

CHANCELLOR'S Notes



January 5, 2007

Year in review

As we were ringing in 2007, I'm sure many of us reflected upon the year that was 2006. I'd like to take this opportunity to remind you of the amazing amount of progress we made on our road to recovery during the past year.

We began the year shortly after receiving glowing accolades from residency accreditation site visits, opening a new 30-chair state-of-the-art dental teaching clinic built from scratch on the South campus and graduating 91 students—on schedule—despite the daunting challenges we faced post-Katrina. Our Schools of Public Health and Graduate Studies, as well as the graduate programs in the School of Nursing returned home in January and we were among the first New Orleans universities to do so.

More than half of our research faculty were back in their own labs by the beginning of February with the rest to follow shortly. The Health Sciences Center doubled the city's available hospital beds by hosting and supporting the Carolinas Med-1 Mobile Hospital on our campus to handle the population influx during Mardi Gras.

In March, we had a phenomenally successful Match, filling all of our slots.

April was all about economics. We held a number of successful fund-raisers. We announced \$50 million in grants and a \$220 mil-

lion value of our research grants and contracts. We helped boost the city's economy in another way as well when the major motion picture *Deja Vu* took up residency on our campus.

May brought more milestones including another on-time graduation, our last one in Baton Rouge. Allied Health and Nursing returned home and our residence halls reopened. Classes for the fall semester were being finalized from high applicant pools.

In June, we bid the Finnjet a fond farewell. The Resource Center reopened and Administration and the School of Medicine came home. We celebrated with the Welcome Home Block Party and the Diamond Jubilee Reunion Weekend.

Residency Programs began July 1st with more than a dozen rotation sites, and we announced an affiliation agreement for graduate medical education with West Jefferson Hospital as well as a partnership with the Children's Health Fund for mobile medical units in Baton Rouge. We unveiled our new human patient simulators and signed the Louisiana Healthcare Redesign Collaborative Charter.

Classes began in the refurbished MEB lecture rooms in August. Summer science research outreach programs concluded successfully and we recognized Nursing and Allied Health graduates at Honors Ceremonies. Our faculty continued to garner prestigious and singular international, national and regional awards. Our residents were honored by the City of New Orleans and State of Louisiana.

We announced new department and section chairs. We solemnly marked the anniversary of Katrina while our psychiatry faculty provided mental health assistance to the community.

We dedicated our 2nd dental teaching clinic—with 78 chairs—on the South campus in September. The cafeteria reopened in the MEB. The Regents presented a check to us for matching funds for endowed chairs and professorships worth \$2.6 million.

October brought our very successful 75th Anniversary Celebration and Diamond Jubilee Gala. We established the annual Chancellor's Lectureship series and our nursing students swept the state convention awards.

We launched the Translational Research Initiative in November and celebrated the opening of the Interim University Hospital.

In December, the LRA committed funding to the new LSU/VA hospital so it can move forward and we graduated another 115 students.

I would like to thank each of you for your dedication, resilience and hard work. Your commitment to rebuilding our Health Sciences Center, health infrastructure, and our City will always be an enormous source of pride. ■

2007 Usdin-Weil Lecture

January 12th at 12:15 p.m.

Tulane Medical School Auditorium

Dr. Charles Reynolds

University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine
Optimizing Treatment Outcomes for Depression in Later Life