



ON THE INSIDE

LSU Health Sciences Center at Shreveport

Chancellor's Corner



Robert Barish, M.D., M.B.A.

The holiday season is upon us once again and like many of you, I am thankful for more things than I can fully express. On a personal level, during this past year, so many of you have opened your homes and hearts to me and my family. This has made our transition to Shreveport such a wonderful experience, and for that I am so appreciative.

Here at work, I appreciate the dedication and commitment I see every day in our caregivers, educators, researchers, administrators and everyone else imaginable. In visiting with faculty and staff, it's inspiring that you view your roles here as more than just a job, which re-affirms the fact that our institution will continue to be a leader in so many areas.

Walking around the hospitals, I'm thankful for the fact that so many of our neighbors – near and far – entrust their healthcare and that of their loved ones to us. Each and every day, we prove that the care our physicians, nurses and staff provide is on par with that found in better known institutions across the nation.

Lastly, I am grateful for how people have risen to the challenge of the pursuit of excellence. New collaborations, new ideas, new programs, and suggestions demonstrate a desire to improve on all fronts. When you do a great job, when you go above and beyond what is simply necessary, when you serve on a committee or volunteer for new initiatives, you strengthen our organization. Advancing science and healthcare requires strong and vibrant organizations like ours.

So reflecting on the upcoming season, I urge you to take time this holiday season to remember what you are thankful for, and know that people across our region and state are thankful for you and the difference you make in their lives.

Robert a. Barish M.D.

Immunization Initiative Program Targets Region's School Children

Nearly 11,000 school-aged children in Bossier, Vernon and Avoyelles Parishes were immunized against seasonal flu through the School-based Influenza Prevention Program (SIPP) coordinated in those parishes by LSU Health Sciences Center at Shreveport and the Louisiana Department of Health and Hospitals (DHH).

LSUHSC-S pediatric infectious diseases specialists Joseph Bocchini, M.D., Professor and Head, and John Vanchiere, M.D., Associate Professor, were medical co-directors of the massive immunization project which provided either nasal spray or injectable seasonal flu vaccine free of charge to grade school students in the three parishes.

Approximately one-third of students were vaccinated in Vernon and Avoyelles Parishes, more than 40 percent in Bossier Parish.

More than 100 volunteers, including LSUHSC-S pediatrics faculty and residents, medical students, nursing students, parents from individual schools, and school nurses in each parish, banded together to accomplish the project.

DHH Region 7 Director Martha Whyte, M.D. says she will apply the "lessons learned" and logistical strategies of the program to plan for school-based H1N1 vaccination programs in December.



LSU Health Sciences Center
SHREVEPORT

Dr. Kenneth McMartin Selected to Fill Prestigious National Roles



Kenneth McMartin, Ph.D.

The national expertise of Kenneth McMartin, Ph.D., Professor, Department of Pharmacology, Toxicology and Neuroscience, was acknowledged through his selection to chair a ten-member federal Expert Panel that recommended formaldehyde be listed as a known human carcinogen.

The Expert Panel was convened by the National Toxicology Program (NTP) of the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS) to examine the recommendation for listing formaldehyde in the 12th Report on Carcinogens (RoC).

Formaldehyde is a high-production chemical in the United States, predominantly manufactured to produce industrial resins that are used as adhesives and binders in wood products. It is also commonly used as a preservative in medical laboratories and mortuaries.

The NTP will next solicit public comment on the Expert Panel's recommendation and scientific justification through the Federal Register. The recommendation will be finalized after further review by an independent review group and the NTP Board of Scientific Counselors.

Dr. McMartin was recently inducted as a member of the 2009 class of Fellows of the American Academy of Clinical Toxicology (AACT), a honor limited to members whose contributions are deemed to have significantly advanced the field of Clinical Toxicology.

Dr. McMartin's research has led to the development of safe, effective therapies and technologies for the treatment of human and animal poisoning.

Critical Need Prompts Call for Blood Donors

Due to continuing increased demand for blood but fewer donors, all eligible employees and students are challenged to "give the gift of life" by donating during the next LifeShare Blood.

The drive is set for Thursday, December 10, from 8 a.m. until 4 p.m. in BRI Atrium.

According to LifeShare, the need for blood spikes during December and January, while the number of donors decreases due to holiday vacations and activities.

