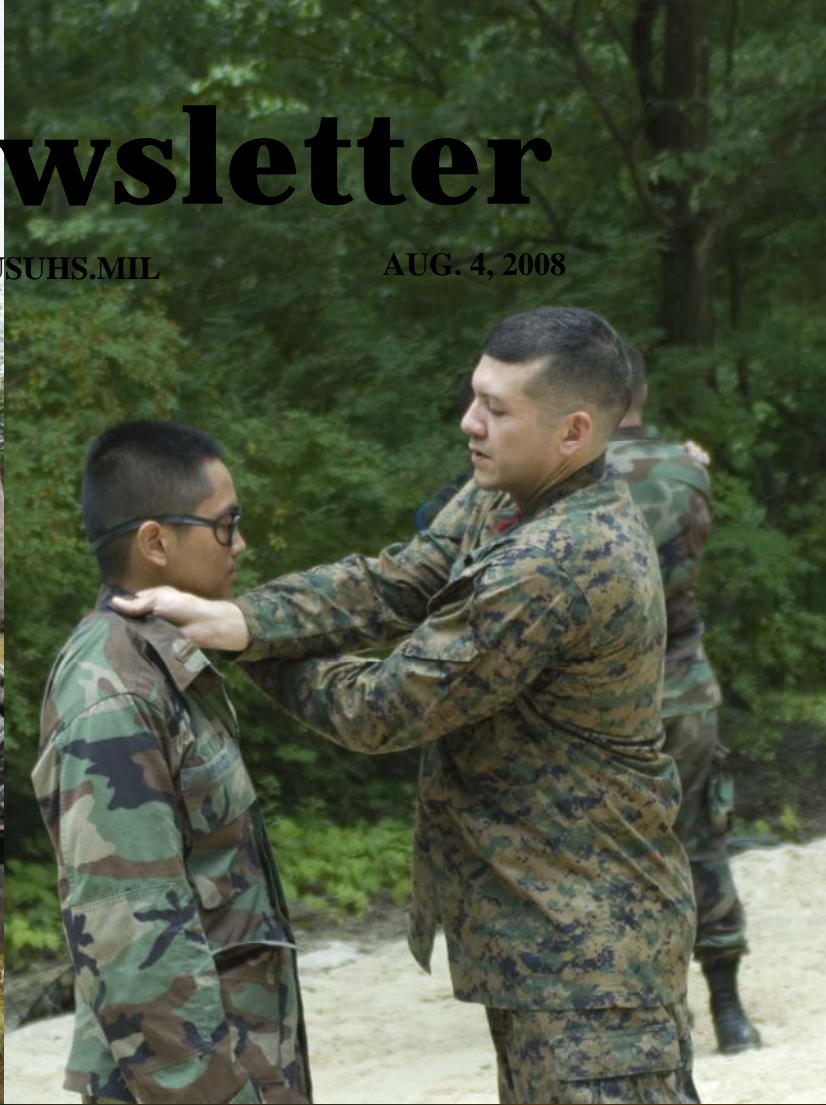
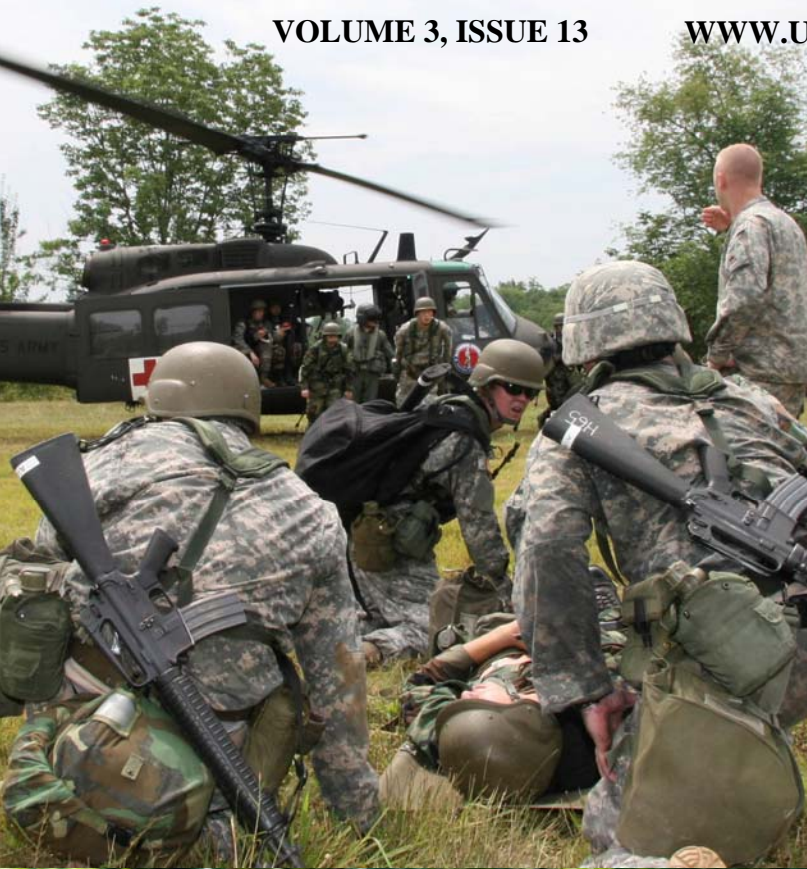


