



CHANCELLOR'S *Notes*



May 6, 2011

LSUHSC's Volaufova awarded worldwide honor

LSUHSC School of Public Health Professor Julia Volaufova, PhD, has been selected a fellow of the American Statistical Association (ASA), the second oldest [170 years], continuously operating professional association in the country, and the world's largest community of statisticians.



Dr. Volaufova becomes Louisiana's third ASA fellow. The other two are at LSU-BR. Given annually, this is a great honor, as the number of recipients is limited to no more than one-third of 1% of the ASA membership.

In addition to her contributions to the scholarship and practice of the discipline locally, nationally, and internationally over her 37-year career, Dr. Volaufova is being recognized for her work on the LSUHSC faculty in developing the state's only PhD program in statistics or biostatistics at a public university. ■

LSUHSC stages multiple patient emergency disaster training

How ready is the Emergency Department at the Interim LSU Hospital when a driver loses control and smashes into a crowd at the French Quarter Festival critically injuring multiple people? The question posed by that scenario was answered this week in the LSUHSC Isidore Cohn, Jr., MD Student Learning Center.



About 45 Emergency Medicine faculty members and residents, medical students, and Medicine faculty and staff participated in the drill which filled three simulation rooms. The human patient simulator "patients" arrived every 5-7 minutes with injuries ranging from open fractures, to spinal cord injury. One was a trauma code, and one was a pregnant woman with a head injury in labor. There were six critical patients in all, plus the newborn.



The rooms were staffed by teams of emergency medicine residents—the typical compliment on duty during a shift – 1 fourth year as super-charge, 3 upper year residents, and 3 interns. Medical staff also included ancillary teams of medical students and interns serving as nurses, techs, etc., increasing the number of those who could benefit from this training opportunity. The scenario was run twice and the second one was immediately followed by a debriefing. *see Drill, page 2*

Drill, from page 1

The training exercise made good use of the 20,000 square foot Cohn Student Learning Center – some of the most advanced medical education simulation space in the country. LSUHSC New Orleans is a recognized national leader in medical simulation education and team performance training. The School of Medicine was among the first and is one of the country's few American College of Surgeons-designated Level 1 Comprehensive Education Institutes.



Photo by Daryl Lofaso

Under the direction of Dr. Pierre Detiege, the team planning and organizing the training included Drs. Vadym Rusnak and Vladimir Kiselov, as well as Daryl Lofaso, Med, RRT.

Exercises like this one result in better response to medical emergencies and in lives saved. ■



Photo by Daryl Lofaso

LSUHSC oral health screening saves lives

The LSUHSC Department of Otolaryngology – Head and Neck Surgery conducted a free oral cancer screening today at the Interim LSU Public Hospital, under the direction of Dr. Rohan Walvekar. Offered on a first



come, first served basis, the screening involved an examination of the oral cavity and neck, as well as counseling about risk factors for oral cancer. Where warranted, participants were referred for follow-up.

In the first hour, the screening picked up an early stage cancer of the tongue, as well as a patient who had surgery, but was not being followed. Both people were given appointments for next week. Dr. Walvekar was pleased with the turnout and the public's participation. He was gratified to identify a potentially life-threatening cancer at a stage where treatment can be curative. He noted, "We probably saved a life today." ■

Kolls' science success nationally recognized

Dr. Jay K. Kolls, Professor and Chair of Genetics, will receive the 2011 Recognition Award for Scientific Accomplishments at the American Thoracic Society's International Conference on May 16.



The Recognition Award for Scientific Accomplishments is given each year to ATS members who demonstrate outstanding scientific contributions in basic or clinical research to the understanding, prevention and treatment of respiratory disease or critical illness.

The major goal of Dr. Kolls' research is to investigate mechanisms of defenses in the lung. His lab discovered a group of cells that respond very rapidly to infection called TH-17 cells, that help the lung sweep bacteria up and out. They also turn on genes involved in killing bacteria directly. Now he's studying how these cells can be manipulated through vaccines for treatment. ■