



The LSUHSC School of Medicine electronic news

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Month: April 2017

[The Office of Diversity and Community Engagement](#)

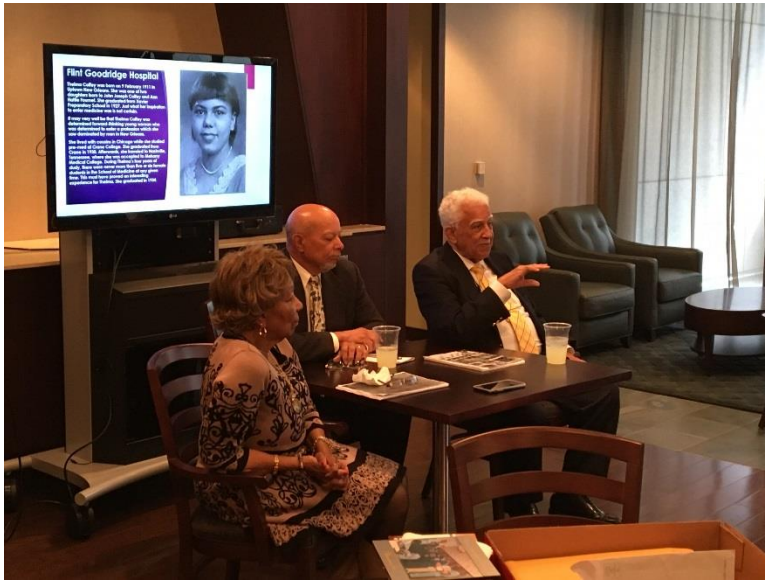
[April 20, 2017 ~ ginalaborde](#)

Robert Maupin, M.D., Associate Dean of Diversity and Community Engagement

The School of Medicine's Office of Diversity & Community Engagement (ODCE) is privileged to serve as a sponsor to medical student cultural affinity organizations, Student National Medical Association (SNMA) and the newly chartered Latino Medical Student Association (LMSA). The office is additionally proud to support the active engagement of our students who are providing an active voice to the strengthening of our campus climate's dimensions of equity and cultural competency.

This winter, student leaders promoted and organized the emergence of a new student organization SAME – Students Advocating for Medical Equity. Student leaders envision the evolution of an active, diverse, intersectional student group that includes members spanning all medical school levels and works closely

with faculty and staff.

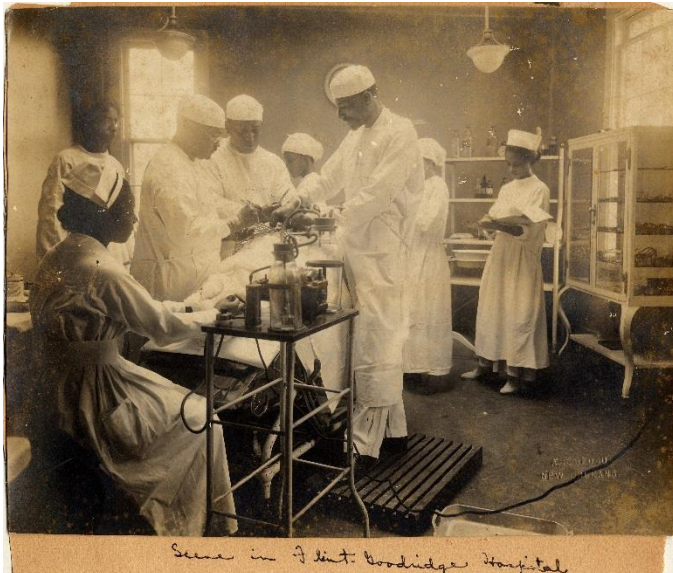


(left to right) Shirley Theodore, C.R.N.A, Errol Quintal, M.D., and Joseph Labat, M.D.

