

CHANCELLOR'S Notes

July 10, 2009



Drell elected to national post

Martin J. Drell, MD, the Carl Adatto Professor of Community Psychiatry and Head of Infant, Child and Adolescent Psychiatry, has been elected President-Elect of the American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry (AACAP). He will be installed



at the end of the AACAP's annual national meeting in Hawaii in October. Dr. Drell will serve as President-Elect for two years at which time he will become President for a two-year term.

The AACAP, a non-profit organization, was established in 1953. It is a membership based organization, composed of over 7,500 child and adolescent psychiatrists and other interested physicians. Its members actively research, evaluate, diagnose, and treat psychiatric disorders and pride themselves on giving direction to and responding quickly to new developments in addressing the health care needs of children and their families. The AACAP widely distributes information in an effort to promote an understanding of mental illnesses and remove the stigma associated with them; advance efforts in prevention of mental illnesses, and provides practice guidelines.

Congratulations, Dr. Drell! ■

Summer programs help launch health careers

Two of our summer programs held special events today. The 15 students participating in our *Short Experiences in Cancer Research Program* presented their research projects to faculty, staff, and their families this morning. Our program is the longest continuously funded program by the NIH in the country.

A highly competitive program, this year's participants were selected from a national pool of about 90 applications. The students who came from Louisiana universities as well as

Yale, are working with our basic scientists and clinicians on projects ranging from genetic mechanisms of disease progression to using computer software to help determine optimal treatment for prostate cancer.

Families were impressed with the importance of the work being done in the program, now under the direction of Dr. John Estrada.

The closing reception for the Summer Enrichment Program at the School of Dentistry was held this afternoon. After a slide show

celebrating the highlights of the six-week program, Director Dr. John Ritchie recognized each of the 15 participants with certificates



Summer Cancer Research Program participants

of completion.

The program, which offers an intensive introduction to dental school with lectures on everything from anatomy to orthodontics and forensic dentistry, hands-on

laboratory experience, and clinical observation, was designed to increase the diversity of the dental school student body as well as the dental profession in



Summer Enrichment Program participants

Louisiana.

A goal of both programs is to attract exceptional students to the health sciences professions as well as to the Health Sciences Center, and they are succeeding.

Congratulations to all involved in these most worthy initiatives. ■