

USU Newsletter

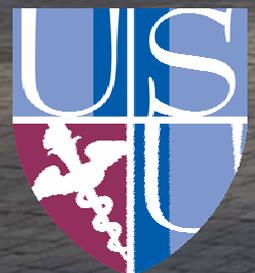
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**USU Newsletter
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**Cover photo by
HM2 Michael Oliver**

University President Hosts Town Hall Meeting

*By MC3 Jeff Hopkins
Assistant Editor, Office of External Affairs*

The Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences' (USU) president, Dr. Charles L. Rice held a Town Hall Meeting in Lecture Room E, Feb. 19

During the meeting, Rice covered topics including financial issues, upcoming events, and how the recently passed National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) will affect the university.

The NDAA is a U.S. federal law enacted each year to authorize and establish the programs of the Department of Defense (DoD). Due to increased congressional interest in USU, several sections of the 2008 NDAA will affect the ways in which the university operates.

One such provision will effect commissioned officers with prior service who matriculate into the university. Under a law enacted in 1972, all prior service officers who come to USU must resign their commissions and be commissioned as second lieutenants or ensigns in their respective services. After considering several different avenues including allowing prior service officers to retain both their rank and pay, and the possibility of them matriculating as O-2's, Congress decided to allow some prior service officers to retain the pay and certain allowances of their previous rank, while holding the rank of O-1.

"For some students who were O-3 or O-4 before matriculating into the School of Medicine who now have families, the reduction in rank to O-1 has presented significant financial hardships," Rice said. "Exactly how this system is implemented will be interesting to watch."

Another provision of the NDAA gives authority to the Secretary of Defense to appoint USU Board of Regents (BOR) members. Until now, the selection of USU BOR members fell to the president of the United States, with confirmation by the Senate. In many cases, this has led to long delays.

"There was one point at which there were three vacancies on the board with no evidence of any activity by the White House to replace BOR members," Rice said. "I'm confident the Secretary of Defense will be able to get quality experts to serve on our board in a timely manner."

During the meeting, Rice also addressed a study the university has been mandated to perform on the feasibility of developing a school of nursing which could provide a baccalaureate education. He said there was considerable concern from Congress and the tri-services over the low number of nurses available to come to USU, as well as the fact that Army and Air Force National Guard and reservists with only an AA in nursing cannot be promoted past O-3.

"The question is, 'is it possible for the university to provide the course material to take a person from an AA to a BSN?'" Rice said. "This would be a substantial departure for us, as we have always existed as a graduate and professional school. We drew the

conclusion that it's not possible to do it on this campus; with the integration of the Walter Reed Army Medical Center with the National Naval Medical Center, there's about to be a lot of activity and almost no space available."

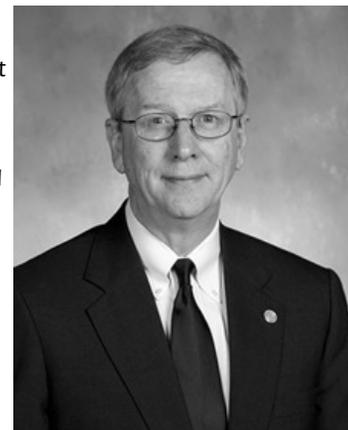
Rice went on to address the lifting of the university's salary restrictions, adjusting the salary cap from executive level one, the salary earned by the U.S. vice president to the level of the president.

"From the beginning, salaries have been constrained here by executive level one, which is that of the vice president of the United States, with pay scales below that moved downward to provide the lower rates expected," Rice said. "We argued successfully that the salary cap was limiting our ability to recruit and retain faculty, and Congress was sympathetic. That level has been rescinded, and changed to the level of the president, which is \$400,000 a year. Before you go out and buy your new Winnebago however, we have to get through what methodology we will use to define what comparable salaries are, and then we will have to get the money necessary to support that."

Another concern addressed was the university spending money on renovation projects which could be spent on faculty salaries. Rice explained that the money being used to fix the bricks in the university is from a one-time allowance for special maintenance, and could not be expected in the following year's budget.

