The Big Chill

Jack Frost paid a visit to the deep south this week, bringing things we don’t usually see here – a deep freeze, frozen rain, sleet, and maybe a flake or two. The Health Sciences Center closed for two days, as did just about everything else, because of road closures and treacherous driving conditions.

We weathered the storm well, all things considered, unlike another southern city to our northeast. Our faculty, staff, and students followed the instructions of our local and state governments and thankfully stayed safe.

Emergencies like this one underscore the importance of communications. For those of you who have not signed up for our e2campus emergency alert system, you may do so by clicking on the following link and selecting Sign Up on the menu on the left: http://www.lsuhsc.edu/alerts/.

The Health Sciences Center also uses social media for emergency updates. You can follow the official LSUHSC Twitter feed @LSUHSCHealth.

Study reveals economic impact of LSUHSC on metro New Orleans

SU Health Sciences Center New Orleans generated $888 million in sales, more than $390 million in earnings, and more than 6,900 jobs (direct and indirect) in the New Orleans Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) in 2013. The figures, part of the 2013 LSU Economic Impact Study: Estimating the Economic Impact of LSU on Louisiana, were presented by Dr. F. King Alexander, President and Chancellor of Louisiana State University, to the LSU Board of Supervisors at their meeting this afternoon.

LSU Health Sciences Center New Orleans has people and programs that span the state, with significant concentrations in Baton Rouge and Lafayette as well as New Orleans. See Impact, page 2

LSUHSC’s Levitzky elected to national leadership

Dr. Michael Levitzky, Professor of Physiology and Director of the Basic Science Curriculum, has been elected to the Administrative Board of the Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC) Council of Faculty and Academic Societies. The 15-member Board leads the Council’s activities.

The Council not only includes faculty representatives from member AAMC medical schools, but also from member academic societies. Dr. Levitzky is one of only two representatives from the American Physiological Society.

According to the AAMC, the Council is charged with identifying critical issues facing faculty members of medical schools; provide a voice...
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Orleans has people and programs that span the state, with significant concentrations in Baton Rouge and Lafayette as well as New Orleans. A powerful economic engine, LSU Health Sciences Center New Orleans not only makes significant contributions to our state’s economic health, but also to the health and well-being of its citizens and the quality of life in their communities.

It is the first study of the combined impact of the nine LSU campuses on the state, as well as on their regional economies. The study was conducted by LSU’s E. J. Ourso College of Business, led by Stephen Barnes, PhD, Assistant Professor of Economics and Associate Director of the LSU Division of Economic Development, along with Dek Terrell, PhD, Freeport-McMoRan Endowed Chair of Economics, Professor, and Executive Director of the Division of Economic Development. It determined that during the 2013 fiscal year, LSU supported nearly $3.9 billion in Louisiana sales, $1.5 billion in new statewide earnings and an estimated 36,757 direct and indirect annualized jobs. For every operating and capital dollar provided by the state, LSU supported $5.08 of economic activity.

LSU Health Sciences Center New Orleans is a major employer. More than 2,000, or 15.2 percent, of full-time LSU System workers are employed in the New Orleans MSA, an eight-parish region including Jefferson, Orleans, Plaquemines, St. Bernard, St. Charles, St. James, St. John the Baptist and St. Tammany parishes. With its six professional schools, LSU Health Sciences Center New Orleans is Louisiana’s flagship university educating health professionals. Impacts for the region were generated by measuring the impact of the university spending and student spending associated with LSU Health Sciences Center.

“LSU already has a broad and positive impact in Greater New Orleans, supporting over 2,000 full-time jobs and driving nearly $900 million in economic impact,” said Michael Hecht, President & CEO of Greater New Orleans, Inc. “Going forward, however, this impact will grow even further, as the new University Medical Center comes online and begins to drive destination healthcare and research commercialization. LSU is a cornerstone economic and intellectual partner in Greater New Orleans.”

“While the economic impact of LSU employment is significant and important to our region, the potential economic effect of spin off activities resulting from research at LSU is as beneficial to our region's economy,” added Paul H. Flower, Chairman, Business Council of New Orleans and the River Region.

“The LSU Health Sciences Center clearly is one of Downtown's biggest economic generators,” said Kurt Weigle, President & CEO of the Downtown Development District. “The numbers speak for themselves, but in simple terms, the Health Sciences Center drives demand for Downtown housing, retail, restaurants, and many other services that are enjoyed by everyone Downtown.”

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for faculty about those issues to the AAMC as they relate to creation and implementation of the AAMC’s programs, services, and policies; and, serve as a communications conduit with faculty regarding matters related to the core missions of academic medicine. Other groups within AAMC have overlapping interests with the CFAS and the Council’s leadership is committed to being a collaborative partner with other AAMC groups and councils on matters of shared interest.

Dr. Ann Bonham, AAMC’s Chief Scientific Officer, said “Dr. Levitzky’s election to the founding CFAS Administrative Board is evidence of the respect with which he is held by his faculty peers. Dr. Levitzky is well positioned to share faculty perspectives with medical school and teaching hospital executives, faculty leaders from other schools, as well as with AAMC staff.”