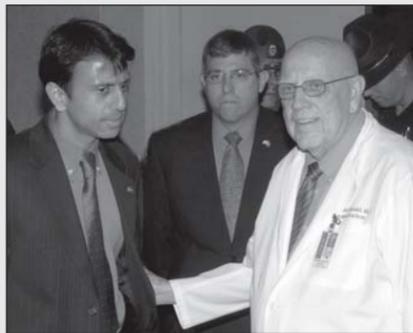




ON THE INSIDE

LSU Health Sciences Center at Shreveport

Governor and DHH Secretary Visit Shreveport Campus



John C. McDonald, M.D., Chancellor and Dean, (right) welcomed Governor Bobby Jindal (left) and Louisiana Department of Health and Hospitals Secretary Alan Levine (center) to LSU Health Sciences Center at Shreveport recently. Gov. Jindal conducted a bill signing ceremony for legislation that makes healthcare information available to assist the public in making more informed healthcare decisions. In opening remarks to a crowd of about 50 that included faculty, staff and area legislators, Gov. Jindal and Secretary Levine praised LSU Health Sciences Center at Shreveport for its leadership and accomplishments.

Dr. Mukherjee Presents Work at International Conference

Debi P. Mukherjee, Sc.D., Associate Professor and Coordinator of Bioengineering, Department of Orthopaedic Surgery, presented a poster at the recent World Biomaterials Congress in Amsterdam.

Entitled "Chondrogenic Phenotype Maintained in Bioabsorbable PGA: TMC scaffold," the poster described Dr. Mukherjee's research efforts to grow cartilage cells into biodegradable Maxon® suture polymer. He developed the Maxon® suture while he was working in the industry.

WL Gore and Associates from Flagstaff, Arizona, has been supporting this research by supplying the samples as well as funding Dr. Mukherjee's research since 2004.

In addition to the poster presentation, findings from the cartilage growth project have also been published recently in the *Journal of Biomedical Materials Research Part B, Applied Biomaterials*. ■

Medical Library Presents Two Art Exhibits

Employees and the public are invited by the LSU Health Sciences Center at Shreveport Medical Library to view two unique art exhibits over the next several months.

Through September 24, the library is showcasing the photography of local artist Ron E. Mills, who has been producing his unique photographs of plants, animals, architecture, and people for the past three years.

His works hang in private collections and galleries throughout the South and Northeast. The Mills exhibit consists of 35 distinctive images.

On Sunday, September 28, from 2 to 4 p.m. the library will host the Hoover Watercolor Society's annual Juried Small Painting Show.

The show will open with an awards reception in the Library to which the public is invited. The artwork will continue to be on display in the library until November 3.

The Hoover Watercolor Society is a private, non-profit organization founded in 1958 as the Shreveport Watercolor Society. The Society's goals are to provide members with opportunities to exhibit their artwork in judged exhibitions and to educate the public in fine watercolor art.

For information on visiting the exhibits on weekends, call the Medical Library at 675-5445. ■

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 Health Sciences Center
SHREVEPORT

Dr. Granger Chosen for National Physiology Award

D. Neil Granger, Ph.D., Boyd Professor and Head of the Department of Molecular and Cellular Physiology, has been selected as the 2009 Robert M. Berne Lecturer and Award recipient by the Cardiovascular Section of the American Physiological Society (APS).

The award recognizes a scientist who has made outstanding contributions to cardiovascular research.

Robert M. Berne was one of America's most distinguished cardiovascular researchers and was also a member of the Cardiovascular Section of the APS.

Dr. Granger will present a lecture explaining the role of immune cells in cardiovascular disease and accept the award at the 2009 Experimental Biology meeting in New Orleans in April. ■

Dr. Goeders Presents at International Meeting

Nicholas Goeders, Ph.D., Professor and Head of the Department of Pharmacology, Toxicology and Neuroscience, recently delivered an invited presentation at the International Society for Neuroendocrinology (ISPNE) meeting in Dresden, Germany.