"It's a little bit like winning \$1,000 in a church bingo game, and expecting to be able to use your next months winnings from the church bingo game to finance an addition to your house," Rice said. "You can't count on it being there. It's wonderful that we've had the opportunity to get this money, and it freed up some money we get during the year for maintenance to do other things, but these substantial chunks of money are things we can use only for limited activities, not for sustained operations."

Rice explained some key similarities and differences between USU and civilian universities. Financially similar, both use up all of their resources each year, with the largest expense category being personnel. Every institution is facing a challenge in adequately funding its information technology. On average, universities across the country devote



**Charles L. Rice, MD
President, USUHS**

See **TOWN**, pg. 4

USU Observes African American History Month

By MCSN Raul Zamora
Assistant Editor, Office of External Affairs

February is African American History month and the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences (USU) celebrates each year with an observation ceremony, to include a guest speaker. This year, USU had the privilege of listening to Carl O. Snowden, director of Civil Rights for the Maryland Attorney General's Office.

Snowden served three terms in the Annapolis City Council from 1985 until 1997. While serving on the council, he filled the roles of Chairman of the Finance Committee and Chairman of the Economic Matters Committee.

"When we celebrate African American History Month, we have to understand that it's an on-going struggle," Snowden said. "I watch young people today and they don't experience the same things I did growing up. They don't mind the different races and colors."

"When I was growing up I had the greatest experience, which was the woods," He said. "My good friend Tommy Marshall and I would play there. We would pick up a stick and it would transform into a horse or even a space ship through the power of imagination. We didn't have all of the technology available today, like videogames; all we had were, our imaginations. The whole world was before us, and we could see the whole universe."

Tommy's father worked as a sharecropper; the hard work made his father very strong, and Tommy would often boast about his father's strength.

"I didn't know what a sharecropper was," Snowden said. "I did know it was someone that worked hard. I remember seeing Tommy's father pull a plow, and he raised many crops. Tommy worshiped the ground his father walked on, and he would often tell me that his father was stronger than mine. He would even go as far as saying his father was stronger than Superman."

The respect that Tommy had for his dad would change one fateful day.

"It was a sweltering hot August day," Snowden said "It was 90 degrees, but it seemed like 100. Tommy and I were playing in the field when we saw the man that Tommy's dad worked for come to their house. I don't know what it was about but I knew that something was wrong, so we hid in some nearby bushes."

The man angrily approached the house and knocked on the door. Tommy's mother answered.

"I will never forget how that man shoved Mrs. Marshall out of the way and walked in," Snowden said. "After what seemed like an eternity, Mr. Marshall and his boss walked outside. His boss then said that if he didn't work that day, he wanted him off of his property."

As Mr. Marshall was going to say something to his boss, he grabbed him from his shirt and Mr. Marshall lost his balance and fell; his boss then spat in his face.

"My world came to a halt. I was concerned for a moment that I

was going to see incredible violence." Snowden said.

Instead Mr. Marshall used an alternative to violence.

"Tommy's father said 'Boss, I'm sorry, don't fire me, I'll come to work.' His boss told him to get back to work and he walked back to his house. Mr. Marshall slowly stood up, and he looked towards the bushes were Tommy and I were hiding."

Both Tommy and Snowden were crying, and Tommy started running.

"To this day, I never found out where Tommy ran off to," Snowden said.

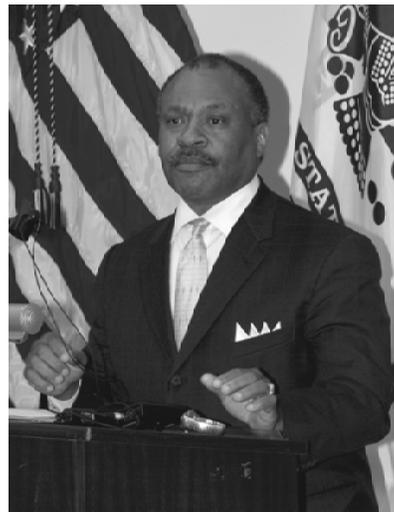
"But I remember crying and running to my mother, and she explained to me what I had just witnessed. She didn't want me to be bitter; she wanted me to be better. That day I saw more than a man embarrassed in front of his wife; I saw a man's pride being stripped."

