



ON THE INSIDE

LSU Health Sciences Center in Shreveport

Dr. McDonald Honored For Lifetime Achievement

John C. McDonald, M.D., Chancellor and Dean, has been awarded the Lifetime Achievement Award by the South-Eastern Organ Procurement Foundation in recognition of his contributions to the field of transplantation.

The award will be presented during the organization's annual meeting March 25.

Dr. McDonald is among the pioneers in transplantation surgery.

Before becoming Chancellor and Dean he was Chairman of the Department of Surgery at LSU Health Sciences Center and Surgeon-in-Chief of the LSU Hospital from 1977 until 2000.

In 1994, Dr. McDonald served as president of the Southern Surgical Association.

He also served as the founding Director of the Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center/Willis-Knighton Medical Center Regional Transplant Center.

Dr. McDonald is past president of the United Network for Organ Sharing and the South Eastern Organ Procurement Foundation, the American Society of Transplant Surgeons, the Halstead Society and the Louisiana Organ Procurement Agency. ■



John C. McDonald, M.D.

Reach Out and Read Coordinator Wins Award

Daisy Kime, LSUHSC in Shreveport Reach Out and Read coordinator, has been chosen to receive the Richard Robinson Achievement Award at the organization's national meeting this spring.

The award essentially designates Ms. Kime as the top local Reach Out and Read coordinator in the nation.

Reach Out and Read is a national program that seeks to enhance early literacy by having volunteers read to children and teach parents techniques designed to help children learn to read.

Ms. Kime was selected for the award from 1,500 Reach Out and Read coordinators in the nation. The award criteria included input from people served, supervisory duties, and length of service.

A panel of judges from the National Reach Out and Read office selected Ms. Kime.

Ms. Kime began volunteering with the LSUHSC-S Reach Out and Read program in 1998 after retiring from a career as a public school social worker.

In addition to a certificate, Ms. Kime and the LSUHSC-S program will receive a \$2,500 cash award to buy books for the local program.

In March, Reach Out and Read will attract local celebrity volunteers to read to youngsters awaiting appointment in the LSUHSC-S Women's and Children's Clinic.

Local celebrities including KTBS television anchor Gwen Campbell, Caddo Parish Sheriff Steve Prator and Shreveport Mayor Keith Hightower will lend their support to the program by reading aloud to youngsters waiting to see doctors. ■

Board of Supervisors Approves Separation

The LSU Board of Supervisors has unanimously approved the separation of the LSUHSC-S School of Allied Health Professions and the School of Graduate Studies from the New Orleans campus.

The LSU Health Sciences Center in Shreveport submitted a proposal to the LSU System and Board of Regents last April requesting administrative separation of the two schools from New Orleans. The request was supported by the LSUHSC New Orleans.

Last October, a review team comprised of key administrators from the Board of Regents, LSU System, LSUHSC-NO and external consultants toured the LSUHSC-S campus to review the merits and concerns of the proposal.

The Evaluation Team supported the separation of the two schools based in part on the fact that it would not adversely affect the New Orleans campus and would significantly benefit the Shreveport campus, its faculty and students by establishing more efficiency in decision-making, accreditation and day-to-day operations.

Once the separation receives final approval from the Board of Regents, the School of Allied Health Professions and School of Graduate Studies will fall under LSUHSC-S Chancellor John C. McDonald, M.D.

Children's Hospital Receives Donation

The Children's Hospital of LSU Health Sciences Center in Shreveport has received a generous donation for its patients from the Walt Disney Company.

Disney Hand, the Worldwide Outreach Program for the Walt Disney Company, has begun a new program that will include annual donations of Disney products to Children's Hospitals around the country.

Our Children's Hospital received approximately 70 Disney movies on VHS and DVD, stuffed animals children keep and Disney books. ■

FWCC Plans "War on Cancer" Free Lunch Series

The Feist-Weiller Cancer Center (FWCC) of LSU Health Sciences Center in Shreveport will host its annual free "War on Cancer" luncheon on Thursday, March 4 from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. as part of the national Celebration of Women Week.

The luncheon program will be held at LSUHSC-S and will feature four topics for participants to choose from.

Session 1: *Overview of the Cancer Center and What's Available in the New Facility* with Glenn Mills, M.D., Professor of Medicine, FWCC Clinical Research Director.

