



ON THE INSIDE

LSU Health Sciences Center at Shreveport

Chancellor's Corner



July 1, 2005, started a new chapter in our institutional history. Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center at Shreveport became a separate legal entity that day.

This landmark event represents the culmination of a local community initiative started in the 1990s. Lead author Sen. Lydia Jackson shepherded the statutory separation bill through the Legislature with our entire legislative delegation in support.

Community leaders, including the Chancellor's Advisory Committee headed by Aaron Selber, have championed local governance for LSUHSC-S for almost ten years. They persevered and they prevailed. In addition to our legislators and other key community leaders, the LSU Board of Supervisors and the Louisiana Board of Regents assisted in securing statutory status for this campus.

There is other positive budget news from the Legislative session as well. The 2005-06 operating budgets approved for Shreveport and E. A. Conway permit both facilities to maintain services at continuation levels this fiscal year.

In addition, \$7.5 million was appropriated for equipment in the Ambulatory Care Center, assuring occupancy of that much needed outpatient clinic facility in the near future.

North Louisiana legislators worked as a team to address our budget needs. Our needs were also recognized by Governor Blanco, and Commissioner Jerry Luke LeBlanc worked to help address our needs.

We are grateful to all.

Komen Foundation Funds Research at LSUHSC-S

The Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation-Shreveport/Bossier Affiliate has awarded funding to Mary Lowery-Nordberg, Ph.D., Associate Professor, Department of Pathology and a member of the Feist-Weiller Cancer Center at LSU Health Sciences Center at Shreveport, which will help cancer experts at LSUHSC-S/FWCC continue to play a key role in providing optimal patient care.

Funding was provided to help the Hereditary Cancer Risk Assessment Program at FWCC develop patient-specific education tools for patients and healthcare providers for education and identifying high-risk patients. The program provides services for breast health awareness and education, screening and early detection, education concerning treatment of breast cancer, family support systems, and resources available to patients of the community most at risk for developing breast cancer.

Patients and healthcare providers will tell their stories through personalized testimonials in videos, CDs and printed materials explaining the role that education, early detection, family history, and general breast health awareness played in their treatment options.

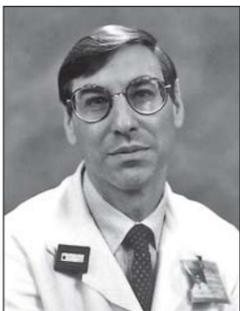
In addition to Dr. Nordberg, the Hereditary Cancer Risk Assessment team includes Mary Gutowski-Futch, RN, BSN; Gary Burton, M.D., Professor, Department of Medicine, and Benjamin Li, M.D., Professor, Department of Surgery. For more information about the program call 813-1226. ■

Copping Awards Announced

Steven Levine, M.D., Professor, Department of Medicine, and John Staczek, Ph.D., Professor, Department of Microbiology and Immunology, were honored for their teaching contributions with the 2005 Allen A. Copping Excellence in Teaching Awards presented during spring commencement exercises.

The coveted awards are bestowed annually on one faculty member each from the basic and clinical sciences in the School of Medicine. A faculty member from the School of Allied Health Professions also receives the Copping Award during August graduation ceremonies.

The Copping Awards are named in honor of the former longtime Chancellor of what was then the LSU Medical Center. Dr. Copping became LSU President after serving as Chancellor. He established the award to recognize faculty who are excellent, have demonstrated a life-long quest for discovery and inspire their students.



Steven Levine, M.D.

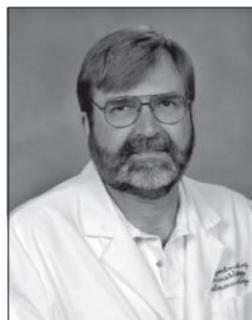
Dr. Levine, a faculty member since 1979, received the clinical sciences award.

He is Chief of the Section of Endocrinology and Metabolic Diseases.

Students who nominated Dr. Levine described him as someone who has a persistent desire to teach and the ability to impart his knowledge through the use of clinical scenarios as opposed to pages in a text.

Dr. Staczek, who came to LSUHSC-S in 1984, was selected for the basic sciences award. He has played a key role in revitalizing the Department of Microbiology and Immunology especially in the area of teaching by bringing information from the research laboratory into the classroom.

Dr. Staczek has distinguished himself as a gifted teacher, who consistently is ranked by students as an outstanding lecturer. ■



John Staczek, Ph.D.

Humanism in Medicine Awards Presented

Recent LSU Health Sciences Center in Shreveport School of Medicine graduate Nicole Rivers, M.D., and Sami Bahna, M.D., Dr.P.H., Professor, Departments of Pediatrics and Medicine, are winners of the Leonard Tow Humanism in Medicine Award for 2005.

