



CHANCELLOR'S Notes

March 01, 2013

LSUHSC's Gutierrez inducted into national hall of fame

Dr. Amy Gutierrez, Associate Professor of Clinical Neurology at LSU Health Sciences Center, is one of seven health care professionals from across the country to be inducted into the prestigious National Multiple Sclerosis (MS) Society Volunteer Hall of Fame. Cyndi Zagieboylo, President and CEO of the National MS Society, traveled to New Orleans this week to recognize her contributions at a luncheon hosted by the New Orleans chapter honoring Dr. Gutierrez.



Cyndi Zagieboylo, President and CEO of the National MS Society, Dr. Trent Desselle, Dr. Amy Gutierrez, Crystal Smith, LA MS Chapter

The National MS Volunteer Hall of Fame recognizes the outstanding efforts of health care professionals providing more than 7 years of service by donating time and expertise to improve or address quality of care, access to care, quality of life, and long-term care options for people affected by MS.

Dr. Gutierrez became involved with the Society nine years ago and remains actively engaged in numerous areas of the MS mission. She has served on the South central board of Trustees and Leadership Council since 2008, and the clinical Advisory Committee since 2004. She speaks at numerous programs such as Annual Meetings, North American Education Programs and Golden Circle Events. She also supports the Society's advocacy efforts, rides in the annual Bike MS: Louisiana and participates in Walk MS: New Orleans.

Work of LSUHSC faculty highlighted by Commonwealth Fund

The success of an initiative led by Dr. Rebekah Gee, Assistant Professor of Public Health and Obstetrics and Gynecology at LSU Health Sciences Center, is featured in the February/March issue of *Quality Matters*, a publication of the Commonwealth Fund. The issue focuses on maternal care.



To change Louisiana's rates of infant mortality, low birth weight, caesarian sections, and preterm birth, Louisiana launched the Birth Outcomes Initiative with Dr. Gee at its helm in November 2010. The goal of the Initiative is to improve care and access to it for women of child-bearing age before, during, and after pregnancies. Its premise is that to have healthy babies, mothers must be healthy. The Louisiana Birth Outcomes Initiative has worked to identify and implement evidence-based measures to address the social, behavioral, biological, and genetic factors associated with poor birth outcomes.

Quality Matters reports the Louisiana Birth Outcomes Initiative as a case study. It details efforts to prevent elective deliveries prior to 39 weeks, institute statewide, comprehensive behavioral health

see Gee, page 2

LSUHSC Dental School hosts Touro Rossner Seminar

The School of Dentistry at LSU Health Sciences Center hosted the annual Charles W. Rossner Seminar today, an annual accredited lecture or series of lectures on advances in dentistry. A program of the Touro Infirmary Dental Department supported by the Touro Infirmary Foundation, about 250 dental professionals attended the daylong event.



Dr. Kitrina Cordell presenting her lecture

Maxillofacial Pathology, finished the day with *Oral Manifestations of System Disease*.

This is the first year since the Charles W. Rossner Seminar began in 1983, that it has been held at the LSUHSC School of Dentistry. Taking advantage of the expertise of the faculty of Louisiana's only dental school as well as the amenities of its campus, the event represented another opportunity for collaboration between Touro Infirmary, the Louisiana Children's Medical Center, and LSU Health Sciences Center New Orleans.



Gee, from page 1

screening, improve the continuum of care through better perinatal care, expanding access to interconception care, and improving postpartum care, participate in national state, and local collaborations as well as evaluations and lessons learned.

While the Initiative has not yet achieved all of its objectives, Dr. Gee says, "You've got to attack multiple targets to effect change because there's more than one thing that goes into a poor birth outcome, but you can't win on all fronts." Nonetheless Quality Matters concludes, "This initiative has fostered collaboration among state agencies, provider associations, and community groups, creating the momentum needed to solve what has historically been an intractable health care quality problem."

The Commonwealth Fund is a private foundation working toward a high performance health system, particularly for society's most vulnerable.



LSUHSC plays brain games

Dr. Sonia Gasparini, Assistant Professor at the LSU Health Sciences Center Neuroscience Center of Excellence, has put together a fun-filled program to teach children all about the brain that will kick off this year's Brain Awareness Week. Targeted to 5-to-12-year-olds, she

The Greater New Orleans Chapter of the Society for Neuroscience is sponsoring activities on **Your Sensational Brain** ideal for ages 5-12 as part of **Brain Awareness Week**. Children's Resource Center 913 Napoleon Avenue from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Saturday, March 9, 2013

invites the public to participate in the free "Your Sensational Brain" event Saturday, March 9, 2013 at the Children's Resource Center at 913 Napoleon Avenue from 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Activities include show and tell of various fixed brains; show and tell of brain and neuron models; demonstration and videos of neurons and neuronal activity; demonstration with brain slices and stained neurons under a microscope and on a screen; demonstration of the knee jerk reflex, with children "behaving like neurons;" coloring of brain templates; making models of brains with play-doh; and showing optical illusions and blind spots.

So please help spread the word about this fun outreach effort.