

USU Newsletter

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**USU Newsletter
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**Cover photo by
MC3 Jeff Hopkins**

Letter from the USU President

Dear Colleagues:

I would like to take this opportunity to address the recent Base Realignment and Closure action which has already affected many of us, and will certainly affect more of us in the coming months.

Recently, USU's Obstetrics/Gynecology department, Military and Emergency Medicine's Center for Disaster and Humanitarian Assistance Medicine, and the Psychiatry Department's Center for the Study of Traumatic Stress and clerkship director had to vacate their respective spaces within the National Naval Medical Center to make room for the coming Fisher Center of Excellence for Post Traumatic Stress Disorder and Traumatic Brain Injury. OB/GYN and the Clerkship Director were relocated within the hospital; CSTS and CDHAM however, were not offered alternative spaces.

The Henry M. Jackson Foundation made 34 rooms available to USU in their leased space on Rockledge Drive. Getting the rooms operational in short order has been a tremendous effort, for which I would personally like to thank the USU and HJF personnel involved; your hard work and dedication are greatly appreciated.

I recognize the inconvenience of not only mov-

ing from your hospital spaces, but off of this installation entirely, and we have taken steps to ensure your transition goes as smoothly as possible, with as little disruption to your service to patients and students as possible.

I am gratified and proud of how professionally you all have conducted yourselves throughout this challenge; being moved from a space you occupied and have grown accustomed to is both inconvenient and difficult, and your cooperation with the hospital's demands speaks volumes about the quality of our university's personnel.



Charles L. Rice, M.D.
President, USUHS

Sincerely,

Charles L. Rice, M.D.

USU Celebrates National Women's History Month

The month of March is National Women's History Month, and the USU community celebrated with a ceremony March 24.

The theme of this year's Women's History Month was "Women's Art: Women's Vision."

The guest speaker, COL (P) Loree K. Sutton, MC, USA, was nominated for appointment to brigadier general May 7, 2007, and confirmed by the Senate May 25. She is currently assigned as the special assistant to the assistant secretary of defense for health affairs for Psychological Health and Traumatic Brain Injury. She has served in a variety of leadership roles, including: commander, Carl R. Darnall Army Community Hospital at Fort Hood, Texas; command surgeon, U.S. Army Forces Command; commander, Dewitt Army Community Hospital/Health Care Network; and special assistant to the Surgeon General, retired LTG Ronald R. Blanck.



Photo by HM2 Michael Oliver

USU Staff Member Publishes Sim-Lab “How-To” Manual

By MC3 Jeff Hopkins
Assistant Editor, Office of External Affairs

“It’s one thing to hand someone the keys to a car, it’s another to teach them to drive,” which is just what Richard Kyle, Jr., BSE, MS, director of the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences’ (USU) Patient Simulation Laboratory, hopes to do with his recently co-authored book.

“Clinical Simulation: Operations, Engineering and Management” is the first ‘how-to’ reference book on the topic of clinical simulation; the 821-page guide covers 22 topics key to clinical simulation to provide a complete reference for people working in the clinical simulation field.

“The purpose of the book was to provide a comprehensive resource of perennial truths on the what, why and how of clinical simulation,” Kyle said. “The book started out as a small compendium of just what I had learned in my first eight years, and it quickly grew in scope to be as comprehensive as possible.”

Kyle co-authored the book with Dr. W. Bosseau Murray, MB, ChB, FFA, professor of Anesthesiology at Penn State University; together, they asked their friends, colleagues and members of the Society for Simulation in Health care to contribute information. By the book’s completion, 97 people had contributed information that makes up much of the book’s 82 chapters. From inception to publishing, the book took 26 months to complete.

“It took twice as long as I thought it should have, and half as long as everyone told me it would,” Kyle said. “The book is geared toward clinical educators who wish to get up to speed on simulation without having to spend 10 years learning how to do it; it’s a time machine for clinical instructors and their bosses to have a better understanding of the vastness of resources required for clinical simulation.”

