



NOV HEALTH

New guidelines: Common drugs can calm essential tremor



Photo by Eric Youngmans

Dr. Theresa Zesiewicz checks a patient's tremor.

By Anne DeLotto Baier

Imagine not being able to hold a glass, tie your shoelaces or write a check. For people with the common movement disorder known as essential tremor, simple tasks requiring fine motor coordination become increasingly difficult, sometimes even impossible. Three times more prevalent than Parkinson's disease, essential tremor involves uncontrollable shaking of the hands, arms, head or voice. The largely hereditary neurological condition can begin in early adulthood and worsen with age.

In an effort to help physicians and patients best cope with essential tremor, the American Academy of Neurology released the first guidelines for its treatment. The report is posted online and published in the June 28 issue of *Neurology*.

Specific drugs commonly used to treat high blood pressure and seizures can be beneficial in the treatment of essential tremor, according to the guidelines. For limb tremors, surgery can be an option if drug therapy is ineffective.

"Essential tremor can be quite debilitating and cause embarrassment in social situations. For instance, in a restaurant the person may have difficulty eating when they try to pick up a fork or spoon and bring food to their mouths," said lead guideline author Theresa Zesiewicz, MD, an associate professor of neurology at the USF College of Medicine.

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Leaders

Dr. Bob Nelson chairs Pediatrics

Robert M. Nelson, Jr., MD, has been named chair of the Department of Pediatrics by Stephen Klasko, MD, MBA, vice president for Health Sciences and dean of the College of Medicine.

"In his year as interim chair, Dr. Nelson has been a leader for the department, for the faculty, and for our new initiatives in education, research and patient care," Dr. Klasko said.

Author of 83 publications, he has focused his research and patient care on the treatment of very low birth-weight babies. After coming to USF as professor of pediatrics in 1992, Dr. Nelson transformed the care of premature infants in Tampa by bringing ECMO technology to the neonatal intensive care unit at Tampa General Hospital.

Dr. Nelson was professor of newborn medicine at the University of Nebraska Medical Center and Creighton University School of Medicine prior to joining USF. A graduate of Harvard University, he earned his medical degree from the University of Washington and received his post-pediatric training at the University of Florida.

Last year he was elected faculty council president by the faculty of the College of Medicine.

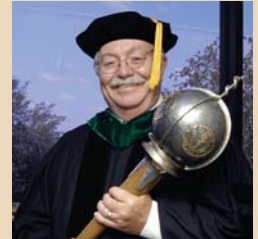


Photo by John Lofredo

As chair of the COM Faculty Council, Dr. Nelson carried the college's mace at last spring's graduation ceremony.

"Best Doctors" are at USF

The numbers are in and it seems that USF's impact is mighty strong. The *Best Doctors in America* released their 2005 list and out of the 389 physicians named from the Tampa Bay area, 263 have a connection to USF. That's about two-thirds of the list.

After taking into account duplication of names (when a physician is named Best Doctor in more than one specialty), there are 244 doctors who are full-time physician-teachers; affiliates, adjuncts and courtesy faculty who teach medical students several times each year; and alumni, some of whom maintain a teaching connection and some of whom stayed in the area in private practice.

So of the 244 USF names, 117 are full-time faculty, more than 25 percent of the *Best Doctors* list. The annual list is compiled from surveys of physicians asking them who they would go to for treatment in their specialty. The result is a national listing of 30,000 physicians (about 4 percent of all U.S. doctors) in more than 40 specialties.

Tampa Bay Metro will run the names of all local physicians in their August/September issue, but on page 3 is the list of the physicians who have a connection to the USF College of Medicine.

See the list on page 3 >>

WHAT'S IN THIS ISSUE

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Excellence >>**

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In memoriam: Arun P. Kulkarni

Arun P. Kulkarni, PhD, founding faculty member of the College of Public Health and internationally known researcher, died June 26 after a long illness. He was 63.

Dr. Kulkarni joined COPH in 1986 as an entomologist and an expert in human toxicology. He worked at USF until suffering a stroke in 2002.

Dr. Kulkarni published more than 300 scientific papers and was internationally respected for his work on how environmental chemicals affected fetuses.

