

CHANCELLOR'S Notes



June 27, 2008

Dental school program promotes diversity

The Summer Multicultural Enrichment Program is underway at the Dental School with a class of 15 students representing seven universities. The goal of the program is to promote greater diversity within the dental professions to better meet the oral health needs of Louisianians.



The program, under the direction of Dr. John Ritchie, comprises 174 hours of lectures, clinics, laboratories and demonstrations in the basic sciences and clinical dentistry. Twenty-seven members of the dental school faculty have been teaching dental anatomy, operative dentistry, head and neck anatomy and oral histology. The program runs for six weeks, through July 11.

Eye Center awarded grant

Research to Prevent Blindness (RPB) has awarded a grant of \$110,000 to the Department of Ophthalmology to support research into the causes, treatment, and prevention of blinding diseases.

To date, the organization has awarded grants totaling \$2,082,100 to LSUHSC.

New partnership uses star power to help kids

Representatives from LSUHSC, Usher's New Look, led by Shawn Wilson, and Children's Hospital met with recording star and actor Usher this afternoon to discuss plans for a joint outreach program to benefit area children.

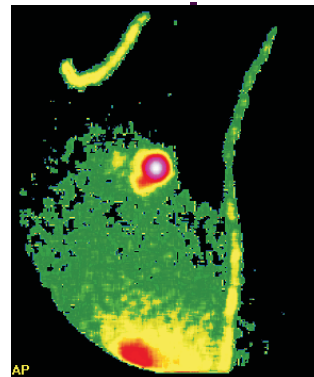


Dr. Steve Nelson, John Estrada, & Shawn Wilson with Usher

The goal of the partnership is to bring needed resources to unserved or under-served New Orleans children and their families, especially in areas trying to recover post-K. You'll be hearing much more about this exciting initiative shepherded by Dr. Steve Nelson in the coming weeks.

LSUHSC's Woltering awarded patent

Dr. Eugene A. Woltering, the James D. Rives Professor of Surgery and Chief of the Sections of Surgical Oncology & Endocrine Surgery, has been awarded a US Patent for a one-step method to rapidly identify "sentinel nodes;" the lymph nodes most likely to contain early metastasis from a primary cancer. Preliminary research indicates that the procedure which consists of injection of a radiolabeled dye around a cancer can identify sentinel nodes that receive lymphatic drainage from the tumor within 10 minutes or so.



In contrast to the current two-step mapping process, Dr. Woltering's method involves injecting 125I-labeled methylene blue, mixed with an unlabeled dye, during surgery to determine the location of the sentinel nodes. Within minutes, enough of the dye has accumulated to identify them utilizing a gamma probe or the naked eye.

The next step toward FDA approval will be a Phase II trial which will begin soon at UMC in Lafayette under the direction of Drs. Charles Chappuis and Danny Frey.

Med student published

Fourth-year medical student Adrian Flores is the primary author of a paper published in this month's *Wilderness and Environmental Medicine*. The paper on outdoor injuries reports that more people are hurt snowboarding than

any other outdoor activity. Sledding and hiking are next. The first national study to estimate recreational injuries, the research was done when Adrian was at the CDC last year.