LSUHSC’s Chen a 2011 Woman of the Year

Dr. Vivien Chen, Professor of Public Health and Director of the Louisiana Tumor Registry at LSU Health Sciences Center New Orleans, was recognized as one of the 2011 CityBusiness Women of the Year.

Dr. Chen was honored for her leadership in cancer research and control as Director of the Louisiana Tumor Registry at LSUHSC. Under her direction, our registry was awarded designation by the National Cancer Institute as one of the 18 SEER (Surveillance, Epidemiology and End Results) Program cancer registries in the nation. The SEER Program is the most authoritative source of information on cancer incidence and survival in the United States. This information is used by thousands of researchers, clinicians, public health officials, legislators, policy makers, community groups and the public.

LSUHSC’s Drell President of AACAP

Martin J. Drell, MD, the Carl Adatto Professor of Community Psychiatry and Head of Infant, Child and Adolescent Psychiatry at LSU Health Sciences Center New Orleans School of Medicine, was installed as President of the American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry (AACAP) at its Annual Meeting in Toronto. He will serve a two-year term.

The AACAP, a non-profit organization, was established in 1953. It is a membership based organization, composed of over 7,500 child and adolescent psychiatrists and other interested physicians. Its members actively research, evaluate, diagnose, and treat psychiatric disorders and pride themselves on giving direction to and responding quickly to new developments in addressing the health care needs of children and their families. The AACAP widely distributes information in an effort to promote an understanding of mental illnesses and remove the stigma associated with them, advance efforts in prevention of mental illnesses, and assure proper treatment and access to services for children and adolescents. The Academy provides practice guidelines, continual review and development of training curricula for child and adolescent psychiatry training programs, and government liaison and education to respond to national concerns over health care and socioeconomic issues affecting children.

Promising research may advance treatment, save lives

About 50 graduate students and post-docs at LSU Health Sciences Center New Orleans presented their research projects today at the 25th Annual LSUHSC Graduate Research Day. The event, held at the LSUHSC School of Dentistry, featured both oral and poster presentations.

Research findings included evidence that inhaled particulate matter produces inflammation and oxidative stress as well as a decrease in cardiac function in healthy individuals, the see Research, page 2
Outreach brings life-saving education, screening

Community Affairs Director Diana Bajoie, along with staff from the Louisiana Breast and Cervical Health Program in the LSUHSC School of Public Health, brought screening and early detection services to beauty salons and barbershops for the third year last weekend.

The event featured blood pressure measurements as well as education and early detection techniques for breast cancer. People living in the neighborhoods served experience higher rates of hypertension and death from breast cancer. The initiative makes life-saving information and hands-on demonstrations more readily accessible to those who need it most, in an effort to improve health and quality of life in under-served communities.

Research, from page 1

Identification of the Epstein-Barr Virus as a possible biomarker for a precursor to cervical cancer, and a potential new target to treat colorectal cancer.

Postdoctoral award winners were Abhilash Ponnath in Neuroscience and Virginia Ronchi in Biochemistry.

Graduate Student Poster Awards went to Sherin Hashem – Biochemistry, Ji Won Park – Pharmacology, and Monica Ertel – Pharmacology.

Graduate Student Oral Presentation awardees are Kavaljit Chhabra in Pharmacology, Annie Whitaker in Physiology, and Sarah Mahne in Pharmacology.

Congratulations to our faculty, students, post-docs and staff on a most successful day.

Golf fore Camp Tiger
November 12

Get into the swing! This year’s Camp Tiger Golf Tournament is November 12, 2011 at 12pm at Lakewood Golf Club.

There are various registration options, ranging from individual participants at $55 for medical students and $100 for non-medical students, to sponsorship packages from $100 up. All participants receive a gift bag.

Camp Tiger is a free week-long summer day camp run by first-year students from the LSU Health Sciences Center New Orleans School of Medicine. It gives disadvantaged and challenged children what may be their only chance to socialize with other children without being singled out for their disabilities.

Pick up registration forms in the Medical School Student Affairs Office.