Dr. Goeders' lecture, "The HPA Axis and Cocaine Addiction," was given during the symposium on "Dysregulation of the HPA Stress Response in Drug Dependence."

His lecture addressed the basic science behind the relationship between stress and addiction.

The work is the basis for an ongoing clinical trial currently being conducted at the LSU Health Sciences Center at Shreveport which is funded by Dr. Goeders' company Embera NeuroTherapeutics, Inc. ■

Accreditation Site Visit Planned

A survey team with the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS) will be on the LSUHSC-S campus September 23 – 25 for a medical center educational accreditation site visit.

The team will assess compliance with a set of standards that SACS has adopted, with which all higher education institutions must comply.

The LSU Health Sciences Centers in Shreveport and New Orleans received joint re-accreditation in 2005, but SACS requires independent accreditation as a result of the subsequent statutory separation.

Resident Chosen for Society of Vascular Surgery Council

Ryan Wolfort, M.D., Ph.D., sixth-year resident, Department of Surgery, has been chosen to serve on the Society for Vascular Surgery (SVS) General Surgery Resident Section Governing Council.

The governing council regulates resident activities within the SVS. Two years ago, the SVS launched an initiative to get residents more involved with the society. This year the eight-member governing council was created in an effort to get more general surgery residents interested in vascular surgery as a career.

Dr. Wolfort graduated from the LSU School of Medicine in Shreveport in 2003 and received his Doctor of Philosophy degree in Molecular and Cellular Physiology from the School of Graduate Studies, LSUHSC-S, in August 9 commencement ceremonies.

Two LifeShare Blood Drives Scheduled in September

LifeShare Blood Centers has scheduled back-to-back campus blood drives for September to give employees, students and visitors additional opportunities to donate blood as LifeShare continues to work to assure that the local need for blood products is met.

The first drive is set for Thursday, September 18, from 10 a.m. until 4 p.m. in the Atrium of the BRI. The second is planned on Friday, September 19 from 11 a.m. until 3 p.m. on the second floor walkway of the Ambulatory Care Center Building.

All who are eligible to donate are encouraged to do so.

Founding Medical School Faculty Member Retires



Robert Clawson, Ph.D., teaches students during an anatomy class

It's estimated that Robert Clawson, Ph.D., Professor, Department of Cellular Biology and Anatomy, taught more than 6,000 students during his tenure at LSU Health Sciences Center at Shreveport before he officially ended his distinguished career of 40 years on August 1.

Dr. Clawson was hired in 1968 by Dr. Adrian Reed, the founding Head

of the Department of Cellular Biology and Anatomy, of the then-new LSU School of Medicine in Shreveport.

Dr. Clawson, the first faculty member hired for the fledgling department, was brought to Shreveport to help organize the Gross Anatomy and Histology courses for the inaugural class of 32 first-year medical students that enrolled in 1969.

He continued to teach Gross Anatomy and Histology throughout his career. He also taught Embryology and Neuroanatomy.

When the School of Allied Health Professions expanded its programs, Dr. Clawson was tapped to help organize its Gross Anatomy course.

Although he will not continue his day-to-day teaching, Dr. Clawson said he plans to assist with teaching in the Gross Anatomy and Histology lab as often as possible. ■

Dr. Nanda Invited Speaker at Neurosurgical Meeting

Anil Nanda, M.D., Professor and Head of the Department of Neurosurgery, was a featured speaker at the recent Society of University Neurosurgeons Annual Meeting in San Francisco.

Dr. Nanda incorporated information about techniques, video clips of surgeries and case studies from his personal series of more than 2,000 skull base and aneurysm cases.