LSUHSC-S Faculty Play Prominent Role at National ACAAI Meeting

Sami Bahna, M.D., Dr. P.H., Professor, Department of Pediatrics and Medicine, and Chief of the Section of Allergy and Immunology, Department of Pediatrics, was installed as the 2009-2010 President of the American College of Allergy, Asthma and Immunology (ACAAI) during its recent annual meeting in Miami Beach.

The 2009 ACAAI annual scientific program that Dr. Bahna chaired included 37 plenary presentations, 15 symposia, 33 workshops, 20 seminars, and special programs for the fellows-in-training and for allied health professionals. Five members of the LSUHSC-Shreveport faculty were invited for prominent presentations, including Dr. Bahna; medical school Dean Andrew L. Chesson, Jr., M.D., Professor of Neurology; Joseph Bocchini, M.D., Professor and Head of the Department of Pediatrics; Seth Berney, M.D., Professor, Department of Medicine; Chief of the Section of Rheumatology, and Director of the Center of Excellence in Arthritis and Rheumatology; Adrian Casillas, M.D., Associate Professor, Department of Pediatrics.

Drs. Bocchini and Bahna delivered special named lectures. In addition, 4 poster presentations were by the allergy & immunology fellows Yesim Yilmaz-Demirdag, M.D.; Bassem Chahine, M.D.; Shahid Randhawa, M.D., and Daniel Ramirez, M.D. The meeting was attended by more than 1800 physicians.

The ACAAI promotes excellence in the practice of the subspecialty of allergy and immunology, with membership more than 5,000 allergists-immunologists and related health care professionals.



Chancellor Robert Barish, M.D., M.B.A., (right) formally thanked State Sen. B. L. "Buddy" Shaw (center) for his suggestion that LSUHSC-S save money by purchasing natural gas directly from the producer at a recent luncheon. Sen. Shaw and LSU Hospital Administrator Joseph Miciotto (left) worked together to accomplish the change, effective 12:01 a.m. on Tuesday, December 1. LSUHSC-S projects savings of at least \$700,000 over the next 12 months thanks to Sen. Shaw's initiative, Chancellor Barish announced. Chancellor Barish and his senior staff applauded Dr. Shaw at a November 20 luncheon.

Dr. Kim Chosen as New Chief of Plastic Surgery



Mary Kim, M.D.

Mary T. Kim, M.D., Assistant Professor, Department of Surgery, has been named Chief of Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery according to Dr. Benjamin Li, Department Chairman.

Dr. Kim, a faculty member since March, earned her medical degree from Tufts University School of Medicine in Boston then took her residency in general surgery at the State University of New York Health Sciences Center – Downstate. She completed a surgical oncology research fellowship at the National Institutes of Health/National Cancer Institute in Bethesda, Maryland. She subsequently completed her plastic surgery fellowship at the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey in Newark.

Dr. Kim is a board-certified plastic surgeon with extensive research experience at MIT, Harvard and the Rockefeller University for Biomedical Research. She has numerous publications related to her work, and is an active member of the American Society of Plastic Surgeons serving on the Education Committee, writing exam questions to test other plastic surgeons for the National Board of Medical Examiners.

New Feature to Provide Remote Access to Medical Librarians

The Net Access medical record system has added a new feature, "AskALibrarian," which can be accessed remotely.

This enhancement allows clinicians to ask a medical librarian a question or request a literature search without having to leave the patient's record. The link is accessed by clicking on "Web Links" and then scrolling down to click on "AskALibrarian."

Earlier this year, links for several of the Library's resources were incorporated into the Net Access system. These collaborative efforts of the Medical Library and the Department of Computer Services assist healthcare personnel in making clinical decisions at the point of care.

United Way Campaign Exceeds Expectations

Thanks to all who contributed to the recent LSU Health Sciences Center at Shreveport annual United Way campaign, the Shreveport campus raised \$25,000 during the campaign that ended November 20, exceeding the goal of \$20,000.

Because of you, dozens of community organizations throughout Northwest Louisiana will benefit.

Exhibit Details Diseases and Deaths of Historical Figures

If you are intrigued by the uncertainty surrounding the deaths of some of history's most famous people, the LSU Health Sciences Center at Shreveport Medical Library is featuring an exhibit that will provide answers.