Kyle had been with the university 15 years as a researcher when his supervisor Dr. Harvey Pollard, professor and chair of USU’s Anatomy, Physiology and Genetics Department asked him to run the fledgling PSL.

“I was asked to run the operation in cooperation from an anesthesiologist, who was assigned by Dr. Sheila Muldoon, then chair

of anesthesia,” Kyle said. “Dr. Paul Pudamat, a USU School of Medicine alumni, Class of 1986, was the first clinical director for the PSL. Kyle has held the full-time position of operational director since the PSL’s inception; however the clinical director must perform patient care in addition to their simulation duties and due to the nomadic nature of the military, the position has been staffed by five different people in the past 10 years.”

Kyle says the PSL brings very valuable and important training resources to the university, and that he enjoys seeing students benefit from the knowledge gained through using the simulator.

“Simulation differs from didactic and lecture training in that it’s like writing, producing and directing a live theatrical event with full audience participation,” Kyle said. “Unlike real patients that automatically bring their own stories with them, the instructors have to provide the story. It also allows the students to grow more confident with their patients by allowing the teachers to leave them alone with their patients, something an instructor would never do around live patients.”

“I enjoy the aha moments when the students get it, the smile on the instructor’s faces when they see the students get it, and last but not least, the thrill of knowing that the risk to real patients is totally eliminated in that time before the student gets it. Eventually the student has to step up for the first time. There’s always going to be that first solo flight in which a student has to handle a real patient, but if we can eliminate as many of those risks that their instructors are aware of ahead of time there’s that much less risk.”

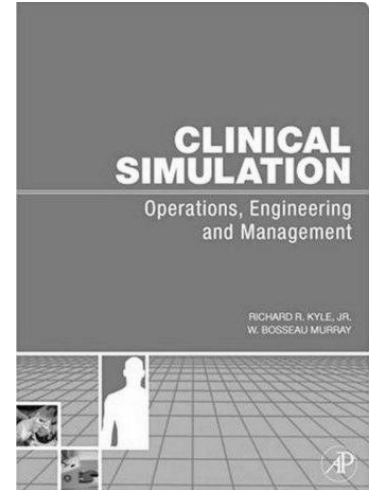


Photo by HM2 Michael Oliver

USU Hosts AOA Specialty Night

The organization Alpha Omega Alpha Medical Honor Society sponsored a “Specialty Night” in the USU cafeteria, April 2. The event invited military medical personnel from far and wide to display posters and information regarding their various specialties. The event’s purpose was to expose first and second year USU medical students as well as medical students in the Health Professions Scholarship Program to the military aspects of medicine, which they may not experience until their clinical rotations in military hospitals. Specialties featured include anesthesia, dermatology, emergency medicine, family practice medicine, general surgery, infectious disease, internal medicine, neurosurgery, orthopedics, pathology and psychology.

Film Featuring USU Receives Rave Reviews

By MC3 Jeff Hopkins
Assistant Editor, Office of External Affairs

Many members of the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences (USU) have seen "Fighting for Life," an informative documentary on military medicine which is now showing in theaters.

The film, produced by two-time Academy Award winner Terry Sanders, features USU alumni, students, staff and faculty, and focuses on the role USU plays in educating leaders in military medicine and looks at the care they provide to service members injured in combat.

"I started out to make a film about the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences in Bethesda," said Sanders. "It was

to be an in-depth portrait of this very special institution, the 'West Point' of military medicine, which has trained more than 25 percent of current active duty physicians...and the film grew until it became an odyssey through the world of military medicine in a time of war."

The university's story is told through footage, photos and interviews with a number of students, alumni, faculty and staff. The film focuses on some of USU's unique educational programs, including the first-year Antietam road march, and field training exercises Operations Bushmaster and Kerkesner, as well as several alumni as they care for wounded troops on the battlefield and throughout the patient evacuation system.

Instrumental in delivering the university's story to Sanders was Tammy Alvarez, president of the "Friends of USU," an organization

which works to generate support for the university. Her husband, Everett Alvarez, Jr., J.D., is one of USU's Board of Regents members, and spent eight years as a prisoner of war during the Vietnam war.

