

Inside

LSU HEALTH SHREVEPORT

*School of Medicine
School of Graduate Studies
School of Allied Health Professions
LSU Health Sciences Foundation*

FALL 2020



LSU Health
SHREVEPORT



Inside LSU Health Shreveport is published three times a year by the Department of Communications and LSU Health Sciences Foundation Shreveport on behalf of the School of Medicine, School of Graduate Studies, School of Allied Health Professions and the LSUHS Foundation.

FALL 2020

DEAN, SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
David F. Lewis, MD, MBA

DEAN, SCHOOL OF ALLIED HEALTH PROFESSIONS
Sharon Dunn, PT, PhD, OCS

DEAN, SCHOOL OF GRADUATE STUDIES
Christopher Kevil, PhD



Letter from the Chancellor

During this holiday season and approaching new year, many are reflecting on having lived through a year like no other in history. While menacing, we will overcome this pandemic just as those before us overcame dire situations, and we will do so through determination, innovation, and investment. Rather than focus on the remaining months before this pandemic will be in the rearview mirror, I ask you to join me in focusing on the bright future for LSU Health Shreveport and the significant impact of our efforts in addressing COVID-19.

- Treatment is significantly more effective than it was at the beginning of the pandemic due to numerous therapeutic clinical trials.
- Easily accessible testing with quick turnaround is available in north Louisiana due to our COVID Strike Team. Capacity and turnaround time for testing continues to improve with the addition of lab equipment and staff.
- LSUHS is leading Louisiana in genomic sequencing of the coronavirus which is essential to a worldwide fight against current and future pandemics.
- As a participating site of the Pfizer vaccine trial, this positions the community with first-hand knowledge of the safety of the trial as well as priority access to a vaccine.
- Residency, fellowship and student applications have increased by double digits this year.
- We remain #2 in the LSU system in research-related licensing income with the LSU Ag Center as the perennial #1 in this category.

Our LSUHS Foundation remains steadfast in securing financial support to meet needs and opportunities that otherwise would go unmet. I extend my public appreciation to the Foundation Board of Directors and staff for their commitment to this institution. I humbly request that you support their efforts through a year-end gift to the Center for Medical Education & Wellness, which is one of the most important projects in the history of our health sciences center and this community. New details on this transformative project can be found on page xii.

As always, thank you for your interest and support of LSU Health Shreveport. If you have questions or would like additional information on specific content in this publication, please email shvcommunications@lsuhsc.edu.

Sending wishes to you and your family for a happy and healthy holiday season,

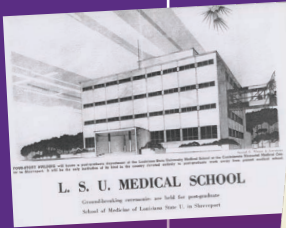
G. E. Ghali, DDS, MD, FACS, FRCS (Ed)
Chancellor

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1950

A medical school in Shreveport is first proposed, but is blocked by political opponents

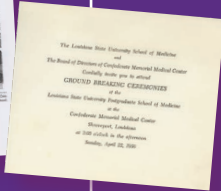


1955

Discussion revived amid plan for postgraduate School of Medicine (residency training), but funding is later withdrawn

1963

Study Committee established by Shreveport Medical Society for development of medical school



1965

Governor John McKeithen signs act establishing School of Medicine and School of Graduate Studies



1969

First 32 students begin classes at VA, awaiting funding to build School of Medicine and School of Graduate Studies



1970

Construction funding received

1971

Medical school groundbreaking



1973

School receives full accreditation and confers first medical degrees

MAJOR MILESTONES AT LSU HEALTH SHREVEPORT

THE PROOF AND POWER

The Little Engine That Could is an American folktale that became widely known in the United States after publication in 1930 by Platt & Munk. The story has long been used to teach children the value of optimism and hard work. We at LSU Health Shreveport also have a legacy of demonstrating a **"can do"** attitude.

Since 1950 when the medical school proposal was initially blocked by political opponents, LSU Health Shreveport has been overcoming challenges through tenacity, optimism and community support. As many know, the path to open the medical school took many twists and turns before finally opening in 1975. The reward has far exceeded the vision of the impact a medical school could have on the community and local physicians.

That **"can do"** attitude struck gold again decades later in 2000 when John C. McDonald became the first local Chancellor after an act by the legislature, culminating a twenty-year battle. Without this crucial step in our history, LSU Health Shreveport would never have been appropriately positioned for its brightest future.

The need for optimism and hard work definitely came into play in 2013 when the decision was made to privatize the LSU hospitals in Shreveport, Monroe and Alexandria. This decision forced LSU Health Shreveport to financially tackle not only the loss of clinical revenue but also the \$100 million in mandated costs resulting from privatization. These costs included \$53 million for legacy/retirement costs for employees who lost their state jobs as hospital employees, \$31 million to help fund the new hospital manager, and \$13 million to close down the Huey P. Long hospital in Alexandria.

1975

Four years, one month and 11 days after groundbreaking, \$30.8 million School of Medicine is dedicated with nearly 1,000 attending

1976

Confederate Memorial Medical Center and School of Medicine merge as legislature transfers hospital from state charity system to LSU, creating state's first teaching hospital

1977

School of Allied Health Professions established

2000

John C. McDonald named first Chancellor after an act by the legislature, culminating a 20-year battle for autonomy

2014

School of Medicine enrolls largest class ever, 125 students, as part of a plan to grow by 25% over ten years

2015

Schools of Allied Health, Medicine and Graduate Studies combine for record campus enrollment

2016

School of Medicine Alumnus G. E. Ghali named third Chancellor

2023

Expected completion of the Center for Medical Education and Wellness



OF A “CAN DO” ATTITUDE

Was this a daunting time in the history of our academic medical center? Yes it was.
Did we survive through optimism, hard work, strong leadership and legislative support?

YES WE DID!

Fast forward to 2017 when LSU Health Shreveport leadership found a path, through concerned citizens, to accept the generous donation of the iconic CHRISTUS Schumpert campus. Once again, the road to achieving a goal was filled with bumps and curves but that “can do” spirit never relented. Today this 18 acre campus known as St. Mary Medical Center (SMMC) is reveling in a second life thanks to a sizeable and strategic investment by Ochsner LSU Health Shreveport. This investment resulted in state-of-the-art outpatient and inpatient care. The LSUHS Clinical Trials office and Student Counseling Center are also housed on the SMMC campus making this revitalized campus a solid win for students, patients and the community.

The accomplishments above are motivating examples of what can be achieved when community citizens, elected officials and an organization work side by side on a common goal. While much has changed in our world over the last several months, one thing that remains unchanged is LSU Health Shreveport’s commitment to approaching the future with a “can do” attitude.

VACCINE UPDATE

from a VIROLOGIST PERSPECTIVE

Andrew Yurochko, PhD

Professor and Carroll Feist Endowed Chair of Viral Oncology and Department Vice-Chair of Microbiology and Immunology



Coronaviruses are a family of large RNA viruses that infect mammals and birds and cause respiratory infections and disease. There are 7 known human coronaviruses that originally appear to have come from animals. Of these 7 human coronaviruses, 4 are largely benign and cause approximately 25-30% of the cases of the common cold. The remaining 3 human coronaviruses are more deadly and include SARS-CoV (Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome-Coronavirus; caused the SARS outbreak in 2002-2004), MERS-CoV (Middle East Respiratory Syndrome-related Coronavirus, an ongoing infection largely limited to the Middle East), and SARS-CoV-2 (Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome-Coronavirus-2, the current pandemic virus that causes COVID-19 or Coronavirus Disease-2019). The current coronavirus pandemic has as of the beginning of December resulted in approximately 14 million infections and approximately 275,000 deaths in the U.S. alone. With cases spiking in the U.S. and Europe and winter approaching it has been suggested that much of the world is in for a rough winter.

Based on these warnings, most people are wondering "how do we get out of this pandemic and return to a normal life". The end goal that has received significant attention is the development and wide spread distribution of an effective vaccine. Vaccines allow society to safely reach herd immunity that would otherwise be difficult under natural conditions. To date, no "dangerous pathogen" has via natural infection resulted in herd immunity. For example, the eradication of smallpox in 1976 was only possible with concerted worldwide vaccination efforts. The same idea holds true for the current polio eradication efforts, where through the use of an effective vaccine, the world health organization has limited endemic wild type polio to only two countries as of November 2020.

Currently there are more than 150 SARS-CoV-2 vaccines in clinical trials around the world, with nearly 10 in phase III trials. In the U.S., there are at least 4 vaccines in phase III trials with results on the efficacy of these trials being announced daily. The 4 main vaccines in phase III trials in the U.S. are vaccines from Moderna, Pfizer/BioNTech, Oxford/AstraZeneca, and Johnson & Johnson. These different vaccines represent distinct approaches, with the Moderna and Pfizer/BioNTech vaccines being mRNA-based vaccines and the Oxford/AstraZeneca and Johnson & Johnson vaccines being adenoviral-vector-based vaccines. mRNA-based vaccines have been around for more than 20 years, but have come into their own in the last decade. mRNA vaccines represent a new tool in the vaccine arsenal as they can be created quickly (once a viral genomic sequence is known, for example) and tested quickly. mRNA-based vaccines rely on the power of the vaccinated host to translate the mRNA into a protein of interest. For Moderna and Pfizer, their vaccines are focused on the spike protein. All coronaviruses have a spike protein because this is the protein responsible for viral attachment to the infected cell. Nevertheless, there are regions on a coronavirus' spike protein that are unique to each virus that can be specifically targeted by the immune response to control infection with that virus. mRNA based vaccines are very amenable to rapid production and can be quickly constructed, however, once marketed, to remain stable they must be stored frozen (at least that is a current limitation).

