



ON THE INSIDE

LSU Health Sciences Center at Shreveport

Chancellor's Corner



I continue to be optimistic for our future as the presence of LSUHSC-S expands across North Louisiana.

During the most recent legislative session, the Louisiana Legislature transferred Huey P. Long Medical Center in Pineville to LSUHSC-S effective July 1. HPL previously was part of

the LSU Health Care Services Division.

We welcome each employee of HPL into the LSUHSC-S family. While administrative details of the transition are being negotiated, we have already included a request for funds to build a replacement hospital in our capital outlay budget request for FY 2008-09.

Our North Louisiana legislative delegation—always supportive of our Shreveport and Conway campuses—were exceptionally successful in obtaining additional money for our budgets this year. During the appropriations process, North Louisiana legislators added \$41.8 million to our budgets—\$10.8 million for Conway and \$31 million for Shreveport. We are grateful.

I am pleased to report that our School of Allied Health Professions is now occupied although exterior brickwork continues. This long-awaited building provides much-needed additional classroom, clinic and office space.

Work continues with the Louisiana Rural Hospital Coalition to develop linkages between LSUHSC-S and North Louisiana rural hospitals that will permit systematic utilization of our resources by these hospitals that depend on the LSU Hospital for tertiary referrals. When implemented, we envision a system that cultivates rural hospital medical homes for patients in rural areas and integrated performance standards between LSUHSC-S and participating rural hospitals. The Louisiana Legislature invested \$13 million in initial funding for this initiative that will begin with seven hospitals selected by the Rural Hospital Coalition from its members.

The rural hospital initiative is one example of the changes beginning to reshape Louisiana's healthcare delivery system. The challenges inherent in change also offer opportunities for innovation and improvement. I am confident that LSUHSC-S will successfully adapt to Louisiana's evolving healthcare delivery system and continue to achieve its combined educational, patient care, research and community service mission.

Representative McCrery Reaches Out to Children



U.S. Congressman Jim McCrery lifted his voice in support of the importance of reading to children by reading several books aloud to attentive youngsters assembled in a Children's Clinic waiting room on his most recent visit to LSUHSC-S.

Congressman McCrery was a guest of the LSUHSC-S "Reach Out and Read" program. This nationally recognized early literacy program teaches parents the importance of reading to their children and provides age and culturally appropriate books to children during well-child visits from six months to five years of age.

During his visit, Congressman McCrery also toured the Children's Clinic getting a firsthand look at the variety of services that the LSUHSC-S Children's Hospital provides pediatric outpatients.

Departments of Molecular and Cellular Physiology and Pathology Awarded Multimillion-Dollar Research Grant

Researchers in the departments of Molecular and Cellular Physiology, and Pathology recently received a \$8.2 million Program Project Grant from the National Institutes of Health to study inflammatory bowel diseases.

The five-year grant, directed by Matthew B. Grisham, Ph.D., Boyd Professor, Department of Molecular and Cellular Physiology, is entitled "Role of the microcirculation in intestinal inflammation."

The project focuses on defining how blood vessels and blood cells contribute to the pathogenesis of the inflammatory bowel diseases, which include Crohn's disease and ulcerative colitis.

Funds are provided to support four projects directed by Dr.

Grisham; Neil Granger, Ph.D., Boyd Professor and Head of the Department of Molecular and Cellular Physiology; and Norman Harris, Ph.D., Associate Professor, Department of Molecular and Cellular Physiology; as well as Christopher Kevil, Ph.D., Associate Professor, Department of Pathology.

In addition, the Program Project Grant included funds to support three core facilities directed by Dr. Grisham; Dr. Granger; Hugh Price, D.V.M., Associate Professor, Molecular and Cellular Physiology; and Jianxiong Bao, M.D., Assistant Professor, Department of Pathology.

...a significant number of individuals with disease have either little or no response to the conventional therapies.

The team of LSUHSC-S researchers hopes that the work supported by this major multimillion-dollar grant will help identify new approaches for the treatment of the inflammatory bowel diseases which afflict more than one million individuals in North America and several million worldwide.

"Current drug therapies have proven to be reasonably effective in treating some patients with Crohn's disease or ulcerative colitis, however a significant number of individuals with disease have either little or no response to some of

the conventional therapies.

Thus, identification of the pathogenic mechanisms responsible for induction and perpetuation of chronic intestinal inflammation may prove to be very important in developing new therapeutic

approaches to treatment of the inflammatory bowel diseases", said Dr. Grisham.

The grant represents a major new direction for a PPG that has already provided over \$19 million in research funding for faculty in the Department of Molecular and Cellular Physiology since 1992.