His lecture was entitled "Visual outcome and prognostic indicators after surgical clipping of Ophthalmic segment ICA aneurysms." ■

Patients and Caregivers Celebrate ECMO Success



(l to r) Steve Conrad, M.D., Ph.D.; Grady Thompkins, ECMO patient; and Sheree Jordan, RN, at the ECMO reunion

More than a dozen patients whose lives have been saved by Extracorporeal Membrane Oxygenation (ECMO) treatment at LSU Health Sciences Center at Shreveport recently returned to LSUHSC-S for a reunion with their caregivers as they celebrated 15 years of ECMO at LSUHSC-S.

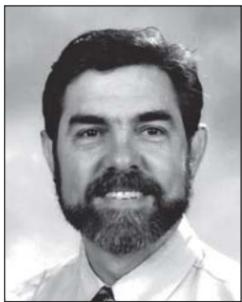
The event was a surprise for Steven Conrad, M.D., Ph.D., Professor, Department of Medicine, Pediatrics and Emergency Medicine, who first brought ECMO to LSUHSC-S when it was still an experimental therapy.

Dr. Conrad was among the handful of clinician researchers in the nation who helped develop the advanced life support therapy. LSUHSC-S remains the only site in the region where this highly sophisticated life-saving treatment is available.

When a patient is placed on ECMO, two blood lines are placed in large blood vessels. One line drains blood from the body into the ECMO system; the other line returns oxygenated blood to the patient.

The ECMO system has a pump and an artificial lung to replace the functions of the patient's heart and/or the lungs until he or she recovers. Since the program began at LSUHSC-S, 56 patients have undergone ECMO treatment.

Dr. Harper Receives Service Award



Michael Harper, M.D.

Michael Harper, M.D., Professor, Department of Family Medicine and Comprehensive Care, was honored recently for a decade of service as Chairman of the Committee on Education of the Louisiana Association of Family Physicians

During the association's annual meeting, Dr. Harper was presented with an award which recognized his supervision of the medical education of countless medical residents as well as medical and allied health students.

Since completing his residency, Dr. Harper has been devoted to medical education.

Shortly after joining the faculty of the Department of Family Medicine in 1981, Dr. Harper was appointed the departmental Residency Program Director, a position he continues to hold.

Family Medicine Resident's Research Published in Journal



Anshul Agarwal, M.D.

Anshul Agarwal, M.D., first-year resident, Department of Family Medicine, recently published a research article in the "Journal of Controlled Release."

The article is based on Dr. Agarwal's work to help develop a new method of delivering anti-cancer drugs to patients.

His research collaborators are from Louisiana Tech University and Northeastern University Boston.

The article describes novel nano drug delivery formulations of the cancer drugs Paclitaxel and Tamoxifen designed not only to target only cancer cells but also to reduce their chemotherapeutic toxicity and adverse effects on patients.

Dr. Agarwal worked also closely with Cherie-Ann Nathan, M.D., Professor, Department of Otolaryngology/Head and Neck Surgery.

Dr. Stucker Gives Lectures at International Conferences

Frederick Stucker, M.D., Professor and Head of the Department of Otolaryngology/Head and Neck Surgery, was an invited guest speaker at two recent international meetings.

At joint conference of the 22nd Congress of the European Rhinologic Society and the 27th International Symposium of Infection and Allergy of the Nose, Dr. Stucker delivered three lectures as well as participated in a roundtable discussion. The conference was held in Crete.

His invited lecture at the XXIII Annual Assembly of International Academy of Otorhinolaryngology- Head and Neck Surgery in Saint Petersburg was entitled "A Reconstructive Graft for the Ages." ■

Third-Year Medical Student Elected to Foundation Board

Third-year medical student Patrick Redmond has been elected by the Executive Council of the Student Body to serve as the new student representative on the LSU Health Sciences Foundation Board of Directors.