This vaccine route requires two separate shots a few weeks apart. The University of Oxford collaboration with AstraZeneca has taken a different approach and is using a non-replicating chimpanzee adenoviral vector that they have experience using in other studies. The vector expresses the SARS-CoV-2 spike protein and thus acts as an immunogen. In initial trials a second dose increased immunity. Johnson & Johnson is using an adenoviral vector that expresses the spike protein that they hope only requires a single shot. They are using a modified human adenoviral vector that they utilized during their creation of an Ebola vaccine. Novavax is another company that should start phase III trials in the U.S. soon. Other approaches, such as the use of inactivated whole virus are also being used in other vaccine candidates.

It is expected that these vaccines will stimulate a robust humoral and cell-mediated immune response that would provide protection from disease caused by SARS-CoV-2 infection and possibly mitigate some level of infection. Because all available data suggests that infected humans generate an immune response to a coronavirus infection, there is no inherent reason why a vaccine should not provide protection. Arguments have been made as to what type of immunity may be generated. In general, these types of vaccines generate an IgG antibody response and thus should protect the lower respiratory tract. Because IgA is often required to protect the upper respiratory tract, it remains unclear if the vaccines will prevent disease through disruption of infection of the lower respiratory tract or if they will mitigate and/or block infection in general. To exit the current pandemic this is likely an unimportant fact but could play a role in the length of time of the pandemic if a large percentage of folks do not get vaccinated. Also not discussed in most press releases is the ability to generate cell-mediated or T cell immunity. T cell-mediated immunity does develop in coronavirus-infected individuals and plays a vital role in host defense. Most studies seem to focus on the antibody response and then the waning of the antibody response. These are all normal processes and because an effective immune response to most pathogens generates immunological memory that lasts from months, to years and even for a lifetime for many pathogens, these vaccines should be able to provide efficacious and strong protection for the vaccinated host.

Through the use of modern techniques and accelerated trials, we are seeing safe and effective SARS-CoV-2 vaccine being brought to market in record time. The previous fastest vaccine to market was about 4 years and many vaccines take 10-15 years to develop, test, and bring to market. Certainly, the current pandemic has spurred rapid action to quickly develop a vaccine. At present the safety profiles look good and there is no evidence that any safety corners are being cut. Currently it appears that several of the current phase III vaccines and/or current phase I/phase II vaccines will come to market allowing large scale vaccination and a return to our new normal lives.

Lessons learned from the current pandemic are critically important for future vaccine development and will play a key role in how effectively our world responds to pathogens of the future.

An Angel Among Us



Heroes and angels come in many forms but most often to children they come as “Mom”.

The uniqueness of this story is that the Mom featured in this story has been a parent to a total of 129 children — three she birthed, two she adopted and 124 others who were blessed to have Elaine Spivy as their foster Mom.

This story begins in 1984 with the establishment of Bossier KIDS (Kids in Delicate Situations) Inc. by Airline Drive Church of Christ which responded to the need for Godly foster parents. The organization is known as a “model Christian foster care program, an intentional village on the front lines of foster care”. As fate would have it, Elaine and Brett Spivy were members of the church. While their call to become foster parents was not immediate, it was definitely lasting as their care of foster children spanned over thirty years.

While Bossier KIDS Inc., has been recognized for their outstanding work by the Congressional Coalition Adoption Institute, it was LSU Health Shreveport physicians who said, “Can we please recognize Mrs. Spivy as she is the most amazing person we’ve ever known?”.

These physicians got to know Mrs. Spivy because many of their foster children had significant health issues to include numerous children being born significantly premature with one staying in the NICU for five months, a child who was burned over 40% of their body requiring both legs to be amputated, multiple children shaken so hard they became blind, a child with cleft palate and the list goes on.

It should come as no surprise that the two children Elaine and Brett Spivy adopted were special needs children – a girl and a boy. Breanna was placed with the Spivy’s at three months of age after being severely

burned requiring her legs to be amputated. Breanna now age thirty and a mother still considers time spent at burn camp among her happiest memories. Brother Isaiah is age twenty-six and came into the Spivy’s lives as a severely shaken baby at three months of age. The shaking caused Isaiah to develop glaucoma but his diminished vision never lessened his sunny disposition endearing Isaiah to all who know him. Elaine is quick to give credit to the aides and sitters she encountered during clinic and hospital visits for helping her build her medical knowledge to include learning where to find the medical resources her children needed. She praises the LSU Health Shreveport physicians she encountered saying each one treated she and her children with the utmost compassion and exemplary medical care.

While results of Elaine’s life would likely lead you to believe she has been blessed with perfect health and all positive experiences throughout her thirty-three and a half years as a foster parent — that would not be true. During these years, three foster children pass away and two committed suicide when they were returned to their homes. On the health front, Elaine has experienced two strokes, a back surgery, and two foot surgeries all the while taking care of her extended family. She credits her husband Allen, her biological children Brett, Renee and Dana, and Airline Drive Church of Christ for pitching in during her illnesses and surgeries. Like many who are thriving during this pandemic, Elaine Spivy proved that focusing your time and efforts on the things you can control allows you to rise above even the most challenging circumstances. Who knows... you too might become an angel on earth who inspires and completely changes the lives of those around you if you are willing to invest a little more time thinking and caring of others.

Addressing Meth Addiction:

A long-time challenge in the community that is only getting worse



By: Nicholas E. Goeders, PhD

Executive Director, Louisiana Addiction Research Center

Head, Department of Pharmacology, Toxicology & Neuroscience

LSU Health Shreveport

Ask anyone to identify the most serious drug problem facing America today and most will say opioids. Indeed, the opioid crisis has been devastating. In 2017 alone, opioids were involved in 47,600

overdose deaths in the United States – more than 130 deaths a day. President Trump declared the epidemic of opioid use a public health emergency in 2017, and in 2019 his administration announced that it was awarding \$1.5 billion in grants to state and local governments to help fight this crisis.

Knowing this, it may be a surprise to learn that in the Ark-La-Tex region, methamphetamine addiction is an even larger problem than opioids. A report issued in October 2019 by the United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the number of overdose deaths in 2017 attributed to “crystal meth” in our region (Arkansas, Louisiana, New Mexico, Oklahoma and Texas) was greater than the number of deaths resulting from heroin, fentanyl, hydrocodone or oxycodone. The federal government is taking notice: the \$1.5 billion approved to address the opioid crisis can now also be used to fund projects targeting methamphetamine and other stimulants.

Unfortunately, this is not a new fad. Meth has been hurting its users and breaking apart families for more than a generation. Consequently, while the New York Times on February 13, 2018, published the headline “Meth, the Forgotten Killer, Is Back,” it is my contention that meth never left.

In order to better focus attention and resources on this terrible problem, the Louisiana Addiction Research Center (LARC) was recently established at LSU Health Shreveport. LARC’s mission is to provide addiction research and education in an integrated environment, pursuing the latest in innovative approaches and learning, with the goal of radically improving models of care and intervention for those with substance use disorders. Leadership of the center represents deep expertise across basic science,

medical education, and clinical care delivery, and includes experts in pharmacology, neuroscience, neurology, psychiatry, emergency medicine, community healthcare, public health policy and others. This integrative approach is a key strength of the center that allows us to develop medical interventions, behavioral strategies, models of care and community education that can address a comprehensive range of care. A primary area of our focus is methamphetamine addiction.

Scientists at LSU Health Shreveport have been conducting state-of-the-art addiction research since the early 1980s, before even crack cocaine was available. Much of our early work involved trying to understand how stimulants impact the brain and body in order to develop treatments to help people stop using. This work led to the founding of Embera NeuroTherapeutics, Inc., a company developing novel treatments for addictive disorders with a potential therapeutic agent currently undergoing clinical trial.

Meanwhile, methamphetamine has continued to silently ruin lives around the world, and the problem has only worsened. In years past, much of the meth on the streets was produced domestically in “Breaking Bad” style laboratories or using even more simple methods. Since pseudoephedrine is a major ingredient in the production of meth, a law was enacted in 2005 to curtail the domestic supply of the drug. For a time, the restrictions seemed to be working, but even while meth “cooks” could often find ways around this law, something even more sinister was developing. Drug cartels realized that they could make huge profits by making meth and then use existing drug trafficking routes to supply America’s huge craving for the drug. By importing precursor chemicals from other countries and producing meth on a large scale, the cartels are making and delivering very pure meth for pennies on the dollar. Law enforcement agents and officials across the U.S. will tell you that more than 90 percent of the meth they see today is pure Mexican meth...and that it is everywhere.

Many of us have seen the “Faces of Meth” posters portrayed on Sheriffs’ Office walls and websites. Does this mean that people who use meth or other drugs are all hardened criminals and “bad” people? Of course not! Every meth user is someone’s son or daughter. They are teens, soccer moms and working professionals. They have families who love them. Meth is a deceptive drug. It can make a person feel they have unlimited energy and capability. It can make them feel beautiful and powerful, or let them stay awake for days at a time. The rush of dopamine in the brain caused by meth use can even produce pleasure unmatched by sex. Perhaps most disturbing is the effect that meth has on the children of meth users. Many users admit that they received the drug for the first time from their mother or another family member. We know that more than two-thirds of mothers who lose their children through the courts in our region do so because of meth. No mother intentionally sets out to harm her children, but when a single mom is on a three-day meth-induced binge, who is taking care of her children? Who is helping them with

Meth has been hurting its users and breaking apart families for more than a generation.

their schoolwork? Who is washing their clothes? They are left unfed, unwashed and unwatched – neglected, with terrible consequences.

Unfortunately, meth can also produce untold damage in brains and bodies, effects that might not be seen for many years. Beyond the known outcomes of addiction, multiple sites have found unexpected heart disease in meth users as young as 30 to 40 years old. These types of problems are not normally seen until people reach their 60s and 70s. LARC has now partnered with physicians and scientists from a number of clinical and science departments at LSU Health Shreveport to begin to understand how and why this is occurring. With the help of scientists in the Center for Cardiovascular Diseases and Sciences, the Feist-Weiller Cancer Center, and the Center for Brain Health at LSU Health Shreveport, the efforts of LARC researchers have started to unravel the molecular targets through which meth damages the heart and blood vessels. We expect this research will lead to earlier detection and treatment of meth-related heart disease.