Funding for program project grants is intensely competitive and the award of a program project grant signals the superior collaborative research capabilities of the institution. ■

New LSU System President Named

John V. Lombardi, Ph.D., this month becomes the fifth president of the LSU System, which includes the LSU Health Sciences Center at Shreveport, succeeding William L. Jenkins, Ph.D., D.V.M., who retired at the end of August.

Dr. Lombardi, formerly Chancellor of the University of Massachusetts at Amherst, was unanimously selected by the LSU Board of Supervisors in July.

Dr. Jenkins assumes the title of President Emeritus and now will concentrate on development and funding raising for LSU. During his presidential tenure, Dr. Jenkins participated in 102 commencement exercises within the LSU System, the last of which was the LSUHSC-S commencement on Aug. 11.

In comments to the board following his selection, Dr. Lombardi noted that his priorities include building relationships with Louisiana legislators to garner the support necessary to obtain appropriate funding for the LSU institutions statewide.

Dr. Rona Scott Receives Grant to Study Breast Cancer



Rona Scott, Ph.D.

Rona S. Scott, Ph.D., Research Assistant Professor, Department of Microbiology and Immunology, recently received a \$450,000 grant from the Breast Cancer Research Program of the Department of Defense to investigate the role of Epstein-Barr Virus (EBV) in breast cancer. The grant is for a period of three years.

EBV is the cause of mononucleosis and is associated with several human cancers. The grant investigates the hypothesis that this human herpesvirus (EBV) uses a "hit-and-run" mechanism in causing cancer. Upon infection, EBV alters key cellular genes and with time the virus is lost. However, the virus leaves behind a "chemical footprint" on cellular DNA (genes) that contributes to the progression of cancer. This research will broaden the role of EBV in human cancer, leading to a better understanding of who is most at risk for developing several cancers and possible treatment applications. ■

Pediatrics Resident Honored with National Recognition

Sheyenne Carper, M.D., Chief Resident, Department of Pediatrics, was one of five winners of a competitive scholarship awarded at the recent Annual Convention and Scientific Assembly of the National Medical Association.

The Billie Wright Adams Scholarship for Pediatric Trainees and Medical Students carries a cash prize of \$2,000, which included Dr. Carper's travel to the convention.

Dr. Carper was one of five recipients selected from a nationwide pool of applicants. Selection criteria included participation in an active pediatric training program, a letter from the department head and curriculum vitae. ■

Medical Library Adds Additional Resources

The Medical Library of LSU Health Sciences Center at Shreveport has made the *Chronicle of Higher Education* available to users online.

One of the most highly regarded sources of information for administrators and faculty members in higher education, the *Chronicle* features include news, special reports, job listings, discussion blogs and live web-based forums.

The online version is updated daily, and includes articles published since 1989.

Users can reach the *Chronicle* at <http://chronicle.com>, or through the library's e-journals menu. ■

United Way/Employee Assistance Program Begins

The LSU Health Sciences Center at Shreveport will launch its annual United Way/Employee Assistance Program campaign later this month with employees to receive their pledge cards with their September 28 checks.

The LSUHSC-S campaign goal is \$35,000.

Donors again will have several options for directing their United Way pledge. Two options benefit LSUHSC-S directly. The Feist-Weiller Cancer Center's indigent pain fund and the Reach Out and Read program both are again designated as approved non-member agencies to receive directed donations.

As always, employees may also designate contributions for the LSUHSC-S Employee Assistance Program.

From October 1 - 12, donors may drop off their pledge cards or return them through campus mail to hospital administration or the Office of Information Services, Room 1-201, in the medical school.

Dr. Nanda Gives Two Invited Presentations

Anil Nanda, M.D., Professor and Head of the Department of Neurosurgery, was a featured speaker at the Society of University Neurosurgeons annual meeting held recently in London.

His lecture, "Changing Trends in Neurosurgery: A Historical Perspective," presented the history of neurosurgery from its beginning early in the 19th Century through today.

The lobotomy, early craniotomies, Gamma Knife, and endovascular surgery were among topics he discussed.

Dr. Nanda was also honored as a Visiting Professor at Mt. Sinai School of Medicine in New York recently. His lecture was titled, "Skull Base Surgery: Shouts and Murmurs".

He presented techniques, video clips of surgeries and case studies as part of his lecture discussing clinical lessons learned from his personal series of more than 2,000 skull base and aneurysm cases. ■



Anil Nanda, M.D.

Prostate Cancer Screening Scheduled

Area men who are 50 years old—45 if in a high risk group as defined by the American Cancer Society—are encouraged to schedule a free appointment which could save their lives through early detection of prostate cancer.

