

CHANCELLOR'S Notes



December 1, 2006

Hunting genes for risk of early heart attack and stroke

Scientists at LSU Health Sciences Center in New Orleans along with Wake Forest University Baptist Medical Center and colleagues at three other medical centers have launched a \$10 million multi-year study to identify genes that may contribute to early atherosclerosis. The Study of Early Atherosclerosis (SEA), funded by the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute will



Jack Strong.

Our investigators who also include Drs. Gray Malcom, Dana Troxclair, and Robin McGoey as well as Cindy Sprow, will provided indispensable sets of data and information that make this study possible. LSUHSC's PDAY Study provides DNA specimens and quantitative measures of atherosclerosis on arterial lesions that lead to coronary heart disease. These arterial lesions are the gold standard for a precise phenotype to investigate the role of genetic variants in the development of atherosclerosis.

build upon research from two previously funded studies including our own PDAY Study led by Dr.

Porche named Acting Dean

Effective today, Dr. Demetrius Porche will serve as Acting Dean of Nursing. The Search Committee for a permanent dean will meet for the first time next week as will the Search

Committee for the Pharmacology Chair. The Cancer Center Director Search Committee has met as has the Search Committee for the Chair of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery.

Primary Immunodeficiencies Center at LSUHSC dedicated

Our Health Sciences Center today became one of 30 institutions worldwide to house a Jeffrey Modell Diagnostics Center for Primary Immunodeficiencies. Under the direction of Dr. Ricardo Sorensen, the Center will focus on the diagnosis, care, and treatment of people suffering with

The educational and diagnostic programs made possible through this support will be vital to the establishment of a center of excellence for diagnosis and treatment of patients with PI and will provide cutting edge research and diagnostic opportunities not only to New Orleans, but



Larry Guiheen, Fred and Vicki Modell, LHH, Dr. Ricardo Sorensen

Primary Immunodeficiency. Primary Immunodeficiency is a term that encompasses more than 120 diseases caused by an immune system that does not function properly.

leagues in Latin America and the Caribbean as well.

Early recognition and diagnosis of PI can save lives and improve the health outcomes for these patients.

We are grateful to the Jeffrey Modell Foundation, Vicki and Fred Modell, along with Larry Guiheen and Baxter Healthcare whose grant is helping to support our Center.

LSUHSC Town Hall Meeting

The next in our series of Town Hall Meetings will be on Wednesday December 13th at 4:00 p.m. in Lecture Room A of the Medical Education Building. I encourage the entire faculty and staff to attend.

I'll give you an update of where we are now and where we're heading. We've made a great deal of progress over the past 15 months. Our administrative leaders will also be there to answer your questions.