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Future Military Docs Hone Field Medical Skills

By Donna Miles
American Forces Press Service

Medical students at the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences are getting a healthy dose of the challenges in providing battlefield medicine during two concurrent field exercises.

About 360 medical, public health and graduate-level nursing students from the Defense Department's only health sciences university were at a central Pennsylvania training post, experiencing the rigors of caring for patients in a simulated combat environment.

Operation Bushmaster exposed fourth-year students to the challenges of delivering medical care in support of warfighting, peacekeeping and humanitarian-assistance operations. Meanwhile, Operation Kerkesner gave first-year medical students training in a field environment.

Both exercises took place in mid-July, and Operation Bushmaster wrapped up with a convoy coming under a simulated attack during a nighttime operation, resulting in mass casualties. As they triage, treat and evacuate patients, the students came to recognize that part of being a military medical officer is the ability "to make order out of chaos," said Navy Capt. Trueman Sharp, chairman of the university's Military and Emergency Medicine Department and exercise director.

Sharp called the annual exercises the capstone of the Uniformed Services University curriculum.

"The field training aspect is essential for our students because we are more than a civilian medical school or graduate school of nursing," Sharp explained. "We produce a physician, but we are also producing a military medical officer. That requires a lot of additional knowledge and skills that you wouldn't get in a civilian medical school."

Operations Bushmaster and Kerkesner merge students' classroom training, with nearly 800 hours dedicated to military-unique subjects, in a field setting with realistic scenarios like those they'll encounter as Army, Navy, Air Force and Public Health Service doctors.

This year's scenarios involve a United Nations force called in to conduct peacekeeping and stabilization operations in the fictitious Middle Eastern country of Pandakar in the throes of unrest. The doctors "deployed" as part of the force and were tasked to set up battalion aid stations and an expeditionary medical support station with surgical capabilities until a combat support hospital arrives.

Casualties started arriving before they finished setting up their operations. The wounded "patients" – actually first-year students with realistic-looking simulated war wounds like those being seen in Iraq and Afghanistan – put the students to the test.

Increased emphasis on treating patients as quickly and as far forward as possible presents challenges traditional medical students aren't likely to encounter, from treating patients while under fire to working with far less equipment than they'd find

in fixed medical facilities.

First-year students role playing patients got a glimpse at the type of challenges they'll face later in their training. But Sharp said they also get to see firsthand what it feels like to be a wounded patient in the hands of a military doctor.

"What's going on here is pretty amazing," said Army 2nd Lt. John Francis, a first-year student at his first field exercise. Role-playing a patient with asthma earlier in the day and now with "shrapnel wounds" on his face, Francis said the exercise reinforced what he's learned so far at the university. "This brings it all together," he said. "I'm really excited about what we're getting out of this."

"This makes it real," said Navy Ensign Danielle Robins, a

former Marine Corps captain now with a year at Uniformed Services University under her belt. "This training defines the uniqueness of what a military medical school means."