For the 18th year, the LSU Health Sciences Center at Shreveport/ Feist-Weiller Cancer Center Partners in Wellness Clinic will offer its annual free prostate cancer screenings as a public service. Screenings will be conducted in the Partners in Wellness Clinic located on the first floor of the LSUHSC Ambulatory Care Building, Room 1067, from 8:30 a.m. until 4 p.m., September 17-21.

Appointments will be made on a first-come, first-served basis. Please call the Partners in Wellness clinic at (318) 813-2225 or (318) 813-2226 to schedule an appointment.

The American Cancer Society recommends African-American men and men with a family history of prostate cancer to begin screenings at the age of 45. Men of all other races and without a family history of prostate cancer should begin annual screenings by age 50.

Last year 618 screenings were conducted at LSUHSC-S. Approximately a dozen of those were identified as suspicious and referred for further testing.

Dr. Unger Serves as Invited Guest Speaker

LSUHSC-S gynecologic oncologist James B. Unger, M.D., F.A.C.O.G., Associate Professor, Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology, served as an invited faculty presenter at a recent international workshop, "Advanced Vaginal and Pelvic Reconstructive Surgery."

Nearly 200 gynecologic surgeons from more than 15 countries attended the course held at the Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists in London.

Dr. Unger, chief of division of gynecologic pelvic surgery in the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology, was one of only four invited faculty for the course. There was one other faculty member from the United States, and one each from The Netherlands and Australia.

Dr. Unger, who is also the residency program director for the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology, presented a total of eight lectures on gynecologic pelvic surgery, including advanced techniques in vaginal and reconstructive surgery. ■

William Joyce Artwork Featured on Holiday Card

The LSU Health Sciences Foundation has announced that its 2007 holiday cards will feature a unique piece of artwork by Shreveporter William Joyce, world-renowned author, illustrator and filmmaker.

The artwork was created by Mr. Joyce for the Foundation in honor of his late father-in law, Ralph Baucum, Jr., M.D., whom he greatly admired. Dr. Baucum was the first pediatric cardiologist to practice in Shreveport. He was known for his love of teaching and served as a faculty member in the Department of Pediatrics for more than twenty-five years. During that time, Dr. Baucum was a pioneer for specialized children's services which were critical to the development of the Children's Hospital at LSUHSC-S.

The Foundation is extremely grateful to Mr. Joyce for allowing us to benefit from his exceptional reputation, said Lisa Babin, Foundation CEO and President.

Newsweek has called him one of the top 100 people to watch in the new millennium. His paintings are displayed at national museums and art galleries.

Mr. Joyce has received three Emmys for *Rolie Polie Olie*, an animated series that airs on Disney Channel. His second television series, *George Shrinks*, airs daily on PBS stations. In 2005, Mr. Joyce partnered with Fox and Blue Sky Studios as a Producer and Production Designer on *Robots* and earlier this year, Disney released *Meet the Robinsons* a film based on his book *A Day with Wilbur Robinson*.

Limited-edition numbered and autographed prints (24"x18") may be purchased for \$125 by calling the Foundation at (318) 675-5002. Holiday cards can be pre-ordered by phone or on-line at www.lsuhsfoundation.org.

All proceeds from the sale of holiday cards and limited-edition signed prints will benefit the Foundation, which supports the LSU Health Sciences Center at Shreveport. ■

E.A. Conway Employee of the Month



Mary Wesley

(Editor's note: OTI is not published in August, so Ms. Wesley's honor was not reported previously.)

Mary Wesley was chosen as E. A. Conway Medical Center's Employee of the Month for July.

Ms. Wesley works as a Nursing Assistant in the Outpatient Clinic. She received her Nursing Assistant Certificate in 1979 from Ouachita Delta Vo-Tech School and in 2003 graduated from Liberty Christian School of Ministers.

The E. A. Conway Medical Center Employee of the Month for August is Janice Waggoner.

Ms. Waggoner is a Human Resources Analyst in the Human Resource Department. She has worked at Conway for 18 years and attended the University of Louisiana at Monroe. ■



Janice Waggoner

On the Inside is published monthly (except August) 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.

New Cancer Survivor Support Group Begins

Cancer patients, members of their families and other interested community members are invited to participate in "Living Beyond Treatment," a new patient education series and support group offered by the Feist-Weiller Cancer Center of LSU Health Sciences Center at Shreveport.

The one-hour sessions, scheduled for the last Tuesday of each month, will begin at 10 a.m. in the fourth floor conference room, Feist-Weiller Cancer Center Outpatient Treatment Building on Kings Highway. Free parking is available.

The program is designed to help patients and family members manage the physical, emotional, and financial impacts so that their focus can remain on living beyond treatment.

Educational presentations from staff and community experts will be balanced with time for sharing experiences by the in-the-trench experts, cancer survivors and co-survivors.