"Children today don't see their parents like that," Snowden said. "Mom is the person who picks you up and puts a band-aid on your knee when you fall. Dad is the person who can throw you up in the air, catch you and say 'everything is going to be alright.' Tommy never saw his father the same way again; he never looked at his father with the same kind of respect that a father should have. Tommy's father never walked with the same dignity and self respect that he once did."

"I recently became a grandfather and it often requires me to look to the future," Snowden said. "You find that as you grow up, you encounter pitfalls. As the next generation grows up we don't want them to face the same difficulties that we had."

The goal of the civil rights movement remains the same as it did in the days of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. he said that every American has the opportunity to be what he or she wants to be. America allows people the opportunity to make it a great nation. There are so many Americans of color that are given the opportunity to make America better.

"We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their creator with certain unalienable rights," Snowden said. "When Thomas Jefferson penned that famous line, African Americans were considered 3/5 of a man. When he raised the question of equality, women couldn't vote."



Carl O. Snowden,
Director of Civil Rights for the
Maryland Attorney
General's Office



USU

**A Traditional Academic University
with a Unique Focus**



From **TOWN**, pg. 2

approximately six percent of their budgets to IT.

Dissimilarly, USU cannot carry any of its funds from one fiscal year to the next; it is incapable of accumulating capital.

"Northwestern University in Chicago's medical school and hospital had accrued \$ 1.5 billion," Rice said. "Just the interest could fund a lot of programs for a long time. We can't do that, we have only a limited ability to move funds between major expenditure categories without going to Tricare Management Activity, or even Congress to get the money reprogrammed. We have no independent ability to issue bonds. For us if we don't spend all the money, that's a shame; if we spend more, it's a crime."

Wrapping up the meeting, Rice spoke about the upcoming release of the docu-

mentary "Fighting for Life," which features staff, faculty and students of USU, and the success of the poster session at this year's Military Health System (MHS) conference at the Marriot Wardman Park hotel, Jan. 28-31.

"Fighting for Life" will soon be opening in theaters in D.C. and around the country," Rice said. "Friends of USU had a big hand in making this documentary, and it's a terrific commentary on combat casualty support and on the role our graduates play throughout the MHS. Henry Jackson Foundation will sponsor an event at the Bethesda Row cinema, March 15."

"USU sponsored a poster sessions at the MHS conference for Graduate Education," Rice said. "It was a great opportunity for residents from around the MHS to come present some of their best work. We had about 100 posters displayed, and it was terrific to see the quality of work these peo-

ple were doing. As I recall, about 40 percent of the posters displayed were from our alumni."

At the conclusion of the meeting, CPT Nick Horton and LT Darren Brown, USU's 2008 Combined Federal Campaign (CFC) managers, spoke about the university's success in meeting its contribution goals for the CFC drive.

"Darren and I were fortunate enough to be CFC campaign managers," Horton said. "We had a great time, and based on per capita and contributions to the campaign this year, we received the second highest award in the DOD; we asked Dr. Rice to receive this award on behalf of the USU community."

Rice thanked them for the hard work they put in, saying "going around asking people for money is always a thankless job," but their efforts were admirable and greatly appreciated.

Junior, Senior Employees of the Quarter

By MC3 Jeff Hopkins
Assistant Editor, Office of External Affairs



Daniel Nevius
IT Specialist,

Each quarter, civilian employees of the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences (USU) and the Armed Forces Radiobiology Research Institute (AFRRI) are nominated to compete for Junior and Senior Employee of the Quarter (JEO/SEQ), an award which recognizes the outstanding accomplishments of university employees.

The winner of this quarter's SEQ award is Daniel Nevius, an IT specialist for the university's Information Services Management Center (UIS), responsible for providing all aspects of computer support at USU.