Across the post, other first-year students were getting a better understanding of that as many got their first experience firing a weapon, navigating an orienteering course, and wearing chemical protective gear after a mock attack. Many also were learning how to live and operate in the field for the first time.

Noncommissioned officers are leading the training, with Army Sgt. 1st Class Franklin Abram overseeing the training, which he said helps develop warrior skills in medical officers likely to serve on the front lines. "The bottom line is that we need doctors who can perform in the combat zone as well as the clinic," he said. "Don't think for one minute that because you are a doctor, that (enemy forces) are not going to shoot at you."

Air Force Maj. Glenn Burns, Operation Kerkesner course director, said the exercise teaches not only basic survival skills, but also leadership principles. "This is not a test of infantry skills, and we are not trying to develop them as infantry officers," Burns said. "But as we teach them the basics, what we expect to challenge them with is leadership."

Fourth-year students were facing those leadership challenges at Operation Bushmaster as they treated patients while rotating through a variety of roles they'll play as medical officers, from litter bearers to logistics officers to unit commanders.

The exercise reinforces the fact that doctors are just one part of a vast medical care network, Sharp



Photo by Tech Sgt André Nicholson

SSgt Lacy Johnson, USAF, applies "moulage" to simulate a combat wound on 2LT Dan Coughlin, USA, a first-year medical student.

Former Director of Audio Visual Center Remembered

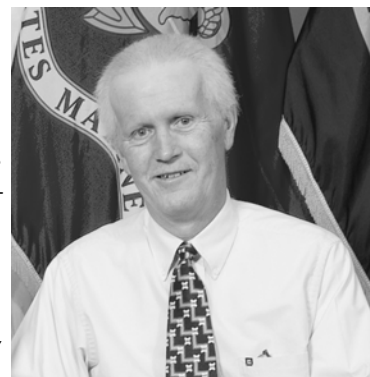
Carlton Wayne Crawford, 57, passed away June 25, 2008, at Inova Fairfax Hospital after several years of a valiant fight with cancer.

Wayne was born in Norfolk to Elizabeth Winslow Crawford and Stanley Allen Crawford Sr. He graduated from Norview High School in 1968 and went on to earn a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree from Old Dominion University.

Often and formally commended for his ability to visualize and manage large projects, Wayne worked many years in the visual information field with the Department of the Army. He was working as the director of the Audio Visual Services Center with the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences when he retired in January 2007.

An avid and skilled golfer, he played his last round only days before his final hospitalization.

Wayne is survived by his wife, Robin Hall Crawford of Alexandria; daughter, Nancy Crawford of Norfolk; daughter and son-in-law, Cathy and Dave Howell of Norfolk; granddaughters, Nicole and Madison of Norfolk; mother, Elizabeth Winslow Crawford of Norfolk; sister and brother-in-law, Debbie and Mitch Hurdle; nephews, Daniel and Andrew Hurdle of Elizabeth City, Stanley Crawford III of Ivor and Steven Crawford of Woodbridge.



Carlton Wayne Crawford
Former Director, USU Audio
Visual Services Center

Addressing the Psychological Health of Warriors

Beginning in September, the Department of Defense's Center for Deployment Psychology (CDP) at the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences (USU) in conjunction with the TRICARE Management Activity (TMA) will offer a one week course to assist civilian providers in addressing the needs of deployed military personnel and their families.

The training courses, taking place in San Diego, San Antonio and Bethesda, are free of charge and will present strategies to

identify and treat mental health problems.

The lectures will be lead by faculty from the CDP, Defense Veterans Brain Injury Center (DVBIC), or Walter Reed Army Medical Center (WRAMC) and includes psychologists, Dr. Elizabeth Parins and Dr. Jenna Ermold.

The event, named "Addressing the Psychological Health of Warriors and Their Families: PTSD, Depression and TBI," will be split into four separate training modules: Covering Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI), Mili-

tary Culture and Deployment, Suicide and Depression, and Posttraumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) and Treatment. The agenda is approved by the American Psychological Association and participants will qualify for continuing education credits.