For additional information, contact Catherine Credeur at (318) 675-7090. ■

Video Services Employee Wins National Award



Lisa Higginbotham

Lisa Higginbotham, Video Producer/Director in Video Services & TeleHealth, won a Pegasus Award of Honor for the video, "Genetic Testing: Is it right for you?", produced for the Feist-Weiller Cancer Center of LSUHSC-S.

The Pegasus competition recognizes excellence in educational, medical, and governmental videos.

In addition to recognizing phenomenal video productions, the Pegasus Awards provide unbiased peer review to help improve the standard of quality in non-broadcast media.

Video Services and TeleHealth supports LSUHSC-S with instructional videotapes, patient information, public service announcements, and recording grand rounds presentations and special guest lecturers. ■

Clinical Trials Office Attends Informational Conference

Employees from the LSUHSC-S Clinical Trials Office (CTO) attended the recent Drug Information Association Conference in Atlanta where the CTO sponsored a booth to both promote awareness of the clinical trials being conducted at LSUHSC-S and generate contacts for sponsors seeking sites for new clinical trials.

Heading the team was Susan Seligman, CTO director. Also attending were Bobbie Jeter, CTO administrative assistant, and Pat Jenkins, clinical associate in the Department of Neurology. ■

New Faculty

Lauren Beal, M.D., Instructor, Medicine
 Michael Beason, M.D., Assistant Professor, Psychiatry
 Sei-Jei Chen, M.D., Assistant Professor - Clinical, Anesthesiology
 Christi Chreene, Instructor - Clinical, Surgery
 Richal Dhawan, M.D., Instructor - Clinical, Medicine
 Forrest Griffen, M.D., Professor - Clinical, Surgery
 Jeffrey Harris, M.D., Instructor -Clinical, Family Medicine
 Edwin Herron Jr., M.D., Assistant Professor- Clinical, Anesthesiology
 Jariatul Karim, M.D., Assistant Professor - Clinical, Medicine
 Brian Martin, M.D., Instructor - Clinical, Emergency Medicine
 Jennie Moore, Instructor, Occupational Therapy
 Jamie Panton, Instructor, Surgery
 Natalie Phillips, M.D., Assistant Professor, Family Medicine
 Carlos Previgliano, M.D., Associate Professor, Radiology
 Sriyvas Ramuhalli, M.D., Assistant Professor, Surgery
 Jai Varma, M.D., Assistant Professor, Medicine
 Robert Walter, M.D., Assistant Professor, Medicine
 Hao Wang, M.D., Instructor, Emergency Medicine
 Amy Wu, M.D., Assistant Professor, Pediatrics
 Asser Youssef, M.D., Assistant Professor, Surgery
 Songlin Zhang, M.D., Assistant Professor, Pathology

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>

Human Resources Corner

PM-11 Disclosure of Outside Employment:

All Faculty, Staff, and House Staff are required to complete a Permanent Memorandum 11 (PM-11) form for each outside employment event. In August, your department head/director received a packet from Human Resource Management regarding the regulatory requirements for PM-11.

Completed PM-11 forms must be returned to Human Resource Management by October 31. Departmental PM-11 signature sheets should be completed by the October 31 time frame as well and must be maintained in the department. For questions regarding the PM-11 process contact Jean Brown at 675-5634.

Unclassified Hiring PERs:

PERs submitted to fill vacant positions for faculty and unclassified positions are kept on file in the Unclassified Staffing section for one year from date of approval. If not used by this time the PER is voided and returned to the department.

Classified Hiring Application Status:

Applications of all eligible applicants will be forwarded to the Hiring department for them to schedule interviews. There is no time frame in which the interviews must be scheduled. Only the selected applicant will be notified by Human Resource Management. The position will then be added to the filled positions page of the website, <http://www.sh.lsuhs.edu/HR/HRM/indexHRM.htm>

FMLA: Pregnancy

This covers any period of incapacity due to pregnancy or prenatal doctor visits, including severe morning sickness. All leave time taken due to pregnancy - prior, during, or after the birth of the baby - should be documented as Family and Medical Leave.

Staff Training:

Check out the new **Comprehensive Public Training Program (CPTP)** class schedule on the HRM website - Classes for supervisors and non supervisors www.sh.lsuhs.edu/HR/HRM/indexHRM.htm Click on Training, CPTP.

Project CARE - Enter the Workplace Ethics Writing Contest and win a great parking space for a month! Information at the website above - click on Training, Workplace Ethics.

Campus Education Day (CED) - Program in auditorium (Room 1-400) September 6 from 8:30 - 11:15 a.m. for Shreveport employees. If you do not have computer access please attend this live program for your annual mandatory training.