LSUHSC's Kolls MERITS

r. Jay Kolls, Professor and Chair of Genetics at LSU Health Sciences Center New Orleans, has been selected to receive the prestigious Method to Extend Research in Time (MERIT) Award by the



National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute.

Through the MERIT Award, a principal investigator may receive up to ten years of research support in two fiveyear segments without the need to prepare a renewal application. The objective is to provide investigators with a history of exceptional talent, imagination, and a record of preeminent scientific achievements the opportunity for long-term, stable support. It removes the burden of preparing grant applications, allowing investigators to focus on their research.

Investigators may not apply for a MERIT Award. Eligible nominees are selected from a pool of highly meritorious and established investigators whose grant applications have recently undergone peer review.

High school students get hands on inspiration

Students in the Talented and Gifted Program at St. Amant High School in Ascension Parish spent a day at LSU Health Sciences Center New Orleans getting a taste of careers in the health sciences as well as hands on experience with the resources of Louisiana's academic health leader.



The students began the day in the award-winning Library Commons. They then moved on to try their hands at everything from surgical skills races and



assessing lung and heart sounds to full blown resuscitation in the simulation-based Isidore Cohn, Jr., MD Student Learning Center and Russell Klein, MD Center for Advanced Practice with Daryl Lofaso, MEd, RRT.

After touring the Neuroscience Center and learning about the Summer Undergraduate

Neuro-

science Program from Dr. Nicolas Bazan, the students were introduced to all of the LSUHSC schools through the Experience LSUHSC video. Then Dr. Fred Lopez led a discussion with a group of medical students about careers in medicine and medical school. Visits like this one not only feed the health professions pipeline, but show our



brightest young people the quality programs available right here at home.