He is survived by his wife Kavita, their children Arvind Kulkarni and Aparna Tutak, and two grandchildren.

Dr. Denis English joins Aging and Brain Repair team



Denis English, PhD, has joined HSC to direct cell biology research within the Center of Excellence for Aging and Brain Repair and as professor in the Department of

Neurosurgery. He started May 1.

Dr. English comes from the Methodist Research Institute in Indianapolis, IN, where he directed the Experimental Cell Research Program. In addition, he is editor in chief of the journal *Stem Cells and Development*, a position he will maintain at USF.

While at USF, he will work with Center Director Paul Sanberg, PhD, DSc, to further develop stem cell models to understand structural development of stem cells of varying stages of maturation and how the vasculature develops in tandem with the neural system.

Dr. English earned his master's and PhD degrees (both in microbiology) from the University of Illinois, Chicago.

(((In the News)))

From *CNN* and the *Wall Street Journal* to *USA Today* and the *New York Times*, Health Sciences Center experts scored major national media hits in June, along with a variety of coverage by local and regional media:



Jay Wolfson, DrPH, JD, professor of public health and medicine, was interviewed live June 15 by *CNN's Anderson Cooper* and *Keith Olbermann of MSNBC* following release of the Terri Schiavo autopsy results. Dr. Wolfson also appeared on *Fox 13 News*, *WFLA News Channel 8*, *Fox 13's "Your Turn,"* and *ABC Action News Ch. 28's Flashpoint*.

Neuropathologist **Amyn Rojiani, MD**, reviewed the Terri Schiavo autopsy results and commented on the medical findings June 15 for *Bay News 9* and in the June 16 *St. Petersburg Times*.



A study by **Amy Borenstein, PhD**, professor in the College of Public Health, and colleagues, was cited June 20 as part of *USA Today* coverage of the first Alzheimer's Association's International Conference on Prevention of Dementia. The USF study's extensive coverage included the *Associated Press*, *Chicago Tribune*, *Los Angeles Times*, *Daily Mail* (United Kingdom), *Buffalo News*, *National Ledger*, the *Concord Monitor*, *Manila Times*, *CBS Ch. 2* (Chicago), *WTSP Tampa Bay's 10*, and *RedNova.com*

Huntington Potter, PhD, Eric Pfeiffer endowed chair for Alzheimer's Disease Research at USF, commented in the June 27 *Los Angeles Times* about the link between periodontal disease and increased risk for Alzheimer's.

Anne Curtis, MD, new director of cardiology, was quoted in the June 14 *New York Times* about the need for industry-wide guidelines for disclosing flaws in heart devices.

The New York Times

A cover story in the June 23 *Tampa Tribune* featured the Moffitt Cancer Center/USF teamwork by researchers **Said Sebti, PhD**, and **Jin Cheng, MD, PhD**, that led to USF licensing a promising anti-cancer drug to a

New Jersey biotech company. **Stephen Klasko, MD, MBA**, dean of medicine and vice president for health sciences, commented that the collaboration is evidence that Moffitt and USF can work toward a true center for drug discovery that will bring compounds from the laboratory to clinical trials in one site.

Mo Kastli, chief operating officer at the Health Sciences Center, was profiled June 27 in the *St. Petersburg Times* business section.

Neuroscientist **Paul Sanberg, PhD, DSc**, was quoted June 10 in *HealthDay News* and *Forbes.com* about an imaging study that showed new love lights up an addiction-associated area of the brain that makes dopamine.

Neurosurgeon **Bernard Guiot, MD**, director of the Spine Program, commented on a new artificial disk device for a front-page *Wall Street Journal* article June 7.

John Toney, MD, associate professor in Infectious Diseases, was a coauthor for the June 2 *New England Journal of Medicine* report on the Shingles Prevention Study, one of the largest clinical trials ever conducted by the Department of Veterans Affairs. The study, led by Dr. Toney at James A. Haley Veterans' Hospital, was covered June 1 by *Fox 13 News* and *WUSF-FM 89.7* and June 2 in the *St. Petersburg Times*.