Session 2: *Genetics: Can Your Genes Predict Cancer Ahead?* with Mary Lowery-Nordberg, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Pathology, FWCC Director of Molecular Pathology, and Mary Futch, R.N., B.S.N. Cancer Genetics Educator.

Session 3: *Breast Cancer Trials: Report of Recent Trial Results* with Gary Von Burton, M.D., Professor of

Medicine, FWCC Breast Cancer Specialist.

Session 4: *New Speech Options After Cancer* with Cherie-Ann Nathan, M.D., Associate Professor, Otolaryngology/Head and Neck Surgery, FWCC Head and Neck Cancer Program Director, and Matthew Morgan, Speech Therapist.

Free parking will be available at Parkview Baptist Church, 3206 Samford.

A special shuttle will drop participants off within sight of the registration table where they will pick up box lunches.

Participants should arrive at 11:30 a.m. to receive their lunches and directions to the room for the session they selected.

The event is free, but pre-registration is required.

For more information, and to register with your topic choice, contact Anne Higdon at 675-5977. ■



Department of Pathology Resident Wins Award

Rodney Shackelford, M.D., a first-year Pathology resident, was one of three trainee winners of the Young Investigator Award given by the Association for Molecular Pathology at its annual meeting in Orlando, Florida.

Dr. Shackelford was awarded a cash prize of \$1,250 and a commemorative glass obelisk.

The Young Investigator Award is based on several criteria including originality, focus, significance, experimental design and control and presentation.

His winning paper was entitled "Iron chelators increase the genomic stability of ataxia-telangiectasia cells." ■

New Equipment Helps Patients With Therapy

A new treadmill system that is the only one of its type in the area will help physical therapy patients at LSU Health Sciences Center regain independence they may have lost due to impaired ability.

The body weight support system will provide patients full support though the use of an air powered hydraulic system as physical therapists work with them.

The machine is extra wide to help accommodate patients in wheel chairs, and can be used for people with a variety of conditions from spinal cord injuries to Parkinson's Disease.

Suzanne Tinsley, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Physical Therapy, School of Allied Health Professions, said the system also has potential applications for patients with back and sports related injuries.

The treadmill stimulates a regular gait pattern, forcing patients to literally remember how to walk with a smooth and controlled motion.

Funding for the system was provided through a donation from former Louisiana State Senator Ron Bean. ■

Feist-Weiller Receives ACS Certification

The Feist-Weiller Cancer Center of LSU Health Sciences Center in Shreveport passed its recent American College of Surgeons survey with commendation.

In its report, the Commission on Cancer from the College of Surgeons gave its approval to Feist-Weiller Cancer Center through 2006.

It awarded the FWCC commendation for the high percentage of patients enrolled in clinical trials.

Special acknowledgement was made to Donald Elmajian, M.D., Associate Professor of Urology, and Benjamin Li, M.D., Associate Professor of Surgery, for their outstanding leadership and passion for creating a "Center of Excellence" by meeting all the standards required for this certification. ■

LSUHS Foundation Announces Investment Opportunities

The LSUHS Foundation will host its first donor recognition dinner for individuals and businesses that have qualified for membership in either the Legacy Society or the Chancellor's Circle on March 4.

Names of donors in both groups will be engraved on a plaque that will be displayed in the medical school.

Charter members of the newly established Legacy Society will be honored for providing an enduring legacy by naming the LSUHS Foundation beneficiary of their financial plans.

Membership in the Chancellor's Circle requires a minimum gift of \$25,000 in campus support which has been given through the LSUHS Foundation.

For details on the Chancellor's Circle or the Legacy Society, please contact Allison Cate, Development Associate, at 675-8306. ■

Pathology Submits Abstracts

Nineteen original abstracts from the LSUHSC-Shreveport Department of Pathology will be presented at this month's annual United States-Canadian Academy of Pathology meeting in Vancouver, Canada.

It is the largest number of accepted abstracts from the department ever for this meeting, which is the largest pathology meeting in the world.

The LSUHSC-S Department of Pathology ranked among the top thirty departments for contributions in terms of first-authored scientific abstracts which were peer reviewed and accepted for presentation at the meeting. A letter of commendation was received from the United States-Canadian Academy of Pathology for this accomplishment.

