LSUHSC’s Gee recognized for excellence

Rebekah E. Gee MD MPH FACOG, Assistant Professor, LSUHSC Schools of Public Health and Medicine and Director of the Louisiana Birth Outcomes Initiative, has been chosen to receive a Recognition of Distinction for Excellence in State Maternal Child Health Leadership Award from the Association of Maternal & Child Health Programs. The award honors Dr. Gee’s leadership and vision for children, youth and families in Louisiana.

The award, which was established this year, recognizes outstanding state MCH professionals whose careers in MCH have made significant contributions to their state’s MCH program, state maternal and child health outcomes, and made other significant contributions to promoting and protecting the health of women, children, and families in their state.

The award will be presented to Dr. Gee in February 2012 in Washington, DC.

New partnership working together to stop deadly cancer

The Al Copeland Foundation and LSU Health Sciences Center hosted a tour and Thank You Luncheon for supporters whose generosity helped to fund the $1 million Al Copeland/Cancer Crusaders Chair in Neuroendocrine Cancer.

LSUHSC generosity helps Science Partnership boost reading

The LSUHSC-N.O. Public Schools Science Partnership Program’s inaugural Holiday Book Drive was so successful that it exceeded its original goal of collecting enough books to give one to each of the 119 4th-graders it has worked with this school year. LSUHSC faculty, staff, and students donated more than 300 books, 1,000 comic books, and DVDs during the Drive.
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at LSU Health Sciences Center yesterday. The Chair was established to fund research on Merkel cell carcinoma, the rare neuroendocrine cancer that took the life of Al Copeland, Sr. in 2008.

The day began with a tour of LSUHSC’s downtown campus. Stops included research labs at the LSUHSC Stanley S. Scott Cancer Center where guests met faculty scientists who are working on the same virus associated with Merkel cell carcinoma, as well as others.

Then it was off to the nationally recognized LSUHSC simulation training centers where they got to “perform surgery,” and intubate a “patient,” as they learned firsthand about the unique resources at LSUHSC’s advanced capability centers.

The group learned more about neuroendocrine tumors and LSUHSC research successes with them from Dr. Eugene Woltering over lunch. Al Copeland, Jr. introduced the menu which featured some of the new delicious and healthy items set to debut at Copeland’s Cheesecake Bistro early next year. Speaking for the Copeland family and the ACF, he unveiled the theme of the new partnership with LSUHSC – “changing the course of cancer.”

LSUHSC doctors inducted into Hall of Fame

Two members of the LSUHSC faculty were recently inducted into the New Orleans Anesthesia Society Hall of Fame.

James Diaz, M D , M H A , M P H & T M , Dr PH, is a Professor and Director of the Environmental-Occupational Health Sciences MPH Program in the School of Public Health and an Assistant Professor of Family Medicine and Program Director of the Family Medicine-Preventive Medicine Residency in the School of Medicine.

Stanley H. Hall, M D , P h D , is a Clinical Professor of Graduate Studies in Nursing, Physiology & Cardiopulmonary Sciences in the Schools of Medicine, Nursing, and Allied Health Professions.

Congratulations to both on this well-deserved honor!

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The LSUHSC family’s overwhelming response provided enough books to give them to students in all of the grades – K-8 – and to stock the libraries. Teachers in the upper grades have already planned special projects using them.

The LSUHSC-N. O. Public Schools Science Partnership, under the direction of Drs. Fern Tsien and Uday Pandey, sends LSUHSC faculty and students into 4th grade classrooms each year to help teach science and improve LEAP Test scores.