tak Yee Aw, Ph.D., *Professor of Physiology*

Daniel Banks, M.D., *Professor and Head of the Department of Medicine*

Joseph Bocchini, M.D., *Professor and Head of the Department of Pediatrics*

LaDonna Ford, M.D., *Medical Director, E.A. Conway Medical Center, Associate Professor of Family Medicine*

Nicholas Goeders, Ph.D., *Professor of Pharmacology and Therapeutics, and Psychiatry*

Roger Kelley, M.D., *Professor and Head of the Department of Neurology*

David Lewis, M.D., *Professor and Head of the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology*

Cherie Ann Nathan, M.D., *Professor of Otolaryngology/Head and Neck Surgery*

Richard Turnage, M.D., *Professor and Head of the Department of Surgery*

Diana Veillon, M.D., *Professor of Pathology*

Donald Zadeck, *Chairman, LSUHS Foundation Board*

Rogers Prestridge, ex officio, *Coordinator of Legal Affairs*

Special Presentation on Medical School History

Roots of the School of Medicine in Shreveport: 1950 – 1970

Monday, December 6, 2004, Noon
Room 3-405 (Testing Center)

Joe E. Holoubek, M.D., Emeritus Clinical Professor of Medicine, will discuss the ideas and process that lead to the formation of the school of medicine.

Dr. Holoubek was Chairman of the Medical School Development Committee of the Shreveport Medical Society whose drive and determination, along with that of other members of the Shreveport Medical Society, are responsible for there being a school of medicine in Shreveport.

The discussion is sponsored by the Catholic Medical Students' Association. Lunch will be provided for members of the group. Others are invited to bring a sack lunch.

Medical Student Wins National Award

Shreveporter Christina Edwards, who ranks at the top of her senior class at LSU School of Medicine in Shreveport, was confirmed as one of America's outstanding medical students last month when she received the William and Charlotte Cadbury Award during the Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC) annual meeting.

The Cadbury Award, bestowed annually on a senior medical student who has demonstrated outstanding academic achievement, leadership and community service, was established in 1977 by Irving Graef, M.D., and the National Medical Fellowships board of directors.



Christina Edwards

Ms. Edwards has maintained a 4.0 grade point average throughout medical school and ranks first in her class of 104 students. She is a member of Alpha Omega Alpha, an honor society for medical students.

Ms. Edwards, who plans to enter a surgery residency after her graduation, has served as treasurer and president of the Student National Medical Association Chapter at LSU School of Medicine in Shreveport. She is a member of the American Medical Student Association and the Louisiana State Medical Society.

Ms. Edwards, who will graduate on May 28, 2005, was selected from a group of nominees from medical schools across the United States.

Senior medical students who are African-American, mainland Puerto Rican, Mexican-American, Native Hawaiian, Alaska Native, and American Indians, who are U.S. citizens and attending M.D. degree-granting institutions accredited by the Liaison Committee on Medical Education of the Association of American Medical Colleges or in D.O. degree-granting colleges of osteopathic medicine accredited by the Bureau of Professional Education of the American Osteopathic Association are eligible. ■

E.A. Conway Adds Labor and Delivery Room For Patients

Some moms-to-be who plan to use E.A. Conway Medical Center will find one more aspect of the facility user friendly when it comes time to deliver, thanks to the Conway Auxiliary and its commitment to the hospital.

Conway recently opened a new state-of-the-art labor and delivery room that allows expectant mothers to go through labor and delivery in the same room with their families present. Previously, mothers labored in one room and delivered in another.

Two overstuffed couches along with tables for family and friends sit in the freshly painted room with wallpaper border.

In addition, a baby warmer is available in the room and nurses can monitor both mother and baby from the nurses' station.

More than 100 babies a month are delivered by Conway physicians. Moms who are not considered high-risk are eligible to use the new room.