This research is very timely considering the front page of the December 17, 2019, issue of the New York Times ran the headline “A New Drug Scourge: Deaths Involving Meth Are Rising Fast.” It appears that the country is waking up to the problems meth use presents to the community, but many communities are not yet prepared to address the challenge.

We are here to help. LARC researchers will be working to address substance use disorders as a whole, including the opioid crisis. Pain is debilitating for many people, and there is a legitimate need to address the pain many suffer—but it is clear that opiates are not the best answer. LARC is partnering with others to uncover novel, non-opioid methods to alleviate pain. In addition, through a focus on community education about substance use, we hope to increase understanding of the causes and treatment of drug addiction for the benefit of our students and physicians, for our community and for all of Louisiana. As we learn more, we will work to share this knowledge where it will be most valuable. The LARC team and our partners will also continue to develop treatments for substance use disorders and address problems associated with current models of care, working to establish a continuum of treatment whereby drug users are less likely to fall through the cracks or get lost in the system.

By building on more than three decades of successful, groundbreaking translational (research bench to clinical bedside) research, LSU Health Shreveport’s LARC is a unique community resource addressing the challenges our community faces today and is positioned to address those that may arise tomorrow.

HONORS & APPOINTMENTS



James D. Morris, MD, FACP, FACG, AGAF, Associate Professor of Medicine and Program Director for the Division of Gastroenterology was elected President of the General Faculty for 2020-2021. Dr. Morris led his first meeting on September 15,

2020 and presented the Gavel of Recognition to **Kenneth McMartin, PhD**, Professor of Pharmacology, Toxicology and Neuroscience



Hugo Cuellar, MD, PhD, MBA, DABR was named permanent Chairman of the Department of Radiology. Dr. Cuellar is an Associate Professor of Radiology, Neurosurgery and Neurology with tenure and serves as Director of Neuroendovascular Surgery and Neuroimaging and Co-Director of the Thrombectomy Capable Stroke Center.



Krystle Trosclair, MS, PhD joined the LSU Health Shreveport Department of Neurosurgery as an Assistant Professor and was appointed Director of Neurosurgical Research in the Department of Neurosurgery at LSU Health Shreveport.



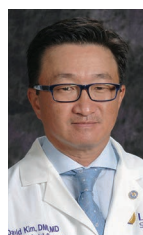
Maroun J. Mhanna, MD, MPH was named Chairman and Professor of the Department of Pediatrics. Dr. Mhanna will see patients at Ochsner LSU Health Shreveport – Academic Medical Center and Ochsner LSU Shreveport – St. Mary Medical Center.



Steven Roderick Bailey, MD, MSCAI, MACP, FACC, FAHA, Chairman of Internal Medicine, has been named by the American College of Physicians (ACP) Awards Committee as a 2021 Mastership recipient. Dr. Bailey is only the fourth member of the LSU Health Shreveport faculty and one of only fifteen Louisiana physicians to have received this prestigious designation.



Nicholas E. Goeders, PhD, Professor and Head of Pharmacology, Toxicology and Neuroscience; Professor of Psychiatry and Behavioral Medicine; Executive Director of Louisiana Addiction Research Center received the Wayne Drewry Award from Council on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse of Northwest Louisiana on October 7, 2020 at the CADA Annual Meeting. The award is for outstanding and distinguished contributions in the field of addictions.



Dongsoo Kim, DMD, MD, FACS Professor and Vice-Chairman of Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery, Director of Head & Neck Oncologic / Microvascular Reconstructive Surgery Fellowship, Division Chief Head & Neck Oncologic Surgery was awarded funding from the AOCMF North America Board in recognition of his Fellowship Program. The Fellowship Program was recognized by the AOCMF North America Board for its excellent program structure and educational content and, as a result, AONA



Diana Merendino, DPT, RRT, PT, FAARC, has been named the new Assistant Dean of Academic and Student Affairs for the School of Allied Health Professions effective June 1. Dr. Merendino has faithfully served over 37 years in clinical practice as a Respiratory Therapist (RRT) and has been a faculty member at the School of Allied Health Professions for 29 years.

Since 2017, Dr. Merendino's leadership has been instrumental in serving the Cardiopulmonary Science, Medical Laboratory Science, and Physician Assistants Programs as Department Head. In addition to her work-related service, she has served in multiple service and leadership roles, both in our community and in her professional organizations on local, state, and national levels.



Alan D. Kaye, MD, PhD, DABA, DABPM, DABIPP, FASA has been named Provost and Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs effective June 8. Dr. Kaye will serve as the Chief Academic Officer representing LSUHS in Shreveport and Monroe, working closely with the Chancellor and senior leadership team to promote and enhance academic excellence,

strengthen the educational infrastructure, and expand the scope of individual academic programs and interdisciplinary curricula.



Lester Johnson, MD, Vice Chancellor of Academic Affairs, Professor of Surgery in Monroe, Louisiana was appointed by the LSU Board of Supervisors to the search committee responsible for selecting the new President of LSU.



Cindy Rives, MPA was appointed to the position of Vice Chancellor of Administration and Finance.

School of Allied Health Professions August 2020 Graduates

Adeola Medinat
 Adedokun-Afolayan
 Aishat Abiodun Adewoye
 Jesse Astorga, III
 Madison Marguerite Belou
 Elizabeth Grace Bilbao
 Jeffrey Kaleb Blondin
 Emma Warren Bollich
 Brittany Allyson Bozzell
 Macie Lee Branch
 Haley Marie Brand
 Adele Elise Broussard
 Lauren Sistrunk Burkett
 Marissa Tana Burnett
 Audra Lynn Callender
 Shannon Kathleen Chappell
 Camille Elizabeth Gouaux
 Comeaux
 Christa Lynn Culpepper
 Molly Joyce Day
 Katie Fiona Duffy
 Lindsay Alexandra Dufresne
 Gabrielle Colinda Dupuy
 Darby Lee Durel
 Haley Elizabeth Englade
 Madison Alexandra Fakouri
 Thea Christine Fontenot
 Anna Elise Gould
 Bailey Shayne Hagan
 Andrea Nicole Hargis
 Caroline Leigh Harris
 Abby Lou Hinds
 Olivia Anne Hockenjos
 Ashley Denise Hunter
 Sara Hope Hutchinson
 Ember Gryder Johnson
 Ruth Yasa Kasalwe

Sarah Elizabeth Kline
 Amber Rachele Lambert
 Catherine Danae Lane
 Griffon Ainsley Lawson
 Sarah Michele LeBouef
 Alexandra Blair Lemaire
 Laura Elizabeth Mackowiak
 Victoria M. Marcel
 Leslie Michelle McAnn May
 Leah Elizabeth McDonald
 Carly Nicole Melancon
 Hannah Elizabeth Michael
 Courtney Leigh Michel
 Hayley Miller Montgomery
 Hien Thanh Nguyen
 Jessica Cari North
 Mallory Ellison Parnell
 Joanna Brooke Petersen
 Jessica Marie Pittman
 Kennedy Bryce Poole
 Morgan Lynn Prejean
 Mary Catherine Procell
 Ginna Kathleen Prutzman
 Peyton Bickham Rachal
 Layne Neitzschman Raggio
 Melissa Claire Raney
 Kaitlyn Millet Reine
 Rachel E. Rovira
 Madison Elise Schuetz
 Kaycie Fontenot Setliff
 Amanda Renae Simmons
 Seth Michael Sweeten
 Haley Rita Taylor
 Carly Renee Toups
 Traci Breanne Winborne
 Katelynd LeAnn Wren

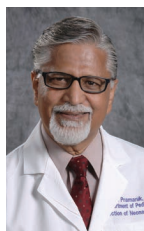
committed to a one-year award for the academic term August 1, 2020 through July 31, 2021. The award provided financial support of \$20,000.00 for the fellowship program, along with educational support for fellows.



Stephan N. Witt, PhD was invited to a second 5-year term on the Journal of Biological Chemistry editorial board. In the fall of 2014, Dr. Witt was asked by the Editor of the Journal of Biological Chemistry, which is one of the best scientific journals in the world, to be a member of the JBC editorial board for a 5-year term (2015-2020). Because of excellent service

in reviewing manuscripts during the first term, the Editor and Associate Editors of JBC invited Dr. Witt to accept a second 5-year term (2021-2025). Being a member of the JBC editorial board is a great honor.

Stephan N. Witt, PhD was invited to be a Review Editor on the Editorial Board of Aging, Metabolism and Redox Biology



Arun Pramanik, MD was nominated in July 2020 to three committees of the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) which deal with improving care of Newborn infants based on evidence-based medicine. Policy statements made by the AAP define the standard of care for Newborn infants which are followed by practicing Neonatologists in the USA and

Canada. (1) Committee of Fetus and Newborn. (2) Neonatal Resuscitation Program Steering Committee. (3) Society of Advances in Therapeutics and Technology.



Maburka Alfaidi, PhD, a Post-Doctoral Fellow in the Wayne Orr Lab won the 2020 British Atherosclerosis Society Young Investigator Award. Sponsored by the British Heart Foundation, the award recognizes young scientists who have brought distinction by their research and publications contributing to the knowledge of atherosclerosis. Dr. Alfaidi is also

a finalist for the first annual ATVB Elaine Raines Early Career Investigator award.



Gauri Mankekar, MD, PhD, who is an Assistant Professor of Otolaryngology/Head & Neck Surgery performed the first BONEBRIDGE Bone Conduction Implant procedure in north Louisiana on 11/17. This procedure allows individuals age 12 or older who cannot transfer sound from inner ear via a natural pathway to gain the ability to hear.