Edmund Jackson, director, UIS, expressed gratitude for Nevius' service to UIS, and his commitment to his work.

"Mr. Nevius is to be commended for his time, effort and tenacity in providing support for the university," Jackson said. "Without his hard work, the faculty members could not properly retrieve or obtain patient care records through the Armed Forces Health Longitudinal Technology Application and associated applications."

Nevius said he appreciated his nomination and subsequent selection for the SEQ.

"I was very surprised and grateful for the award," Nevius said.



Tamika Davis
Education Program
Support Assistant,
FAM

"It's a pleasure serving such a broad spectrum of people from varying education levels, countries and backgrounds."

This quarter's JEO winner is Tamika Davis, an Education Program Support Assistant for the Department of Family Medicine (FAM). Col Brian Reamy, MC, USAF, chairman of FAM, said Davis manages extra duties due to a vacancy in the department, but manages to stay positive.

"Throughout the personnel shortage, she has excelled in her job performance, maintained a pleasant demeanor, and assisted with other challenges," Reamy said. "She truly deserves to be the junior employee of the quarter."

Any civilian employee in a non-supervisory position at the grade level GS-7/WG-7 or below may be nominated for the JEO, and those in non-supervisory positions, level GS-8/WS-8 and above can be nominated for the SEQ. In addition, nominees must have been employed at USU or AFRRI for 12 months or more, received an overall performance rating of Highly Successful or higher on their most recent annual performance rating, and must not have been selected for JEO/SEQ in the two years previous to the current nomination period.

Some benefits of winning the SEQ and JEO each receive a \$250 on-the-spot award, and exclusive use of a designated USU parking spot for the quarter.

Today in Army, Navy, and Air Force History

March 10, 1944: US Army begins the Battle of the Million Dollar Tree on Bougainville Island, Solomon Islands. Japanese troops had established an observation hut high in a lone banyan tree on Bougainville, and US troops fired a storied "million dollars worth of ammunition" into the tree in an effort to dislodge the enemy from their advantageously strategic position.

March 10, 1783: USS Alliance, commanded by CAPT John Barry, USN, defeats HMS Sybil in the final naval action of the American Revolution in West Indies waters.

March 10, 1995: US Air Force's 11th Space Warning Squadron, Schriever AFB, Colo., became the first unit with the ability to warn battlefield commanders of incoming theater ballistic missiles, such as the SCUD missiles fired by Iraq in Desert Storm.

AOA Medical Honor Society selects USU Alumni, Faculty, Students

The Maryland Gamma Chapter of the Alpha Omega Alpha (AOA) Medical Honor Society recently welcomed and congratulated the following individuals on their recent selection to AOA. The only national medical honor society, AOA was founded in 1902 with the intent to "recognize and enhance professionalism, academic excellence, service, and leadership within the profession." As such, this honor is both an acknowledgement of past success and an anticipation of future accomplishments, and is a significant career achievement.

Current USU SOM Students, Class of 2009:

2d Lt Daniel Adams, USAF; ENS William Boller, USN; 2d Lt Robert Brady, USAF; ENS Michael Cunningham, USN; ENS Cicely Dye,

USN; 2LT Delnora Erickson, USA; ENS Anthony Giberan, USN; 2d Lt. Nicole Hsu, USAF; 2d Lt Andrew Kuschnerait, USAF; 2d Lt Katherine Kuster, USAF; 2LT Gary Legault, USA; 2d Lt Jeanmarie Rey, USAF; 2d Lt Kristina Rustad, USAF.

USU Faculty:

COL Richard Conran, USA and LTC(P) Patrick O'Malley, USA.

USU-Associated Residents/Fellows:

MAJ Daniel Carlson, USA, MAJ Jess Edison, USA, and Maj Alyssa Perroy, USAF

USU Alumni: LTC John Farley, USA and Maj Tandy Olsen, USAF.