The room, which is a converted supply closet, was furnished and decorated with more than \$30,000 in funds raised by Conway's auxiliary board through gift shop sales



Left to Right: Aryon McGuire, E.A. Conway Medical Center Hospital Administrator; Roy G. Clay, Jr., M.D., Vice Chancellor/Medical Director, LSUHSC-S; Floyce Jackson, Auxiliary Buyer; Betty Johnston, Auxiliary President; and John C. McDonald, M.D., Chancellor/Dean, LSUHSC-S, celebrate the opening of the new Labor and Delivery room.

and fundraisers.

Plans are in the works to raise additional funds to add more labor and delivery rooms. ■

Black Bear Polar Club Prepares to Take a Dip for Bone Health

The Louisiana Black Bear Polar Club is seeking new members to join them for a dip in the Red River at noon on Saturday, January 1, 2005, to benefit the Osteoporosis Center at LSU Health Sciences Center in Shreveport.

Last January, Laura Gehrig, M.D., Assistant Professor of Orthopedic Surgery and Director of the Osteoporosis Center, joined 25 friends near the Stoner Boat Launch for the chilly dip. She decided to open the event to the public in 2005.

Dr. Gehrig said cold water dipping has several health benefits including: raising your pain threshold, challenging your immune system and improving your anti-oxidative protection. These aid in bone repair, in the management of osteoporosis and treatment of fractures.

Osteoporosis is a bone disease that cannot be seen or felt while it develops and progresses. It causes bones to become thin and weak, making them more susceptible to fractures.

The purpose of the LSUHSC-S Osteoporosis Center is to draw attention to the widespread prevalence of osteoporosis.

For those who already have sustained a fracture, the



Black Bear Polar Club members dive into the Red River during the first New Year's Day dip in January of 2004

Osteoporosis Center seeks to provide individualized, cutting-edge care with regard to bone health and fracture management.

In the United States, 10 million individuals already have the disease and almost 34 million more are estimated to have low bone mass, placing them at risk for osteoporosis. Of the 10 million Americans, eight million are women and 2 million are men.

For more information on membership fees, go to www.beautifulbones.org, or call Dr. Gehrig at 675-6184. ■

On the Inside is published monthly by the Office of Information Services for employees, students and friends of the LSU Health Sciences Center in Shreveport. Please contact Derek Daniel, editor, at 318-675-5408 or ddaniel@lsuhsc.edu to submit information, comments or suggestions.

LSUHS Foundation Offers Holiday Cards



Ashton Long

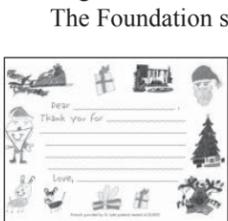
Ashton Long, a 12-year-old cancer patient of the LSUHSC-S Children's Hospital, won the 2004 LSU Health Sciences Foundation Holiday Card Contest.

In addition to having his artwork featured on the Foundation's Annual Holiday Card, Ashton also received a prize of \$150.

Ashton was diagnosed with liver sarcoma in June of 2003. He has undergone surgery, radiation and chemotherapy treatment for the last year through the LSUHSC-S/St. Jude Children's Research Hospital Partnership. He has completed his therapy and is awaiting re-evaluation.



Holiday Card



Thank You Card

The Foundation sells the holiday cards to raise funds for LSUHSC-S

while providing the young artist with a showcase for his talents. A packet of 10 cards and envelopes can be purchased for \$10. Also this year thank you cards will also

be sold at a cost of \$7 for a packet of 10 cards.

Call 675-5002 for ordering information. ■

Pathology Staff Presents Workshop

Fleurette Abreo, M.D., Professor, and M. Lamar Jones, Director of Laboratories, both of the Department of Pathology, presented a workshop, "Breast Cancer: Grossing, Staining and Interpretation," at the recent National Society for Histotechnology 30th Annual Symposium/Convention, held in Toronto, Canada.

The workshop included the handling and gross dissection of breast tissues, the staining H and E, immunohistochemistry, FISH, imaging, troubleshooting problems and interpretation.

The meeting drew personnel from medical center laboratories, reference and private laboratories, and research institutions. ■

Dr. Stucker Honored with Distinguished Service Award

Fred J. Stucker, M.D., Professor and Head of the Department of Otolaryngology/Head and Neck Surgery, was honored with the Larry D. Schenrock Distinguished Service Award at the American Academy of Facial, Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery (AAFPRS).