Their vision espouses a Mission Statement which articulates that: **Students Advocating for Medical Equity (SAME)**'s mission is to contribute to the development of a more equitable and diverse institution at LSUHSC and to collaborate with students, faculty, and staff to create opportunities that will prepare students to be compassionate and culturally competent physicians. Organizational goals focus on:

1. Engage with the Office of Admissions for Equity
2. Engage in Student Development and Curriculum Planning for Equity
3. Engage in Faculty Development for Equity
4. Engage with other Student Groups for Equity

Meetings between various student representatives of SNMA, LOCUS, SAME, APAMSA, and LMSA have created a synergy in purpose and commitment to effecting positive change in our campus culture. Senior SOM leadership at Dean's staff level have actively committed to forging constructive engagement with students in SAME to advance institutional growth and change that will empower both students and faculty. Dr. Robert Maupin hosted an evening dinner meeting at his home, bringing together engaged student leaders with Drs. Hamilton Farris and Cathy Lazarus from Student Affairs and Dr. Robin English, the New Assistant Dean for Undergraduate Medical Education, to develop strategic planning around advancing cultural competency in areas of curriculum and faculty development.



This past month the ODCE was also privileged to host a historic exchange between New Orleans area African American medical pioneers and LSU medical student members of the Student National Medical Association. A Black



History Month luncheon was hosted in the Chancellor's Reception Room celebrating the legacy of Flint Goodridge Hospital and Flint Medical College, which provided medical education for African American medical and nursing students, and clinical practice opportunities for physicians of color during the Reconstruction and Jim Crow eras in Louisiana. Our LSU students were extremely grateful to physicians and nurses from the New Orleans Medical Association who passionately recounted the successes and challenges of building and advancing hospital services, which provided an unprecedented access to care for the African American community prior to the racial integration of access to medical care for both patients and physicians of color.

[Calendar of Events Reminder](#)



Featured ~ [ginalaborde](#)

Do you have an upcoming event? Is your department hosting a seminar or grand rounds of interest to the SOM? If so, place it on the Calendar of Events! Would you like to see what events are coming down the road that might be of interest to you? The Calendar of Events is there! The more we use it, the more effective it will become! [For directions on how to access and use the Calendar of Events, click on the “How to Use” link under the Calendar of Events heading.

Welcome New Comers!

[April 14, 2017](#) ~ [ginalaborde](#)

We would like to extend a warm welcome to the following faculty members who have joined the School of Medicine Family between January 1 – February 28, 2017.

Ophthalmology

Thomas Heigle, M.D.

Clinical Assistant Professor

Pediatrics

Michael Brumond, M.D.

Associate Professor-Clinical

Isa Ashoor, M.D.

Assistant Professor-Clinical

Radiology

Janis Letourneau, M.D.

Clinical Professor

Surgery

Abdur Razzaque, M.D.

Assistant Professor-Research

UMC-Medicine

Farha Khan, M.D.

Assistant Professor-Clinical

SOM Faculty Publications

[April 8, 2017](#) ~ [ginalaborde](#)

Are you interested in seeing what your colleagues and co-workers are publishing? Are you curious to see how prolific scientists and clinicians are in their research publications? If so, then click on the following link to see a list of all of the work published by LSU investigators:

<http://www.refworks.com/refworks2/?site=028971136005200000%2fRWS2A1148886%2f000271111069551000>

If you're just interested in seeing some highlighted works, you can go to the following link on a monthly basis to see a few select articles highlighted by the library staff:

<http://www.lsuhs.edu/library/databases/facpubs.aspx>

Once there, click on the year and month of to see all highlighted publications for that month.

If you do not see one of your publications listed in the comprehensive list, please contact Kathryn Kerdolff (kkerdo@lsuhsc.edu) to have your publication included.

