Be prepared

We are entering the point in the hurricane season when the tropics really start to heat up, and we are monitoring Tropical Storm Ernesto in the Atlantic. There is wide divergence in the forecast models at this time, and it is way too early to tell where Ernesto will go.

So now is the time to complete your preparations for the season, and those include helping us get information to you in a rapid fashion – about tropical weather as well as other time-sensitive situations.

White Coast Ceremony, a rite of passage

One hundred eighty-eight members of the Class of 2015 of the LSU Health Sciences Center New Orleans School of Medicine participated in the annual White Coat Ceremony last weekend. Each second-year medical student received a white coat, a visible symbol of patient care. During the ceremony, students were “coated” by faculty members chosen by the class for their commitment to medical education and their students.

Summer research program inspires health careers

The 2012 LSUHSC Summer Research Internship Program wrapped up this week with a poster session and awards ceremony. The 8-week program cultivates interest in health sciences careers and research in basic or clinical sciences. The students conduct their own small research project or work on part of an on-going research project.

This year, almost 300 students applied for 91 spots. The program directors Drs. Paula Gregory and Fern Tsien,
Coat, from page 1

According to the Arnold P. Gold Foundation which donated a Humanism in Medicine lapel pin for each student, the cloaking with the white coat—the mantle of the medical profession—is a hands-on experience that underscores the bonding process. The coat is placed on each student’s shoulders by individuals who believe in the students’ ability to carry on the noble tradition of doctoring. It is a personally delivered gift of faith, confidence and compassion.

Dean Steve Nelson, MD welcomed the students and their families and Dr. Ferney Adams Moore, III, the students’ nominee for the 2012 AAMC Humanism in Medicine Award, spoke about the importance of caring about patients while caring for them. Dr. Moore is in OB/GYN at Earl K. Long Medical Center. After Neema Patel, Class of 2013, read her winning Humanism in Medicine Essay, the coats were conferred.

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matched students with mentors in laboratories or clinics at LSU Health Sciences Center, Tulane Health Sciences Center, Xavier University of Louisiana, Pennington Biomedical Research Center, or Children’s Hospital.

Because of this program, some of Louisiana’s best and brightest undergraduates, who attend school elsewhere, have been introduced to the opportunities available in their home state. After completing their internship, many student interns have gone on to present their data at medical or scientific conferences, or have had their research findings published in the literature in medical or scientific journals.

Collection honors city’s most famous dentist

In 1896, Dr. C. Edmund Kells, Jr., a New Orleans dentist, became the first dentist in the United States to take x-rays of a living patient. He was a pioneer, an inventor, a writer, and a crusader, and a collection of his equipment, tools, books, appliances, notes and other artifacts is on display in the library at the LSUHSC School of Dentistry. It is a treasure trove representing early 20th century dentistry.

A donation of more than 100 items from Dr. Al Huguet, LSUSD ‘73 rounds out the library’s display of the dental office, re-created from the equipment, furniture, and instruments from Dr. Kells’ former partner in the Maison Blanche building. Dr. Huguet found the artifacts among boxes in an antiques store on Magazine Street.

Thank you for making the time to attend the Town Hall meetings this week. Your participation affords the opportunity to have a dialogue that not only provides information, but equally important, addresses questions and concerns. An open exchange of information and ideas is vital to the continued success of the Health Sciences Center, especially in challenging times like these.

It’s’s worth a special trip to the dental library.