

CHANCELLOR'S Notes



December 15, 2006

115 Graduate from Health Sciences Center

During individual school ceremonies, students from our Schools of Nursing, Medicine, Graduate Studies, Allied Health Professions, and Public Health received their diplomas and other honors yesterday.



Eighty-two of the graduates were in the School of Nursing, earning Bachelor of Science in Nursing, Master of Nursing, or Doctor of Nursing Science degrees.



Sarah Burnett, Academic Recognition, CARE Program, Elizabeth Glasier, Valedictorian, Candice Dessens, Dean's Award recipient

These graduates will help address the shortage of health professionals. We're very proud of each and every one for their hard work and perseverance. Congratulations!

LRA commits to LSU/VA hospital

At their meeting on Thursday, members of the LRA committed \$300 million of funding for the new LSU/VA hospital in New Orleans. Of that amount, they authorized the immediate use of \$74 million for land acquisition and architectural planning. These actions allow the project to move forward.



This new hospital is critical to our ability to recruit faculty, students, and residents to replenish the state's health professions workforce as well as to deliver quality care.

We are grateful to Governor Kathleen Blanco, Senate President Dr. Don Hines and the LRA.

Town Hall Meeting

Our Town Hall Meeting went well on Wednesday. It gave me the opportunity to update you about facilities, finances, human resources, the new university hospitals and upcoming initiatives.



Each of our deans presented information about their schools, and it was encouraging to hear how much progress we are making.

We were able to teleconference the meeting to the Dental School campus in Baton Rouge with two-way communication.

I appreciate your making the time and effort to attend. I value the opportunity during these meetings to answer your questions and address your concerns. I look forward to seeing you all at the next Town Hall Meeting.



Kudos to library staff

The faculty and staff of the John P. Ische Library deserve our gratitude for the exceptional effort they have made recently extending library hours so our students could study for finals. I know covering these extra hours well into the night with limited staff was not easy to accomplish, but they did it on their own initiative and without complaint. Attitudes like theirs are helping to speed our recovery and such support lays the foundation for academic success.

I know the faculty and students join me in thanking Director Wilba Swearingen and her staff for a job extremely well done.