The exhibit showcases excerpts from *Post Mortem: Solving History's Great Medical Mysteries* by Philip Mackowiak, M.D., Professor and Vice Chairman, Department of Medicine, University of Maryland School of Medicine – Baltimore. In his book, Dr. Mackowiak examines the cause of death for twelve notable men and women from history.

Brief information from *Post Mortem* features the diseases of such renowned patients as Florence Nightingale, Booker T. Washington, and Christopher Columbus. A related exhibit focuses on the health problems of other historical figures.

The exhibit, which will be on display through the end of the year, follows the Department of Medicine Grand Rounds that Dr. Mackowiak presented Nov. 17 about the death of composer Ludwig Von Beethoven.

Also currently featured in the medical library is an exhibit of anatomical illustrations from throughout history. The display includes copies of illustrations from anatomists Henry Gray and Jacques D'Agoty, as well as artist Leonardo da Vinci.



Get to Know Your LSUHS Foundation

The LSU Health Sciences Foundation in Shreveport is an "institutionally-related foundation" -- a private 501(c)3 nonprofit corporation whose primary purpose is to raise and manage private support for the LSU Health Sciences Center at Shreveport.

Institutionally-related foundations differ from private foundations. Most private foundations are established by individual donors, do not solicit funds, and are governed by boards controlled by donors, family members, or representatives of donor corporations.

Although the LSU Health Sciences Foundation holds and manages endowments, like a private foundation, it does not take the lead in establishing funding priorities. Instead, the Foundation endeavors to meet the most pressing needs identified by LSUHSC-S while providing guidance on which projects or purposes are most likely to appeal to donors. Additionally, the Foundation cultivates support that will help the institution achieve its goals.

The interests of donors also determine the use that is made of funds held by the Foundation. The majority of assets held by the Foundation are restricted for particular uses by donors. A donor may direct that his or her gift be held as an endowment to fund a scholarship, chair, professorship or award in perpetuity, or simply designate that his or her gift be used for a particular department, program, or other present purpose.

Public colleges and universities establish institutionally-related foundations for a number of reasons:

- Generally, as a private tax-exempt corporation, foundations can perform functions more efficiently than state entities.
- Foundations provide a means of clearly separating public and private funds.
- Louisiana, like many states, mandates that public funds be invested according to low-risk, low-return strategies. The Foundation can invest private gift funds far more profitably, increasing the revenue available to the Health Sciences Center.
- The Foundation is not subject to regulations governing the sale or purchase of property by the state and can perform these and other business transactions in a competitive and expeditious manner.
- Many donors prefer to make a gift to a private rather than a state entity. As mentioned above, many restrictions govern the investment and use of public funds. By making a gift to the Foundation, donors can support LSUHSC-S and remain assured that their gifts will be invested profitably, distributed in strict accord with their wishes, and not become confused with state appropriated or other funds. The Foundation can also serve to safeguard the privacy of donors who may not want the details of their personal finances to become a matter of public record.
- Finally, the Foundation provides an opportunity for LSUHSC-S to involve prominent business leaders, alumni, and other successful individuals who are willing to commit their time, resources, and talent to the support of the institution.

As a public charity, the Foundation is accountable to its donors, the students, faculty, and staff of LSUHSC-S, and the Board of Supervisors of the LSU System. Foundation 990 forms (the annual "tax return") and annual reports are routinely made available upon request.

The sole purpose of the LSU Health Sciences Foundation is to support the LSU Health Sciences Center at Shreveport in the most responsible and effective way possible. Consider making a gift to the Foundation in honor or memory of a loved one this holiday season—there's no gift like that of the life-changing miracles that happen every day at the LSU Health Sciences Center. For more information or to make a donation call 675-5002.

Neurosurgery Business Manager Presents at National Meeting

Jeri Wright, Business and Academic Manager for the Department of Neurosurgery at LSUHSC-S, recently participated in the 13th Annual Workshop for Administrators/Coordinators in Surgery and the Surgical Specialties hosted by the National Center for Evaluation of Residency Programs in San Antonio.

Ms. Wright was again invited to be a member of the conference faculty and planning committee for the NCERP conference. She delivered several presentations, which included three plenary sessions on Risk Management/SBP, Aggregate Data, and Residency Requirements. She also led training and issue sessions for Surgical Critical Care, Pediatric Surgery, Neurosurgery, Otolaryngology, Plastic Surgery, and Coordinator Roles.