AOA Inductees (March 2017)

April 7, 2017 ~ ginalaborde

Congratulations go out to the following 8 juniors from the LSU SOM Class of 2018 who have been selected for membership into the Louisiana Beta Chapter of the Alpha Omega Alpha Honor Medical Society:

- Christopher Anderson
- Joseph Fougousse
- Mark Hoppens
- Paul Kepper
- John Miller
- Jonas Miller
- Laura Petrauskas
- Chloe Renshaw

The following residents, faculty members, and alumni have also been selected for membership into the Louisiana Beta Chapter of the Alpha Omega Alpha Honor Medical Society:

Residents:

- Jennifer Broussard, MD
- Dunia Khaled, MD
- Sarah Lillis, MD
- Benjamin Morehead, MD
- Joshua Sherman, MD

Faculty:

- Kristi Boudreaux, MD
- Charles Coleman, MD
- Hamilton Farris, PhD
- Christopher Thomas, MD
- Christian Winters, MD

Alumni:

- Vince Forte, MD
- Julia Garcia-Diaz, MD
- Alan Lacoste, MD
- Janine Steckler Parker, MD

- Fayne St. John, MD

Please join me in congratulating these students, residents, faculty, and alumni for achieving this most prestigious honor!

[OCDC](#)

[April 6, 2017](#) ~ [ginalaborde](#)



(left to right) Shirley Theodore, C.R.N.A, Errol Quintal, M.D., and Joseph Labat, M.D. provide discussion for the Black History Month luncheon celebrating the legacy of Flint Goodridge Hospital and Flint Medical College



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[MD/PhD Program](#)

[April 6, 2017](#) ~ [ginalaborde](#)

Kathy McDonough, Ph.D., Director

In August 2017 we welcomed 4 new students into the MD/PhD program. They are: Brittney Foret, Jacob Meariman, Joshua Schwartzenburg and Nathan Sharfman.

The 6 students welcomed into the MD/PhD program in August 2016 have finished the first year of medical school, research rotations during the summer and are currently beginning their second year of medical school. They are: Kaylin Beiter, Nicholas Fried, Hunter Hidalgo, Kristina Larter, Mirandy Li, and Phaethon Philbrook. Kristina has recently published work from her MS degree in the Journal of Fish Biology on effects of hypoxia on Gulf Killifish.

Four students will be transitioning into Graduate School – Robert Fuchs, Nazary Nebeluk, Zachary Stielper and Tony Tseng. Only one of our MD/PhD students, Alan Tseng, is transitioning to 4th year of medical school while several others will be finishing their PhD and returning to medical school this summer including Stephen Ford and Spencer Robichaux; Stephen and Spencer have both received F30 grants from NIH to support their research and medical training.

During this past academic year, Robert Fuchs was awarded a travel grant to give an oral presentation at the Brain Behavior Chemistry Conference in San Antonio and Jeffrey Wang received the translational/clinical poster award at the Department of Medicine Research Day. Felix Nau was awarded the IPSA Award of Inter-professional Distinction.

May graduation brought the MD/PhD program to its greatest number of graduates from Medical School. Three of them finished their PhD in Pharmacology; 3 in MIP and 2 in Genetics. Three have matched to Pediatrics programs – Jack DePaolo at Children’s Hospital in Philadelphia; Michael Ripple at Washington University in St. Louis, and Whitney Nichols at the University of Mississippi in Jackson. Two matched in Medicine – Ferdous Kadri at the University of Florida and Felix Nau at Wake Forest University. Myles Ketchum matched in Family Medicine at Mercy Medical Center in Redding, California and Valarie McMurtry matched in Pathology at the University of Utah where one of our other graduates, Ryan Craig, is currently training. Brendan Burn will do surgery here at LSUHSC.

We are very proud of them and wish them all of the best in their future training and careers!