The CDP is designed as a "hub and spoke" program with the headquarters located at USU. Headed by Dr. David Riggs, a PTSD expert, ten satellite sites exist at military medical centers with APA-accredited psychology internship programs.

TRICARE Summer Interns Experience USU

By Christine Greenan
Web Writer, Office of External Affairs

"Summer hire" for many means waking up in the wee morning hours to perform various clerical duties, in cramped offices, as a way to earn extra cash and buff student resumés.

Not so, for the TRICARE Management interns, who in addition to learning about health care systems, enjoy the benefits of visiting several points of interest, including the Uniformed Services University (USU), as part of their work experience.

On July 16, the interns, all of whom expressed interest in pursuing careers in medicine, sat in on a special presentation hosted by CDR Margaret Calloway, associate dean for recruitment and admissions, and Dr. Eleanor Metcalf, associated dean for graduate education, to learn more about the academic health center, including its unique programs.

Calloway told the students university candidacy is competitive but explained there are many benefits to the USU experience, including debt-free education, exceptional faculty and the university's central location—in the hub of a bustling scientific community. "We also have the best dressed students," Calloway lightheartedly quipped in reference to the Navy, Air Force, Army and Public Health Service uniforms worn by School of Medicine

(SOM) and Graduate School of Nursing (GSN) students.

With a little bit of background knowledge, the group visited a university laboratory, where Dr. Sylvie Poluch, research assistant and professor, lectured on the human brain.

Before leaving, the interns toured the university's Simulation Center and learned how USU students harness cutting edge computer technology to prepare for the unique responsibilities of uniformed medical officers.

Dr. Gilbert Muniz, director of administration, took the interns into the Surgical Simulation Laboratory and demonstrated the effectiveness of the center's high-fidelity human patient mannequins, explaining this is where medical and nursing students practice surgical procedures, endoscopic skills and laparoscopic techniques. The mannequins are equipped with computer software that allows them to replicate many human symptoms.

The group also visited the Wide Area Virtual Environment, a computer-based mass casualty simulator that creates realistic scenarios, in which uniformed nurses and physicians can train to care for wounded troops in combat situations.

Heading back to the TRICARE offices, students were abuzz with talks of their USU experience, and it became clear, their summer hire program, while not conventional, is certainly meaningful for these future health care professionals.

Katrina Care Giver Speaks to USU Community

By Christine Creenan
Web Writer, Office of External Affairs

Dr. Anna Pou has faced situations few doctors will ever likely encounter and she is using her experience to bridge awareness about the importance of training physicians and other medical personnel in disaster preparedness. In the early morning hours of August 29, 2005, she reported to work at Memorial Medical Center as usual, but Pou's shift and the days following would be far from ordinary. Hurricane Katrina would soon rip through New Orleans, leaving in its wake, a hospital and community in shambles.

"It was total, mass chaos," she told students and staff at the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences (USU). "The hospital became a very dangerous place."

Imagine—food and water supplies were dwindling and the facility was being overrun by citizens seeking refuge from the brewing storm outside, generators failed, forcing hospital workers to care for patients at times in near-total darkness, intense heat wafted through the facility threatening the well being of many fragile patients, and just across the street, gun-wielding looters could be seen pilfering abandoned businesses and wreaking havoc on city streets.

"These were war like conditions. This was not medicine as usual," Pou told the group. The people of USU are prepared for battlefield-like conditions though, because in the classrooms and through the university's unique learning experiences, students are taught to bring order out of chaos.

"USU is an educational institution that has the unique responsibility of training us both as physicians and military officers at the

same time. In doing so, they expose us to instructors who have experienced real-life wartime situations, to mass casualty events that may be experienced both in the US and abroad, and to a diverse patient population unlike any other in the nation. No other American medical school has the knowledge and expertise required to provide their students with such a diverse education," said medical student, Timothy Ori, class of 2009.

Pou believes these tenets have strong applications to civilian populations as well, particularly in the vortex of recent natural disaster, lessons learned in USU classrooms can be directly applied in times of stress. She urged, "Military and civilian physicians have got to work together to have feasible management plans."

The Louisiana surgeon is certain catastrophe will strike again, but is hopeful medical communities will follow in sync with USU and begin mandatory education in all aspects of disaster medicine and triage as part of their credentialing packet.

