

CHANCELLOR'S Notes



July 6, 2007

LSU Health Sciences Center awarded nursing diversity grant

We held a press conference yesterday to announce that the School of Nursing successfully competed for a \$1.2 million grant from the Health Resources and Services Administration to help LSUHSC meet the health care and advanced practice nursing needs of medically under-served citizens in New Orleans and other parts of Louisiana.



populations bearing a disproportionate share of disease.

Under the grant, we will increase enrollment in our Nurse Anesthesia Program by 25 students from minority and disadvantaged groups. We expect to educate about 150 students over the next three years. About half of our hospitals have CRNA vacancies.



Laura Bonanno, CRNA, MS

The purpose of this grant is to expand access to nurse anesthesia education to

- minority and disadvantaged students
- by providing both academic and social support, to improve the cultural competency of our faculty and students, and to expand access to health care in under-represented communities.

- The funding will help us eliminate health barriers and assure an appropriate supply, diversity, composition and distribution of the health professions workforce. It will help limit health disparities and assure the availability of a full range of health care skills and services to



Nursing Dean Demetrius Porche, DNS

- This grant targets 10 medically under-served and ethnically diverse practice areas. Statistically, minority and disadvantaged graduates often return to their communities to practice

Essence Magazine's Susan Taylor's LSUHSC appearance quite a success

Susan Taylor, Editorial Director of Essence Magazine, made a special appearance at the Health Sciences Center this



- week. Speaking to a standing room only crowd, she talked about her work with the LRA and efforts to keep New Orleans visible nationally to increase federal recovery support. A gracious speaker, she inspired us to more fully participate in the process.

Dottie Reese from the LSU Board of Supervisors joined us as did City Council Vice President Oliver Thomas.

We are so grateful to Ms. Taylor for



- her generosity, her work on our behalf and for such a delightful afternoon.