The annual award honors both a faculty member and a graduating student and is presented at 75 of the 126 medical schools across the United States.

Dr. Rivers began her residency in Family Practice on July 1 at the North Caddo Family Practice Clinic in Vivian.

Those nominating Dr. Rivers said that as a medical student she always treated her patients with respect and with understanding of their circumstances without being judgmental. Nominators described Dr. Rivers' care of her patients as selfless.



Sami Bahna, M.D., Dr.P.H.

Dr. Bahna has been a faculty member since 2002.

He is the Director of the Allergy and Immunology Fellowship offered at LSUHSC-S.

Dr. Bahna was recommended by his peers as well as his Fellows due in recognition of his excellence as a physician, his respect for his patients, and as a role model for the next generation of physicians. ■

Nominations Underway for Employee Excellence Awards

Nominations are now being accepted for the 2005 Employee Excellence Awards, an annual recognition program that honors 15 LSU Health Sciences Center at Shreveport employees who excel in their contributions. Each winner will receive \$500 and be honored at a luncheon on September 21st at the University Club.

The LSUHS Foundation sponsors the awards, supported in part by Pfizer, Inc.

All full-time employees of the Shreveport and Monroe campuses who have been employed for at least five years are eligible.

Nominees should demonstrate work excellence and contribute to the Health Sciences Center's mission of teaching, patient care, research, or public service.

The deadline for nominations is July 15. Nominations can be submitted in writing to: The Employee Excellence Awards Committee, c/o LSU Health Sciences Foundation, P.O. Box 105, Allied Health Building, 1501 Kings Highway, Shreveport, LA 71103. You can also nominate online by going to www.lsuhsfoundation.org and selecting "Online Nomination Form" on the right hand side. Limit 2 nominations per nominator and each nomination must be original. Previous winners are not eligible.

Letters must include the name of the nominator, nominee and supervisor, with phone numbers of the nominator and his/her supervisor. Letters with multiple signatures, or without the required information will not be accepted. For more information contact Sherry Sandidge at (318) 675-5174. ■

Abdominal Aortic Aneurysm Screening Scheduled

Representatives from Aneurysm Outreach, Inc. of Louisiana are planning a free screening at LSUHSC-S which could save lives, especially of older citizens.

Abdominal aortic aneurysm ranks as the 13th leading cause of death in the United States and the 3rd leading cause of sudden death in American men.

Anyone age 60 or older, especially male smokers, or men and women who are 55 years old and have a family history of aortic aneurysm, are encouraged to register for the screening.

It will be held Saturday, July 9 from 8 a.m. until 12 noon in the atrium of the Biomedical Research Institute on the LSUHSC-S campus.

The screening is free but an appointment is needed. To make an appointment call (318) 675-6114.

LSUHSC at Shreveport participates with Aneurysm Outreach, Inc. as requested by the Louisiana Legislature, which recently passed SCR 5 calling for the cooperative effort for early detection of abdominal aortic aneurysm.

Dr. Mathis Serves on NIH Study Section

J. Michael Mathis, Ph.D., Associate Professor, Department of Cellular Biology and Anatomy, recently served on a National Institutes of Health (NIH) Study Section to review Specialized Programs Of Research Excellence (SPORE) program grants on ovarian and gynecologic cancers.

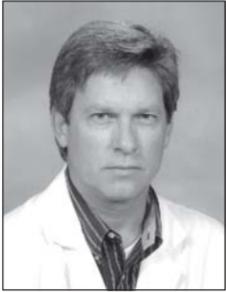
The Ovarian Cancer SPORE program began in 1999 with the funding of four sites. The relatively low incidence of this disease, as well as the team concept of the SPORE program, has encouraged a number of Inter-SPORE collaborations aimed at developing much needed prognostic, screening, prevention, and therapeutic tools for ovarian cancer.

This month, Dr. Mathis will serve on the Gene and Drug Delivery Systems Study Section (GDD) for the NIH.

The GDD Study Section reviews NIH grant applications focused on the development and delivery of drugs, genes, and gene products that alter gene function or expression in the living organism.

Dr. Mathis, who is the Director of the Gene Therapy Program at LSUHSC-S, was invited to sit on these Study Sections based on his recognized scientific background and research accomplishments. ■

Dr. Thoma Receives National SADD Award



Todd Thoma, M.D.

Todd Thoma, M.D., Associate Professor, Department of Emergency Medicine, has received the Students Against Destructive Decisions (SADD) National Outstanding Contribution Award.

Dr. Thoma won the award for his efforts to ensure the safety of Louisiana's citizens, especially young people.