USU Air Force Alumni Promotions to Lt Col, Col

Congratulations to the following USU alumni, students and faculty who were just selected for promotion to Lieutenant Colonel, Medical Corps, U.S. Air Force. There were 132 total selections made. Of those, 38 were USU alumni. There were six officers selected for promotion to Lt Col below the zone; three of them were USU alumni.

Mark A. Antonacci - class of 1997 - emergency medicine
Adrienne W. Askew - class of 1997 - obstetrics/gynecology
Karyn J. Ayers - class of 1998 - family medicine (SELECTED BELOW ZONE)
Kerri L. Baden - class of 1997 - specialty unknown
Michael C. Barrows - class of 1997 - radiology
Gregory H. Bean - class of 1997 - obstetrics/gynecology
Jeffrey S. Bui - class of 1999 - specialty unknown
Darren E. Campbell - class of 1997 - family medicine
Matthew B. Carroll - class of 1996 - medicine
Michael C. Casciello - class of 1997 - cardiology
Naili A. Chen - current MPH student
Patrick J. Danaher - class of 1997 - medicine
Daniel H. Duffy - class of 1997 - radiology
Ronald W. England - class of 1997 - medicine
Kathy J. Green - class of 1998 SOM, 2007 MPH - preventive medicine
Mary L. Guye - class of 1997 - surgery
Lakeisha R. Henry - class of 1998 - surgery
David C. Ives - class of 1997 - specialty unknown
Jon M. Johnson - class of 1997 - family medicine
Joseph C. Johnsonwall - class of 1997 - pediatrics

Jocelyn A. Kilgore - class of 1998 - psychiatry/and assigned USU Dept. of Psychiatry faculty (SELECTED BELOW ZONE)
Brent P. Leedle - class of 1997 - orthopaedics
Mikelle A. Maddox - class of 1997 - family medicine
Charles D. Motsinger - class of 1997 - psychiatry
Andrew J. Myrtue - class of 1997 - orthopaedics
Mark A. Nassir - class of 1997 - family medicine
Andrew O. Obamwonyi - class of 1997 - specialty unknown
Tandy G. Olsen - class of 1997 - obstetrics/gynecology
Anh T. Pham - class of 1997 - specialty unknown
Rechell G. Rodriguez - class of 1997 - medicine - and assigned USU Dept. of Medicine faculty
Karen A. Ryan (Philpott) - class of 1997 - pediatrics
Mark W. Sankey - class of 1997 - radiology
Mark A. Seldes - class of 1997 - family medicine
Michael T. Shoemaker - class of 2001 - pediatrics
Dai A. Tran - class of 1998 - family medicine
Mark W. True - class of 2000 - medicine (SELECTED BELOW ZONE)
Mark A. Yuspa - class of 1996 - family medicine
Dustin Zierold - class of 1997 - surgery

Congratulations to the following USU alumni, who were just selected for promotion to Colonel, Medical Corps, U.S. Air Force. There were 60 officers selected overall; 24 of them were USU alumni.
John R. Andrus - class of 1993 - aerospace medicine

Timothy D. Ballard - class of 1992 - family medicine
Michael L. Bledsoe - class of 1991 - family medicine
Jonathan W. Briggs - class of 1996 - ophthalmology
Edwin K. Burkett - class of 1991 - family medicine
David R. Condie - class of 1991 - family medicine
Roy J. DiLeo - class of 1991 - emergency medicine
Gina R. Dorlac - class of 1989 - pulmonary/critical care medicine
Bruce M. Edwards - class of 1991 - aerospace/occupational medicine
Daniel J. Feeney - class of 1992 - psychiatry
Robert J. Fischer - class of 1984 - obstetrics/gynecology
David R. Foss - class of 1991 - emergency medicine
Kevin J. Franklin - class of 1993 - gastroenterology
James W. Haynes - class of 1991 - family medicine
August S. Hein - class of 1993 - family medicine
David L. Kutz - class of 1991 - psychiatry
Viki T. Lin - class of 1991 - family medicine
Matthew R. Ricks - class of 1988 - aerospace medicine
Damian M. Rispoli - class of 1992 - orthopaedics
Chung M. Siedlecki - class of 1991 - fp/aerospace medicine
Richard E. Standaert, Jr. - class of 1992 - surgery
Jeff P. Vista - class of 1991 - emergency medicine
Gerald "Scott" Welker - class of 1994 - surgery
Randall C. Zernzach - class of 1995 - pediatrics