"We have the incredible opportunity to make things better," she told the crowd of uniformed members. There is understanding, because these men and women of this truly unique academy spend years learning to care for those in harm's way.



Dr. Anna Pou
Associate Professor
Department of
Otorhinolaryngology,
LSU Health Sciences
Center, New Orleans



Photo by Leeann Ori

Exploring Building E

Alumni and students of the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences' (USU) Graduate School of Nursing gathered at USU for the annual reception in conjunction with the American Academy of Nurse Practitioners, June 30. After the conference, guests were bused from the Gaylord Hotel to the university, where they enjoyed heavy hors' d'oures, compliments of the USU Alumni Association. Afterward, alumni and friends were given the chance to explore the new Building E, which will primarily be used for the GSN. Above, alumni, friends, and current students of the Family Nurse Practitioner program stand in front of the newly completed Building E.

said, while underscoring their responsibilities as medical officers.

"Being a medical officer isn't just being a doctor," he said. "It's about leadership. It's about planning and organization. It's about communication. It's about situational awareness. It's about learning to prioritize because you never have enough resources or people, and you never have enough evacuation (capability)."

Navy Ensign Art Ambrosio got a taste of what it means to balance those challenges when casualties started arriving as he was serving as commander, overseeing the assembly of the expeditionary medical support unit.

A fourth-year student, Ambrosio had to resist the urge to drop everything and rush to the patients' needs rather than allowing his staff to do that. "As a medical person, when you see someone hurt, you want to run, and you want to play doctor," he said.

"But as the commander, you need to focus on what those responsibilities are," he said. "Your job is to keep the whole machine running: the medical, the transportation, the security, the communications, the logistics. You have to manage people, but do it without micromanaging."

For some of the students, the exercises offer a return to principles they learned during prior service in the Army, Navy, Air Force and Marine Corps, but with a new focus.

Among them is Army 2nd Lt. Gabriel Pavey, who spent 12 years in the Marine Corps before enrolling in Uniformed Services University. Pavey was a Marine staff sergeant working in the Pentagon on Sept. 11, 2001, and remembers the frustration of not being much help to the medics scurrying to help the wounded. He said it led to a major life decision.

Now an Army second lieutenant about to enter his second year of medical school, Pavey said he's ready for the rigors of field medicine in a combat environment. "It's my brothers and sisters (in the force) who really do the hard part," he said. "We're here to support them. The folks here all have the same call to duty."

Army 2nd Lt. Barrett Campbell said the training he's receiving at the Uniformed Services University is providing a foundation for what he hopes will be a 20-year career as a medical officer.

"I want to be a military doctor first and foremost, and this is the place to prepare for that," he said. "I chose this school because of the military medical aspect. I wanted to be in a program that trained me for that, and that's what I'm getting here."

Robins said the exercise reinforces the connection she feels to her fellow Uniformed Services University students, but especially to the servicemembers she will treat as a Navy doctor. "We have a like-mindedness," she said. "They are taking care of me, and I am taking care of them. They are amazing people, and they deserve great care."

S2M2 Makes USU Students into Teachers

By *Christine Greenan*
Web Writer, Office of External Affairs

Students became the teachers at the culmination event for S2M2—Science, Service, Medicine, Mentoring—when the teens, mostly from local high schools, presented their informational posters to members of the Uniformed Services University (USU) learning community on July 25.

The week-long event is designed to encourage, nurture and enhance the commit-

ment to science and medicine in a welcoming, intellectually stimulating environment.

The participants, all of whom express interest in various fields of medicine, showcased their knowledge by developing original content and literature in topics ranging from periodontics to peanut allergies, asthma to pancreatic cancer.

Students drew inspiration from a weeks worth of activities, including off site visits to the National Museum of Health and Medi-

cine and the National Capital Area Medical Simulation Center, as well as opportunities to shadow physicians and sit in on special presentations hosted by USU faculty.

Participant Brian Starin, a junior at Walter Johnson High School, recalls visiting the suture lab and stitching beef hearts, calling S2M2 a "real learning experience." The aspiring physician said his exposure to military medicine was impressive and he aims to attend USU, for its many advantages.

