

Uniformed Services University  
of the Health Sciences

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# USU Newsletter

VOLUME 1, ISSUE 14 WWW.USUHS.MIL OCTOBER 30, 2006

## CFC kicks off 2006 campaign

By *MCSN Raul Zamora*  
Staff Writer, Office of External Affairs

The Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences (USU) kicked off the universities 2006 Combined Federal Campaign (CFC) Oct. 19.

The kick-off started with a lunch served by members of the USU Brigade, hamburgers, hotdogs, pulled pork, cotton candy and other goodies where enjoyed by everyone.

The CFC is an annual fundraising drive conducted by federal employees in their workplace each fall. The CFC benefits thousands of not-for-profit charities. It is organized into more than 300 independent geographic campaigns. This year's campaign theme is "Be a Star in Someone's Life" and expects to raise



Photo by MCSN Raul Zamora

**USU Brigade members serve students, faculty and staff lunch at the 2006 USU CFC campaign kickoff.**

\$58 million. Last year's goal was \$268.5 million.

While in line for lunch, people could talk to some of the charity's the CFC supports

See **CFC**, page 6

## Groundbreaking Marks New Era in Military Healthcare Education

By *MC2 Kory Kepner*  
Office of External Affairs

U.S. Senators Daniel K. Inouye (D-HI), Barbara A. Mikulski (D-MD), Paul S. Sarbanes (D-MD) and Representative Chris Van Hollen (D-MD), along with Department of Defense Assistant Secretary for Health Affairs William Winkenwerder, Jr., M.D., other military leaders and dignitaries helped the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences (USU) celebrate the groundbreaking of Building E, the new Academic Program Center, Oct 23.

"The university is at the forefront of education and research in military medicine," said USU President Charles L. Rice, M.D. "This new facility



Photo by HM2 Michael Oliver

**Dignitaries prepare to break ground for Building E, the new Academic Program Center at USU,**

will provide space to allow the university to continue to fulfill its essential mission in educating men and women who are learning to care for those in harm's way."

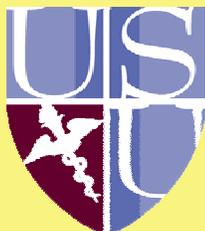
The building, the first to be constructed on campus since the school was built in 1978, will accommodate the

growth in the number of degree-granting programs offered by the university.

"The nation understands the critical role this university plays," Senator Sarbanes said.

"The military health system depends upon the USU alumni

See **ERA**, page 6



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**Production:**

Editorial content is edited, prepared and provided by the USU Office of External Affairs unless otherwise indicated. The Newsletter staff may include or exclude articles based upon news value, impact on the university and space availability.

**Submissions:**

The USU Newsletter will be published bi-weekly on Mondays and deadline for submission is Friday at 4 p.m. Submissions can be sent to usnewsletter@usuhs.mil or call 301-295-3925.

## USU faculty member elected president of national medical society

The chief of the medical staff at David Grant Medical Center (DGMC) has been elected president of the American College of Emergency Physicians during the organization's recent meeting in New Orleans, LA.

Col. (Dr.) Linda Lawrence previously served as vice president of ACEP, and is an attending physician in DGMC's emergency department.

Additionally, she serves as a consultant to the Air Force surgeon general and is an associate professor for the department of military and emergency medicine for the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences (USU) in Bethesda, Md., and is also a former USU School of Medicine Commandant.

"Emergency care is an essential public service and emergency physicians provide a critical health care safety in every community in America," Colonel Lawrence said. "We must take our issues to the public and ask for their support in solving the problems that affect their access to emergency care and motivating policymakers to support change."

Colonel Lawrence has provided leadership at the state and national level, serving as president of

ACEP's governmental services chapter, representing military emergency physicians across the United States. She also has served on numerous ACEP committees and as editor of ACEP publications.

"There is a national crisis on access to emergency care and availability of on-call specialists in emergency departments across the country," Colonel Lawrence said. "However, we're very fortunate at Travis to have emergency medicine-trained nurses, physicians and a full spectrum of trained specialists who provide top notch emergency care here at DGMC."