[Publications of Note](#)

[April 6, 2017](#) ~ [ginalaborde](#)

[SOM Faculty Publications](#)

Congratulations to the following individuals for the publication of their work in respected journals, as reported to The Pulse by individual departments:

[Genetics:](#)

Paulo C. Rodriguez, Augusto C. Ochoa, Amir A. Al-Khami. Arginine metabolism in myeloid cells shapes innate and adaptive immunity. *Frontiers in Immunology* Feb 7;8:93. doi: 10.3389/fimmu.2017.00093 (2017).

Elaine C. Maggi and Judy S. Crabtree. Novel Targets in the Treatment of Neuroendocrine Tumors: RBP2. Invited review, *International Journal of Endocrine Oncology*, 4(1): 31-41 doi:10.2217/ije-2016-0022 (2017).

[Microbiology, Immunology, and Parasitology:](#)

Drs Amedee and Kozlowski, in collaboration with colleagues at UNC Chapel Hill, published the article: “Balancing Trained Immunity with Persistent Immune Activation and the Risk of Simian Immunodeficiency Virus Infection in Infant Macaques Vaccinated with Attenuated *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* or *Mycobacterium bovis* BCG Vaccine” in the journal *Clinical and Vaccine Immunology* 24(1) pii: e00360-16 (2017).

Drs. Ruan, Ramsay, Welsh and Shellito published the article “B cell and antibody responses in mice induced by a putative cell surface peptidase of *Pneumocystis murina* protect against experimental infection” in the journal *Vaccine* 35(4), pp 672-679 (2017).

Drs. Taylor, Luo, Ferris, Welsh, and Blanchard, in collaboration with colleagues at UTHSC-Houston, published the article “Resetting microbiota by *Lactobacillus reuteri* inhibits T reg deficiency-induced

autoimmunity via adenosine A2A receptors” in the Journal of Experimental Medicine 214(1) pp 107-123 (2017).

Drs. Taylor , Luo, Welsh, and Blanchard, in collaboration with colleagues at Pennington and the LSU Ag Center, published the article “Obese ZDF rats fermented resistant starch with effects on gut microbiota but no reduction in abdominal fat” in the journal Molecular Nutrition & Food Research 61(1) 1501025 (2017).

Neurosurgery:

DiGiorgio AM, Conger AR, Fannin ES, Steck JC. Hemothorax after Kyphoplasty: a Case Report. J Spine Neurosurg 2017; 6:2 DOI: 10.4172/2325-9701.1000282

Otolaryngology:

Gary C, Sykes JM, Intermediate and Definitive Cleft Rhinoplasty. Facial Plast Surg Clin North Am, 24(4):487-494, Nov 2016.

Pan B, Askew C, Galvin A, Heman-Ackah, S, Asai, Y, Indzhykulian A, Jodelka FM, Hastings ML, Lentz JJ, et al. Gene Therapy Restores Auditory and Vestibular Function in a Mouse Model of Usher Syndrome Type 1c. Nature Biotechnology 35, 264-272, Feb. 2017.

Walvekar R, Trahan J, Pelaez L, DiLeo M, Nuss D, Son LS. Retro-Auricular Thyroidectomy: An Open Approach. Indian J Otolaryngol Head Neck Surg (2017). doi:10.1007/s12070-017-1069-6

Radiology:

Dr. Michael Maristany, Dr. Bahri Ustunsoz, and Dr. Bradley Spieler are co-authors on an article titled “Persistent Sciatic Artery: A Favorable Anatomic Variant in a Setting of Trauma” that was published on February 14, 2017, in the Ochsner Journal online.

