Flu shots given on campus next week

Flu shots will be offered on the main LSUHSC campus beginning next week. The immunizations will be given on October 5th, 6th, 7th, and 12th, from 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. in room 5B12 at the LSUHSC School of Nursing.

The immunizations are free to LSUHSC students. There will be a $15 charge for LSUHSC faculty and staff payable by check or money order made out to LSUHSC-NO.

Annual flu vaccines are recommended for most people 6 months and older. It takes about two weeks after vaccination for your body to develop an immune response. In the United States, influenza season usually begins in October.

Vaccination is especially important for people at higher risk of severe influenza and their close contacts, including healthcare personnel and close contacts of children younger than 6 months.

LSUHSC Nursing students place 1st

Twenty-three LSUHSC School of Nursing Students along with Ms. Marirose Bernard, Student Nurses Association Faculty Advisor, attended the Louisiana Association of Student Nurses (LASN) Convention at the Alexander Fulton Hotel in Alexandria, LA September 22-25, 2011.

Three students were elected to the LASN Board of Directors – Leonard Jones, Vice President; Meagan Hingle, Historian; and Kira Riches, Secretary.

LSUHSC also earned the following awards:
- 1st Place “Bags not Rags.” This program is designed to ensure that any child who is moving or going to school does not have to carry their belongings in a plastic bag. All types of bags were collected, including suitcases, backpacks, and tote bags. Our students collected 329 bags.
- 1st Place Disaster Preparedness First Aid Kit Collection
- Most School Spirit at the Opening Night Party
- Best Dancer at the Opening Night Party – Leonard Jones
- 3rd Place Best Representation of SNA Activities in the Scrapbook

Occupational Therapy students serve community

Occupational Therapy (OT) students at LSUHSC conducted a Backpack Awareness Day with visits to area schools and a clinic this month. About 72 of our OT students screened more than 900 students in Kindergarten through 7th grade in schools throughout south Louisiana. They weighed backpacks and taught the students the best way to use them including how to pack them, adjust them, and wear them.

The outreach continued today with an OT promotion event at Lakeside Mall. Coordinated by Lacey Clement, ten of our second-year OT students who are members of Pi Theta Epsilon, the Occupational Therapy honor society, participated.
Dental Alumni Day breaks attendance record

Among the 323 alumni participating in the LSUHSC School of Dentistry Alumni Day last week were some of our very first dental graduates, along with those from Loyola whose program transitioned to LSU more than 40 years ago. More alumni and vendors – 17 – participated this year than ever before. Alumni Day featured a host of continuing education offerings, a tribute to a special class of Loyola grads, national recognition of dental faculty, and a live auction that raised about $11,000 for the student education fund and the Alumni Association.

The Alumnus of the Year Award, the highest honor given by the dental school, was presented to Dr. Eric T. Geist ’79, who practices oral surgery in Monroe.

The traditional Class Jambalaya Cookoff and TGIF provided a chance for catching up with old friends as well as meeting current students and recent alumni. It was a fitting end to a very successful day.

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Our students provided information about the profession, as well as tips to prevent back pain while carrying items like purses, briefcases, backpacks and bags. The students also had handouts with information about how to prevent falls. They brought adaptive equipment used in therapy to show people some of the ways OT’s can help people regain function and quality of life after an injury or illness.

Activities like these provide valuable services to the communities we serve, improving health by preventing injury as well as increasing awareness of important resources. Interaction with young students at schools also exposes new generations to another health professions option, supplying the pipeline of health professionals for Louisiana.