The film has received very positive reviews: Tom Hanks said, "I recently saw "Fighting for Life," about combat medics in Iraq. Some of them are funny. Some are good-looking. Some are modest. Some are filled with hubris. They are all heroes..."



USU Alumni Affairs Office Holds Alumni Reception

By Leeann Ori
Deputy Director of Alumni Affairs

The Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences' (USU) Office of Alumni Affairs held a reception for alumni and faculty in conjunction with the Uniformed Services Academy of Family Physicians (USAFP) annual meeting in Portland, Ore., March 17.

USU alumni and faculty attended lectures on advancements in family medicine followed by a reception to discuss current events at the university, as well as to present the Uniformed Services University Family Medicine Preceptor of the Year Award to LCDR Adam Saperstein, MC, USN, of Naval Hospital, Bremerton, Wash. The award, presented by outgoing USAFP President and USU Department of Family Medicine Chair, Col Brian Reamy, MC, USAF, is presented to the highest rated family practice preceptor, determined by USU students on rotations. In addition to the award, LCDR Saperstein received a check for \$2,000 for his department.

Also during the ceremony, CDR Mark Stephens, MC, USN, associate professor for USU's Family Medicine Department was elected as the new president of the USAFP.



Photo by Leeann Ori

Col Brian Reamy, MC, USAF provides an update on USU and his department while speaking at the annual USU USAFP reception. Lt Gen (Dr.) James Roudebush, Air Force Surgeon General, was among the many guests at the event.



Photo by Leeann Ori

USU Hosts Dinner with 42nd Annual USPS in Hawaii

The Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences (USU) held its 42nd Annual Uniformed Services Pediatric Seminar March 10-13 at the Waikiki Beach Marriott in Honolulu, Hawaii. Among many of the distinguished speakers at the seminar were several USU alumni and members of the Pediatrics Department, including CAPT Tamara Grigsby, USN, MAJ Benjamin Cable, USA, LTC Sean Carroll, USA, and Lt Col Michael Rajnik, USAF.

A number of faculty, alumni, and friends of the university were reunited at a dinner coordinated by the USU Office of Alumni Affairs. The annual dinner, funded by the Department of Pediatrics, the USU Alumni Association, and the School of Medicine, provided a forum for updates on the university and pediatrics educational programs.

Pictured here, Lt Col Scott Jones, MC, USAF, program director for Pediatrics Residency at Wilford Hall and associate professor of pediatrics at USU, and CAPT (Dr.) Joe Lopreiato, associate dean for Simulation Education and medical director of the National Capital Area Medical Simulation Center, chat at the USU USPS dinner.

2008 Wu and Leonard Award Recipients Announced

The Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences (USU) has announced the 2008 winners of the Henry Wu Award for Excellence in Basic Research and the James Leonard Award for Excellence in Clinical Research.

Dr. Christopher Broder, professor and director of the Emerging Infectious Diseases Graduate Program for USU's Department of Microbiology and Immunology will receive the Henry Wu Award for his paper entitled, "Ephrin-B2 Ligand is a Functional Receptor for Hendra Virus and Nipah Virus," published in *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*, July 2005. Dr. Broder and his research group recently discovered the receptor that allows entry of the Hendra and Nipah viruses into human cells.

Dr. David Tribble, associate director of the Infectious Disease Clinical Research Program for USU's Preventive Medicine and Bio-

metrics Department will receive the James Leonard Award for his paper entitled, "Traveler's Diarrhea in Thailand: Randomized, Double-Blind Trial Comparing Single-Dose and Three-Day Azithromycin-Based Regimens with Three-Day Levofloxacin Regimen," published in *Clinical Infectious Diseases*, February 2007. Dr. Tribble and his research team demonstrated the role for a single dose of azithromycin in the treatment of traveler's diarrhea in Southeast Asia.