More than 400 international medical school programs and other academic institutions submitted more than 2,200 scientific abstracts for consideration. ■

North Louisiana Students Shadow Health Care Mentors

Students from across Northwest Louisiana spent their Groundhog Day shadowing medical professionals from LSUHSC in Shreveport and E.A. Conway Medical Center.

In Shreveport, 73 youngsters from South Highlands Magnet School learned about allied health careers including Physical Therapy, Occupational Therapy, Medical Technology, Physician Assistant, and Cardiopulmonary Science.

In Monroe, E.A. Conway hosted several area high schools students for an event coordinated by the Monroe Chamber of Commerce and North Louisiana Area Health Education Center (AHEC). Students learned about HIPAA laws and spent the day job shadowing in Radiology, Social Services, Biomedical Engineering and Physical Therapy.

The event is part of a national initiative designed to provide youngsters with a heightened awareness of a variety of opportunities in the medical field at an earlier age, and to help develop more health based curriculums in schools.

Kristie Robinson of NL-AHEC explained that Groundhog Job Shadow Day "allows students the opportunity to learn more about occupations in the medical realm. It also allowed the students to develop a greater appreciation for local medical facilities such as E.A. Conway. We appreciate that E.A. Conway offered this opportunity to these students, and we also appreciate their role in 'growing our own' healthcare professionals in Northeast Louisiana." ■

Pair Receive Honors and Present Research at Events

Tushar Vachharajani, M.D., and Naveen Atray, M.D., Assistant Professors of Medicine, have been certified as Clinical Specialists in Hypertension by the American Society of Hypertension.

Both were recently honored at the Gulf Central Regional Chapter of American Society of Hypertension in New Orleans.

They are two of only four hypertension specialists in the region.

Dr. Atray has received the "Young Faculty Award" at the recent meeting of the American Federation of Medical Research and Southern Society of Clinical Investigators in New Orleans.

Dr. Atray and Dr. Vachharajani presented a scientific paper entitled, "Safety and Efficacy of Total Dose Iron Dextran Infusion in Pre-Dialysis Population".

Together they presented a total of five scientific papers at this meeting. ■

New Faculty

Wei-Ming Duan, M.D., Assistant Professor, Anatomy
William B. Shingleton, M.D., Assistant Professor - Clinical, Urology
Milton Slocum, M.D., Clinical Assistant Professor, Surgery

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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>

Dr. Stucker Accepts Positions

Frederick Stucker, M.D., Professor and Head of Otolaryngology/Head and Neck Surgery, has been appointed as a Governor to the American College of Surgeons representing the specialty of Facial Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery.

The organization is dedicated to improving the care of the surgical patient and to safeguarding standards of care in an optimal and ethical practice environment.

Dr. Stucker was also recently elected as vice-president to the American Board of Facial Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery.

Both appointments are for three years.

In addition, *Best Doctors in America* has contacted Dr. Stucker to be included in the 2004 edition of the reference book. ■

Cardelli Award Research Winners Announced

Two winners of the Jason A. Cardelli Award for Excellence in Cancer Research were announced in conjunction with the annual Barlow Symposium sponsored by the Feist-Weiller Cancer Center of LSU Health Sciences Center in Shreveport.

Jun Zhang, a graduate student in the Department of Anatomy, was selected for his research into cystatin M, a chemical which has been linked to the suppression of certain cancer cells.

Rebecca Bigelow, Ph.D., a fellow in the Department of Microbiology and Immunology, was selected for research into tissue inhibitor of matrix metalloproteinase-1.

Winners of the Cardelli Award each receive a \$250 cash prize.

Jason Cardelli was the brother of James Cardelli, Ph.D., Professor of Microbiology and Immunology and Director of Research for the Feist-Weiller Cancer Center. He was a nationally recognized astronomer at Villanova until his death in 1996.

In memory of his brother and to honor his work with young students, Dr. James Cardelli initiated the award to be given to one student and one postdoctoral fellow or resident doing cancer research. ■

E-Books Available

An electronic book feature is available through the LSUHSC-S Medical Library.

E-books are always accessible via the Library's home page.

Full texts of many popular monographs such as *Harrison's Principles of Internal Medicine*, *Williams Textbook of Endocrinology*, *Cecil Textbook of Medicine*, *Conn's Current Therapy*, *Merck Manual of Diagnosis and Therapy*, the *AAP Red Book* and *Sabiston Textbook of Surgery* are currently accessible.