Calendar of Events

March 19: Molecular Cell Biology Seminar: "Using High throughput Data to Understand transcriptional Regulation" Ernest Fraenkel, Ph.D. Assistant Professor, Biological Engineering, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, MA

March 23-26: AMEDD Radiology Course: Current Concepts in Imaging.

March 24: 28th USU Surgical Associates Day: The Joseph H. Baugh Residents' Award, the 25th Michael E. DeBaKey International Military Surgeon's Award, the 25th Baron Dominique Jean Larrey International Military Surgeon's Award, the Andrew C. Ruoff, III, Travel Award, the 22nd Barry Goldwater Service Award, and the Charles A. Hufnagel Residents Research Award will be presented. The Reserve Components Surgical Day will be included in the 28th USU Surgical Associates Day.

April 11-16: 20th Annual International Bethesda Spine Workshop: USU, WRAMC, NNMC, HJF Joint Sponsors.

April 19-20: 7th Annual Comprehensive Regional Anesthesia Workshop: USU, WRAMC, HJF Joint Sponsors.

April 29: - Sanford Auditorium- Center for the Study of Traumatic Stress/Neuroscience Program: Amygdala, Stress and PTSD Conference, from 8a.m. to 6p.m. in the Sanford Auditorium. Speakers include Robert Adamec, Memorial University; Michael Davis, Emory University; Ron Duman, Yale University; Anthony Grace, University of Pittsburgh; Arie Shalev, Hadassah University Medical Center; Regina Sullivan, University of Oklahoma.

May 1: - Lecture Room E: Practical Dermatology for Primary Care Providers Eighth Annual Course. This educational activity is designed 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. Pre-registration 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 U.S. state, or local government employed (military or civilian) physicians, residents, nurses, NP's, and physician assistants. \$100 for non-government civilian health care professionals.

Amenities: No charge for parking. Coffee provided at breaks. 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 15: - Board of Regents Room- Board of Regents Quarterly Meeting.

Committee of the Whole Meeting from 2p.m. to 4p.m.

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

June 30: 1st USU/HJF Symposium: Military and Civilian Medicine Joining Forces to Advance Research, from 7:30 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. at the Bethesda North Marriott Hotel and Conference Center in Bethesda, MD. For more information, call 301-294-1218.

August 4-5: Board of Regents Quarterly Meeting.

Committee of the Whole Meeting from 2p.m. to 4p.m. (Aug. 4. Quarterly Meeting from 8:00 a.m. - noon. in the Board of Regents meeting room Aug. 5.



CELEBRATING EXCELLENCE IN RESEARCH

To register your participation and submit your abstract, visit:

<http://usuresearchday.hjf.org>

The deadline for abstract submission is Monday, April 7, 2008.

RESEARCH WEEK 2008
May 12-14



USU Hosts Annual Research Week

The Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences (USU) hosts its annual research symposium May 12-14, this year's theme is, "Celebrating Excellence in Research."

The three-day event is designed to promote research by faculty, staff and students at USU and its affiliate institutions, provide opportunities for interdisciplinary collaboration, and to facilitate communication among USU graduate students. The annual event formally encompasses three events: the Graduate School of Nursing Research Colloquium, which brings together the GSN faculty and students to present and discuss nursing-specific research findings; the Graduate Student Colloquium, which highlights the research interests and accomplishments of graduate students in the school of medicine; and Faculty Senate Day, which draws the entire USU community to share research achievements, foster collaborations, and stimulate intellectual exchange.

