



CHANCELLOR'S Notes



June 24, 2011

Bazan selected to lead AFER

Nicolas G. Bazan, MD, PhD, FARVO, Boyd Professor and Director of the LSUHSC Neuroscience Center, is the new chair of the ARVO Foundation for Eye Research (AFER).



One of the 12,500 members of the Association for Research in Vision and Ophthalmology (ARVO) since 1984, Dr. Bazan has served on the AFER Board of Governors since 2008. Earlier this year, he organized AFER's first Investors Seminar, "Emerging Frontiers in Ophthalmic Science."

Now in its 10th year, AFER complements ARVO's mission to cure and prevent blindness and eye disease by providing funding to promote scientific interactions and exchange; fostering translational research and moving forward scientific breakthroughs from the laboratory to clinical practice. ■

Guest columns detail UMC benefits

The Times Picayune has published a pair of guest columns on their opinion pages over the past few weeks. The columns detail our vision for the education of Louisiana health care professionals, the delivery of quality health care accessible to all, and the development of a new economic base for our city and state anchored by the new University Medical Center. In case you missed them, they are available at the following links:

Academic medical center promises a bonanza for region: A guest column by Dr. Steve Nelson

Published: Friday, June 03, 2011, 6:38 PM Updated: Friday, June 03, 2011, 7:01 PM.

New Orleans stands on the threshold of an unprecedented opportunity that will shape the future of health care in our city and throughout the state.

The new University Medical Center, an academic medical center, can do that and so much more. Because most of the attention has focused on the hospital component, many people probably are not aware of what an academic medical center is, and what such centers bring to their communities and regions.

http://www.nola.com/opinions/index.ssf/2011/06/academic_medical_center_promis.html



New Orleans new hospital will be spark for medical economy: Larry Hollier

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New Orleans is at a crossroads. We can take the path to prosperity and change the face of health care and the economic base in our city and state. Or we can take the path of least resistance and lose out on the opportunity to build a powerhouse economic catalyst that neighboring states have developed to its fullest potential and then some.

The \$1.2 billion planned 424-bed University Medical Center, along with the new VA Medical Center under construction right next door, are poised to anchor a Louisiana Medical Center in downtown New Orleans that could grow into something similar to the Texas Medical Center in downtown Houston.

http://www.nola.com/opinions/index.ssf/2011/06/new_orleans_new_hospital_will.html ■

Dental School alumnus & faculty member receives highest national endodontics honor



Denis E. "Chip" Simon III, DDS, MS, an alumnus of the LSU School of Dentistry, received the Edgar D. Coolidge Award, the highest honor given by the American Association of Endodontics (AAE). The award was presented during the Association's recent Annual Session in San Antonio, Texas. Dr. Simon was selected as the recipient for his leadership and exemplary dedication to dentistry and endodontics.

Dr. Simon has volunteered his time and support to several dental associations in the more than 20 years he has been an endodontist. He has served as President of the AAE, the AAE

Foundation, the Louisiana Dental Association, the Louisiana Association of Endodontists and the Sixth District Dental Association. A major in the U.S. Air Force for seven years, Dr. Simon currently works in private practice in Baton Rouge, La. He is a Diplomate of the American Board of Endodontics, has published several papers and is well respected by his peers and students.

Dr. Simon, who earned his DDS in 1976 and his certificate in endodontics in 1980, has served gratis as an assistant clinical professor in the Department of Endodontics since 1984. In 2005 he was honored as the LSUHSC School of Dentistry Alumnus of the Year. Dr. Simon has recently been appointed to the Board of Directors of the Foundation for LSU Health Sciences Center. ■

LSUHSC summer cancer research program mentors next generation

The LSUHSC Short-term Research Experiences in Cancer program welcomed participants' families Friday to hear about their research projects, meet mentors, and tour the Cancer Center.

Twenty-four high school, college, and medical school students are participating, including 7 chosen by Dillard University through the LSUHSC/Dillard Minority Health partnership. Students are paired with scientific mentors with funded basic and/or clinical research. Together they design a research project to be conducted over 8 weeks. The research is supplemented by a series of weekly seminars and other activities like attendance at clinics, hospital rounds, and participation in tumor conference boards.

The primary goal of the program is to increase the number of health professionals pursuing careers in cancer. ■



New Allied Health leaders



Associate Professor Jane Eason, PhD, PT, is the new Physical Therapy Department Head. An alumna of from LSUHSC, she joined the LSUHSC faculty in August of 1998.



Debra Munsell, DHSc, will join the School of Allied Health Professions on July 1, as the Physician Assistant Program Director. She is currently an Associate Professor in the Department of Physician Assistant Studies at UTMB - Galveston. ■