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News Release

Future of Military Medical Research Displayed

BETHESDA, Md. — When the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences, or USU, convenes Research Week activities May 11 - 13, the future of military medicine and research could very well be on display.

The mission of USU Research Week is to promote research initiatives of faculty, staff and students providing opportunities for interdisciplinary collaboration and communication among USU graduate students and faculty.

Highlighting the celebration, Major General George Weightman, MC, USA, will offer the Presidential Lecture on the “Future of Military Medical Research.” Weightman retired after 36 years in the Army, most recently serving as commander of Fort Detrick and the Army Medical Research and Materiel Command.

Other named speakers include Plenary speaker Patricia A. Grady, Ph.D., RN, FAAN. Dr. Grady, Director of the National Institute of Nursing Research will present *Supporting Excellence in Science: Creating a Healthier Society*. Alison D. O’Brien, Ph.D, Professor and Chair of Microbiology and Immunology at USU and recipient of the Henry C. Wu Award, will present *Shiga Toxins of Escherichia coli 0157:H7 Promote Intestinal Colonization and Cause Systemic Disease*. The 2009 James J. Leonard Lecture will be presented by Thomas Darling, M.D., Ph.D., Professor, USU Department of Dermatology, titled *Skin Tumorigenesis in Tuberous Sclerosis Complex*. Additionally, 2009 Bullard Lecturer Claire M. Fraser Liggett, Ph.D., Director of the Institute of Genome Sciences and Professor of Medicine at the University of Maryland School of Medicine will present *Our Invisible Partners: The Role of Microbial Communities in Health and Disease*.

Other symposia and programs will cover a broad range of topics to include traumatic brain injury, technological advances and research, and education research.

This year’s event, Celebrating Excellence in Research, reflects the complementary roles that nursing, public health, behavioral science, basic science, and medicine play in health promotion and disease prevention. There will be poster presentations, distinguished guests speakers, and panels to demonstrate USU's special role in civilian, public health, and military research initiatives across the health sciences.

Learning to Care for Those in Harm's Way

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This annual three-day event incorporates Graduate School of Nursing and Graduate School of Medicine Student Colloquia highlighting research interests and accomplishments of graduate students in both fields. The Faculty Senate Research Day including poster presentations, invited speakers and panel discussions, draws the entire USU community to share research achievements, foster collaborations, and stimulate intellectual exchange.

The week culminates as the students from the F. Edward Hébert School of Medicine, Graduate Education programs and Graduate School of Nursing receive their degrees during USU's 30th Commencement ceremony May 16 at the Daughters of the American Revolution, Constitution Hall, Washington, D.C. This year's commencement speaker is Lieutenant General James G. Roudebush, MC, U.S. Air Force Surgeon General.

The Uniformed Services University is located on the grounds of Bethesda's National Naval Medical Center and across from the National Institutes of Health. It is the nation's federal school of medicine and graduate school of nursing. The university educates health care professionals dedicated to career service in the Department of Defense and the U.S. Public Health Service. Students are active-duty uniformed officers in the Army, Navy, Air Force and Public Health Service who are being educated to deal with wartime casualties, national disasters, emerging infectious diseases and other public health emergencies. Of the university's more than 4,200 physician alumni, the vast majority serve on active-duty and are supporting operations in Iraq, Afghanistan, and elsewhere, offering their leadership and expertise.

For more information, contact the Office of External Affairs at 301-295-3578 or visit the USU Web site at www.usuhs.mil.

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