The Wu and Leonard Awards are presented annually to peer-selected USU faculty members who have published a paper within the previous three years that has made a unique and fundamental contribution to their field of research. The recipients each receive \$2,000, and deliver keynote lectures May 13 and 14 respectively, as part of the annual USU Research Week conference.

14th USU Alumnus Elected to Flag Rank

Secretary of Defense Robert Gates announced March 28 that the president has nominated USU Class of 1983 alumnus, CAPT Michael H. Anderson, MC, USN, for appointment to the rank of rear admiral (lower half).

Dr. Anderson is currently serving as deputy medical officer to the Marine Corps, Headquarters, U.S. Marine Corps, Washington, D.C.

Dr. Anderson is now the 14th USU alumnus to be nominated for flag rank. The others include:

RADM E. Connie Mariano, MC, USN—SOM

Class of 1981 (Ret.)

BG Charles W. (Bill) Fox, MC, USA—SOM
Class of 1981 (Ret.)

Brig Gen William Germann, USAF, MC—SOM
Class of 1982 (Ret.)

Maj Gen Thomas Travis, USAF, MC—SOM
Class of 1986

BG Donald Bradshaw, MC, USA—SOM
Class of 1981

Brig Gen Byron Hepburn, USAF, MC—SOM
Class of 1987

RADM Sandra Kweder, USPHS—SOM Class

of 1984

BG Paul Casinelli, USANG—SOM Class of 1980 (flag in Guard)

RADM Phillip Smith, USPHS (MPH)

RADM Kermit Smith, USPHS (MPH)

RADM Nathaniel Stinson, USPHS (MPH)

Selected:

COL Joseph Carvalho, MC, USA—SOM
Class of 1983

COL Rhonda Cornum, MC, USA—SOM Class of 1986
Congratulations to all.

USU Faculty Member Earns 2008 AMA Leadership Award

CDR Jack Tsao, MC, USN, associate professor for the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences' (USU) Department of Neurology was awarded an American Medical Association Foundation's Leadership Award in Washington, D.C., on March 31.

The award recipients are recognized for demonstrating outstanding non-clinical leadership skills in advocacy, community service and education. The award provides medical students, residents/fellows, early career physicians and established physicians from around the country with special training to develop their skills as future leaders in organized medicine and community affairs.

Tsao's research interests include understanding the mechanism of and developing treatments for phantom limb pain in amputees. Mirror therapy is currently being used to treat phantom pain but

the mechanism behind the efficacy of this therapy remains unknown; Tsao and his colleagues are using functional magnetic resonance imaging to study brain activation patterns during mirror treatment. Tsao is also undertaking several funded research projects, which include developing optimal clinical screening tools for detecting traumatic brain injury, establishment of a telemedicine system for clinical neurology, and the use of Botulinum toxins in the treatment of lower back pain.




CDR Jack Tsao, MC, USN,
Associate Professor,
Department of Neurology



USU

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USU Briefs

IEREA to Convene at AFRRRI: The Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences' (USU) Armed Forces Radiobiology Research Institute will host a two-day workshop for a select group of scientists developing methods to assess and treat military and civilian casualties of partial-body radiation exposure, May 5 – 6.

The workshop will focus on ways to determine a patient's injury from absorbed dose and dose distribution, to better prepare for emergencies that might result in mass radiation-exposure casualties.

Because most casualties in urban areas likely will be partial-body exposures, treatment based on whole-body dose assessments may not be appropriate. Rapid diagnostic methods are essential because vital systems such as bone marrow, the gastrointestinal tract and skin are among organs critically affected by radiation.

Researchers from the United States, Canada, France, Germany, the Netherlands, Poland and the United Kingdom will develop a consensus on the ways to address specific use of partial-body diagnostic biomarkers in medical management treatment decisions.

USU CSTS Holds Annual Conference: The Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences' (USU) Center for the Study of Traumatic Stress in conjunction with USU's Graduate Program in Neuroscience will hold its annual Amygdala, Stress and Post Traumatic Stress Disorder conference in USU's Sanford Auditorium, April 29.

