



DR. LARRY HOLLIER

CHANCELLOR'S Notes



February 8, 2013

LSUHSC Student Homeless Clinics win funding from Brees Dream Foundation

The LSUHSC Student-Run Homeless Clinics successfully competed for funding during the Super Service Challenge in the run up to Super Bowl XLVII.

The clinics, where LSUHSC medical students under faculty supervision take

care of patients at the New Orleans Mission and Ozanam Inn, were awarded \$2,000 by the Brees Dream Foundation and Companies with a Mission. They received an additional \$2,000 for being voted the People's Choice Award Winner, meaning their video had the highest number of public votes.



The clinics offer basic medical care and referrals to health resources for continued care and prescriptions.

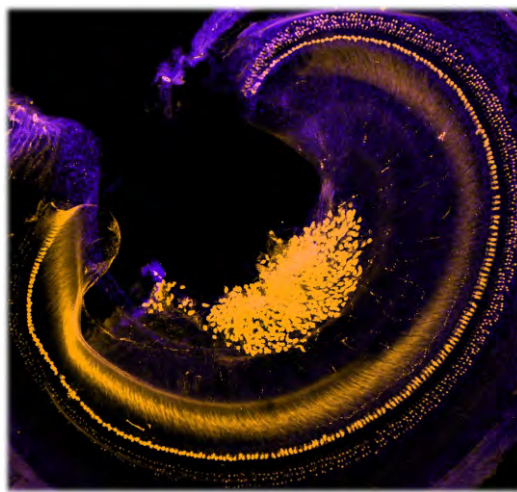
Last year, more than 700 patients received care that they otherwise would not have but for the LSUHSC Student Clinics for the Homeless.

LSUHSC research develops Rx for deafness, impaired balance in Usher syndrome model

Jennifer Lentz, PhD, Assistant Professor of Otorhinolaryngology & Biocommunications and a member of the Neuroscience Center of Excellence at LSU Health Sciences Center New Orleans, is the lead author of a paper reporting that hearing and balance can be rescued by a new therapy in a mouse model of Usher syndrome (Usher) that contains the mutation responsible for type 1C Usher. The results provide the first evidence that congenital deafness can be effectively overcome by treatment early in development to correct gene expression.



Dr. Lentz, along with researchers at Rosalind Franklin University School of Medicine and Science in North Chicago, Illinois and at Isis Pharmaceuticals in Carlsbad,



California, developed a novel therapy called an antisense oligonucleotide (ASO) that corrects defective gene expression caused by a mutation in the USH1C gene. Treatment of newborn mice with a single dose of ASOs partially corrects gene and protein expression, and rescues hearing and balance. The results demonstrate the therapeutic potential of ASOs in the treatment of deafness and balance disorders.

The study demonstrates that a human disease-causing mutation, modeled in mice, can be effectively corrected to treat deafness and balance dysfunction, and

that this treatment may need to occur only once in life.

Noverr awarded nearly \$2 M for biofilms research

Mairi Noverr, PhD, Associate Professor in the Department of Prosthodontics at the LSUHSC School of Dentistry, has been awarded a \$1.7 million grant over five years by the National Institute of Dental & Craniofacial Research to study the role of biofilms in infection and disease. Biofilms are the sticky substances, like dental plaque, that form on and adhere to wet surfaces including teeth, dental prostheses, or implants. Biofilms are not only resistant to antimicrobial drugs, but also to immune defenses.



Dr. Noverr is studying a model of dental stomatitis, a fungal infection affecting approximately 50-75% of otherwise healthy denture wearers, and *C. albicans*, the most common infection-causing yeast and also the most common cause of denture stomatitis. Her results may lead to new therapies for dental stomatitis as well as other serious infections caused by *C. albicans*.

Pre-Dental 101 sets participation record

About 250 students from 24 colleges and universities participated in this year's Pre-Dental 101: A Brush-Up on Dentistry at the School of Dentistry. That's a significant increase over last year.

A partnership of the LSU Pre-Dental Society and the LSUHSC School of Dentistry, the daylong event is designed to expose students to dental school and careers in the dental professions. Through the two tracks, DDS and Dental Hygiene, participants got a wealth of information as well as hands-on



Leonard Aucoin demonstrates waxing

experience. Sessions included everything from the Admissions process with Dr. Cheramie to chalk carving with Dr. Ireland and dental waxing with Mr. Aucoin. Participants heard about the research and basic science curriculum, an overview of advance practice programs, community outreach and involvement, tours and discussion of clinical practice and more. They got to interact with everyone from Dean Gremillion, DDS, to students in different programs and years.

About 20 of the dental faculty participated. The LSU Pre-Dental Society handled registration and staffed the event, which included a special t-shirt this year.

The feedback could not have been more positive. Congratulations to all involved.



Dr. Toby Cheramie answers questions



Dean Henry Gremillion, DDS ■

LSUHSC's Gardner behind New Orleans Super Bowl effort

As the Chairman of the Greater New Orleans Sports Foundation, Ron Gardner, better known around here as an LSUHSC Vice Chancellor, played a major role in the highly successful Super Bowl XLVII. The Sports Foundation,

is the coordinating organization for many sports events in New Orleans including Super Bowls. Ron was at the helm for everything from the bid process, through coordination with the City of New Orleans and civic, business, and community organizations, raising the funds necessary to support an event of this magnitude, and serving as the go-to guy for the NFL.

Ron is the only individual to have served as Chairman of the Greater New Orleans Sports Foundation (GNOSF) for three terms. Along with the late LSUHSC Chancellor Dr. Merv Trail, Ron was one of the founders of the GNOSF back in 1988.

Its mission is

“to attract and manage sporting events that have a positive economic impact on the Greater New Orleans area.” Their successes include not only a number of Super Bowls, but NCAA Final Fours, Olympic events, and the NBA All-Star Game. Not including the estimated \$434 million economic impact of Super Bowl XLVII, the GNOSF has turned a \$25 million investment, from public and private sources, into \$1 billion of economic impact.



Ron Gardner, on the far right, with other members of the Super Bowl XLVII Host Committee before the Mayor's Tuesday press conference