ACEP is a national medical specialty society representing emergency medicine with more than 25,000 members. ACEP is committed to advancing emergency care through continuing education, research and public education.

Headquartered in Dallas, Texas ACEP has 52 chapters representing each state, Puerto Rico and the District of Columbia. A Government Services Chapter represents emergency physicians employed by military branches and other government agencies. Colonel Lawrence will assume the presidency during next year's meeting in Seattle, Wash.



*Photo by MCSA Jeffrey Hopkins*

### AAMC Presidents Visits USU

Dr. Darrell G. Kirch, president of the American Association of Medical Colleges (AAMC), speaks with Col. Ken Tashiro, M.D., U.S. Air Force, commandant F. Edward Hébert School of Medicine (SOM) (far left) six medical students, and Dr. Larry Laughlin, dean SOM. The Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences was Dr. Kirch's first visit to any medical school since he became president of the AAMC back in July. He came to the university to share his thoughts and ideas with the students. During his time with them, he emphasized the importance of teaching leadership in medical education even outside the military environment.

# USU hosts APAMSA National Conference

By MCSA Jeff Hopkins  
Staff Writer, Office of External Affairs

The Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences (USU) hosted the 13<sup>th</sup> annual Asian Pacific American Medical Student Association's (APAMSA) National Conference, entitled "Medicine: A Call to Service," Oct. 6-8.

Many of the guest speakers at the National Conference were USU alumni, family, and current students of the university. Ensign Victor Rivera, USN, a second-year student of USU's school of medicine spoke on the topic of incorporating acupuncture into medical practice.

USU graduate and staff member, Maj. Sarah M. Page, MD, USAF, instructed a workshop demonstrating a birthing simulator to enhance participants' skills and readiness in various scenarios.

APAMSA is a national organization which aims to bring together Asians and others interested in promoting the health of the Asian community, as well as helping healthcare workers learn to treat Asian patients in a culturally sensitive manner. Its membership currently includes more than 80 medical schools from all over the U.S., and since its inception in 1995, has held the APAMSA National Conference at a different medical school.

Each year, APAMSA members and supporters gather at that year's university to contribute to and take part in the many planned workshops, and gain insight and advice from the guest speakers and workshop instructors. Some of the topics covered this year included hepatitis B and liver cancer in Asian American communities, challenges facing multicultural families, cultural competency and diversity in medicine and mass casualty and triage basics.

APAMSA's evening banquet held Oct. 7 in USU's Cafeteria hall featured keynote speaker Rear Adm. (ret.) Dr. Connie Mariano, MD, president of the Center for Executive Medicine. Dr. Mariano, USU graduate class of 1981, was the first Filipino American in history to become a Navy admiral, and was also the first military woman in American history to be appointed White House physician.



Photo by Sheena Farrell

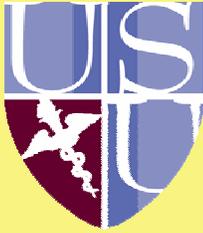
A participant takes part in a workshop in USU's simulation center during the APAMSA National Conference.



Photo by TSgt. James Steele

## USU Brigade Awards

The Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences (USU) held the Brigade Awards Ceremony Oct. 13. HN Tinsae E. Tekleab, USN (AFRR1) was selected as the USU Services Member of the Quarter. FC2 Elaine Gonzales, USN (UIS) and HM2 Careese Charles, USU (EHS) were selected as the USU Color Guard of the quarter for the second and third quarters of 2006. Among the awards received this quarter were The Defense Meritorious Service Medal, Meritorious Service Medal, Joint Service Medal, Army Commendation Medal, Navy Commendation Medal, Air Force Commendation Medal, Joint Service Achievement Medal, Navy Achievement Medal, Navy Achievement Medal, Letter of Commendations and Certificate of Appreciation.



# USU Visual Identity

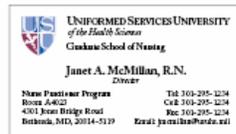
**What's in our Logo?**  
The USU logo is in the shape of a shield, representing education and the military. The caduceus is widely associated with health care professions. The shield is divided into four sections, each representing one of the four uniformed services that attend USU. The colors represent the colors of the medical corps of the Army, Navy and Air Force, corresponding with the USU seal. The shield, caduceus, and colors are complimentary with the USU seal.