The National Center for Evaluation of Residency Programs is an objective, independent, and confidential source of professional information and expertise, assisting program directors and institutions in enhancing residency programs.

Arts In Medicine Exhibit on Display at Shreveport City Hall



(Left to right) Samantha Smith, Arts in Medicine intern; Jeremiah Parkerson; Linda Douglas, RN, St. Jude Clinic Coordinator; Kel/Nesha Odorn; and Shreveport Mayor Cedric Glover at the opening of the "Colors of Courage" exhibit.

"The Colors of Courage," an exhibit of several works from the Arts in Medicine program of the Feist-Weiller Cancer Center of Louisiana State University Health Science Center at Shreveport are on display at Shreveport's Government Plaza through January 15, 2010.

Featured artworks painted in grids by patients treated Feist-Weiller Cancer Center and the St. Jude Affiliate Clinic and their families that are then assembled into the larger paintings.

"Children with cancer are heroes—they do not see the adversity of their situation but are upbeat and enthusiastic. Their desire to prevail is seen in the art they do which is colorful, expressive, and playful and is reflected in the title of the exhibit. We are indebted to the Mayor for his interest in the Arts in Medicine program and the wish to have an exhibit at City Hall," said FWCC Director Jonathan Glass, M.D., Professor, Department of Medicine, Carroll W. Feist Professor of Cancer Research.

Free to the public, the exhibit is on display from 8 a.m. until 5 p.m. Monday through Friday at Government Plaza, 505 Travis Street.

E.A. Conway Employee of the Month



Amy Wade

Amy Wade was the E.A. Conway Medical Center Employee of the Month for November.

Ms. Wade, a custodian in the Environmental Services Department, has been employed at Conway for four years.

Nominators praised Ms. Wade's commitment to job performance and positive attitude towards staff, patients and visitors.

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>

Holiday Decorating Guidelines

With the approaching holidays, employees are reminded of safety regulations regarding decorations and that supervisor's approval is required to decorate work areas.

Decorations must conform to the National Fire Prevention guidelines.

According to the LSUHSC-S Safety Office, these fire safety guidelines state:

- Only decorations that are flame-retardant are allowed.
- If you use decorations that are flame retardant, you must have documentation that they are.
- Flame-retardant decorations can be used only in limited quantities.
- Live trees are prohibited. Artificial trees may be used if they are certified as flameproof or fire resistant and must be UL listed.
- Electrical lights are prohibited.
- Battery operated lights, which are UL listed, may be used.

LSUHSC-S Pathologist Addresses International Conference



Jaiyeola Thomas-Ogunniyi, M.D.

LSUHSC-S pathologist, Jaiyeola Thomas-Ogunniyi, M.D., was an invited speaker at the recent 7th African Organization for Research and Training in Cancer (AORTIC) International Conference and Workshop in Dar es Salam, Tanzania.

Dr. Thomas-Ogunniyi, Associate Professor in the Department of Pathology, lectured on "Cytopathology and Fine Needle Aspiration in Low-Resource Settings".

More than 700 participants from 34 countries attended the conference titled "Cancer in Africa – The New Reality", which focused on building and enhancing partnership and collaboration between scientists and clinicians interested in cancer management to facilitate and foster research with physicians in Africa about cancers prevalent on that continent.

New Faculty

Mohammad Y. Ali, M.D., Assistant Professor, Medicine
Gerhard C. Hildebrandt, M.D., Associate Professor, Medicine
Sathish Kodali, M.D., Associate Professor, Medicine
Andriy V. Kozmenko, M.D., Instructor, Anesthesiology

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Human Resources Corner

Another year is nearing its end, although it seems as just yesterday the Human Resources Management staff was planning for the 2008 Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays.

The staff in Human Resources remains committed to providing superior service to all employees. We have realigned job duties, relocated offices, and put in place better communication of information to support the Health Sciences Center in the most efficient and productive way possible. We look forward to continued service during 2010.

The Human Resources Staff wishes everyone a very prosperous New Year and Happy Holidays.

Be safe wherever you may go during the holidays and return with that "can do" attitude.

Happy Holidays from Human Resource Management