Wanda Thomas, MD was selected as the new Assistant Dean of Admissions for the LSUHS School of Medicine.

AOA Inductees Class of 2021

The following students, house officers and faculty were inducted into AOA for this class.

STUDENTS

Claire Stowers - President
 Manon Doucet - Vice President
 Adam Xiao - NRMP Chairman
 Laura Perilloux - Community Service
 Chairman
 Eleni Mijalis
 Audrey Demand
 James Ferrer
 Cole Bergeron
 Adam Vandenlangenberg

Meghan Smith
 Elizabeth Person
 Rosemary Prejean
 Kristina Gambino
 Allison Rogers
 Katie Frith
 Haley Harrington
 Christian Bergeron
 William Terraciano
 Rhett Reynolds

RESIDENTS/FELLOWS

Loveita Raymond, MD
 Caleb Dupre, MD

Kelli H. Morgan, MD
 David Sommerhalder, MD

RESEARCH NOTEBOOK

Research Notebook is a recurring series highlighting research activities at LSU Health Shreveport.



Dr. David Gross, a professor in the Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology at LSU Health Shreveport, has been awarded a 4-year, \$1.2 million grant from the National Institutes of Health for a project entitled "Genome Architecture and Gene Control in Response to Stress." The goal of Dr. Gross's project is to understand how the structure and three-dimensional arrangement of stress-responsive 'HSP' genes help to protect

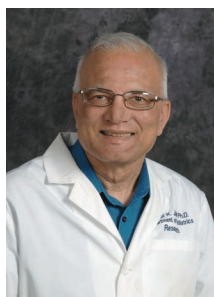
cells from the damaging and occasionally lethal effects of exposure to high temperature, chemicals, oxidants or heavy metals.

These aforementioned stresses cause protein misfolding that can diminish or abolish protein function. Protein misfolding is also seen in human diseases such as neurodegeneration and cancer. In neurodegenerative diseases such as Alzheimer's, Parkinson's or ALS (Lou Gehrig's disease), HSP genes are insufficiently activated, leading to neuronal cell degeneration. In

cancer, the problem is just the opposite: HSP genes are hyper-activated and thereby enhance the malignancy of tumors.

HSP genes are under the regulation of a DNA-binding protein (transcription factor) termed "Heat Shock Factor 1" (HSF1). HSF1 is highly conserved and is found in virtually all organisms. The Gross lab has discovered that HSF1 triggers a remarkable genome-wide reorganization of HSP genes in the model organism *Saccharomyces cerevisiae* (baker's yeast) when cells are exposed to acute thermal stress. Such reorganization culminates in the physical clustering of HSP genes (~100 altogether) into several discrete condensates within the nucleus, much like oil droplets suspended in water. The funded project will delve into how and why this phenomenon takes place.

Insights obtained from this project will inform therapeutic efforts aimed broadly at 3D genome regulation and may suggest novel drugs with which to modulate HSF1 to treat cancer and neurodegenerative diseases.



Dr. Sushil Jain, a Professor in the Department of Pediatrics at LSU Health Shreveport, has been awarded a 3-year, \$1.52 million grant from the National Institutes of Health (NIH) for a project entitled, *Optimization of 25-hydroxy-vitamin D levels in African Americans*. The goal of the project is the development of a safe, low-cost dietary supplement that can improve the body's synthesis of

Vitamin D and reduce insulin resistance and inflammation. Advances in this research will especially provide significant benefits in the prevention of pre-diabetes and health disparities within the African-American population.

Vitamin D is an essential nutrient with multiple roles within a healthy body some of which include promoting calcium absorption for the development of strong bones, glucose metabolism, providing immunity, the reduction of inflammation, and the regulation of over 200 genes in the human body. The fat-soluble vitamin naturally occurs in foods such as salmon, mushrooms, egg yolks, enriched grains and cereals; and is also produced in the human body when UV rays from sunlight strike the skin and trigger synthesis. Vitamin D as such does not have any metabolic function or

cannot perform metabolic functions in tissues. In either forms, Vitamin D must undergo a breakdown in the liver and kidney that transforms the inert nutrients into active compounds the body can use. The hydroxylation occurring in the liver results in 25-hydroxy-vitamin D—25(OH) VD—also known as calcidiol. The second hydroxylation, which occurs primarily in the kidney, results in 1,25-dihydroxyvitamin D, also known as calcitriol. Calcidiol is a stable metabolite of Vitamin D and its measurement in blood is used to monitor VD-deficiency.

The recommended daily dose of Vitamin D is 600 IU, but many take doses in the range of 2000-4000 IU daily. The deficiency of Calcidiol is a major public health issue worldwide. Two-thirds of the African-American population has higher incidence of this deficiency as well as associated health hazards. Vitamin D-deficiencies are known to be linked to rickets, and higher incidences of diabetes, cancer and cardiovascular diseases. This clinical trial investigates whether the combined use of the micronutrients and an amino acid will increase the levels of active Vitamin D and provide insulin resistance. The long-term goal is to discover new approaches to ensure adequate 25(OH)VD status and to prevent the adverse effects of Vitamin D deficiency on health conditions in the African-American population.

OBEESITY: THE WAY FORWARD

Using the body mass index as a guideline for weight

By: Dr. Kapil Kohli, Assistant Professor of Medicine at LSU Health Shreveport

Obesity has become one of the most important public health problems in the United States and many other resource-rich countries. As the prevalence of obesity has increased, so has the frequency of the comorbidities associated with obesity.

The body mass index (BMI) is the accepted standard measure of overweight and obesity. BMI provides a guideline for weight in relation to height. When calculating BMI using pounds and inches, the formula needs to be altered slightly.

Multiply your weight in pounds by 703. Divide that by your height in inches, squared: $BMI = (\text{your weight in pounds} \times 703) \div (\text{your height in inches} \times \text{your height in inches})$.

Shreveport has become the second-fattest city in the United States and that has huge public health implications as a community. Recent research points to several significant facts: Shreveport residents have the lowest likelihood in the country to consume fresh fruits and vegetables while second highest in the country to have high blood pressure and high cholesterol.

Obesity is associated with a significant increase in morbidity (including diabetes, high blood pressure, high cholesterol, heart disease, stroke, sleep apnea and cancer) and mortality. Weight loss is associated with a reduction in obesity-associated morbidity.

Because of known health risks associated with excess body weight, people with BMI >25 kg/m² are candidates for weight-loss interventions. The goal of weight-loss therapy is to prevent, treat or reverse the complications of obesity and improve the quality of life. Health benefits have been reported with weight loss of as little as 5% of body weight.

The initial management of individuals who would benefit from weight loss is a comprehensive lifestyle intervention: a combination of diet, exercise and behavioral modification. All patients who would benefit from weight loss should receive counseling on diet, exercise and goals for weight loss. The behavioral modification component facilitates adherence to diet and exercise regimens, and includes regular self-monitoring of food intake, physical activity and weight.

Many types of diets produce modest weight loss. Options include balanced low-calorie, low-fat/low-calorie, moderate-fat/low-calorie, or low-carbohydrate diets, as well as the Mediterranean diet. Dietary adherence is an important predictor of weight loss regardless of the type of diet chosen. Thus, we advise tailoring a diet that reduces energy intake below energy expenditure to individual patient preferences rather than focusing on the macronutrient composition of the diet.

Although less potent than dietary restriction in promoting weight loss, increasing energy expenditure through physical activity is a strong predictor of weight loss maintenance. Physical activity should be performed for approximately 30 minutes or more, five to seven days a week to prevent weight gain and improve cardiovascular health.

Behavior modification or behavior therapy is one cornerstone in the treatment of obesity. The goal of behavioral therapy is to help patients make long-term changes in their eating behavior by modifying and monitoring their food intake, modifying their physical activity, and controlling cues and stimuli in the environment that trigger eating.

For patients who are unable to achieve weight loss goals with a comprehensive lifestyle intervention alone, options include pharmacologic therapy, the use of medical devices or bariatric surgery.

Drug therapy is often a helpful component in the treatment regimen for people with obesity; it can be considered for those with a BMI >30 kg/m², or a BMI of 27 to 29.9 kg/m² with weight-related comorbidities, who have not met weight loss goals (loss of at least 5 percent of total body weight at three to six months) with a comprehensive lifestyle intervention. The decision to initiate drug therapy should be individualized and made after a careful evaluation of the risks and benefits of all treatment options.

Given the public health importance of obesity as a disease locally in our community along with its multi-pronged ill effects on health, it is crucial to consult a qualified physician to help guide weight loss while keeping an eye on obesity-related complications.

BMI CATEGORIES

Underweight = <18.5

Normal weight = 18.5–24.9

Overweight = 25–29.9

Obesity = BMI of 30 or greater

- **Class I – 30.0 to 34.9**
- **Class II – 35.0 to 39.9**
- **Class III – 40**

Recommended BMI adopted by the National Institutes of Health (NIH) and World Health Organization (WHO) for Caucasian, Hispanic and black individuals.



Donald Zadeck

An icon in the development of our health sciences center passed away at the age of 92 on July 15, 2020. Mr. Zadeck served as the inaugural Chairman of the LSU Health Shreveport Foundation at the request of his dear friend and Foundation founder, Dr. Ike Muslow. He served as Chairman from 1997-2008, making him the longest serving Chairman in the 23 year history of the Foundation. Upon stepping down as Chairman, he was unanimously named Chairman Emeritus. Mr. Zadeck remained financially supportive and keenly interested in our health sciences center until the time of his death.

His priorities as the Foundation Chairman were to acquire property that would allow for LSUHS growth, provide then Chancellor Dr. John C. McDonald with the support needed to be successful, and to raise awareness about the incomparable healthcare provided by LSUHS physicians.