Where Are They Now... USU Alumni

By *Leeann Ori*
Alumni Programs Specialist, OAA

For the past 10 years, Rebecca Rohrer, a 1993 Master of Public Health graduate of the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences (USU), has been working with the U.S. Agency for International Development as a foreign service officer focusing on development within the health sector of developing countries. She has held assignments in Central Asia, Uganda, Nepal, Eastern Caribbean nations, and Haiti. Her most recent assignment will soon take her to Ethiopia.

MAJ Amit Bhavsar, 2000 School of Medicine graduate and Brigade Combat Team Surgeon with the 101st Airborne, recently received national recognition from News-

week for his work at Yarmouk Hospital in Baghdad. During his tour in Iraq, MAJ Bhavsar has worked with the country's health care providers to improve the quality of care for Iraqi citizens, while bringing attention to the substandard care many of its citizens receive. The article entitled, "Wanted: More Than a Band-Aid" featuring MAJ Bhavsar can be found on the News-week Web site.

MAJ Tara Hall, who graduated from USU in 2002 with a Master of Science in Public Health degree, serves as chief, Preventive Medicine and Force Health Protection for the Multi National Corps-Iraq (MNC-I) in support of more than 150,000 US and Coalition Forces in a joint operational headquarters during combat operations in Iraq. She is responsible for recommending, re-

viewing and implementing force health protection plans, guidance, policy and standards for the Iraqi theater of operations. MAJ Hall is the action officer and consultant for force health protection technical guidance and assistance to three U.S. Army division equivalents and a Marine Expeditionary Force in full spectrum of operations from direct combat to stability and support. Stationed along with MAJ Hall in Iraq is LCDR Dennis Faix, 2001 MPH graduate, and MAJ John Completo, 2002 MPH graduate.

COL John (Jack) Trakowski, who received his clinical psychology Ph.D. at USU in 1997, is leading an expansion of behavioral health services at Dwight D. Eisenhower Army Medical Center in response to demands from Warriors in Transition.

High School Students Experience Life as a Med Student

By Christine Creenan
Web Writer, Office of External Affairs

Members of the National Youth Leadership Forum on Medicine came to the Uniformed Services University to learn about the only federally run academic health center, receive helpful tips and take part in a unique learning experience.

Dr. Margaret Calloway, dean of admissions, kicked off the event by giving a brief overview of the university, including details about school programs. "If you are interested in humanitarian medicine, USU is a way to truly engage in this type of care," she told the aspiring physicians, referring to the university's many initiatives aimed at mitigating disasters worldwide.

Calloway went on to describe the academic setting, which invites both civilian and military applicants to pursue high standards of education in the biomedical sciences. Even better—she told them—students attend free of charge, and in fact, receive the full salary of a junior officer. This news prompted one outspoken participant to wonder aloud, "They pay you just to be a student!?"

After a brief question and answer session, students broke into groups and worked together to create the ideal applicant—an interactive game that seeks to encourage dialogue about the

qualities medical schools look for in successful candidates. Admissions counselor, NaShieka Knight urged, "It's good to build a strong applicant portfolio, but it's also important to show your personality."

Next, Dr. James Smirniotopolous, professor and chairman in the Department of Radiology, gave participants a small dose of the School of Medicine experience by hosting a discussion on the discipline he calls, "a window into the living body."

After providing basic radiology instruction, Smirniotopolous presented slides of irregular X-rays and the aspiring physicians helped discern the location and culprit of the abnormalities by analyzing several views.

The day culminated in a visit to the National Museum of Health and Medicine, where docent, Marianne Solfronk, introduced students to the world of forensic anthropology, including a hands-on examination of human bones.

At days end, the students seemed wholly impressed and several participants expressed interest in pursuing candidacy at the university. Texas native, Ashley Bloskas, for example, said she enjoys the idea of working in Public Health and offered, "I do think about serving the nation."

Student Profiles: 2LT Gilberto Nieves, USA, 2d Lt Demara Wright, USAF

By Christine Creenan
Web Writer, Office of External Affairs

The very nature of the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences (USU) inspires tales of bravery and inspiration. Sometimes though, there are people so incredible they stand out among heroes. Lend your ears to Gilberto Nieves and Demara Wright, and hear two stories of courage, spun on the heels of tragedy.