The USU logo is designed to be more flexible than the seal and to bring a more easily identified look to the University. The branding guidelines are intended to unify the university's communications. These guidelines will help you participate in presenting a clear message about our mission.

For more information, visit <http://www.usuhs.mil/webmaster/template/imagestemplates.html> or contact the Office of External Affairs

## Using the logo

### Business Cards



Order business cards with the new centralized process. USU will fund up to 250 business cards in FY 07 for individuals who meet the criteria of "necessary expense" (refer to business card SOP for more information). Order up to 50 cards with the online In-house Printing Request form. For more than 50 cards, fill out the Main Request Form.

See the Audio Visual Center website for complete Business Card resources: [www.usuhs.mil/avc/businesscards.html](http://www.usuhs.mil/avc/businesscards.html)

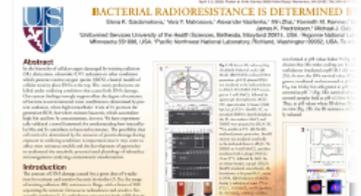
### Sub-branding



Represent your department with the standardized format for sub-branding the USU logo. The Audio Visual Center has created subbrands for some departments; they can be found on the AVC website. Contact the AVC about getting a subbrand if you don't see yours.

### Presentations and Posters

Use the new logo to present your research. Get slide and poster templates in powerpoint format from a link on the University home page.



Background color is a sample only and can be changed. School subbrand is also a sample and can be removed or changed as required.

For gradient backgrounds

Text will be Adobe Caslon Pro.  
The University name will be:  
USUHS: The 5th central letter of each word will be 18 point bold.  
The subsequent capital letters will be 16 point bold.  
The second line of text will be regular. Bold upper and lower case.  
The school # symbol will be 18 point regular upper and lower case and will be medium blue: R=68, G=113, B=179 or light blue: R=144, G=157, B=202.  
Words may be used if absolutely necessary to use the font.  
The slide will be 1/2" wide and 1/8" from the left side and 1/8" from the bottom.

### What about the USU Seal?



The USU seal, created for the university by the Department of Heraldry, will continue to be used in an official capacity for the university letterhead, for official certificates, and in official ceremonies such as commencement. In most other cases you will be using the logo. Contact the External Affairs office for guidance when you are not sure which mark to use.

### Publications

Use the logo on your newsletters, brochures, fact sheets, post cards, and other communications materials. The Audio Visual Center can provide layout services for any of these items.



## USU, Nation Honors Disabled Employees During Awareness Month

By Tech. Sgt. Andre Nicholson  
NCOIC, External Affairs

Nearly fifteen years ago the U.S. Congress enacted the American Disabilities Act (ADA), which prohibits private employers, state and local governments, employment agencies and labor unions from discriminating against qualified individuals with disabilities in job application procedures, hiring, firing, advancement, compensation, job training, and other terms, conditions and privileges of employment.

The Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences (USU) acknowledge that act and recognized the contributions of disabled employees during a celebration here Oct. 18, as one of the university's faculty members provided this year's keynote address

Gloria Ramsey, J.D., RN, associate professor Graduate School of Nursing, assistant research professor, School of Medicine Department of Medical and Clinical Psychology, and director, Community Outreach and Information Dissemination at USU's Center for Health Disparities Research and Education (USUCHD), addressed faculty, staff, and students during the National Disability Employment Awareness Month celebration.

This year's national theme: *Americans with Disabilities: Ready for the Global Workforce* was Dr. Ramsey's focus as she discussed the history of the ADA, laws in correlation to the act, her personal experience, and opportunities for everyone to contribute to a conducive workforce.

"Disabilities affect a person's ability to engage in some aspect of day to day life," Dr. Ramsey explained. "The ADA has been a source of hope and inspiration for people with disabilities."