Each year, the ASPSTD conference has brought together scientists and clinicians working towards solving the biological basis of PTSD. The conference focuses on the neurobiology of the amygdala, stress and PTSD, and will include speakers at the forefront of their fields. This year's speakers will include: Dr. Robert Adamec of Memorial University; Dr. Michael Davis of Emory University; Dr. Ron Duman of Yale University; Dr. Anthony Grace of the University of Pittsburgh; Dr. Arieh Shalev of Hadassah University Medical Center; and Dr. Regina Sullivan of the University of Oklahoma. Drs. Dave Benedek and Chuck Engel, international experts on PTSD and USU faculty members, will moderate the sessions.

USU Faculty Member Becomes President-Elect of ASPET: Brian M. Cox, Ph.D., professor of Pharmacology and Neuroscience within the Department of Pharmacology at the Uniformed Services Uni-

versity of the Health Sciences (USU), will serve as the new president-elect of the American Society for Pharmacology and Experimental Therapeutics.

The ASPET is a 4,800 member scientific society whose members conduct basic and clinical pharmacological research in academia, industry and the government. Our members research efforts help develop new medicines and therapeutic agents to fight existing and emerging diseases.

Cox has been a member of the ASPET since 1976 and has also served as secretary/treasurer from 1997 to 1999. He will assume the duties and responsibilities of president-elect in July 2008.

USU Associate Professor Elected as President, USAFP: CDR Mark Stephens, MC, USN, associate professor for the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences' (USU) Department of Family Medicine was elected president of the Uniformed Services Academy of Family Physicians at their annual meeting in Portland, Ore., March 17.

The USAFP is the U.S. uniformed services' chapter of the American Academy of Family Physicians, which represents more than 93,000 physicians and medical students nationwide and is the only medical society devoted solely to primary care. The USAFP represents 1,600 of the AAFP's members. The USAFP provides education, aids in research, and provides support and resources for deployed uniformed family physicians and their families.

Stephens earned his Bachelor of Arts in Liberal Arts from Penn State University, as well as his Master of Science in Exercise Physiology. He earned his M.D. from Case Western Reserve University in Cleveland, Ohio. He is a diplomate of the American Board of Family Medicine, and holds a Certificate of Added Qualifications in Adolescent Medicine.



**Brian M. Cox, Ph.D.,
USU Department of
Pharmacology**



**CDR Mark Stephens,
MC, USN, associate
professor, USU De-
partment of Family
Medicine**

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Dates to Remember

April 11-16 : 20th Ann. International Bethesda Spine Workshop
USU, WRAMC, NNMC and HJF will sponsor.

April 16 : Seminar, "Adult Neurogenesis & Neural Stem Cells in the Intact & Injured Brain" - Speaker will be Jack M. Parent, M.D., associate professor of Neurology, University of Michigan. The event begins at 3:30 p.m. in Lecture Room E.

April 18 : Brigade Awards Ceremony— The next USU Brigade Awards Ceremony will take place April 18 at 8 a.m. in Sanford Auditorium. This ceremony will recognize the Enlisted Service Member of the Quarter, as well as other military personnel for their contributions to the organization. All department heads, chairs, supervisors, and directors are encouraged to attend this important occasion to show their support.

April 19-20 : seventh Annual Comprehensive Regional Anesthesia Workshop: USU, WRAMC and HJF will sponsor.

April 23 : Seminar, "Redefining Neural Stem Cells: Reaching for a Consensus" - Speaker will be Jeffery Barker, M.D., chief of the Lab of Neurophysiology at the National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke, part of the National Institutes of Health. The event begins at 3:30 p.m. in Lecture Room E.

April 30 : Seminar, "Spindle Assembly & Chromosome Movement in Mitosis" - Speaker will be Gary Gorbsky, Ph.D., chair of WH & Betty Phelps, and chair of the Department of Molecular, Cell & Developmental Biology for the Oklahoma Medical Research Foundation in Oklahoma City, Okla.