The signing of an agreement forging an education and research collaboration between USF and Pepin Heart Hospital and Dr. Kiran C. Patel Research Institute was covered June 2 by *Fox-13 News* and in the June 3 *Tampa Bay Business Journal*.

David Sheehan, MD, professor of psychiatry, was featured in a June 10 *Tampa Tribune Baylife* cover story on needle phobia.

H. Worth Boyce, MD, professor of medicine and director of the Swallowing Disorders Center, discussed the link between Barrett's esophagus and the rising incidence of esophageal cancer May 24 on *Fox 13 News*.

Maria Carmen Wilson, MD, associate professor of neurology, appeared in a June 14 *Univision* story on the importance of Hispanic participation in clinical trials.

Eric Coris, MD, director of sports medicine at the USF Health Sciences Center, commented on the thigh injury of Miami Heat center Shaquille O'Neal in the May 19 *Miami Herald*.

Compiled by Anne DeLotto Baier | abaier@hsc.usf.edu

DRINK YOUR FRUITS AND VEGETABLES:

Juices may reduce risk for Alzheimer's

By Anne DeLotto Baier

Antioxidants abundant in fruit and vegetable juices may play an important role in reducing the risk of Alzheimer's disease, report researchers at USF and colleagues.

Amy Borenstein, PhD, MPH, a professor of epidemiology and biostatistics at the USF College of Public Health, presented the findings June 19 at the Alzheimer's Association's first International Conference on Prevention of Dementia. She worked with researchers at Vanderbilt University in Nashville and the Group Health Cooperative of Puget Sound in Seattle. The study was covered in news articles worldwide.

The researchers investigated whether higher consumption of fruit and vegetable juices would lower the risk of Alzheimer's disease. They studied more than 1,800 older Japanese-American men and women from the *Kame* Project in Seattle, in which participants were dementia-free at the onset of the study and were followed for up to nine years.

Dr. Borenstein and her colleagues found that participants who drank fruit or vegetable juices at least three times per week had a 75 percent reduced risk of developing Alzheimer's disease compared with those who drank these juices less than once per week. By comparison, there was no



apparent dementia-related benefit from dietary or supplemental vitamin E, C or beta-carotene intake.

"These findings suggest that something as simple as incorporating more fruit and vegetable juices into our diet may have a significant impact on our brain health," Dr. Borenstein said.

"The theory is that compounds known as polyphenols, potent antioxidants found abundantly in the skins and peels of fruits and vegetables, may play a protective role in fighting oxidative damage caused by the beta amyloid peptide, which is implicated in Alzheimer's disease," Dr. Borenstein said. "Many commercial fruit and vegetable juices are produced from frozen concentrates made mostly from whole fruits including the peels or skins. It is not surprising, therefore, that such juices contain a high concentration of polyphenols."

Dietary consumption was determined using a food frequency questionnaire given at the beginning of the study. Participants were not asked about the type of fruit and vegetable juice consumed.

The researchers controlled for (excluded) other explanations for the findings, including gender, education, physical activity, body mass, genetic susceptibility, smoking, alcohol consumption, tea drinking, supplemental use of vitamins, and other sources of dietary antioxidants.

"Best Doctors" who work or volunteer at USF

Harold M Adelman
William M Alberts
Michael H Albrink
Melissa Alsina
Jeffrey L Alvaro
W McDowell Anderson
Thomas M Andrews
Jeffrey L Angel
Alfred Asante-Korang
Lodovico Balducci
Dennis F Bandyk
Jerry L Barbosa
Magda Barsoum-Homys
Loren J Bartels
Colin S Beach
Scott W Beck
Claudia Beghe
Robert J Belsole
Selim R Benbadis
Gerold Beppler
Barry B Bercu
Thomas L Bernasek
Marc A Bernhisel
Susan B Betzer
Bryan A Bognar
Brett R Bolhofner
Kestutis P. Boyev
Patrick G Brady
Teresa P Brandt
Steven Brem
Stuart M Brooks
Harrison J Brownlee
Robert J Campbell
Enrico M Camporesi
Alfonso Campos
Margarita Cancio
Joan M Carter
Glenn Catalano
Paul A Chervenick
Hemant Chheda