For Nieves it began in a West Point dormitory—a seemingly normal day for the aspiring infantry soldier. He was pursuing a family tradition by joining the Army, and Nieves was eager to graduate so he could join his brother on the battlefield.

His ambition would be halted with a single phone call. On the line, Nieves' mother broke the devastating news: His brother was hit by a rocket propelled grenade, and killed at the hands of Sunni insurgents.

"It was like someone struck me in the heart, and for a long time everything seemed to move in slow motion," lamented Nieves. But he persevered, eventually graduating from West Point and in the interim decided to pursue a career in military medicine, after visiting the USU campus.

Nearing the completion of his first year of medical school, his conviction remains steadfast and he is beginning to think about fields of medicine. Nieves is considering pediatrics—he calls himself a kid at heart—but more importantly, wants to mitigate any concerns soldiers have about their families.

Outside of school, he brings to life the memory of his brother and other fallen heroes by speaking to veterans groups. "I'm not forgetting what soldiers give up," he said, knowing all too well the meaning of sacrifice.

Nieves is not alone though, his classmate, Demara Wright's

journey to USU also draws inspiration from despair because she too came to understand the most dire consequences of war.

Wright was married just weeks when her husband—an Army tank driver—was deployed to Iraq. They made the best of their situation, writing letters, speaking frequently, and even sending gifts back and forth.

As the weeks wore on, their correspondence became more sporadic and "I realized he was in a bad place," Wright said. Even so, nothing could prepare her for the news she would receive in the early morning hours on April 29, 2004. Her husband of just two months, Sgt. Adam Estep, died in a RPG attack outside Baghdad while looking for weapons of mass destruction.

A widow at age 20, the once light-hearted bride was grief stricken by the loss of her husband. "I slept, I ate, I studied, I cried," she said, "and that's what I did for the next year and a half." She graduated with the highest honors from University of California, Santa Barbara, and decided to pursue a medical degree at USU.

"Coming here was important to me because regardless of what area I go into, I'll be helping people like Adam," she said.

Wright still thinks about her late husband everyday, and eagerly recants the happy memories, but she is moving forward with her life. Recently, she married long-time friend, Renny Wright, and is exploring different career avenues. Interested in psychiatry, Wright is particularly keen on working with veterans suffering from post traumatic stress disorder.

Nieves and Wright are entering into their second year of medical school, and admit in these tumultuous times especially, nothing about uniformed service is easy. Still both soldiers boldly face the challenge of two professions—medicine and the military—and are advancing full steam ahead.



2LT Gilberto Nieves, USA



2d Lt Demara Wright, USAF

Dates to Remember

August 4–5: Board of Regents Quarterly Meeting—Committee of the Whole Meeting from 2 p.m. - 4 p.m. (Aug. 4). Quarterly Meeting from 8 a.m. - noon in the Board of Regents meeting room (Aug. 5).

August 22: First Annual Education Day—The University Faculty Senate Education Committee will host the first annual Education Day forum to be held Aug. 22. The theme of Education Day, Best Practices in Health Sciences Education, was chosen to showcase the considerable experience of USU faculty in teaching learners across the spectrum of health science education. They have agreed to share their best strategies for effective teaching in the basic sciences, nursing, applied health sciences, and in clinical practice. This event will feature five interactive, sequential sessions, each focusing on teaching practices in one of the following settings: Welcome (8 a.m. - 8:15 a.m.), Small Groups (8:20 a.m. - 9:10 a.m.), Large Groups (9:20 a.m. - 10:10 a.m.), Operational (10:20 a.m. - 11:10 a.m.), Lunch and Poster viewing (11:20 a.m. - 12:50 a.m.), Technology-Assisted (1 p.m. - 1:50 p.m.), Clinical/Bedside (2 p.m. - 2:50 p.m.), Outcomes/Wrap up (3 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.), and Simulation Center Tour (4 p.m. - 5 p.m.) Registration will be required at: <http://www.lrc.usuhs.mil/EducationDay2008>. Questions may be sent to Dr. Cindy C. Wilson, Chairman Faculty Senate Education Committee at 301-295-9471 or cwilson@usuhs.mil.