The award recognizes achievement in advancing SADD's objectives and is given to individuals who have made a contribution that is unparalleled in its size, creativity, sacrifice to SADD, or emphasizes SADD's core issue: the threat to teens posed by alcohol, drugs, violence and other risky behaviors.

Dr. Thoma, a second year medical fellow with the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration in Washington, DC, received the award during the annual SADD meeting in Arlington, Virginia, in June. ■

Microbiology and Immunology Faculty Serve on Study Sections

Three faculty members of the LSU Health Sciences Center at Shreveport Department of Microbiology and Immunology served recently on various National Institutes of Health (NIH) Study Sections.

Kate D. Ryman, Ph.D., Assistant Professor, served as an ad hoc reviewer for the Immunity and Host Defense Study Section.

Dr. Ryman has investigated several aspects of the Togaviruses and Flaviviruses, which are important human pathogens, some being potential bioweapons. Her research is multi-focused and seeks to develop new vaccines. Her work in gene therapy uses molecular approaches to design viruses that would selectively infect and kill cancer cells. Dr. Ryman's research is funded by grants from the National Institutes of Health and the Alliance for Cancer Gene Therapy.

William B. Klimstra, Ph.D., Assistant Professor, served as an ad hoc reviewer on the NIH Virology A Study Section.

Dr. Klimstra directs two major NIH grants at LSU Health Sciences Center at Shreveport that support his ongoing research focused on developing of new vaccines for viruses that are potential bioweapons. One of these NIH grants is funded via the Western Research Center of Excellence for Biodefense and Emerging Infectious Diseases.

Robert P. Chervenak, Ph.D., Professor, served on a special National Institutes of Health (NIH) Study Section.

The Study Section reviewed applications for the establishment of special centers called "Centers for Medical Countermeasures Against Radiation" (CMCR).

The primary focus for the CMCR program is to support basic, translational, and applied radiobiologic research which may lead to new medical countermeasures against radiological and nuclear exposures.

Dr. Chervenak was asked to serve due to his national reputation as a molecular and cellular immunologist and his extensive training in radiation biology. ■

Dr. Kablinger Recognized for Her Research Work



Anita Kablinger, M.D.

Anita Kablinger, M.D., Associate Professor, Department of Psychiatry, has won the Tom Jordan Award from the Mental Health Association in Caddo-Bossier.

The award is presented to a mental health professional, volunteer, or lay-person who has provided exemplary service through education, beneficence, advocacy, research, supportive

service to the mentally ill and their families, or in other areas deemed worthy by the Board of Directors of the Mental Health Association in Caddo-Bossier.

The Mental Health Association created the Tom Jordan Award in recognition and appreciation of his tireless efforts on behalf of the mentally ill in Northwest Louisiana, and his contribution to the work of the Mental Health Association at local, state, and national levels. ■

New Faculty

Clifton Frilot, Ph.D., Assistant Professor, Physical Therapy
Tadanobu Utsuki, Ph.D., Assistant Professor, Biochemistry and Molecular Biology

LSUHS Foundation Honors Donors During Reception



Joe Miciotto, LSU Hospital Administrator, visits with Mary Lou and Frederico Ampil, M.D., Professor of Radiology, Legacy Society members, at the LSU Health Sciences Foundation's Annual Donor Appreciation Reception at the new Ambulatory Care Building.

The LSU Health Sciences Foundation hosted a Donor Recognition Reception in May to honor new inductees into the Legacy Society and Chancellor's Circle. The reception was held at the new Ambulatory Care Center building.

The Chancellor's Circle recognizes donors whose cumulative gifts to the LSU Health Sciences Center at Shreveport have exceeded \$25,000. The Legacy Society honors faculty, alumni, grateful patients and community supporters who have included the LSU Health Sciences Center at Shreveport in their financial or estate planning.

New inductees to the Chancellor's Circle included Chancellor/Dean and Mrs. John C. McDonald; Marianne Comegys, Head of the Department of Medical Library Science; the Community Foundation of Shreveport-Bossier; and the Selber family.

More than 50 people attended the event, including current members of the Legacy Society and Chancellor's Circle.

For more information about how to support the LSU Health Sciences Center, call the Foundation office at (318) 675-5002. ■

Medical Library Announces Two New Electronic Resources

The LSU Health Sciences Center at Shreveport Medical Library recently added two new resources to its online collection.

AccessMedicine is a collection of electronic books. The library has previously had access to several of these—*Harrison's Online*, *Hurst's The Heart*, *Current Medical Diagnosis & Treatment*, and *Goodman & Gilman's The Pharmacological Basis of Therapeutics*—but thanks to a recent cooperative purchase with the library at LSUHSC in New Orleans, twenty-three additional books are now available online, including *The Metabolic Basis of Inherited Disease* and the Lange education library, twenty-two texts covering both basic sciences and clinical medicine.