David A Cimino
Guillermo B Cintron
Eric E Coris
Kent Corral
Leonard E Cortelli
Claudia G Cote
Charles E Cox
Anne B Curtis
Sharon M Dabrow
William S Dalton
Mark A Davis
Terry J DeClue
Frank B Diamond
Thomas G Dipasquale
Peter A Donelan
Deborah A Donlon
John B Downs
John L Driscoll
Mitchell D Drucker
Juan A Dumois
Rodney M Durham
James R Edgar
John H Elinger
Michel M El-Murr
Patricia J Emmanuel
James N Evercott
Perry B Everett
Peter J Fabri
Joseph B Farrior III
Neil A Fenske
Francisco Fernandez
Raymond J Fernandez
Robert C Fernandez
Lewis M Flint
Roger W Fox
Mark A Frankle
John A Frutchey
Chris R Garrett
Jorge M Giroud
Lewis F Glass

Steven B Goldin
Allan L Goldman
Eduardo C Gonzalez
Asher R Gorelik
Edmund G Grant Jr.
Harvey M Greenberg
John N Greene
W Sanderson Grizzard
Lewis R Groden
Dennis P Grogan
Richard A Gross
Steven A Gross
Frederic J Guerrier
Gregory V Hahn
Alan B Halsey
John R Hamill
Mark E Hammer
Jaffrey Hashimie
Robert A Hauser
Andre Hebra
James G Henry
Jeffrey B Hess
Mitchel S Hoffman
Yves L Homsy
Russell M Hostetler
Sally H Houston
James C Huhta
Deborah A Humphrey
Jack H Hutto JR.
Patricia N Jeansonne
Brad L Johnson
E Verena Jorgensen
Richard C Karl
Timothy F Kelly
Matthew A Kienstra
Harry K.W. Kim
Julie A Kish
Douglas W Klotch
Tony D Kriseman
Karalee Kulek-Luzey

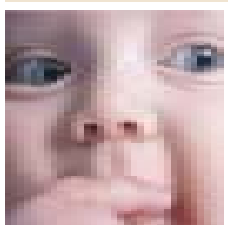
Mudra Kumar
Geoffrey M Kwitko
Dennis K Ledford
Gigi C Lefebvre
June Y Leland
David R Leonard
G.Douglas Letson
Carol M Lilly
Fred Lipschutz
Alan F List
Richard F Lockey
Jorge L Lockhart
Sheila M Love
Catherine M Lynch
Mokenge P Malafa
Jay J Mamel
Carlos R Martinez
Richard M Martinez
Thomas V McCaffrey
Daniel T McClenathan
Harris H McIlwain
Valerie C Mechanik
Anthony M Messina
Jane L Messina
Rafael V Miguel
Jeffrey W Miller
Susan E Minton
Yves Morency
Michael B Morgan
John V Murray
F. Reed Murtagh
Anthony E Napolitano
Christopher G Nelson
Albert J Nemeth
Jeffrey B Neustadt
Mark A Nichter
H Juergen Nord
Kevin E O'Brien
Jay J Older
Peter W Orobello Jr.

Tapan A Padhya
Anna K Parsons
Michael T Parsons
Scott E Pautler
Peter R Pavan
Emily T Perkins
Sharon A Perlman
Vincent D Perron
Robert Pesce
Eric A Pfeiffer
Michael R Piazza
Haim Pinkas
Daniel J Plasencia Jr.
Marguerite R Poreda
Julio M Pow Sang
Pauline S Powers
Thomas J Pusateri
Karen Raimer
Balaibail A Raj
Arnold M Ramirez
Earnest Rehnke
Dominick P Reina
Christopher D Reiner
Elliot M Reisman
David W. Richards
Carl Daniel Riggs Jr.
Debbie A Rinde Hoffman
Lynnette N Ringenberg
Richard G Roetzheim
Alexander S Rosemurgy
Robert B Rosequist
Deborah C Roth
Ernesto J Ruas
Albert Saltiel
Juan R Sanchez-Ramos
Ronald S Schonwetter
Daniel J Schwartz
Gregory C Scott
Mitchel J Seleznick
David Howard Shapiro
Kailie R Shaw
Michael F Sheehan