Sept. 21 : 2008 Pediatric Brain Tumor Foundation Ride for Kids—Attention MOTORCYCLE enthusiasts! The Baltimore/Washington "Ride for Kids" road ride is set for Sunday, Sept. 21, starting at the mall in Columbia, Md. Donations for the ride (minimum \$35.00 donation per bike) will benefit the Pediatric Brain Tumor Foundation. Registration opens at 7:30 a.m. and closes at 9:15 a.m. The police-escorted ride through scenic countryside starts at 9:30 a.m., rain or shine. Riders on all makes and models are welcome. After the ride, stay for the Celebration of Life program to hear from the local children we help. Award presentations will honor the highest fundraisers and distribution of premiums will follow. The Pedi-

atric Brain Tumor Foundation, Inc., is a federally-recognized non-profit charitable organization. Their missions are to discover the cause of and cure for childhood brain tumors by supporting medical research, aid in the early detection of children's brain tumors in order to improve the quality of life of children. For more information contact CDR Rene Hernandez at 295-9635, or email at rhernandez@usuhs.mil. You can also log onto: www.pbtfus.org/rideforkids/calendar/2008/baltimorewashington08.html.

Sept. 28 : Navy Five-Miler—The 2008 Navy Five-Miler will be held Sept. 28 in downtown D.C. FC2 Adam Race will be heading up a team from the university. The course is mostly flat and good for beginning runners. For more information, visit www.navy5miler.com. Contact FC2 Race at 295-9637 or email him at arace@usuhs.mil to join the university's team.

Oct. 10–13 : U.S. Annual Armed Forces 49th Open Chess Championship - National Naval Medical Center, will be the site event for the 2008(49TH) Armed Forces Open Chess Championship, which will take place on Oct. 10-13 (Columbus Day Weekend) at 8 a.m. in the Galley of the National Naval Medical Center. The tournament is open to all Active Duty, Reservists, Military Retirees, Cadets, Midshipmen, and ROTC personnel who have a USCF Membership. Please enter in advance by sending an e-mail to Erick.Toribio@med.Navy.Mil. Please include Rank, Name, USCF ID number, current rating and branch of service. Come and participate regardless of your chess experience. For more information please contact PS3 Erick Toribio at (301) 295-5805 or visit www.usmilitarychess.org.

Oct. 15 – 28 : PFT/PFA/APFT Notice - The Fall 2008 Physical Fitness Test for all services is scheduled for Oct. 15, 16, 21, 22, 23 and 28 at 7 a.m. and noon. All military personnel are required to select the time and date that they will take their test. All Sailors must complete the Health Risk Assessment questionnaire and Physical Health Assessment annually, and Navy weigh-ins must be conducted between 10 days and 24 hours prior to the Physical Readiness Test. If there are any questions please contact your senior service advisor.

USU News: Department of Medicine's 2008 John F. Maher Award for Research Excellence

The USU Department of Medicine recently announced that four faculty members received the 2008 John F. Maher Award for Research Excellence.

The John F. Maher Award for Research Excellence was established by the USU Department of Medicine in memory Dr. John F. Maher, its first Director, Division of Nephrology, who died in 1992. Since 1997 the award has been presented annually to USU Department of Medicine physicians or

scientists whose basic science or clinical research represent a significant contribution to the understanding, remedy or prevention of disease, or an innovative contribution to medical education.

This year the Maher Awards are presented to the following researchers representing a broad spectrum of faculty, billeted and non-billeted to USU, and at both the associate and assistant professor level: Teodor-Doru Brumeanu, M.D., associate

professor, Division of Immunology and Rheumatology, Department of Medicine, USU; Mary A. Marovich, M.D., chief, Vaccine Development and Research, Walter Reed Army Institute of Research, associate professor; CDR Erich F. Wedam, MC, USN, Division of Cardiology, NNMC, assistant professor; and Xiaoming Zhou, Ph.D., assistant professor, Division of Nephrology, Department of Medicine, USU.

The Awards were presented July 22.



USU

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