Although there are more than 6 million disabled people in today's workforce, "people with disabilities, even those with the most severe disabilities, have the talent and skills to fill workforce shortages," Dr. Ramsey said.

The ADA defines a person with a disability as an individual who:  
-Has a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more major life

activities

-Has a record of such an impairment

-Is regarded as having such an impairment.

Some tips on how to interact with people with disabilities:

-Offer a handshake even with the left hand if necessary

-Relax don't be embarrassed if you use a common phrase such as "See you later" all the person maybe blind

-Speak in a normal tone, but try to face the person and preferably in a lighted area

Dr. Ramsey provided these tips because she is aware of how it feels to be discriminated against and shared some of her personal experiences.

One situation in particular she vividly recalls was on an airplane flight years ago, in which the laboratory facilities were not conducive for a disabled person. She asked the flight attendant about accommodations for disabled people and the attendant replied that people in her condition usually bring their own bathroom facilities on board with them.

But it's those experiences that allow Dr. Ramsey to appreciate the USU community, she explained. She appreciates how the university made accommodations for her employment such as parking and office space, and among other reasons, the overall kindness of everyone here is why she thinks so highly of the university.

Dr. Ramsey said, it's extremely important for everyone to understand that "people with disabilities want to and can contribute to our nation's health."

## "Take a Loved One for a Checkup Day"

Courtesy of Community Outreach  
and Information Dissemination Core

The Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences (USU) Center for Health Disparities Community Outreach and Information Dissemination Core launched its fall activities by participating in the national *Take Your Loved One for a Checkup Day*, formerly known as *Take Your Loved One to A Doctor Day*, campaign last month.

*Take a Loved One for a Checkup Day* campaign focuses on the health disparities between racial and ethnic minorities and the general population. The day occurs the third Tuesday of each September and the campaign encourages individuals to visit a health professional (a doctor, a nurse, a nurse practitioner, physician assistant, dentist, or another health provider), make an appointment for a visit, or help a friend, neighbor, or family member do the same.

"The health of the community is our responsibility," said Dr. Gloria Ramsey, JD, RN, USU associate professor of nursing and director, Community Outreach and Information Dissemination. "The USU Center for Health Disparities is participating in this campaign because we know that disease prevention and regular health care can enhance and extend an individual's life. We also know that while it is true that many people do not have health insurance, there are a large number of persons who do and do not use it – unless they are sick or there is an actual emergency. We must change this attitude about health care and the campaign highlights the importance of prevention and early detection and encourages individuals to seek regular health care."

*Take Your Loved One for a Checkup Day*, a single day effort, initiated in 2002 by the former U.S. Health and Human Services Secretary Tommy Thompson, can generate a greater understanding of the importance

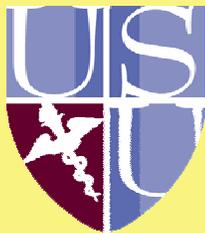
of regular health screenings while at the same time focus on populations which tend to have the highest disease burden and the least access to care.

The mission of the USU Center for Health Disparities is to promote health-related change and to ultimately reduce health disparities among racial and ethnic minorities through research, education, training, community outreach and information dissemination. *Take Your Loved One for a Checkup Day* is vital because too many racial and ethnic minorities are dying prematurely and suffering from preventable diseases such as heart disease, stroke, cancer, diabetes, HIV/AIDS, infant mortality, and vaccine-preventable diseases. Together, through education and by helping people access health resources, we can help improve the health and longevity of the American public, said Dr. Ramsey.

To that end, the USU Center for Health Dis-

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**CFC** from page 1

including, the Fisher House program, which has 36 houses, 6 of which are located in the metro Washington D.C. area. The first Fisher house was built in Bethesda on the grounds of the National Naval Medical Center.

Some other member's of the CFC are, The Disabled American Veterans, which is a non profit association of some 1.2 Million U.S. military veterans who suffered some degree of disability while serving in time of war or armed conflict; the Veterans of Foreign Wars Foundation, which promotes citizenship education, volunteerism and positive youth

programs; and facilitate medical, rehabilitative, educational and employment services and needs for veterans and their families; and The United Service Organization (U.S.O.) which is a private, organization whose mission is to provide morale, welfare and recreation-type services to military members.