Philip D Shenefelt
Mandel R Sher
Dorothy I Shulman
Sharon Sibert
Martin L Silbiger
John W Sleasman
Andrew E Sloan
Charles B Slonim
John M Small
Donald A Smith
Mark A Smith
David A Solomon
Vernon K Sondak
Heidi M Stephens
Saundra L Stock
Bruce B Storrs
Daniel M Sullivan
Rebecca Sutphen
Christopher L. Tappan
Samuel Tarantino Jr.
Ellyn F. Theophilopoulos
Andrea Trotti
Harry R Van Loveren
Frank B Vasey
Barry S Verkauf
Hector Vila Jr.
Paul M Wallach
Arthur K Walling
Frank W Walsh
Elizabeth A Warner
Laura S Weathers
David A Weiland
Susan H Weinkle
Samuel S Weinstein
Karen E Wells
J Kell Williams
Leonard S Williams
Michelle P Winesett
Terry E Wright
Timothy J Yeatman
Timothy R Yeko
Kenneth S Zuckerman

Did you see this ad last weekend?

This ad was featured in the sports sections of both the *Tampa Tribune* and the *St. Petersburg Times* to congratulate the USF Bulls for making the Big East Conference. The ad also introduced USF's new Sports Medicine Institute. Watch for more details later this month.



Free interview for expectant moms

The USF Department of General Pediatrics is offering expectant mothers a free pre-natal appointment to interview a physician as they choose a doctor for their babies.

Appointments are for USF pediatricians at the new comprehensive clinic at the USF Medical Clinic, Tampa campus, including Lori Bowers, MD; Maria Cannarozzi, MD; Hugo Narvarte, MD; and Antoinette Spoto-Cannons, MD.

For more information, call 813-974-2583.

Website for USF clinical studies

Want to know about clinical studies based at USF? Go to <https://hscapps.hsc.usf.edu/clinicalstudies/home.cfm> for information searchable by condition, investigator or study site.

And researchers, to include your study, contact the HSC Office of Research at 974-8065 or pmarty@hsc.usf.edu.



Photo by Jason Marsh

Let the professionals who take care of your teams, take care of you.
 USF Sports Medicine Institute, call (813)974-2918, www.hsc.usf.edu



Dr. Zesiewicz/Parkinson's

(Continued from page 1)

"Though the tremors do not completely disappear with treatment, they can be managed, making a huge difference in the daily lives of people with essential tremor."

The guideline panel reviewed 211 articles to make evidence-based recommendations on the treatment of essential tremor.

Propranolol, long-acting (LA) propranolol, and primidone were each found to significantly reduce limb tremors and were strongly recommended in the guidelines. Propranolol is also used to treat high seizure medication. Propranolol and primidone may be used in combination for limb tremor when either drug is insufficient alone. The panel also recommended propranolol for head tremors, although not as strongly as it was recommended for limb tremors.

Other drugs that can be used for limb tremors include the blood pressure drugs sotalol or atenolol and the anti-seizure drugs gabapentin and topiramate.

Side effects can accompany each of these medications," Dr. Zesiewicz said. "If side effects become too adverse, doctors and patients can discuss other drug options."

The panel found modest evidence to

recommend injections of botulinum toxin A for limb, head, or voice tremors.

Surgery can be recommended if drug therapy is ineffective for limb tremors. Deep brain stimulation was found to have fewer severe complications than thalamotomy, according to the guideline. In deep brain stimulation, an electric probe is placed inside the thalamus which helps block the impulses that cause tremors. A thalamotomy places a lesion on a small part of the thalamus, which helps stop the signals that cause tremors.

"Both surgeries were more effective than medications at improving the tremors, reducing their magnitude by as much as 60 to 90 percent, compared to 50 percent or less for medications," Dr. Zesiewicz said. "However, patients who underwent surgery experienced more adverse side effects, so the procedures are only recommended for those who do not respond to medications."

The panel found insufficient evidence to recommend deep brain stimulation to treat head or voice tremor.

Other USF co-authors of the essential tremor guideline were neurologist Robert Hauser, MD, and Kelly Sullivan, MSPH. Summaries of the guidelines for physicians and for patients and their families are available at www.aan.com.