Working closely with the former Foundation board member, Mr. Bob Pugh, Sr., Mr. Zadeck led the effort to acquire over 25 acres through fifteen separate real estate transactions. These land acquisitions have been and continue to be instrumental in providing parking for employees, students, and patients, as well as serving as home to the Louisiana Poison Control Center, LSUHS COVID-19 Community Outreach Strike Team, and many other initiatives.

Other achievements during Mr. Zadeck's tenure include:

- Increasing Foundation assets
- Increasing the number of endowed chairs and professorships from 9 to 39
- Successfully raising awareness of the caliber of physicians and clinical programs at LSUHS. Mr. Zadeck personally recruited dozens of his contemporaries and their families to access their healthcare from LSUHS physicians, while also availing Foundation staff to help patients connect with physicians. He also appeared on numerous TV ads extolling the caliber of physicians at LSUHS



In addition to the tremendous impact Mr. Zadeck made on our health sciences center, he contributed his time and talents to many other civic endeavors serving as President of B'Nai Zion Congregation (1970-73); Chairman of the Shreveport Chamber of Commerce (1977); Chairman of the Board of Louisiana Association of Business and Industry (1978-79); President of Committee of 100 (1980-81); Member of the State of Louisiana Board of Regents (1981-86); and Member of the Shreveport Fire and Police Civil Service Board (1989-98) serving as Chairman for eight years. Donald was the recipient of the Shreveport Chamber of Commerce "Business Leader of the Year Award" in 1980, the "Mr. Shreveport Award" in 1981, and the LSU Health Shreveport Community Hero Award in 2017.



Mr. Zadeck moved to Shreveport at a young age, attending the Creswell School, C. E. Byrd High School, and Centenary College. He then entered the Army Air Force, and served in the Philippines and Japan following World War II. After his discharge, he attended Louisiana State University Law School in Baton Rouge, where he served on the Louisiana Law Review. Mr. Zadeck was an astute businessman serving as the President and Founder of Zadeck Energy Group.

Donald and his loving wife and best friend, Frances Katzenstein Zadeck were married on November 22, 1951. They had three children: Donald Jr., Julie, and Frank Kenneth "Kenny". When Donald Jr. passed away in 1995, the Zadeck Family chose to honor him with the beautiful garden located in front of the Feist-Weiller Cancer Center.

Dr. Paul Minor Schuler

Dr. Paul Minor Shuler (School of Medicine, Class of 1983) passed away unexpectedly on Sunday March 1, 2020, at Willis-Knighton Pierremont Hospital at the age of 63. He was a board certified physician in pulmonary and critical care as well as sleep medicine. As a physician, he was known for his unwavering commitment to his patients. He truly loved his work and was a lifelong learner of medicine. He will always be remembered for his passion for helping people in and out of the hospital. He will be deeply missed by his family, friends and all who knew him.

Trapper Munn, MD

Dr. Trapper Lee Munn (School of Medicine, Class of 2019) passed away on June 21, 2020. He will be remembered by all the lives he touched. He was fulfilling his lifelong dream of being a physician and helping others. Following medical school he was accepted into the Urology program at LSU Health Sciences in New Orleans, Louisiana where he was a medical resident.

James Woodard Johnson, MD

Former LSUHS Faculty member James Woodard Johnson, MD passed peacefully on July 14, 2020. He graduated first in his undergraduate and medical school class from Tulane University. He served a residency and fellowship at Brigham and Women's Hospital in Boston prior to returning to Shreveport where he served on the Department of Medicine faculty as Chief of Nephrology Section 1971-1981.

James Aaron Albright, MD.

James Aaron Albright, MD, passed away on June 2, 2020, in Hartford, Connecticut, at the age of 91. Early in his medical career, Jim was drawn to orthopaedics and began his surgical training at Yale University and later served on their academic faculty. During his 28 years as chairman of Orthopaedics at LSU Health Shreveport, Jim is best remembered for his passion for scientific research, for his patient demeanor, and for teaching generations of orthopaedic residents.

Dr. Albright was a "Renaissance surgeon" known for his broad range of skills from correcting young children's foot deformities to performing hand surgery, spine operations and a variety of other orthopaedic procedures. Over the span of his forty-plus year career, Jim taught hundreds of orthopaedic residents who fondly called him "Chief".

Dr. Albright invented new finger joint and hip joint replacements, wrote hundreds of scientific articles, and created the first book of its kind, "The Scientific Basis of Orthopaedics". His passion for learning new things kept his mind active well into his eighties. Dr. Albright's heart was devoted to helping his patients and helping others pursue their interests in medicine and beyond.

Dr. Gary Booker

Dr. Gary Booker (School of Medicine, Class of 1984) passed away on August 29, 2020. Dr. Booker served in the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Medicine touching countless lives through his compassion and skills. "Dr. Booker was a beloved mentor to students and residents and a good friend, colleague and outstanding clinician," shared Dr. James Patterson, Chair

of Psychiatry and Behavioral Health. Thoughts and prayers are extended to Dr. Booker's family, his patients, students and colleagues who will miss him deeply.

For faculty and staff who were unable to attend the mid-week services, the Department of Psychiatry held a butterfly release in front of the breezeway of the BRI Atrium.

He was especially beloved by students and residents who benefitted from his outstanding teaching ability. His service in leading the emergency psychiatry team for the past seven years has touched countless lives due to his profound compassion for those suffering with mental illness. Dr. Booker believed in giving 110% to every patient and student garnering the respect of all who knew him. "He was a good friend, colleague and an excellent clinician," shared Dr. James Patterson.

Dr. Tara Williams-Hart

LSU Health Shreveport expresses condolences to the family of Dr. Tara Williams-Hart (School of Graduate Studies, Class of 2004) who passed away suddenly on August 25. She graduated from the LSUHS School of Graduate Studies in 2003 having earned a MS and a PhD in Biochemistry and Molecular Biology.

Immediately upon obtaining her PhD, Tara began an accomplished teaching career at LSUS where she was a Professor of Biological Sciences. She also served as a gratis Assistant Professor, Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology at LSU Health Shreveport from 2007-2015.

Dr. Williams-Hart was instrumental in advising countless students over the past fourteen years as the Chairperson of the Health Science Advisory Committee at LSUS. She also served as the Faculty Advisor for Alpha Epsilon Delta, the Health Pre-professional Honor Society, the Minority Association of Pre-health Students and the Pre-Dental Society. Dr. Williams-Hart was honored with numerous local, state and national awards during her tenure as a faculty member at LSUS.

Lodwick "Lod" Monroe Cook III

Lodwick Monroe Cook, III a successful businessman and philanthropist, passed away Sept. 28 in Sherman Oaks, California at the age of 92. A Louisiana native, growing up in Grand Cane, Mr. Cook received BS degrees in Mathematics in 1950 and Petroleum Engineering in 1955 at Louisiana State University. While working, he finished an MBA program at Southern Methodist University in 1965. Mr. Cook's professional career began in 1956 as an engineering trainee with Atlantic Richfield Company (ARCO). He quickly ascended the corporate ladder, eventually becoming the CEO and Chairman of the Board. Under his leadership, ARCO was hailed as the Best-Managed U.S. Company, with profit margins approached by few and returns on equity equaled by none. Mr. Cook's connection to LSU remained strong through his service on the LSU Alumni Association Board of Directors for 27 years. He made the lead gift for the construction of the Lod Cook Alumni Center, dedicated on May 20, 1994. Mr. Cook was also a supporter of LSU Health Shreveport in honor of his grandson, Dr. Sam Chamby, who attended the School of Medicine in Shreveport from 2015-2019.

Class Notes

Ruhul Abid, MD, PhD (School of Graduate Studies, Class of 2020) former postdoctoral fellow in Dr. Ricky De Benedetti's lab in the Department of Biochemistry & Molecular Biology from 1997-2000, was nominated for the 2020 Nobel Peace Prize. Ruhul has been very active in social health programs that serve underserved industrial and garment factory workers in Bangladesh since 2013 and the Rohingya refugees from Myanmar since 2017. This activity resulted in his nomination for the 2020 Nobel Peace Prize.

Krystle Trosclair, MS, PhD, (School of Graduate Studies, Class of 2020) recently joined the LSU Health Shreveport Department of Neurosurgery as an Assistant Professor and was appointed Director of Neurosurgical Research. Dr. Trosclair will diversify the Department of Neurosurgery's research portfolio in collaboration with residents, affiliate medical personnel, and the LSU Health Shreveport School of Graduate Studies. She received her PhD in Neuroelectrophysiology and previously earned a Master of Science in Clinical Human Anatomy, both from LSU Health Shreveport. She has published and presented her research locally, regionally and nationally.

Lindsay Michel, MPH, RRT (School of Allied Health Professions, Class of 2012/2017) was promoted to Program Director of the Bossier Parish Community College Respiratory Therapy (BPCC RT) program where she will oversee all aspects of program administration and management including student admissions, curriculum development, and review of program effectiveness. The BPCC RT program has been in consortium agreement with LSU Health Shreveport since 1980 and currently enrolls students locally in Shreveport/Bossier and at a satellite program in Monroe, LA.

Matthew Martin, PT, DPT, (School of Allied Health Professions, Class of 2019) completed the LSU Health Shreveport Neurologic Physical Therapy Residency Program following graduation from PT school to become specialized in neurologic physical therapy. Currently working as a member of the clinical faculty in neuro rehab in the LSU Health Shreveport Faculty Practice Clinic, his primary areas of focus are stroke, spinal cord injury, and vestibular disorders.

Mandy Porter, PA-C, (School of Allied Health Professions, Class of 2015) is very pleased to be joining LSU Health Shreveport in the Physician Assistant Program as a faculty member. She has worked in rheumatology for 4.5 years prior to joining the team at her alma mater.