The CFC kick-off ended with Dr. Charles L. Rice, President, USU addressing the university on what the CFC is and it's various members. "We encourage you to be a star in some one's life," Dr. Rice said. "Be a volunteer, give light to life and improve the lives of others." He said that the key to success is participation.

**ERA** from page 1

as the backbone for its operational and leadership positions," Senator Sarbanes said. "This is especially important during a time when the nation will be facing a shortage of physicians and nurses."

The three-level structure will provide extra classrooms and office space for USU's Graduate School of Nursing (GSN), bringing those students, faculty and staff together under one roof for the first time since the GSN's founding in 1993. The Academic Program Center will also house graduate medical education and continuing health education program offices. Additionally, there

will be one larger 100-person classroom and smaller rooms with moveable partitions for subdividing each pair of small classrooms. The facility is expected to be completed within the next two years.

"This unique university has direct relevance to our national security concerns of today and absolutely merits the construction of this academic program center," said Congressman Van Hollen. "There is no doubt that Building E will be put to good use."

"I've been proud to support USU for nearly 25 years," said Senator Barbara Mikulski. "Things have changed a lot since its founding in 1972. Today, battles

and our battlefields have changed, weapons have changed. But the values of USU have not changed: patriotism, duty and service to our soldiers, Sailors, Airmen and Marines."

"The nation owes a debt to those who serve our country," said Senator Inouye. "Our troops have the right to expect quality care. USU makes sure that the country's military members receive this care by educating military health providers. The university's alumni understand that they have taken on a long-term commitment."

"They protect those who protect us," Mikulski said.

**CHECK-UP** from page 5

parities Community Outreach Core disseminated its lay consumer publication, *EQUAL HEALTH* Monthly Informer, to the 30 plus people who visited them Sept. 19. The September issue of the Monthly Informer entitled, "Know Your Family Health History," encourages individuals to maintain their own personal health record because it is one of the best ways to have constant access to your health information over the course of your lifetime, and to ensure that individuals receive quality health-care. It also gives individuals

knowledge that assists with preparation for appointments, and an active voice in preventative care and care management. The more involved you are in your own care, the more it can help reduce health disparities.

"Know your Family Health History" is an excellent tool to document dates for medical and dental appointments for you and your loved ones. It includes section that allows an individual to write down their medical history, family history, medications, allergies, and a health log to track major illnesses. Anyone who was not able to visit the display last

month, can contact Jateya Jones, coordinator, at (301) 589-1175 x20 or e-mail [jjones@usuhs.mil](mailto:jjones@usuhs.mil). You may download the Monthly Informer by visiting [www.usuchd.org](http://www.usuchd.org), community outreach, periodicals, or stop by our information table and session, outside the cafeteria in front of the elevators as we disseminate health information all year-long on *Take Your Loved One for a Checkup Day* and other relevant health information from 11:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. on the following dates:

- Nov. 15 "American Diabetes Month"
- Dec. 6 "World Aids Awareness"

# Look Who's Talking... *What do you like most about USU?*



"The people, for sure, I really like to see students come in with their families, everyone has a smile on their face."

**Linda Reich**  
Library Technician



"There is so much diversity among the students, some with prior experience, some without. It really changes the atmosphere."

**2nd LT Nick Singh**  
SOM MS2



I get to eat lunch with my husband an MS2 student.

**Dana Davila**  
Administrative Assistant

## USU in the News

### Dr. Deuster collaborates on War Fighters' Fitness Assessment

Dr. Patricia Deuster, professor, Department of Military and Emergency Medicine and director of USU's Human Performance Laboratory, in conjunction with Lipomics Technologies, Inc., will be performing the second and third phases of a study on how to improve the optimum fitness and performance of combat personnel.

### Dr. William Haffner becomes editor of prestigious journal

Dr. William Haffner, USU professor of Obstetrics and Gynecology has been selected as the new editor of *Military Medicine*. The journal is produced by the Association of Military Surgeons of the United States, which is the society of the federal health agencies.