The award recognizes an individual who has made significant contributions to the integrity of the American Board of Facial, Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery (ABFPRS) examination and certification process for facial and plastic surgery.

Dr. Stucker has been a fellow of the AAFPRS since 1973, eventually accepting a position on the Academy's board and serving as its president in 1991-92.

He also was among the first class of ABFPRS diplomates in 1991. ■

Holiday Decoration Guidelines

With the holiday season approaching, employees may want to decorate their work areas, which requires supervisor's approval and must conform to the National Fire Prevention guidelines, issued through the LSU Health Sciences Center in Shreveport Safety Office.

The fire safety guidelines are:

- Combustible decorations are prohibited in the facility unless they have been treated and are flame-retardant.
- Decorations that are flame-retardant required documentation to that effect. Flame-retardant decorations must be used only in limited quantities.
- Artificial trees may be used if they are certified as flameproof or fire resistant. Certified trees must be UL listed. Trees cannot be placed in passageways or near exit doors.
- Live trees are prohibited
- Electrical lights are prohibited. Battery operated lights, which are UL listed, may be used.

If you have any questions concerning the guidelines, please contact the Safety Office at 675-5410. ■

Dr. Goeders Presents Research at International Meeting

Nicholas E. Goeders, Ph.D., Professor of Pharmacology and Therapeutics, and Psychiatry, was as an invited speaker at the recent Korean Society of Applied Pharmacology annual meeting in Seoul, South Korea.

He was one of only 17 speakers at the event and only one of three invited from the United States.

Dr. Goeders talk focused on his ground-breaking research on the relationship between stress and cocaine addiction.

This was the second major international conference Dr. Goeders was invited to address on the topic this year.

Through research based on studies he has conducted at LSU Health Sciences Center in Shreveport using animal models, Dr. Goeders has been successful in showing how stress affects addiction in humans

The research has also demonstrated that stress is involved in the potential for relapse to cocaine use following periods of abstinence, Dr. Goeders said.

Dr. Goeders added that the research is essential in that it may lead to potential therapies in the treatment of human addiction. ■

Dr. Moissidis Honored for Charity Work

John Moissidis, M.D., Clinical Assistant Professor of Pediatrics, was awarded a \$5,000 grant from the CHEST Foundation of the American College of Chest Physicians (ACCP), in recognition of volunteering his time and expertise to help others in need of health-related services.

Dr. Moissidis worked to provide direct health care to low-income and uninsured patients with respiratory diseases at the Martin Luther King Health Center at 1233 Sprague Street.

Physicians at the clinic diagnose and treat patients; provide health maintenance care, patient education, and disease prevention; and communicate and cooperate with respiratory specialists for the management of complicated cases. Dr. Moissidis said he will continue to volunteer at the clinic on a regular basis.

And in the best tradition of volunteerism, he donated the grant award to the LSUHS Foundation to help support its efforts on behalf of LSUHSC-S. ■

Dr. San Pedro Selected as Humanism Finalist



Gerardo San Pedro, M.D.

Gerardo San Pedro, M.D., Associate Professor of Medicine, was among 64 physicians nominated nationally for the prestigious Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC) Humanism in Medicine Award.

The award recognizes physicians for their exceptional caring and compassionate mentoring of

medical students and was presented during the recent annual meeting of the AAMC in Boston.

Honorees were nominated on the basis of their exhibiting five characteristics of humanism in medicine: positive mentoring skills, community service, compassion and sensitivity, collaboration and observance of professional ethics.

Dr. San Pedro, who is in the Section of Pulmonary and Critical Care Medicine, was nominated by the local Organization of Student Representatives chapter. ■

T.E.A.M. Winners Announced

November winners of the T.E.A.M. (Transforming Employee Attitude Matters) preferred parking spots in H-lot have been announced by Hospital Administration.

They are Richard Duddy, Heart Catheterization Lab; Tamera Baxter, 7K-E; and Amy Knight, Pediatric Intensive Care Unit.

Each employee receives approximately two months of parking in the designated, close-in spaces.