Addison Willett, MD, JD, MBA (School of Medicine, Class of 2015) has joined Infirmary Cancer Care (ICC) in Mobile and Fairhope, AL, following the completion of a residency in radiation oncology with

the University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics in Iowa City, IA. Dr. Willett holds a bachelor's degree in Mathematics from Haverford College in Pennsylvania, as well as a Juris Doctorate and a Master of Business Administration from the University of Richmond. ICC provides a comprehensive program and streamlined access to care for patients. Their multidisciplinary team of experts collaborate on each patient's case during renowned weekly tumor conferences; access is also provided to personal cancer navigators who guide patients every step of the way. ICC has been recognized by the Commission on Cancer for their commitment to providing comprehensive, high-quality and multidisciplinary patient care.

Maria Goulas Meyers, MD (School of Medicine, Class of 1994) practices indigent care pediatrics at Jefferson County Department of Health (JCDH), Birmingham, Alabama, where the patient population is predominantly Medicaid with 3 clinics strategically placed in underserved areas. She credits her love for this patient population from her exposure to a similar patient population during her medical education and residency training in Shreveport which she completed in 1997. COVID-19 has brought new experiences further shaping Dr. Meyers perspective to include splitting JCDH clinics into a well clinic and a sick clinic as a way to ration personal protective equipment. She has also been introduced to telemedicine embracing it wholeheartedly as a wonderful tool for connecting with patients who are homebound or unable to get transportation to a clinic.

Matthew Bumgardner, MD (School of Medicine, Class of 2014) has joined Baton Rouge General Physicians as a family and sports medicine specialist. He completed his residency training at Baton Rouge General's family medicine program, where he served as chief resident. He then completed a fellowship in Baton Rouge General's sports medicine program. A team physician for LSU, Dr. Bumgardner has also worked as an urgent care physician at The Baton Rouge Clinic, and most recently as a family and sports medicine physician for Ochsner Health System.

John Evans, MD (School of Medicine, Class of 2011) has recently returned to his hometown of Shreveport after several years of post-graduate education. Dr. John Evans is the newest member of CHRISTUS Highland's cardiovascular and thoracic surgery team. After recovering from an operation to repair his fractured ankle, his interest in medicine was ignited. He attended college in Baton Rouge. His interests during medical school in Shreveport fluctuated between orthopaedics, medical oncology and surgery. John was mentored by some amazing surgeons creating the undeniable goal of becoming a surgeon. He completed five years of general surgery training at the University of Alabama at Birmingham. Midway through this training, Dr. Evans fell in love with cardiothoracic surgery resulting in pursuit of cardiothoracic training at Vanderbilt before moving back to Shreveport.

LSUHS DEPARTMENTS CELEBRATE

HALLOWEEN & SERVICE



PUMPKINS AND PUPS
at Betty Virginia Park—
presented by the
Executive Council



"HEARTS INTO HALLOWEEN"
Cardiology residents
brought their A game for
the Annual Cardiology
Community Service Project

LSU Board Interim President and Board Members Visit LSU Health Shreveport & Monroe



LSU Health Shreveport is grateful to interim LSU President Tom Galligan, Provost Stacia Haynie and several members of the LSU Board of Supervisor members for visiting both the Shreveport and Monroe campuses in November. Tour stops included the Clinical Skills Center, Emerging Viral Threat Lab, School of Allied Health Professions and upgraded areas of Monroe Medical Center where over 100 LSU Health Shreveport medical students and residents train.

Board of Supervisors visiting one of both locations include BOS Chair – Robert Dampf, Chair Elect – Remie Starnes, Immediate Past President – Mary Werner, Wayne Brown, Randy Morris, Valencia Sarpy-Jones, and Stone Cox.

New Drills Donated by Stryker Offer Realistic Training for Students

On August 19, 2020, LSU Health Shreveport accepted a donation from Stryker of new drilling equipment for the temporal bone lab, a modern training facility within the Department of Otolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery. In the lab, students will work at four operative stations to learn the complex anatomy of the temporal bone and the ear at the base of the skull.

“Otologic and skull base neuro-otologic surgery requires repetitive drilling of temporal bones to understand and gain expertise in operating in one of the most difficult areas in the body,” said Cherie-Ann Nathan, MD, FACS, Otolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery Department Chair. “Developing a state-of-the-art temporal bone lab positions LSU Health Shreveport to invigorate residency training for our residents and fellows to hone their skills prior to operating on patients. I am grateful to Stryker for their commitment to resident education.”

Gale Gardner, MD, Professor and Clinical Specialist of Otolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery, and Director of Neurotology at LSU Health Shreveport, is one of the premier otologic surgeons in the country and can be credited for

his tireless efforts to upgrade the training environment for residents. Dr. Gardner leads the residency program at LSUHS that will utilize the new lab. Each surgical station features operating room-grade equipment to make training exercises as realistic as possible. Dr. Gardner has trained nearly 40 residents over the past few years alone, and many current residents show interest in going into otology/neuro-otology fellowships.



Stryker is one of the world’s leading medical technology companies. Based in Kalamazoo, Michigan, the company offers innovative products and services in Orthopaedics, Medical and Surgical, and Neurotechnology and Spine that help improve patient and hospital outcomes.

Living Well Sponsors COVID-19 Testing

In collaboration with Living Well Foundation and the City of Monroe, the LSU Health Shreveport Emerging Viral Threat (EVT) Lab provided Mobile COVID-19 Testing in Monroe. Since late April, mobile testing vans from LSU Health Shreveport have been traveling back and forth across Caddo Parish and North Louisiana, offering free COVID-19 testing in underserved areas. These efforts have reached over 5400 citizens. Recognizing the need to expand this life-saving testing to Monroe, LSU Health Shreveport (LSUHS) leadership reached out to Living Well Foundation for help. Living Well Foundation responded with a \$20,000 grant to provide mobile testing in Monroe. A check presentation was held with Jesse Gilmore, Vice President of Development with the LSUHS Foundation, Dr. Lester Wayne Johnson, Vice-Chancellor for Clinical Affairs for LSU Health in Monroe, Dr. Jennifer Singh, Medical Director for LSU Health Shreveport mobile COVID-19 testing, and Alice Proffit, President/CEO of Living Well Foundation in attendance.

“During the challenges experienced by our communities from the COVID-19 crisis, the Living Well Foundation initiated a special grant cycle to support disaster and crisis recovery

as much as possible. With this grant, we know the need for testing and ongoing attention to the COVID-19 impact in our region is important. The LSU Health Sciences Foundation, with the Monroe campus of the Ochsner LSU Health System, have both partnered with us to ensure these services are provided with ongoing viability. We are pleased to assist LSU Health Sciences Foundation in a valuable service for the communities and people served.” Alice M. Proffit, President/CEO of Living Well Foundation.

Jennifer Singh, MD, Associate Professor of Medicine at LSU Health Shreveport, and medical director of Partners in Wellness is pleased to bring mobile COVID-19 testing to underserved citizens of the Monroe area. Dr. Singh comments, “Testing in the community is more important than ever as we continue to open businesses and schools across Louisiana. It’s very encouraging to see that most people who arrive for testing are wearing masks and taking precautions. We’re thankful that Living Well shares our commitment to making testing easy and accessible.”

AT&T Foundation Serves as Presenting Sponsor for the Second Annual LSU Health Shreveport HBCU Educational Conference

A huge thanks to the AT&T Foundation for their support of the second annual (Historically Black Colleges and Universities) HBCU Educational Conference presented by the LSU Health Shreveport Office of Diversity Affairs. The \$25,000 in support was provided through the AT&T Aspire grant program which is focused on student investment. "We are proud to support the work being done at LSU Health Shreveport through their HBCU Educational Conference to engage with students who are underrepresented in medical fields and encourage them to pursue careers as health professionals," said Robert F. Vinet, Regional Director, AT&T Louisiana. "LSU Health Shreveport is a leader across the region and their work to cultivate diversity in the medical field is important to success across all communities."

As a component of a comprehensive strategy to recruit more students from priority populations, the LSUHS Office of Diversity Affairs instituted HBCU Day in 2019. The inaugural event, held over two days, garnered over fifty attendees who were interested in learning more about the School of Medicine, School of Allied Health Professions or School of Graduate Studies at LSU Health Shreveport. This year's virtual event attracted even more attendees and also spanned two days. Insight on curriculum,

learning environment, admissions process, financial aid, summer research opportunities, mentoring programs, campus culture, and the student experience were covered during the conference. Students from Grambling, Southern University (Baton Rouge, and New Orleans), Xavier and Dillard participated.



L to R: David Aubrey- Regional Vice President/External and Legislative Affairs for AT&T Louisiana, Robert Vinet – Regional Director for AT&T Louisiana, Dr. Toni Thibeaux – Assistant Vice-Chancellor for Diversity Affairs at LSUHS, Dr. G. E. Ghali – Chancellor LSU Health Shreveport, Dr. Debbie Chandler – Associate Dean of Diversity Affairs at LSUHS and Kevin Flood – President LSU Health Shreveport Foundation.

Passing of Smoking Ban

The City of Shreveport City Council recently passed Ordinance No. 51 of 2020 which provides updates regarding smoking, smoking devices, and vapes. The ordinance prohibits smoking of any kind in public spaces—from parks and playgrounds, to bars and casinos. An exception was made for hookah bars and cigar bars specifically.

The passing of the ordinance is seen by many healthcare professionals as a giant stride towards the betterment of the public health policy. What started as the Louisiana Smoke-Free Air Act in 2006, underwent several legislative transformations before being expanded into a policy meant to protect the health of workers and the public from the effects of secondhand smoke.

Interim President Galligan, enforced a tobacco-free campus-wide policy. LSU Health Shreveport Chief of Pulmonary and

Critical Care Medicine, Dr. Robert Walter, MD, MPH, FCCP is quoted as saying, "Vaping and traditional smoking are never a good idea as they can cause acute lung injury at any time. The vapor has a number of known carcinogens (cancer-causing chemicals) and its use has been associated with cardiovascular and lung diseases long-term. Underlying smoking-related diseases, like heart disease and COPD, worsen outcomes in COVID-19. While there has not been a conclusive study yet, it is probable that sharing devices and passive exposure to the vapor cloud, especially in confined spaces, will increase the risk of COVID-19 transmission as the virus remains stable in aerosols and surfaces for extended periods of time."

