



# CHANCELLOR'S Notes

August 9, 2013

## LSUHSC's Louisiana Tumor Registry awarded \$1.3 million



*Staff of LSUHSC's Louisiana Tumor Registry*

The LSU Health Sciences Center New Orleans School of Public Health's Louisiana Tumor Registry (LTR) has been awarded a \$1.3 million contract by the National Cancer Institute to continue its work as a SEER (Surveillance, Epidemiology and End Results) Program-designated cancer registry. There are 18 competitively awarded SEER cancer registries in the United States. The SEER Program is the most authoritative source of information on cancer incidence and survival in the country. Continued designation recognizes the excellence of our Louisiana Tumor Registry and confirms the exceptionally high quality of its data.

The primary function of a cancer registry is to record the occurrence of cancer in a population. Cancer is a reportable disease. Hospitals, private pathology laboratories, radiation centers, physicians, nursing homes, hospices, other licensed health care facilities and providers who diagnose and/or treat cancers are required by law to report cancer cases to our Registry. The Registry has also established inter-state data exchange programs with nineteen states to receive data on Louisiana cancer patients who are diagnosed and/or treated at out-of-state facilities. Information collected by LTR includes demographic data, tumor type, stage of disease, tumor markers, treatment, and survival. Information on risk factors is usually not available from the reporting sources. However, data from the Registry often provides clues to be pursued in special research studies conducted by qualified scientists with external funding.

The Registry includes the central office located at the LSU Health Sciences Center New Orleans and the eight regional offices it manages. Each regional registry is responsible for ascertaining all cancer cases from all possible sources in its region. The central office provides training, ensures high quality data by consolidating and editing records of abstracts, and manages the statewide database, as well as analyzes the data and conducts special studies.

*see Registry, page 2*



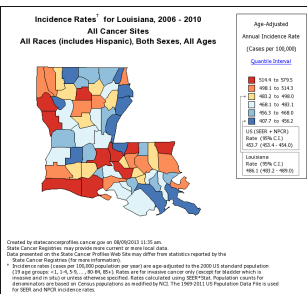
## Registry, from page 1

Registry achievements include the first place award on its data quality profiles from the NCI SEER Program consecutively from 2010 to 2012 and a gold certification award on its data quality from North American Association of Central Cancer Registries every year since 1995. In 2012, the Registry received the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's National Program of Cancer Registries 20th Anniversary Research Award for its scientific and epidemiologic soundness of study designs, innovative use of central cancer registry data, quality and number of scientific outcomes (peer-reviewed papers, posters, and abstracts resulting from research), and potential or actual impact on cancer early detection, diagnosis, or treatment that will lead to improved outcomes or contributions to knowledge



about cancer causes or control. In addition to routine data collection, the LTR has built infrastructures and collected data to support all types of cancer research studies.

This funding allows us to continue providing Louisiana citizens, health professionals, policy makers and others information for cancer prevention and control, as well as cancer research, including cancer care delivery research. Our data are used for prevention, early detection, treatment, and survival, which contribute to the development of national policy and efforts.



## Are you ready for some football?



Photo by John Sirell

The New Orleans Saints 2013 season kicks off tonight in the Mercedes-Benz Superdome, and LSUHSC's Dr. John Amoss (in the gray jacket) will again take up his post close to the action. As the Saints' team physician, Dr. Amoss has helped keep the Bless You Boys healthy for more than a decade. Look for him on the home sideline, often near the north end zone.

## LSUHSC Book Club News

The Office of the Associate Vice Chancellor for Academic & Multicultural Affairs is pleased to announce that Po-boy Contraband: From Diagnosis Back to Life, by Patrice Melnick, has been chosen for the 2013 LSUHSC Campuswide Book Club.

This creative non-fiction book is an enlightening and entertaining story of one woman's journey from "diagnosis back to life." This



journey includes a very diverse spectrum of people who help to shape the protagonist's outlook and disposition.

The Book Club will gather on Thursday, November 14 from 12:15 - 1:30pm in MEB Seminar 4 for a "brown bag" discussion. The book's author, Ms. Melnick, has agreed to join us for this discussion.

Po-boy Contraband is available in the campus bookstore, in many major bookstores, and online. We look forward to a lively discussion, so please consider joining the conversation in November.