



DR. LARRY HOLLIER

# CHANCELLOR'S Notes



May 10, 2013

## LSUHSC faculty elected to LSNA Board

Four more members of the faculty and one student at the LSUHSC School of Nursing have been elected to the Board of Directors of the Louisiana State Nurses Association.

Stephanie Pierce, PhD, RN, CNE, Director of the CARE BSN and Nurse Educator MSN programs, serves as the Education Council Chair.



Rose Schaubhut, RN, MPH, MN, NEA-BC, Instructor of Nursing, chairs the Leadership Management

Council.

Judy Gentry, RN, MSN, OCN, CNE, Assistant Professor of Clinical Nursing, represents the South on the Nominating Committee.



Laura Tarzca, MS, RN, Assistant Professor of Clinical Nursing, is the new Chair of the Resolution and By-Laws Com-

mittee.

Deidra Dudley, a graduate student in the Doctor of Nursing Science Program, was elected to the Audit Committee - South.

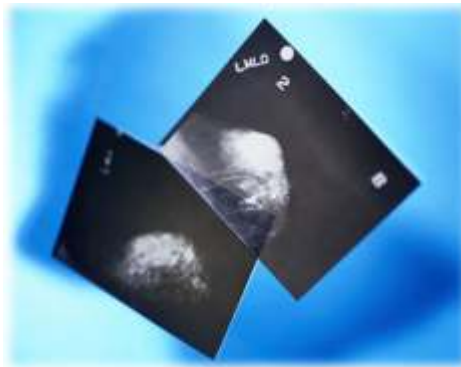


## LSUHSC paper judged Best of the Year

Once a year, the *Journal of Registry Management*, the official journal of the National Cancer Registrars' Association, selects a paper published in its journal as the Best Paper of the Year. The paper, entitled "Evaluating Factors Associated with Unknown SEER Summary Stage 2000 Derived from Collaborative Stage at Central Registry Level," was chosen as the Best Paper in 2012. The lead author of the paper is Mei-Chin Hsieh, MSPH, CTR, of the Louisiana Tumor Registry, a program of the LSU Health Sciences Center New Orleans School of Public Health. LSUHSC co-authors include Qingzhao Yu, PhD, Xiao-Cheng Wu, MD, MPH and Ying Fan, PhD.



Mei-Chin Hsieh, MSPH, CTR



This is the second time that the

Louisiana Tumor Registry at LSU Health Sciences Center New Orleans has received this honor from the National Cancer Registrars' Association and its journal.

Since knowledge of cancer stage is crucial to treatment and prognosis, our Tumor Registry studied the variations in the percentages of unknown cancer stages reported by registries throughout the United States. The cancers

analyzed were invasive colorectal, lung, female breast, and prostate cancers diagnosed between 2004 and 2007, based upon data obtained from 47 population-based cancer registries in the United States.

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## Allied Health outreach a hit with children and parents

Meredith Poynot, a student in the LSUHSC doctoral audiology program, organized an information-based after school "mini" health fair for children at the North Rampart Community Health Center. It was her Interdisciplinary Traineeship project at LSUHSC's Human Development Center in the School of Allied Health Professions.

She coordinated four booths conceptualized and staffed by LSUHSC Allied Health students to teach the kids about diet and nutrition, dental health, hearing, and the benefits of being physically active. The parents also went through the fair when they picked up their children.



Meredith Poynot (far left) answers a question

The messages from young people to young people were much better received, and our students gained valuable experience

interacting with the community.

**Best, from page 1**

The study found that overall, lung cancer had the highest percentage of unknown stage (8.3%) and prostate cancer had the largest variation of unknown stage among registries (0.6%-18.1%). The study also found that, while factors associated with unknown stage differ by cancer site, the type of reporting source is an important predictor.

Variables associated with unknown stage included African-American ethnicity, smaller population, diagnosis year 2005, and non-hospital reporting source.

The paper concluded that central registries with high percentages of unknown stage should be made aware of their data quality issues so they can investigate the contributing factors and provide training to registrars to improve their cancer data quality.



## Beginnings and Endings



*Dr. Steve Nelson, Dean of the LSUHSC School of Medicine, presents a lecture to the senior class of medical students on their last day of classes in the brand new, just opened lecture room on the second floor of the Allied Health/Nursing Building.*

## Research identifies social needs of young people with cancer

Research conducted by Xiao-Cheng Wu, MD, PhD, Director of the Louisiana Tumor Registry at the LSU Health Sciences Center New Orleans School of Public Health, and colleagues, reports adolescents and young adults with cancer may be at higher risk for social isolation and that a substantial proportion of them have unmet social needs that could adversely affect their health. The research is published online in the *Journal of Adolescent and Young Adult Oncology*.

More than 500 patients, from 15-39 years old at diagnosis, responded to a survey that included questions about two social information needs – how to talk about their cancer experience with family and friends and meeting other adolescents or young adult cancer patients/survivors. Variables the researchers investigated included age at diagnosis, gender, race/ethnicity, education, and health insurance status at diagnosis, as well as clinical factors like treatment type, general health, perception of the overall quality of care, and how many symptoms were experienced during the previous month.

The research team found that social information needs were higher among those who were in their 20s at diagnosis, of Hispanic or “other” ethnicity, not in a support group, had a high number of symptoms or additional illnesses, and perceived their quality of care as low. Understanding which subgroups of adolescents and young adults with cancer are most in need and what their needs are is crucial to develop effective interventions and support programs.



*Dr. Xiao-Cheng Wu*