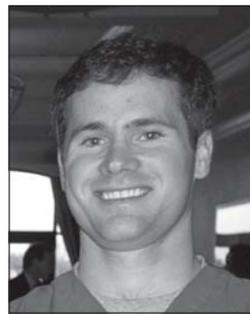
"I'm honored to have the opportunity to bring a student's perspective to the Foundation, and to see 'behind to scenes' of this important organization that does so much to further the interests and image of our institution," said Mr. Redmond.

Mr. Redmond, who ranks in the top 15 percent of his class, has conducted a clinical research project with Maureen Heldmann, M.D., Associate Professor, Department of Radiology.

The Alexandria native was the only medical student to conduct two research projects under the LSU Health Sciences Foundation Student Research Grant. His research projects were "Gamma-Glutamyltranspeptidase (GGT) Activity in Diabetic and Non-Diabetic Human Corneal Tissue" and "Effect of Blepharoplasty on Dry Eye."

Mr. Redmond has also been active in a variety of student organizations, including the Module III Advisory Committee, the Catholic Medical Student Association, Camp Tiger. He is a member of American Medical Association's Medical Student Section.

A *summa cum laude* graduate of Texas Christian University in Fort Worth, he was graduated with a double major in biology and chemistry. ■



Patrick Redmond

Dr. Bahna Receives Honor from International A/I Organization

In recognition of a quarter century of teaching and lecturing at its meetings, Sami Bahna, M.D., Dr.P.H., Professor and Chief of the Section of Allergy and Immunology, Department of Pediatrics, was honored recently by the Mexican College of Pediatric Specialists in Clinical Immunology and Allergy.

During its XVI National Congress of Pediatric Allergy and Asthma in Puebla, Mexico, the designation of "Honorary International Fellow" was bestowed upon Dr. Bahna. He also was awarded the "Amigo de COMPEDIA" (Colegio Mexicano de Pediatras Especialistas en Inmunologia Clinica y Alergia).

Dr. Bahna has served frequently as invited speaker for scientific meetings of various Mexican medical societies. He also has assisted in planning many of their programs on allergy, asthma and immunology.

During the recent meeting in Puebla, he lectured on "Adverse reactions to drugs in children" and "Evaluation of the child with recurrent infections." The meeting was attended by approximately 1000 physicians and included guest speakers from the United States, United Kingdom, Germany, Spain, Argentina, and Venezuela. ■

LSUHSC-S Faculty Co-Author Major Psychiatry Text Chapter

Two LSUHSC-S faculty specialists in neurology are collaborating with other nationally recognized colleagues to write a chapter about prion diseases for a psychiatry textbook to be published next year.

Alireza Minagar, M.D., Associate Professor, Department of Neurology, and Nadejda Alekseeva, M.D., Instructor, Department of Neurology and Staff Psychiatrist at Overton Brooks VA Medical Center are co-authoring the chapter with psychiatrists from University of South Florida in Tampa.

The chapter on "Neuropsychiatric Aspects of Prion Disease" will appear in the upcoming revised edition of Kaplan & Sadock's Comprehensive Textbook of Psychiatry, to be published in 2009.

Prion diseases are rare but significant causes of rapidly progressive dementia, which remain invariably fatal.

This major textbook of psychiatry serves as the most authoritative textbook for diagnosis and treatment of psychiatric disorders around the globe.

The textbook features a large group of contributors from prestigious academic centers who contribute in-depth information about the latest developments on pathogenesis, clinical features, diagnostic procedures, and potential treatment options for psychiatric disorders.

"We feel honored to be invited as coauthors on this major psychiatry textbook and represent our medical center on such a significant health issue", said Dr. Minagar. ■

Book Fair to Benefit Reach Out and Read

The Reach Out and Read (ROR) program at LSU Health Sciences Center at Shreveport has teamed up with Barnes and Noble Booksellers to host a fundraiser book fair Saturday, September 6, to benefit Reach Out and Read.

