



# CHANCELLOR'S Notes



January 14, 2011

## Cefalu finalist for national honor

**D**r. Charles Cefalu, Chief of Geriatric Medicine, is one of three finalists in the Geriatrician category for the 2011 Dorland Health Silver Crown Awards.



Dr. Charles Cefalu

The Silver Crown Awards honor industry-leading organizations like assisted living facilities and home health agencies, as well as individual practitioners across a range of disciplines like geriatric care managers, facility directors and hospice and palliative care professionals. Each professional named as a Finalist demonstrates the deep commitment they bring toward continuous improvement and leadership.



Winners will be announced at a ceremony in Las Vegas in March and winners will also be featured in a special issue of Case In Point magazine, a Dorland Health publication. ■

## LSUHSC student chosen for tremendously prestigious honor

**N**ick Melvan, an MD/PhD Candidate in the Department of Physiology, is one of 70 members of the US delegation of students chosen to participate in the 61st Meeting of Nobel Laureates and Students in Lindau, Germany.

From June 26 - July 1, 2011, about 20 Nobel Laureates in Physiology or Medicine and 550 young researchers from around the world will meet in Lindau, Germany to exchange ideas, discuss projects and build international networks.



bacterial infections in alcohol abusing hosts. ■



Nick Melvan

Melvan, awarded an F30 Fellowship by the NIH, is conducting research that explores the effects of acute alcohol intoxication on the innate immune response to bacterial infection. His studies investigate novel molecular mechanisms underlying impaired granulocyte production and the increased prevalence of systemic

## LSUHSC publication named Paper of the Year

**T**he paper, "Major role for ACE-independent intrarenal ANG II formation in type II diabetes" was selected as the 2010 American Journal of Physiology: Renal Physiology "Paper of the Year" by the journal's editors and associate editors. The authors include Sungmi Park, a recent PhD graduate in Physiology, Research Associate Benjamin J. Bivona, Dr. Eric Lazartigues, Assistant Professor of Pharmacology, and Dr. Lisa Harrison-Bernard, Associate Professor of Physiology.

The research may help to resolve some important issues regarding the treatment of diabetes using angiotensin converting enzyme inhibitors and/or angiotensin receptor blockers. The researchers demonstrated that there is a switch from angiotensin converting enzyme-dependent to serine protease-dependent angiotensin II formation in the type II diabetic kidney. Pharmacological targeting of these serine protease-dependent pathways may provide further protection from diabetic renal vascular disease. ■