Governmental publications containing agency reports, guidelines, and up-to-date statistics on a variety of topics are also available. At present, there are 150 books and reports available. New E-book links will be added periodically.

To utilize this feature, go to the library home page <http://lib-sh.lsuhs.edu> and click on the blue button labeled "E-BOOKS." This will bring up a list of the electronic sources, categorized by subject.

Many require an MDConsult login, while several others require a non-fee registration with Medscape. An exception is *Harrison's Online*, which requires user validation by IP address.

Users not on campus, need to establish a proxy server account for their home computer. Please contact Mike Watson, Associate Director of the Library 675-5455 or ewatso@lsuhsc.edu for details on the proxy server. ■

Emergency Medicine Selects Vice Chairperson



Donna Carden, M.D.

Donna Carden, M.D., Professor of Emergency Medicine, has accepted the appointment as departmental vice chairman for Faculty Development and Research.

Dr. Carden has been instrumental in the growth and development of the Emergency Department since its inception in 1993.

She is nationally recognized as one of the pioneers of the specialty. ■

E.A. Conway Employee of the Month



Bessie Brown

Bessie Brown was E.A. Conway Medical Center's employee of the month for February 2004.

Ms. Brown has been employed as a Purchasing Technician for four years.

Ms. Brown says she enjoys working with both hospital employees and vendors that visit her department.

Co-workers who nominated Ms. Brown describe her as

always having a smile and a friendly greeting for everyone, as well as her willingness to learn new jobs. ■

Employees Eligible for Food Discount

LSU Health Sciences Center - Shreveport employees can save money on purchases they make at the cafeteria or atrium deli by using their identification badges as a debit card.

To participate, bring your employee badge to either Linda Graham or Billy Ransbottom in the cafeteria any time Monday through Friday, except between the hours of 10:45 a.m. and 1:30 p.m.

Based on the amount of credit you purchase for your card, they will set you up with a declining balance account. You can then go to any cafeteria or deli cashier and add money to your card.

When setting up your card account the cashier will "swipe" your badge through the scanner and your account will appear on screen. Pay the cashier the amount you want to purchase and it will be recorded on your account.

For every dollar you add, you get a 10% bonus. For example if you buy \$20 worth of credit, you'll have \$22 to spend.

Please call Linda Graham at 675-7735 for further information. ■

Employee Wellness Campaign Announces Winners

The first session of the LSUHSC-S Employee Wellness Program has concluded and the next session is underway.

Individual winners from the first session were: Linda Williams, Medical Records, first, and Deanna Collum, Transcription, second.

The winning team, called the Beach Bunnies, was comprised of Sharon Johnson, Echo Lab; Tamy Webb, Department of Medicine; Toshita Antwine, 7K-E Telemetry; Lucille Bedford, 10K Faculty; Cali Carrell, 7K-E Telemetry.

Twyla Hawthorne, Nursing Department (Southern Maids), Melissa Hall, 7K-E Telemetry (Fabulous Five), Sharon Johnson, Echo Lab (Beach Bunnies) were the winners on their respective teams.

Winners were determined using a point system. Program participants earn points with exercise, class attendance and weight loss. Bonus points came through trivia games, nutrition bingo, and similar activities.

Participants may enroll in individual or team categories.

Those wishing to sign up for the March classes should contact Sharon Frilot in Nutritional Services at 675-5129. ■

Dr. Simpkins Named New Chief of Trauma Surgery

Cuthbert Simpkins, M.D., has joined the staff of the LSU Health Sciences Center in Shreveport Department of Surgery as the Chief of Trauma Surgery and Critical Care.

Dr. Simpkins is a Shreveport native who is returning home after serving as an Associate Professor of Surgery at Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center in Lubbock, Texas.

Dr. Simpkins earned his medical degree from Harvard University in 1974, and completed residencies at St. Luke's Hospital in New York City, and Downstate Medical Center in Brooklyn, NY. He completed a Research Fellowship at the Naval Medical Research Institute and was awarded commendations for outstanding research.

Dr. Simpkins has several professional interests including bench research regarding improving methods of resuscitation and cellular repair, application of cutting edge clinical care, and the establishment of programs to prevent violence and other sources of trauma. ■



Cuthbert Simpkins, M.D.