Continued support from the City of Shreveport, combined with the work of diligent essential workers and community representatives is protecting and saving lives.



Hurricane Laura Supply Drive

2020 brought about many changes and challenges; multiple hurricanes in the midst of a pandemic devastated South Louisiana.

But with the trying times, there was also a swell in compassion. The LSU Health Shreveport community rose to the occasion to provide much needed resources to the victims of Hurricane Laura. Faculty, staff, students and residents contributed essential supplies. LSU Health Shreveport partnered with LSUS, Southfield School and Loyola Prep to fill the enormous container that was bound for the devastated cities in south Louisiana.



Patriots of the Pandemic

Congratulations are in order for the LSU Health Shreveport COVID-19 Surveillance Strike Team for

receiving the group Patriots of the Pandemic Award presented by the Bossier Chamber of Commerce.

Representing the 150 member team were Dr. John Vanchiere, Team Director and Infectious Disease Specialist and 4th year medical student James Robinson. This COVID testing team has been working for over 5 months in 44 area nursing homes in coordination with the Region 7 Office of Public Health delivering one of the lowest rates of COVID positivity in the nation. The team also provides testing for jails, prisons, assisted living facilities, schools and migrant farm workers.

Memorandum of Understanding Signed between Grambling State University and LSU Health Shreveport Establishing a Guaranteed Interview Program for the LSUHS School of Medicine

A Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) was signed between Grambling State University and LSU Health Shreveport to establish a Guaranteed Interview (GI) Program for the LSUHS School of Medicine

The MOU represents the desire of both parties to increase the number of African American and Hispanic students from Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCU's) in Louisiana who apply to the LSU Health Shreveport School of Medicine. The mission of Grambling State University has always been to create opportunities that facilitate scholarly advancement," said Grambling State University President Rick Gallot, Jr. "The MOU with LSU Health Shreveport creates a seamless pathway for our students to pursue advanced degrees in the medical sciences."

The Guaranteed Interview Program attests that GSU students who meet specified criteria included in the MOU will be invited to interview with the Admissions Committee of the LSU Health Shreveport School of Medicine. The MOU is effective July 1, 2021 and shall remain in effect until terminated by either Party. "This landmark agreement provides LSU Health Shreveport an



opportunity to propel our message that every student belongs to our learning communities, and it further helps us increase the percentage of African American and Hispanic students who apply, matriculate, and ultimately graduate from our institution", says Dr. G. E. Ghali.

Those signing the agreement were: LSU Health Shreveport Chancellor G. E. Ghali, DDS, MD, Grambling State University President Rick Gallot, JD, Dean of the School of Medicine at LSU Health Shreveport, David Lewis, MD, and Chair of Admission for the LSU Health Shreveport School of Medicine, Shane Barton, MD

Additional university representatives in attendance included: Associate Dean for Student and Diversity Affairs, Debbie Chandler, MD, Assistant Vice-Chancellor for Diversity Affairs, Toni Thibeaux, PhD, Assistant Dean of Admissions, Wanda Thomas, MD, and Consultant to LSU Health Shreveport, Markey Pierre, DBA. Representing Grambling State University were Provost and Vice President of Academic Affairs, Connie Walton, PhD and Head of Biology, Dagne Hill, PhD.



Xavier Graduate Awarded Full Tuition Scholarship

Rachel Coleman, Recent Xavier University of Louisiana graduate, was awarded the 2020 Ochsner Health Medical School Scholarship for LSU Health Shreveport-School of Medicine. The scholarship award will cover cost of tuition and fees for Coleman to attend LSU School of Medicine at LSU Health Shreveport. Consideration for this scholarship requires students to be a Louisiana resident, Xavier student, and acceptance into the LSU Health Shreveport-School of Medicine.

"The current pandemic has elucidated the professionalism, altruism, courage, and caring of our physicians. Ochsner is proud to partner with Xavier and LSU Health Shreveport to help train more physicians for Louisiana that are representative of the communities we serve. We stand together in making an investment to improve the health of our state," said Leonardo Seoane, MD, Chief Academic Officer, Ochsner Health.

"We are grateful to Ochsner Health System for funding a full tuition and fee scholarship at the LSU Health Shreveport School of Medicine benefitting a deserving Xavier University student. We are excited to have Rachel Coleman joining our freshmen class and commend her outstanding undergraduate accomplishments," shared Dr. Debbie Chandler, Associate Dean of Diversity and Student Affairs.



LSUHS School of Medicine Holds Inaugural Career Day



The Office of Student Affairs, along with Alumni Affairs and the Executive Council, organized a successful career day for School of Medicine students and residents. The inaugural event was safely attended while adhering to COVID safety precautions. Students and residents had the opportunity to familiarize themselves with the 43 residency programs offered by LSUHS. LSUHS Alumni services went the extra mile to provide video testimonies of residencies not offered by the institution. Career Day is one of many examples of the support received by students at LSUHS.



Zoom Rooms Set Up in Library

A “Zoom Room” was constructed in the Medical Library that has been outfitted with proper lighting, branded LSUHS backgrounds and superior sound solutions to support all the video-conferencing needs happening as conferences and presentations move to a virtual platform. The Offices of Medical Communication and Information Technology originally created the two professional spaces on the ground floor of the library for faculty and students to utilize WebEx for presentations and resident interviews.

Faculty can request their departmental room reservation coordinator book a room which can be found under Library Small Groups in the room reservations system located on the Inside/Intranet. Instructions for accessing WebEx are located in each room along with tips for the best positioning in front of the mounted cameras. These small details go a long way to ensure that users avoid any technical difficulties while presenting polished and professional presentations.



New Mural at Mollie E. Webb Speech & Hearing Center

A new mural was installed at the Mollie E. Webb Speech & Hearing Center earlier this year. This beautiful work of art to be enjoyed by staff, students and patients of the clinic was made possible with funds raised during the 2019 Give for Good event. The concept of the mural was developed by School of Allied Health Professions and Valerie Lurry designed the mural based on their concept. Superior Graphix in Haughton, La., had the artwork enlarged and printed on vinyl to be installed.

LSU Health Shreveport Gains Approval for Clinical Informatics Fellowship

The Accreditation Council on Graduate Medical Education recently approved the addition of the 23rd fellowship training program at LSU Health Shreveport. The new Clinical Informatics Fellowship represents the subspecialist of all medical specialties transforming healthcare by analyzing, designing, implementing, and evaluating information and communication systems. The Clinical Informatics fellowship is a 2-year fellowship that is a combination of inpatient rotations with the three participating sites and online courses that are offered through the supporting universities. The fellowship has a complement of 4, with 2 fellows each PGY year. Through the courses made available, fellows have the opportunity to obtain a professional Master of Health Informatics (MHI) degree from Louisiana Tech University. Once fellowship is completed, fellows are eligible for ABMS board certification.

Participating sites for this LSU Health Shreveport sponsored fellowship are: Ochsner LSU Health Shreveport Academic Medical Center, Ochsner Clinic Foundation in New Orleans and Overton Brooks VA Medical Center.

Stephen Conrad MD, PhD, MS, MSE, MBA, MSST, MSc, Professor of Professor of Medicine, Emergency Medicine, Pediatrics, and Anesthesiology and holder of the Ike Muslow MD Endowed Chair in Healthcare Informatics will serve as the Program Director for this fellowship.

LSU Health Shreveport is the only location in Louisiana offering a Clinical Informatics Fellowship. Graduate Medical Education at LSU Health Shreveport currently offers 41 ACGME accredited programs and 3 CODA approved programs with a total of 571 residents and fellows.

School of Allied Health Professions at LSU Health Shreveport Welcomes First Students in New PhD in Rehab Science Program

The inaugural class for a PhD in Rehabilitation Science from the School of Allied Health Professions (SAHP), started their coursework virtually on August 17, 2020. The small class is comprised of four students: Stephanie Currie, Jillian Danzy, Damian Duhon and Erin McAllister.

The PhD in Rehabilitation Sciences was approved earlier this year by the Louisiana Board of Regents and the LSU Board of Supervisors in response to the rising need for Allied Health faculty and providers in clinical, research and academic settings. The need for doctoral level Rehabilitation Sciences faculty is increasing as demands across the disciplines of Occupational Therapy (OT), Physical Therapy (PT), Speech-Language Pathology (SLP), Physician Assistant (PA), Respiratory Therapy (RT), and Medical Laboratory Scientist escalates. While there are regional programs that exist for PhD's in physical therapy, biomechanics, and exercise science, a PhD in rehabilitation sciences prepares researchers, educators, and leaders to contribute to the development of rehabilitation practice, research, and policy.

Introducing Student Advisory Group on Evaluation (SAGE) Honor Society

The SAGE organization is a newly established honorary and service organization. Composed of medical students from all four years, each inductee is selected by members of the Curriculum Evaluation Committee, which is a sub-committee of the Medical Curriculum Council. The purpose of SAGE is to promote the amicable exchange of opinions between the student body and the faculty, with a view to the consistent betterment of the educational, medical, and scientific standards of the School of Medicine.

One of the primary roles of SAGE is to collect, organize, record, and voice the opinions of the students regarding the required pre-clinical and clinical courses. This is a continuous evaluation process which, to the credit of an interested and receptive faculty, will have a significant impact on the evolution of the medical curriculum at LSUHS-Shreveport. In addition to the new honors organization, the Office of Academic Affairs introduced the SAGE Superior Teaching Award and Recognition (STAR). Each month, SAGE honors the teaching excellence of LSUHS faculty, residents, and interns. This group sponsors the Superior Teaching Award and Recognition which acknowledges these individuals for their approachability, enthusiasm, and superior quality of instruction.