Research matters

Synergy winners named

The first winners from the Synergy Social Hour have been named.

In March, more than 85 researchers gathered to “speed” interview each other and share information about their research. The goal was to identify opportunities for collaboration and spur interdisciplinary research proposals to be funded by the HSC vice president and USF provost.

From the 10 proposals submitted, the two winners are Shyam Mohapatra, PhD, (internal medicine, biochemistry, medical microbiology,

pediatrics), and Michael VanAuker, PhD, (internal medicine).

Dr. Mohapatra’s project is titled “Development of Novel Non-invasive RF Device for Transdermal Drug Delivery,” and includes co-investigators Michael Kovac, PhD, (research), Shekhar Bhansali, PhD, (engineering), and John Bumgarner, PhD, (marine science).

Dr. VanAuker’s project is titled “The Pathophysiology of Aortic Valve Disease: Relations Between Mechanical Stress and Cellular Function” and includes co-investigators

Leo Ondrovic PhD, (surgery), Anna Plaas, PhD, (internal medicine, anatomy) and Joel Strom, MD, MEng, (internal medicine, engineering).

This first Synergy Social Hour focused on biomedical research. A second event, which drew more than 60 researchers, was on health disparities and the winners from this topic will be announced soon.

A third Synergy Social Hour on cardiovascular research and a fourth on sports medicine will come in the fall.

HSC faculty earn USF grants

Several faculty members from HSC earned funding through the USF Internal Awards Program for their research projects or professional development opportunities.

They are: Don Cameron, PhD, (COM anatomy), Dmitry Gabrilovich, MD, PhD, (COM interdisciplinary oncology), Cecilia Jevitt, CNM, PhD, (CON), Johnathan Lancaster, MD, (COM interdisciplinary oncology), Vasyl Sava, PhD, (COM neurology), Murray Shames, MD, (COM surgery), David Shibata, MD, (COM interdisciplinary oncology), Yao Liang Tang, PhD, (COM physiology and biophysics).

The awards ranged from \$1,800 to \$10,000.

COM summer research program matches record 50 students



The USF Summer Research Program has been open to first-year medical students for years, but this summer a record 50 medical students were matched with COM faculty members.

That’s close to half the first-year class of 118.

The program includes eight weeks of full-time work in COM laboratories on a variety of research projects. Students are required to write an abstract of their work, provide a report at the end of the summer and present at the next HSC Research Day, as well as at other scientific meetings. Some students are continuing projects they’ve already started with faculty members during their first year at COM, and most projects will require further work. Many, once completed, will have the potential for publication and presentation.



AHA Connections

There’s been lots of activity at the American Heart Association Florida/Puerto Rico Affiliate on the part of HSC faculty. Several appointments and awards include the following.

William Gower, PhD, professor in the Department of Physiology and Biophysics and the Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, was elected president-elect for the next year. He will become president of the group the following year.

Elected vice president was Ali Malek, MD, assistant professor in the Department of Neurology and the Department of Neurosurgery.

Hiram Green was elected president of the

community board of directors for the Hillsborough County Unit.

Several AHA awards were presented to USF faculty, as well.

Karen Davidowitz earned the Outstanding Predoctoral Fellowship Research Award and will receive funding for her project for two years. Her sponsor is Denise Cooper, PhD, professor in the Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology.

Douglas Schocken, MD, professor in the Department of Internal Medicine, earned the AHA Science Integration Award, and his 13-year-old son Derek was selected the AHA Youth Advocate of the Year and was presented with the

award at the Congressional Heart and Stroke Lobby Day in April in Washington, DC.

In other AHA news, COM was once again awarded the AHA Medical Student Summer Research Fellowship Award, which provides funds for three medical student fellowships for summer research projects. The winners for this summer are: Heather Kearney (Department of Surgery with Murray Shames, MD); Anna McFarlin (Internal Medicine with Harry Severance, MD, and Preeti Jois, MD); Samantha Roland (Internal Medicine with Anna Plaas, PhD); Amy Sullivan (Biochemistry and Molecular Biology with Duane Eichler, PhD).