Barnes and Noble will donate 15 percent of sales to customers with a ROR book fair voucher, or who request that a donation be made to the program. Vouchers may be obtained through the ROR office by contacting Christine Tharpe at ctharpe@lsuhsc.edu. If you do not have a voucher, please request that a donation to ROR be made at the time of purchase.

Activities and readings are scheduled in the Barnes and Noble children's area from 1-4 p.m. Several medical students and doctors will be guest readers and Clifford the Big Red Dog will make an appearance at 4 p.m.

More than 9,000 children are being served by ROR at LSUHSC-S this year. At every well-child clinic visit, young patients are given a book to take home, making it essential to raise funds to purchase new children's books to replenish the program's supply of give-away books.

New Faculty

Joseph M. Angelo, Instructor – Clinical, Medicine
Homayoun Ataei, M.D., Instructor – Clinical, Family Medicine
Elias B. Bahta, M.D., Assistant Professor, Medicine
Satyaki Banerjee, M.D., Assistant Professor, Medicine
Marie E. Beckner, M.D., Assistant Professor, Pathology
Jagan Beedupalli, M.D., Instructor – Clinical, Medicine
Sandhya Bejjanki, M.D., Clinical Assistant Professor, Medicine
Kamal Bhusal, M.D., Assistant Professor - Clinical, Medicine
Kevin J. Carter, M.D., Assistant Professor - Clinical, Family Medicine
Henock G. Gebregziabher, M.D., Assistant Professor, Medicine
Carson S. Holtzclaw, Instructor - Clinical, Emergency Medicine
Long Jin, M.D., Assistant Professor, Pathology
Stacy K. Kanayama, M.D., Instructor - Clinical, Family Medicine
Erin M. Lawley, Au.D., Instructor, Otolaryngology
Sidney M. McKinley, Instructor - Clinical, Family Medicine
Douglas E. Moul, M.D., Assistant Professor, Psychiatry
Christine Zurn Odom, Instructor - Clinical, Pediatrics
Sandeep M. Patil, M.D., Assistant Professor - Clinical, Medicine
Adrian P. Sequeira, M.D., Assistant Professor, Medicine
Anthony H. Sin, M.D., Assistant Professor, Neurosurgery
Richard L. Wigle, M.D., Assistant Professor - Clinical, Surgery
Mallory Williams, M.D., Assistant Professor, Surgery

E.A. Conway Employee of the Month



Lesley Arnott

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

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

Ms. Arnott is the Director of Conway's Medical Library.

She received her undergraduate degree in Psychology from the University of Delaware

and a Master's Degree in Library and Information Science from the University of Arizona

She actively participates in many projects including development of the website, literature and legal searches, and charity fundraising efforts.

The E.A. Conway Employee of the Month for August is Bobbie Morgan. Ms. Morgan is a Nursing Assistant in the Emergency Department where she has worked for four years.

Ms. Morgan received her Nursing Assistant Certification from Caldwell Memorial Hospital in 1977.

Her nominators noted that she is always ready to help, is great at multi-tasking and has a wonderful rapport with staff and patients. ■



Bobbie Morgan

Human Resources Corner

Political Activity

During this very active political season, Human Resource Management would like to remind all classified state employees of the restrictions applied to local, state and federal elections.

Article 10, Section 9 of the State Constitution and Civil Service Rules 14.1 (e), (f) and (g) govern the political activities of classified state employees. Classified state employees must avoid the actual support of a candidate, party or faction and avoid the appearance of giving such support.

This includes, but is not limited to, making or soliciting contributions, attending fund raising functions, preparing or distributing campaign material, displaying any material in support of or opposition to a candidate or political party or faction.

If you would like to obtain additional information regarding this matter you may reference General Circular 1501 at the Civil Service Website: <http://www.dscs.state.la.us/>

Also, you may contact Human Resource Management at 318-675-5610.

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 at Shreveport. Please contact Derek Daniel, editor, at 318-675-5408 or ddani1@lsuhsc.edu to submit information, comments or suggestions.