The Inaugural STAR Teacher of the Month was Dr. Michael Sewell.

The 2020-2021 Inaugural SAGE Honor Society Members are:

Cole Bergeron, 2021	Joseph Drinkard, 2022	Carol Crochet, 2023
Katie Frith, 2021	Cole Evensky, 2022	Rachel Parks, 2023
Sarah Kaufmann, 2021	Taylor Hill, 2022	Jessica Rodriguez, 2023
Mae Lobrano, 2021	Brady Howard, 2022	Caroline DeGraw, 2023
Grant Pearson, 2021	Lena Kawji, 2022	Julia Cucarola, 2023
Connor Rougelot, 2021	Brittany Wagner, 2022	Alexandra Zeringue, 2023
Claire Stowers, 2021	Jeremy Watson, 2022	Jordan Cross, 2024
Megan Tinsley, 2021	Paylor Chavanne, (MCC Rep) 2022	Grace Kennedy, 2024
Haley Harrington, (MCC Rep) 2021	Patrick Ingrassia, (MCC Rep) 2022	Heidi Ventresca, 2024
Eleni Mijalis, (MCC Rep) 2021	Alida Robin, 2023	



Dr. Susanne Tinsley Announced as 2020 ATHENA Leadership Award Honoree

Congratulations to Suzanne L. Tinsley, PhD, Assistant Dean in the LSU Health Shreveport School of Allied Health Professions on her nomination as a 2020 ATHENA Award Honoree. LSU Health

Shreveport is proud to have Dr. Tinsley as a faculty member that is providing exemplary leadership within the local community and at our institution. The prestigious award recognizes individuals for attaining professional excellence, engaging in community service and actively assisting women in their achievement of professional excellence and leadership skills. The Greater Shreveport Chamber announced the 30th Annual ATHENA Leadership Award Honorees and formally celebrated these ladies of distinction in a socially distanced ceremony on November 12th at Sam's Town Hotel and Casino.

LSU Health Shreveport School of Allied Health Professions Receives Approval for Establishment of the First Doctorate of Occupational Therapy (OTD) in Louisiana

The Louisiana Board of Regents voted unanimously to approve the creation of the first Doctorate of Occupational Therapy in Louisiana. This vote follows unanimous approval by the LSU Board of Supervisors at their April board meeting.

The first class will be admitted in May of 2022 with the last admission to the current Master's of Occupational Therapy occurring in May of 2021. The first graduates of the doctoral OTD will occur in May of 2025. At that time, graduates will be eligible to sit for the national licensure examination, the National Board for Certification of Occupational Therapy (NBCOT). Our Occupational Therapy program has had a 100% pass rate on the NBCOT for the past ten years.

Currently occupational therapists are playing a key role in the COVID-19 pandemic as OT's are instrumental in helping patients regain the ability to perform the daily activities necessary for self-sufficiency and independence. Occupational therapists also address barriers that occur due to the social and emotional issues resulting from being quarantined.

LSU Health Shreveport Begins Enrollment in Pfizer-sponsored COVID-19 Vaccine Study

LSU Health Shreveport has begun enrollment in the Pfizer-sponsored COVID-19 vaccine study. This is a randomized, placebo-controlled trial of an mRNA vaccine to prevent illness due to the SARS-CoV2 virus. The vaccine will be administered by injection. Further details of the study can be found at <https://clinicaltrials.gov>.

LSU Health Shreveport discoveries were licensed earlier this year by global biopharma firm BioNTech and serve as a key building block of Pfizer's mRNA vaccine currently in Phase 2/3 safety and efficacy clinical study.

Adults 18-85 years old who are not pregnant, in good general health and have not been previously diagnosed with COVID-19 can participate in the study once approved by the principal investigator. An assessment on each individual's risk for contracting the COVID-19 includes understanding one's type of work, lifestyle and all medical conditions. All those interested in being a part of this vaccine trial should promptly complete the COVID-19 Vaccine Interest Survey. The survey can be found on the LSU Health Shreveport website at lsuhs.edu/coronavirus.

Currently, there are no approved vaccines available to prevent COVID-19. This disease has spread across the world. This COVID-19 vaccine study will enroll up to 30,000 adults, and each person involved plays a powerful role. Joining a clinical trial is an important and personal decision.

"LSU Health Shreveport is excited to continue our impact on the COVID-19 pandemic by serving as a site for this Pfizer-sponsored vaccine trial. Having our discoveries play a key role in the availability of this worldwide vaccine trial is another example of the strength of our basic science faculty", stated Dr. G. E. Ghali, Chancellor, LSU Health Shreveport.

The principal investigator for this vaccine trial is John Vanchiere, MD, PhD, Professor of Infectious Disease and Pediatrics and a

NIH funded researcher. He is currently serving as the leader of the COVID -19 Strike Team providing testing in 98% of Region 7 nursing homes and in other strategic communities.

LSU Health Shreveport is expanding enrollment in the Pfizer-sponsored COVID-19 vaccine study for the next two weeks to include individuals ages 16-18 and those older than 85 years of age. Those interested in participating in this important vaccine trial should sign up as quickly as possible.

LSU Health Shreveport began the Pfizer sponsored vaccine trial on September 3 and has been very successful in enrolling participants. The trial will further expand allowing individuals ages 12-15 to participate.

The trial remains a randomized, placebo-controlled trial of an mRNA vaccine to prevent illness due to the SARS-CoV2 virus. The vaccine will be administered by injection. Further details of the study can be found at <https://clinicaltrials.gov>.

LSU Health Shreveport discoveries were licensed earlier this year by global biopharma firm BioNTech and serve as a key building block of Pfizer's mRNA vaccine currently in Phase 2/3 safety and efficacy clinical study.

Criteria for this vaccine study requires that participants be in good general health, not pregnant and have not been previously diagnosed with COVID-19. An assessment by the principal investigator of this study will determine individual's risk for contracting the COVID-19 by understanding one's type of work, lifestyle and all medical conditions. All those interested in being a part of this vaccine trial should promptly complete the COVID-19 Vaccine Interest Survey. The survey can be found on the LSU Health Shreveport website at lsuhs.edu/coronavirus.

Looking for a new career option? Consider pursuing a **Master of Public Health.**

The Master of Public Health (MPH) is a joint degree program offered by LSU Health Shreveport and LSUS and is fully accredited by the Council on Education in Public Health. This program is designed for aspiring students seeking to address public health issues with evidence-based approaches. The program is comprised of 42 credit hours which includes a 200-hour applied practical experience (internship). The curriculum is specifically designed to prepare public health graduate students for careers in a public health setting. No GRE required, minimum GPA 3.0 to apply.

TWO DELIVERY FORMATS: **ON-CAMPUS OR ONLINE**

Students have the opportunity to choose between two delivery formats. Track #1 is comprised of face-to-face, evening courses offered Monday-Thursday and operates on a traditional semester schedule. Track #2 is comprised of 100% online courses offered on a seven week term schedule.



**TO APPLY, GO TO
www.lsuhs.edu/mph**



LSUHS School of Allied Health Professions Honored the Late Ike Muslow, MD with Dedication of Commemorative Bench

The School of Allied Health Professions is honored Dr. Muslow's long term support by providing new landscaping and installing an engraved bench for patients to rest as they are arriving and leaving the clinic. Many patients accessing rehabilitation at the Outpatient Faculty Clinic have significant mobility issues resulting in the idea for creating a peaceful resting place just outside the clinic entry. Leadership and faculty who worked with Dr. Muslow, both as a leader and patient, found him to be a beacon of friendship and guidance. One of his most impactful leadership roles was as the founder of the LSU Health Shreveport Foundation which now manages over \$200 million in assets for the benefit of LSU Health Shreveport.

"Dr. Ike Muslow was a giant among those who have advocated for and loved LSU Health Shreveport. He was still teaching during his last hospital stay and never ceased promoting every aspect of our health sciences center to include the School of Allied Health Professions where he received his physical therapy. He deserves every recognition he receives for his incalculable impact to medical education, healthcare and research in our region," stated LSU Health Shreveport Chancellor G. E. Ghali, DDS, MD, FACS, FRCS (Ed)



GEAUX Bald

Many challenges presented this year, but none of those obstacles kept our campus from raising money and awareness to go towards childhood cancer research. LSU Health Shreveport-Geaux Bald 2020 was excitedly announced as this year's Battle of the Bald winners! Battle of the Bald is a national competition within universities to raise the most money in an academic year. This year, LSU Health Shreveport beat out 75 other colleges across the country by raising \$55,973.79 and counting! St. Baldrick's Foundation delivered the coveted bald cup trophy to the LSUHS campus as a token of their gratitude. The trophy is proudly displayed in front of the Medical Library. 27 students and 4 faculty/staff members shaved their heads for a good cause, while 16 students donated hair to be made into wigs for pediatric cancer patients.

St. Baldrick's is the largest private funder of childhood cancer research grants worldwide. Since 2005, St. Baldrick's has funded more than \$286 million in research grants to find cures for kids with cancer. We are proud of the participants, shaves, volunteers, and donors that helped to surpass funding goals that were set.



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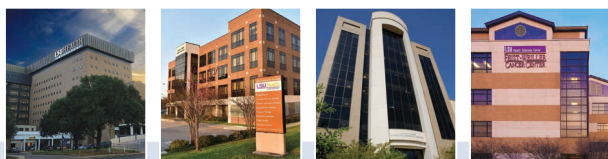
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School of Graduate Studies

School of Allied Health Professions

LSU Health Sciences Foundation Shreveport



Choose LSU Health Shreveport for your **COVID-19 TESTING**

- Highly reliable PCR results — over 99.7% accurate
- Testing administered by experienced medical professionals
- Safe environment as individuals being tested remain in their car
- Your test samples provide confidential data used in better understanding COVID-19
- Test results reported in 48 hours or less

FOR TESTING LOCATIONS, GO TO:

www.lsuhs.edu/testing