Outstanding Staff Awards to to six at HSC

Six employees from the Health Sciences Center earned USF Outstanding Staff Awards last month.

The award, which includes a plaque and a check for \$500, recognizes outstanding job performance of USPS and A&P employees.

From the College of Medicine winners are Joyce Alcorn from the Department of Physiology; Jeanne Coveyou from the Department of Psychiatry; and Debra Sweger from the

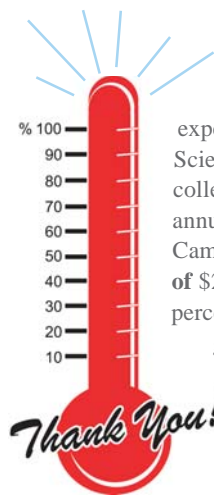
Department of Medical Microbiology and Immunology.

From the College of Nursing the winner is Vince Cesario, from the Center for Nursing Research and Instructional Design.

From the College of Public Health, the winner is Beverly Sanchez, from the Office of the Dean.

And from the HSC the winner is Maria Rutter, from the Office of Vice President.

Faculty/Staff Campaign a success!!



The 2005 USF Faculty & Staff Campaign exceeded all expectations in the Health Sciences Center. Each HSC college successfully met its annual Faculty & Staff Campaign goal, **raising a total of \$253,584 to date, 26 percent over the campaign goal.**

This record breaking year was led by **Peter Gorski, MD, MPA**, in the College of Public Health (25 percent participation), **Joan Gregory, PhD, ARNP**, in the College of Nursing (51 percent participation) and **John Sinnott, MD**, and **Steven Specter, PhD**, in the College of Medicine (15 percent participation).

Contributions benefited all areas of the University, but most especially scholarship funds within our three Colleges.

Send in your IOEs

To highlight our successes in research, education, and healthcare, a newly created Items of Excellence has been started. The bi-weekly e-list will showcase the internal efforts that are propelling us to national prominence and are summaries of the latest wins and accomplishments supporting the vision and strategic goals of the HSC.

Send your IOEs to Anne DeLotto Baier at abaier@hsc.usf.edu using the following categories: Creative Educational Models, Research Really Matters, Entrepreneurial Academic Practice, Operational/Financial Innovation and People Excellence.

All leading to national prominence

Examples of IOEs

- Federal grants
- Publication in major peer-reviewed journals
- Major presentations at research conferences
- Top-level appointments and honors
- Collaborative/team initiatives by departments or colleges
- Entrepreneurial models for education, research or clinical care

HSC Service Corps stays busy



First-year medical student John Peters takes a blood sample from a guest at the Hispanic Health Fiesta held last April. The event was coordinated by the HSC Service Corps and is a prime example of the types of activities Corps volunteers get to participate in.

Just 18 months old, the HSC Service Corps has grown beyond the expectations of its creators, said Ellen Kent, coordinator of Special Projects with AHEC. The program was started to connect students from all the HSC colleges with people and groups in the community who need help and expertise.

It is sponsored by the USF Area Health Education Center (AHEC) and designed so students from the Colleges of Medicine, Nursing and Public Health and the School of Physical Therapy can participate in service activities together.

Kent said that students gain volunteer work experience, meet and network with future employees, learn about new career opportunities and perhaps earn awards.

HSC Service Corps projects include fund raising, collecting donated toys, food and other goods, participating in health fairs and other special events, such as the Great American Teach-In and a picnic for children and families served by the Children's Cancer Center.

For more information, visit www.hsc.usf.edu/ahec/hscservice_corps.html

CON student publishes

The April 2005 issue of *ADVANCE for Nurse Practitioners* features the Spring 2004 Capstone manuscript of Demetra Flood, a USF nursing student. The work is titled "Circumcision of Infant Boys: Parents Require Education to Make Informed Decisions."

Give your input >>

The USF COM Strategic Work Group on Diversity is looking for faculty and staff from the Health Sciences Center to join a task force to explore the possibility of providing and the impact of domestic partnership benefits at the HSC. If you are a faculty or staff member in Health Sciences and would like to be a part of this task force, please contact Jacqueline Leskovec, Diversity Work Group member, at jleskove@hsc.usf.edu for more information.