The books within *AccessMedicine* are available at <http://www.accessmedicine.com/>, or through the library's e-books menu, at <http://lib.sh.lsuhscc.edu/ebooks/>.

Faculty of 1000 is a current awareness tool for biologists from BioMed Central. A panel of 1,000 experts in a wide range of fields within biology evaluate recently published literature, highlighting the most important papers for inclusion in the database.

Faculty of 1000 is available through the library's database menu at <http://lib.sh.lsuhscc.edu/databases/databases.php> ■

Department of Pathology Presents at USCAP Meeting

The LSU Health Sciences Center in Shreveport Department of Pathology presented 15 posters and two platform presentations at the recent United States-Canadian Academy of Pathology (USCAP) meeting, the largest pathology meeting in the world attended by more than 3,300 pathologists from around the world.

The department was among the top five programs in terms of scientific abstracts accepted for the prestigious Stowell-Orbison Award competition for pathologists-in-training and among the top 20 institutions overall in terms of numbers of first-authored scientific abstracts peer reviewed by experts and accepted for presentation.

Pathology residents and fellows presenting were second year residents Fei Bao, M.D.; Yeong Dancer, M.D.; Maisoun Abdelbaqi, M.D.; and Rodney Shackelford, M.D.; third year residents Eric Wei, M.D., and Cooper Heard, M.D.; and fellows Shahnila Latif, M.D., Norma Uribe-Urbe, M.D., Jianhua Wu, M.D., and Ravindra Veeramacheni, M.D.

Faculty presenters were Elba Turbat-Herrera, M.D., Professor; Mary Lowery-Nordberg, Ph.D., Associate Professor; Jorge Albores-Saavedra, M.D., Professor; Guillermo A. Herrera, M.D., Professor and Head; Christopher Kevil, Ph.D., Assistant Professor; Janice Matthews-Greer, Ph.D., Assistant Professor - Research; Marjorie Fowler, M.D., Professor; and Fleurette Abreo, M.D., Professor.

Dr. Guillermo Herrera was an invited speaker at the annual Ad Hoc Veterans Administration Electron Microscopy Committee in San Antonio, lecturing on "Renal AL-amyloidogenesis: An update." ■

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

LSU Hospital Operating Room Nurses Receive Award

Members of the LSU Hospital in Shreveport's perioperative nursing staff won the President's Choice Award presented by the local chapter of the Association of periOperative Registered Nurses, Inc. (AORN).

Traditionally, the award recognizes an individual perioperative nurse who has made significant contributions to improve perioperative patient care. However, the LSU Hospital in Shreveport team of operating room nurses were nominated and won as a group because of their outstanding leadership, dedication and support of AORN as well as their commitment to quality patient care and the perioperative nursing profession.

Perioperative nurses provide, manage, teach, and/or study the care of patients undergoing operative or other invasive procedures in the preoperative, intraoperative, and postoperative phases of surgery.

There are approximately 90 members in the local chapter and nearly 40,000 members representing 6,700 hospitals and 3,500 ambulatory surgery centers worldwide.

LSUHSC has the largest "active" membership in the local chapter, with managers and staff registered nurses involved on the local, state and national levels. ■

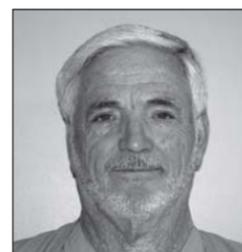
Dr. Stucker Featured at International Meeting

Frederick Stucker, M.D., Professor and Head of the Department of Otolaryngology/Head and Neck Surgery, was an honored guest during the 16th Annual Assembly of the International Academy of Otorhinolaryngology Head and Neck Surgery and 22nd International Conference of Young Otorhinolaryngologists in Bucharest, Romania.

Dr. Stucker acted as the Chairman for the Pharyngology Panel and as judge for the Young Otorhinolaryngologist presentations. He attended as a member of the International Scientific Committee.

He also hosted a round table discussing "Lasers in ENT" and presented a talk on "Adjunctive Uses of the CO₂ Laser in Facial Plastic Surgery & Otoplasty: Three Decades Experience in Over 300 Patients." ■

E.A. Conway Employee of the Month



Don Hatten

Don Hatten was recognized as the E.A. Conway Medical Center Employee of the Month for June.

Mr. Hatten is a registered nurse in the recovery room and has worked at E.A. Conway for 10 years.

Mr. Hatten received his Associate's Degree in Nursing from Louisiana Tech University in 1990. ■

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 ddani1@lsuhsc.edu to submit information, comments or suggestions.