### USU faculty and students participate in NIH research festival

The National Institutes of Health hosted a "Research Festival: Bench to Bedside" Oct. 17-20 with symposia, special exhibits, and poster sessions discussing the full range of biomedical research and research policy. Presenters included NIH intramural scientists and, by special invitation, a dozen collaborative research presentations by USU faculty and students.

### Researchers find ulcer bacteria *H. pylori* present in blood vessels

Andre Dubois, M.D., Ph.D., professor of medicine, surgery, and emerging infectious diseases, and chief, Laboratory of Gastrointestinal and Liver Studies at USU, and members of his research group,

Drs. Cristina Semino-Mora and Hui Liu, co-authored an article with European researchers lead by Dr. Thomas Borén. The study demonstrates that the peptic ulcer bacterium *Helicobacter pylori* (*H. pylori*) can reach the blood circulation. Thus, the bacterium can disseminate in the body and may cause other chronic inflammatory conditions of unknown origin, such as atherosclerosis and rheumatoid arthritis. The research paper can be viewed online at: <http://pathogens.plosjournals.org/XXX> and will be published in the October issue of the *PLoS Pathogens Journal*.

### Dr. Leonard C. Sperling selected as chair for Dept. of Dermatology

Larry W. Laughlin, M.D., Ph.D., dean, School of Medicine is pleased to announce the selection of Leonard C. Sperling, M.D., as the new chair, Department of Dermatology following a nationwide search. Dr. Sperling, a longtime USU faculty member and nationally and internationally known academician in the field of Dermatology, is Professor of Dermatology at USU. Dr. Sperling has been acting chair of the position since his retirement earlier this year.

### Attention USU Students

A recently chartered Innovative Investment Group working for Health Affairs is searching for money saving ideas. Possibly from USU students.

### Dr. Rice participates in ACS session

USU President, Dr. Charles L. Rice served as the moderator for a general session about how the military can cooperate in the future training of surgeons.



## "Trick or Treat!"

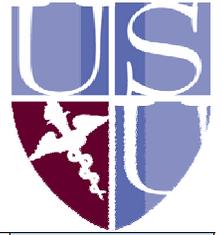
Student Spouses Club members accompanied their children through the halls of the university Oct. 25, collecting candy and taking in the various Halloween-themed door decorations. The children made their way from the ground floor through buildings A, B and C. The Student Spouses club extends its thanks to all those who participated and handed out candy.



Photos by MCSA Jeffrey Hopkins



# USU Calendar of Events



<p>29</p> <p>October</p>	<p>30</p>	<p>31</p> <p>All services: Physical Fitness Testing</p> <p>7a.m. and Noon <b>USU Softball Field</b></p>	<p>1</p> <p>Molecular Cell Biology Seminar "Role of GSK- 3beta"</p> <p>3:30pm in Lecture <b>Room A</b></p> <p>November</p>	<p>2</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>4</p> <p>Toastmasters Meeting</p> <p>Noon-1p.m. <b>A2011</b></p>
<p>5</p>	<p>6</p>	<p>7</p>	<p>8</p> <p>Sixteenth Annual Open house of Poster Presentation</p> <p><b>3:30pm</b> <b>Lobby Bldg. B</b></p>	<p>9</p>	<p>10</p> <p>Veterans Day Holiday</p>	<p>11</p>
<p>12</p>	<p>13</p>	<p>14</p>	<p>15</p> <p>Sixteenth Annual Harold L. Stewart Lecture in Experi- mental Oncology</p> <p>3:00 p.m. <b>Lecture Room C</b></p>	<p>16</p>	<p>17</p>	<p>18</p>
<p>19</p>	<p>20</p>	<p>21</p> <p>Department of Dermatology Pre- sents the 9th An- nual Sulzberger Lectureship.</p> <p><b>9:00 a.m. - 11:30</b> <b>a.m. in AFFRI</b> <b>Conference Room</b></p>	<p>22</p>	<p>23</p> <p><b>Thanksgiving</b> <b>Holiday</b></p>	<p>24</p>	<p>25</p>