We want “U”

Telling his audiences that they are the “U” in LSUHSC, Dr. Dereck Rovaris, Associate Vice Chancellor for Academic and Multicultural Affairs, has been leading an LSUHSC “caravan” around the region to recruit the next classes of health sciences center students.

The Xavier University stop

So far, the LSUHSC group has visited Dillard and Xavier Universities in New Orleans, as well as LSU and Southern University in Baton Rouge.

The visits provide an overview of the Health Sciences Center as well as the opportunity for individual interaction with faculty and students from all six of our schools to learn specifics in their areas of interest.

Human Development Center to create model program

Lisa Lowrey, PhD, an Associate Professor in the LSUHSC School of Allied Health Professions’ Human Development Center (HDC) has been awarded a $1.8 million grant over five years by the Department of Education to develop a model for a fully inclusive system of post-secondary education in Louisiana for students with intellectual disabilities. HDC Director Dr. Phil Wilson is co-principal investigator.

The program will offer about 30 students with intellectual disabilities the opportunity to further their educational, vocational, and relational goals. This is the only model demonstration of post-secondary education in the state and will target students who are in the process of achieving a certificate of achievement from their local education agency. This program, to be created in partnership with Delgado, will increase access and decrease segregation of students with intellectual disabilities seeking additional educational and employment opportunities. It will be offered to other higher education institutions in year five.

Dental School freshmen honored at Wirth Ceremony

The inaugural LSUHSC School of Dentistry F. Harold Wirth Ceremony was held this afternoon to honor freshmen DDS, Dental Hygiene, and Dental Laboratory Technology students. Named for the late Dr. Wirth, a beloved professor who became a legend on campus and in the dental community, the event featured a keynote address by alumnus Dr. Bruce LeBlanc about Dr. Wirth and his values, the presentation of specially designed pins, and the classes’ Pledge of Professional Ethics and Professional Honor Code which they each signed.

The ceremony marks our students’ entrance into the dental professions and is a fitting way to honor Dr. Wirth’s legacy which continues to influence the practice of the dental arts through each new generation.
Second-year LSUHSC medical student Annette Zacharia was one of ten recipients of the LSU Chancellor’s Sesquicentennial Service Award, and was recognized during homecoming events on the LSU campus. She participated in the Homecoming Parade and Chancellor Michael Martin presented her with the medallion award during the LSU-ULM game in Tiger Stadium.

For the sesquicentennial year, LSU wanted to find a way to acknowledge students, faculty, staff and alumni who demonstrate an extraordinary commitment to the community, making a positive difference.

An LSU alumna, Annette was chosen for her service work most recently as Vice President for Community Affairs of the LSUHSC School of Medicine Class of 2013 and Director of Camp Tiger 2010. In previous years, she organized and advised a Freshman Sophomore Committee for Alpha Epsilon Delta, putting together service events, including a Big Sister-Big Brother event. She volunteered at two Baton Rouge hospitals and had a unique opportunity to volunteer at Mother Theresa’s Missionaries of Charity on a trip to Calcutta, India. She was a volunteer and advocate for Boys and Girls Club of Baton Rouge and for LSU Best Buddies. She organized a bone marrow drive to sign up Asian and Indian donors to benefit a patient with myelofibrosis.

A Day with the Docs

Second-year LSUHSC medical students hosted high school students from Acadiana yesterday for the annual Day with the Docs program. In partnership with the Southwest Louisiana Area Health Education Center, the program encourages high school students with an interest in medicine to learn more about the field and the School of Medicine at LSU Health Sciences Center New Orleans.

The visiting students spent time in the MDL labs learning about anatomy, physiology, and radiology, as well as in the simulation centers for hands-on experience in the Clinical Skills Lab and the simulated OR.

The pipeline program helps develop interest in medical careers in Louisiana, and is one way LSUHSC and AHECs work together to benefit the state and its citizens.