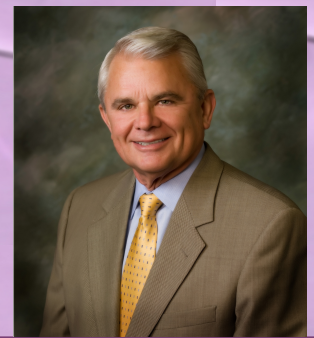


CHANCELLOR'S Notes

December 11, 2009



Nursing grads say Yes you can!

Along with Marjorie Geisz-Everson, CRNA, PhD(c), Instructor of Nurse Anesthesia, five minority 2009 CRNA graduates of our nursing school provide their personal



Greely, Andrus, Nguyen, Williams, and Fussell

strategies to become Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetists (CRNAs) in an article published in the Fall 2009 issue of *Minority Nurse*. *Yes You Can (Succeed in Nurse Anesthesia School)*, by CRNAs Kendall Andrus, MN, Mike Fussell, MN, Efrem Greely, MN, Linda Nguyen, MN, and Sedric Williams, MN, is the result of a capstone project during their senior year examining the potential barriers – real and perceived – and solutions for enrollment, inclusion, and acceptance of minority students in nurse anesthesia programs. It is available online at <http://www.minoritynurse.com>.



LSUHSC research garners worldwide attention

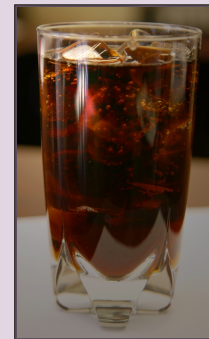
Research conducted by Dr. Liwei Chen, Assistant Professor of Epidemiology in the School of Public Health, showing that women who drink more than five servings a week of sugary cola prior to pregnancy have a 22% higher risk of developing diabetes during pregnancy has caught the attention of people around the globe. It has been reported by media such as the Los Angeles Times, NPR, US News and World Report, the Chicago Sun Times, the Boston Globe, San Diego Union News, Philadelphia Inquirer, and was selected as one of the 12 stories covered by HealthDay the day it was released.



Dr. Liwei Chen

HealthDay stories appear in more than 100 newspapers worldwide and hundreds of television and radio stations in the US.

Dr. Chen is the lead author of the paper that is published in this month's issue of *Diabetes Care*. The research team also included scientists from the Eunice Kennedy Shriver National



Institute of Child Health and Human Development (NICHD), Harvard School of Public Health, Brigham and Women's Hospital, and

Harvard Medical School.

School of Nursing recognizes graduates

The School of Nursing honored December graduates at an Awards Ceremony yesterday. Awards and diplomas were presented to 81 students by Dean Dr. Demetrius Porche and the faculty of the School of Nursing.

Seventy-two students were awarded Bachelor of Science in Nursing degrees. Seven students received Master of Nursing degrees. One Master of Science in Nursing--Nurse Educator degree was awarded and one student received a Doctor of Nursing Science degree.



From Left to right:

Charlotte Turgeon – Dean's Award recipient, Tomilee Abadie-Valedictorian, Dr. Demetrius Porche -- Dean of the LSUHSC School of Nursing, Renee Smith – Salutatorian

Dental students spread magic of Christmas

Students from all four dental classes, two hygiene classes and the dental laboratory program filled 150 shoe boxes with gifts for children around the globe. The gift-giving program is called Operation Christmas Child and was founded in 1993.



Students leaders who spearheaded the program are Anthony Bercier, Laurie Breaud, and Jeff Hepburn, pictured above.

Our School of Dentistry is one of 2,400 collection sites in America for this international grassroots program which seeks to help children harmed by war, hunger, famine, disease, poverty and natural disaster.

The boxes are filled with school supplies, soaps, candy, personal gifts, family photos and notes of encouragement. After the boxes are assembled, the Student Government Association pays the shipping costs to send the boxes to a central collecting point in North Carolina.



A night at the opera

A recent performance of Romeo and Juliette at the New Orleans Opera Association was sponsored by Dr. Kenneth Atchity in honor of our own Dr. Nicolas Bazan.

Dr. Atchity is Chairman of Atchity Entertainment International motion picture production and intellectual property management in Los Angeles. AEI has developed the screenplay for Dr. Bazan's novel, **Una Vida: A Fable of Music and the Mind.**

The novel is a compassionate and heartfelt story that takes readers on a journey into the secret recesses of the brain of a jazz musician whose memory is slipping into the abyss of Alzheimer's Disease. Dr. Bazan has donated a portion of the proceeds of the sale of the novel to research at the Neuroscience Center.

AEI is planning to shoot the film version of Dr. Bazan's novel in New Orleans.

Public Health student presents at international meeting



Lauren Spizale, MPH Class of 2010, presented her research on the characteristics of people older than 60 with HIV in a New Orleans urban clinic at the 2009 International Association of Physicians in AIDS Care Conference here in New Orleans at the beginning of December.