LSUHSC’s Bazan honored internationally

Dr. Nicolas Bazan, Boyd Professor and Director of the LSUHSC Neuroscience Center of Excellence, will be presented with the Medaille Chevreul by the French Society for the Study of Lipids at its Journees Chevreul 2011, Lipids and Brain 2, in Paris in March.

Named for Eugene Chevreul, the father of lipid chemistry, the award is given each year to individuals who have contributed significantly to the development of knowledge or industrial achievements in the field of lipids.

Dr. Bazan is being honored for his work with DHA and Neuroprotectin D1 and their roles in diseases like stroke and Alzheimer’s, as well as retinal degenerative diseases.

LSUHSC’s Sothern leads national obesity expert roundtable

Dr. Melinda Sothern, Professor of Public Health and Director of Health Promotion, led an expert roundtable to explore how to engage pediatricians and primary care physicians and overcome barriers in childhood obesity prevention and intervention, published in the current issue of Childhood Obesity.

Dr. Stewart Gordon, LSUHSC Professor of Pediatrics, Chief of Pediatrics at Earl K. Long Medical Center, and President of the Louisiana Obesity Council, also served on the panel.

Dental school helps future dentists brush up on dentistry

Nearly 200 students from universities around the state participated in the inaugural day-long program, Pre-Dental 101: A Brush Up on Dentistry. The program was designed to prepare undergraduate students for admission to the LSUHSC School of Dentistry, the only dental school in Louisiana. The event was developed in conjunction with the LSU Pre-Dental Society in an effort to provide a means of furthering college students’ understanding of the profession.

The LSU Pre-Dental Society students, led by President Sabrina Portwood, worked for months organizing details and recruiting participants.

See Obesity Prevention, page 2

See Dental, page 2
Obesity Prevention, from page 1

Dr. Sothern proposed the creation of “community hubs” in which primary care offices and clinics form alliances with schools, recreation departments, or community centers in the area and work together “to support efforts to identify, organize, and implement” group programs for children who are overweight or obese.

The panelists also discussed the need to include more information about childhood obesity and proper nutrition in the educational experiences of medical students and residents. To help overcome time limitations, primary care physicians can encourage their nursing staff to talk to parents about the significance of the measurements they are taking, such as weight and height, laying the groundwork for the physician to reinforce those messages.

Dental, from page 1

The program was a mix of presentations, hands-on experience, and tours of the campus for two tracks – DDS and dental hygiene.

Topics ranged from learning how to make a chalk carving, get an interview and prepare for it, to how to survive freshman year. Participants learned about dental anatomy, dental specialties, and financial aid. They saw new dental technology and a demonstration of how hypnosis is used in dentistry. They heard about dental forensics and from 4th year DDS student, Jared Harris.

Pre-Dentistry 101 provided the next generation with broad-based exposure to the dental professions as well as familiarity with the leadership, faculty, students and resources of the LSUHSC School of Dentistry.

Danna co-authors Book of the Year

Dr. Denise Danna, an Associate Dean in the School of Nursing, is the co-author of Nursing in the Storm: Voices from Hurricane Katrina, selected by the American Journal of Nursing (AJN) as one of the 2010 Books of the Year.

Since 1969, the American Journal of Nursing has been publishing an annual list of the best in nursing publishing. Published in the January issue each year, the AJN Book of the Year program is a prestigious competition that garners the attention of its 342,000 readers, as well as librarians and faculty who are not subscribers. The most valuable texts of each year are chosen by AJN’s panel of judges.