The program includes symposia featuring USU faculty and affiliated faculty speakers, poster presentations by USU faculty and students, oral presentations by graduate students in both basic sciences and nursing research, and two nationally prominent invited speakers: John I. Gallin, M.D., the director of Clinical Research for the National Institutes of Health, and Anthony R. Means, Ph.D., professor and chair of the Department of Pharmacology and Cancer Biology for Duke University Medical Center, Durham, N.C.

USU Briefs

400th COW: During the first week of March, MedPix will be presenting its 400th Case of the Week (COW). Please join the USU family in celebrating the longest continuously running peer-reviewed Radiology COW.

Good Tax Info: Tax season is once again upon us, and uniformed personnel can now access their military W-2s at www.dfas.mil. In addition to this resource, there is free H&R Block TaxCut Basic software available online at

<http://www.militaryonesource.com/skins/MOS/home.aspx>.

NNMC opened their VITA Tax Office Feb. 4 in the Press Room, 4th floor, above the Main Street Café. The Tax Office phone number is (301) 295-4990. Hours of operation are 9 a.m.—2p.m., Monday through Friday. Services will be provided on an appointment basis only. Sign up appointments began Jan. 31 at the Legal Office, 6th floor of the tower. Customers who have a tax return that requires Form 1040 or Form 1040A will have to complete an intake sheet prior to their appointment. This will save significant time at the actual appointment. This form is available at the Legal Office or may also be returned electronically for your convenience. Customers who only require Form 1040EZ do not have to complete the intake sheet. For more info, contact LN2 McDaniels, USN at (301) 295-2296.

Soldier Readiness Processing: An important component of Army Force Health Protection is Soldier Readiness Processing (SRP). AR 600-8-101 requires Soldiers to complete the SRP requirements each year. Walter Reed Army Medical Center will conduct the next SRP from March 3-7 from 7 a.m. – 5 p.m. in Wagner Gym at WRAMC. This event is for all Soldiers at USU and AFRR. Soldiers must bring their medical records, yellow shot record, blue/green medical card, CAC card, ID tags and SRP checklist. For further info, contact SSG Ward, USA (MPO) at (301) 295-9653 or SFC Harris, USA (MPO) at (301) 295-3087.

PFT/PFA/APFT Notice: The Spring, 2008 Physical Fitness Test dates for all services are: April 7, 9, 10, 14, 16, and 17, at 7 a.m. or noon. There will be one make up date, April 18 at 7 a.m. only. All military personnel are required to select the time and date that they will take their test immediately. There is more than ample time to pre-

pare both mentally and physically for this mandatory testing. All Sailors must complete the Health Risk Assessment questionnaire and Physical Health Assessment annually, and Navy weigh-ins must be conducted between 10 days and 24 hours prior to the Physical Readiness Test.

Antietam Road March: The annual Antietam Road March will take place 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.

2008 Field Exercises: Operations Bushmaster and Kerkesner will be conducted from July 10-25 at Fort Indiantown Gap, Penn. These exercises are unique to our university and require the support of all university uniformed personnel. Only emergency leave will be granted during this time frame as there are over 135 uniformed personnel (not including evaluators) needed to support this mission.

Fighting for Life Premier: The documentary "Fighting for Life," which focuses on the role USU plays in educating leaders in military medicine and public health, as well as the care they provide to service members injured in combat, opens at the Bethesda Row Cinema on Woodmont Avenue in Bethesda, Md., and the E Street Theater in Washington, D.C. Friday, March 14. USU's story is told through footage, photos and interviews of students, alumni, faculty and staff, and showcases some of the university's unique educational programs, including the first-year Antietam Road March and field training exercises, Operations Bushmaster and Kerkesner. The film also highlights the research mission of the university and its relevance to military medicine and public health.

Hometown News Release Program: USU military and civilian personnel are encouraged to take advantage of the Hometown News Release Program, which generates press releases for local and hometown news organizations about the accomplishments of university personnel. Contact MC3 Jeff Hopkins at 295-3338 or jhopkins@usuhs.mil for more information.

St. Patrick's Day

By MCSN Raul Zamora and MC3 Jeff Hopkins





UNIFORMED SERVICES UNIVERSITY *of the Health Sciences*