<http://www.ochsnerjournal.org/doi/abs/10.1043/TOJ-16-0081>

Match Day: The First Day of the Rest of our Lives

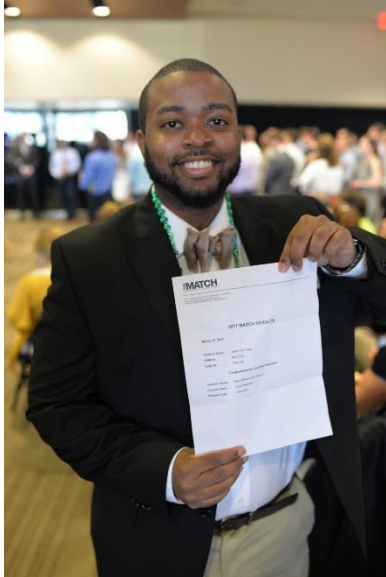
April 6, 2017 ~ ginalaborde

Katie Melder (LA) and Thomas Steele (LA)

I check my watch, its 10:56. After what seems like days passing by, I check it again – only 10:57! One more time... It seems like the clock will never hit 11! This scene undoubtedly played on loop for many in the Class of 2017 on the morning of Friday, March 17 – otherwise known around the medical world as “Match Day.”

This year, LSU Match Day was held at the St. Charles Club Lounge in the Superdome. Promptly at 11:00 AM, Dr. Cathy Lazarus and Dr. Hamilton Farris began calling students in a predetermined random order, where Dr. Fred Lopez greeted us on stage. The entire Office of Student Affairs assisted in some shape or form, and we owe a debt of gratitude to Ms. Bobbie Millet, Ms. Kourtne Robin, Ms. Melanie Brown, Ms.

Carolyn Calvin, Ms. Phyllis Johnston, and Ms. Lindy Mills for keeping us relatively cool, calm, and collected.



Justin Cutrer happily displays his Match Day paper listing his residency in Family Medicine at East Jefferson General Hospital.

As students were called, a makeshift “human tunnel” formed, through which classmates would pass before emerging on stage. In keeping with a long-standing tradition, every student deposited a canned good in marked boxes and \$1 in a lucky “Pot of Gold.” As students exited the stage, we were handed a necklace of lucky green beads in the shape of 4-leaf clovers before ultimately receiving a simple envelope. Inside this envelope held the location of where we will ultimately call home for the next three to seven years, completing the final stages of our medical training in residency.

What about the canned goods and the Pot of Gold? The canned goods were ultimately donated to Second Harvest Food Bank. And as a reward for being the last name called and patiently enduring the torment of hearing EVERY student’s name called before, Rory

Bouzigard was awarded the entire Pot of Gold, amounting to over \$200 in cash!

That day, amongst our families, friends, peers and mentors we received more than just an envelope. That simple piece of paper was a guarantee of a future many of us have dreamed about since middle school. For many, opening the letter meant attending their dream program, and for some, a promise fulfilled that partners would finally be reunited after a long absence.

As music played, food and drink flowed, and students and families visited with faculty and staff, I couldn’t help but notice nearly every student was rejoicing. In a recent survey of 150 classmates, 61% of students received their first choice and 95% got in their top 5. LSU School of Medicine has always prided itself as an institution that trains doctors who will ultimately care for Louisiana residents, and this year nearly 50% of the class chose to stay in-state to complete their medical training. Of those, nearly 80% will join an LSU training institution. Of the other half of the class that chose to leave for residency, the programs that matched LSU students include a veritable “Who’s Who?” of prestigious universities: Harvard, Stanford, Johns Hopkins, Pittsburgh, Cincinnati, and the list goes on. This is a testament to the superior training students receive at LSU School of Medicine.

Around 2:00 PM, in traditional New Orleans fashion, a 5-piece brass band emerged to lead the students, families, faculty, and staff from the Superdome to Pat O’Brien’s on a nearly 30-minute walk down Poydras, Loyola, Canal, and Bourbon streets. As onlookers and out-of-towners looked on incredulously, snapping pictures and videos of this purple and gold procession, we celebrated the relief felt in the certainty of the future. As I looked around, seeing so many of my classmates reveling in success, a sense of immense pride washed over me. After being through so much together, we have forged a bond that distance cannot break. Now it’s time to enjoy the last bit of freedom, hunt for condos and get ready to receive those two special letters behind our name.