Their names were drawn from a group of eligible employees during a recent management council meeting. Use of the preferred, designated parking by winning employees is a regular feature of the institutional T.E.A.M. incentive program. ■

Current and past issues of "On the Inside" can be viewed on the LSUHSC-S web site at <http://www.sh.lsuhs.edu/our.html>

Employees Honored for Service

Long-time employees of the LSU Health Sciences Center in Shreveport were recognized recently for not only their dedication to their jobs, but also their commitment to the institution at the annual employee service awards.

Two events were held November 16, 2004.

Employees with 5, 10 and 15 years of service were honored with a presentation ceremony and reception during the afternoon. Each employee was presented with a pin signifying years of service.

Employees with 20, 25, 30 and 35 years of service were the honored guests at a dinner held at the Shreveport Country Club hosted by Chancellor/Dean John C. McDonald, M.D.

In all, more than 550 employees were recognized during the two events.

An event is being planned for employees of E.A. Conway to recognize their years of service. ■

Residents Featured at National Meetings

The LSU Health Sciences Center in Shreveport Department of Pathology has been active at several national meetings this fall.

Residents Cooper Heard, M.D.; Gregory Wellman, M.D.; and Eric Wei, M.D., Ph.D.; had research poster presentations at the annual meeting for the American Society for Clinical Pathology in San Antonio in October.

Presentations included work by Dr. Heard on new hematology instrumentation, Dr. Wellman on the diagnosis of melanoma, and Dr. Wei on molecular markers in colorectal cancer.

At the same conference, Mary Lowery Nordberg, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Pathology, delivered an invited workshop on "Current Topics in Flow Cytometry" describing new trends in the evaluation of hematopoietic malignancies.

At the 19th Annual Meeting of The Clinical Cytometry Society in Long Beach, work from the Department on a novel flow cytometric approach to establishing T-cell clonality using flow cytometry and molecular genetics was presented.

The poster was prepared in collaboration with Mathieu Nader, first year medical student, and Dr. Lowery Nordberg. Other contributors included Philip Guin, Pathology student; Sheri Yates, Hematology Laboratory; Diana Veillon, M.D., and James Cotelingam, M.D., both Professors of Pathology.

LSUHSC-S also had a strong presence at the 10th Annual Meeting of the Association for Molecular Pathology held in Los Angeles in November.

Three Pathology residents were candidates for the Young Investigator Awards. They are Fei Bao, M.D., for her work in molecular diagnoses in chronic myelogenous leukemia; Dr. Wei for his work in gastric lymphomas; and Rodney Shackelford, M.D.

Dr. Shackelford won a \$1,250 cash award for "Iron Chelators reduce Spontaneous dsDNA breaks in Ataxia-telangiectasia cells."

Dr. Lowery Nordberg and Anping Chen, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Pathology, and Jonathan Glass, M.D., Professor of Medicine, contributed to Dr. Shackelford's work.

Dr. Lowery Nordberg also presented a summary of her work in evaluating DNA mutations in patients with cystic fibrosis at the meeting. ■

New Faculty

Ahmad S. Jalloul, M.D., Assistant Professor-Clinical, Medicine
Human Kotobi, M.D., Assistant Professor-Clinical, Anesthesiology
Murali K. Srinivasan, M.D., Clinical Assistant Professor, Medicine
Elizabeth A. Guice, Ph.D., Assistant Professor-Clinical, LSUHSC-S
Child and Family Services, SAHP

Murali K. Ankem, M.D., Clinical Assistant Professor, Urology
Charles A. West, M.D., Assistant Professor, Surgery
Rita Y. Horton, M.D., Clinical Associate Professor, Psychiatry
Li-Ru Zhao, M.D., Assistant Professor-Research, Neurology

E.A. Conway Employee of the Month



Katie Runnels

Katie Runnels is E.A. Conway Medical Center's Employee of the Month for November.

Ms. Runnels has been an employee at the hospital for 31 years and works as a Nursing Assistant in the Nursery.

Ms. Runnels said the best aspect of working at E.A. Conway is being able to care for the babies in the nursery. ■