May 1: Lecture Room E - Practical Dermatology for Primary Care Providers Eighth Annual Course— This educational activity is designated for physicians, physician assistants, nurse practitioners, medical students, independent duty medical corpsmen and dermatology nurses. No special prerequisites are required to attend this educational activity. The topics will be structure and function of the skin; common bacterial, viral and fungal infections of the skin; acne and rosacea; common rashes, eczemas and dermatitis; benign growths and skin cancers; effects of sunlight; common cosmetic procedures; when to refer to a dermatologist. Preregistration is required. Attendance is limited to 140 applicants. Registration forms must be received by April 18. Cost: \$10 for medical

students (military or civilian), nursing students, and enlisted attendees; \$35 for federal, state or local government employed (military or civilian) physicians, residents, nurses, nurse practitioners and physician assistants; and \$100 for non-government civilian health care professionals. Amenities: no charge for parking; coffee provided at breaks; and a box lunch is available at no extra cost, or lunch may be purchased at the USU Cafeteria in Building B. Questions may be directed to Katherine Hall, Dermatology Dept., USU, at (301) 295-9802 or by e-mail at katherine.hall@usuhs.mil

May 1: Antietam Road March— The annual Antietam Road March will take place on May 1 beginning at 7 a.m. This march is an important lesson in medical history that allows students, faculty, and staff the opportunity to witness the medical practices of the Civil War. Military faculty, staff and students, are to adhere to their service specific uniform regulations for backpacks, and it is preferable that all who attend this function wear only black backpacks. Further guidance will be disseminated as the date draws near.

May 17: DARC Hall- Class of 2008 Commencement Exercise— DAR Constitution Hall, 18th & D. St. NW, Washington, DC. P.O.C. University Affairs 301-295-4796.

June 6-8: Tom's Run 2008— Tom's Run is a 200-mile team building fitness event in memory of CWO4 Tom Brooks, USCG (Ret.), who contracted amyotrophic lateral sclerosis, commonly known as Lou Gehrig's disease, in early 1999. Each year teams of runners relay from Cumberland, Md. along the C&O Canal towpath to Washington, D.C., and finish at USU. For sign-up information, contact SSgt Rogers at mrogers@usuhs.mil. For more information on the event, visit <http://www.tomsrun2008.com>.

June 30: First USU/HJF Symposium— The Military and Civilian Medicine Joining Forces to Advance Research symposium will be held from 7:30 a.m. - 6 p.m. at the Bethesda North Marriott Hotel and Conference Center in Bethesda, Md. For more information, call 301-294-1218.

Basic Life Support Classes: Basic Life Support for Health care Providers courses will be on the first and third Thursday of every month at 9 a.m. Seats are limited, so if you would like to attend a course, please contact mrogers@usuhs.mil for availability.

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

April LRC Classes

The following courses are available in the LRC throughout the month of April:

April 10-EndNote noon—1 p.m.: EndNote is a reference management software program available from UIS. In this class you will learn how to create an EndNote library, import references into EndNote from PubMed, and create a word document by inserting references into the document by using EndNote

April 18-PubMed noon—1 p.m.: PubMed's

MEDLINE is the world's largest database biomedical literature which contains over 16 million references to journal articles. A distinctive feature of MEDLINE is that the records are indexed with NLM's Medical Subject Headings (MeSH®). In this class you will learn how to do a simple search in PubMed, apply limits, display your results, use MeSH, and set up a My NCBI account to save your search results and searches.

April 22-Excel Basics 2 p.m.—4 p.m.: Microsoft Excel is a terrific tool for organizing and manipulating data. In this class you will

learn how to create a spreadsheet, perform calculations on data, use common functions, sort and filter data, and create charts.

April 24-The Metamorphosis from Ovid to Ovid SP noon—1 p.m.: Learn about the new features of CINAHL, Cochrane EBM, HAPI, Medline, and PsycInfo databases.

April 30-Excel Basics 16:00-18:00

For more information on courses and how to register, visit http://www.lrc.usuhs.mil/content/training_reg.php



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