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USU Newsletter

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*Cover photo:
Ken Frager*

Anderson-Thomas, Schooley earn USU Employee of the Year accolades

by MC1 Chad Hallford

When the question, “Who at USU is committed to excellence of service?” is asked, the answer could be Michelle Anderson-Thomas and James Schooley Jr. Both recently earned distinction as Junior and Senior Employees of the Year.

Barbara Pedevillano, supervisory educational specialist and National Capital Consortium Residency Program Coordinator from the Department of Anesthesia, describes Anderson-Thomas as “the go-to person, a problem solver” and assures “she has the ability to function not only as a team member, but a team leader.”

Pedevillano further describes that Anderson-Thomas’s “motivation and mentoring skills are some of the best within the university.”

“I felt proud to be recognized — as a civilian in an organization that focuses on developing military medical professionals, my own professional development and my contribution to the

mission of the university made a difference...,” said Anderson-Thomas.

The Senior Employee of the Year works as a laboratory technician in the Department of Anatomy, Physiology and Genetics, or APG, pursuing the same level of service to the university community.

Motilal B. Pamnani, APG professor boasts that Schooley’s “innovative thinking, perseverance and hard work has greatly contributed to the success of APG’s hypertension, shock and resuscitation research programs.”

Schooley’s exemplary performance as senior technician in collaboration with his department enabled more than 58 scientific papers and abstracts to be produced during his stay.

Dr. Thomas Flagg, assistant professor of APG said, “I am happy that he was honored; his efforts were instrumental to me to set up the lab, as I adjusted to the university.”

For their commitment to the University, the newest Junior and Senior Employees of the Year will receive time off with pay.



photo by Tom Balfour

Michelle Anderson-Thomas was recently named Junior Employee of the Year. Anderson-Thomas works in the Department of Anesthesia and is described as “the go-to person, a problem solver.”



photo by Tom Balfour

James F. Schooley Jr. was recently named Senior Employee of the Year. Schooley works as a laboratory technician in the Department of Anatomy, Physiology and Genetics and is described as an “innovative thinker.”

Book honors children of troops buried in Arlington Cemetery

by Ken Frager

A new book, "For Children of Valor: Arlington National Cemetery" is dedicated to helping children and families of the fallen buried in Arlington Cemetery to cope with the loss of a



Courtesy graphic

A variety of stylized graphics appear in a new book called "For Children of Valor: Arlington National Cemetery." The book was created to help children of the fallen buried in Arlington Cemetery and their families to cope with the loss of a parent. The book was recently dedicated during a ceremony at the cemetery.

parent. The book was dedicated recently during a ceremony at the cemetery, in front of dozens of uniformed dignitaries and special guests.

"This small gift conveys our admiration and our respect by acknowledging the pain and the loss these sacrifices must bring," said retired Army Maj. Gen. Carl H. McNair Jr., president and chairman of the Arlington National Cemetery Commemorative Project. "We wanted to provide a gift that captures the honor of Arlington National Cemetery.

"May this gift bring the spirit and fond memories of your family a little closer to home, and may you gain a greater understanding and appreciation of the hallowed grounds on which we stand," McNair said.

The Arlington National Cemetery Commemorative Project produced the book in conjunction with illustration and photography support from the Washington Post. USU professor Dr. Stephen J. Cozza advised and helped author portions of the book, while children's author Linda Tyler wrote the main text, and artist Deborah Withey illustrated the book.

There have been more than 340,000 American military members buried in Arlington Cemetery since the Revolutionary War, with millions of others buried elsewhere throughout the world. Army Secretary Pete Geren credited the families of the fallen for supporting their military loved ones despite the frightening realities of war. The families are heroes, too, he said.

"Military families are the strength behind our servicemembers," said Geren. "The families don't get medals, but they're heroes, and these heroes come in all ages and sizes."

A copy of "Children of Valor" is available in the USU Learning Resource Center.

In Memoriam... USU remembers Dr. E. John Ainsworth

Courtesy of Mr. Brent Ainsworth



Courtesy photo

Dr. E. John Ainsworth---1933-2009

Surrounded by his loving family, John Ainsworth Jr., world-renowned scientist, tennis player and fan, photography buff, family man and eternal optimist -- gently passed away July 5 at his home in Pleasanton, Calif., after enduring esophageal cancer for nine months. He was 76.

Carolyn, his wife of 49 years, was so pleased that her husband's illness brought the family even closer and this bond comforted him in his final days. Their daughters, Sue Ellen Calcagno of Aptos and Lee Ann Caldwell of Pleasanton, joined their son, Brent Ainsworth of Novato, at their father's side.

Earl John Ainsworth Jr. was born May 18, 1933, in Indianapolis, Ind., as the son of Earl John Ainsworth and Cleo Frost Ainsworth. He grew up in New Castle, Ind., and Indianapolis and was a graduate of Shortridge High School and Butler University in Indianapolis. He

earned master's and Ph.D degrees from Brown University in Providence, R.I. and enjoyed a 39-year career as a research scientist and laboratory administrator, focusing on the fields of radiation biology, nuclear physics and biochemistry.

He worked at the U.S. Naval Radiological Defense Laboratory in San Francisco; Argonne National Laboratory in Lemont, Ill.; Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory in Berkeley; and the Armed Forces Radiobiology Research Institute in Bethesda, Md., where he served as scientific director. While in Berkeley, he was awarded a Fogarty Senior International Fellowship by the National Institutes of Health, including a one-year sabbatical to an institute in Darmstadt, Germany, where he and Carolyn enjoyed living and traveling throughout Europe.

He retired in 1998 after an honor-filled

see Memorial, page 5

Memorial service honors survivors, families for contributions to medical science

by Ken Frager

When medical students have their first exposure to the anatomy labs, they are taking a major step in their medical training. But long before they get to this point, there was a person, whom the students never knew, who chose to help them learn and further their education. And honoring those who donated their

bodies to medical science is a small token of how USU and others can repay this gratitude.

“It’s impossible to put into words the importance this generosity has,” said Dr. Mark Teaford, chair of the Maryland State Anatomy Board. Dr. Teaford’s comments came during the annual Anatomy Board of Maryland Memorial Service, which was held June 15 on the grounds

of the Springfield Hospital Center in Sykesville, Md.

“The human body is still the ultimate resource for teaching about anatomy, and it is a privilege for us as physicians, and for our medical students around the state, to learn from these selfless gifts,” added Teaford. “These are gifts that will never be forgotten and can never be repaid.”

The State Anatomy Board has recognized families of donors for nearly 30 years, inviting the surviving family members to a memorial service where medical students, medical faculty and state representatives honor the donors. “It’s critically important for our students, in particular, to attend the ceremony so they can appreciate and respect those who gave of themselves to better prepare the physicians and medical professionals of tomorrow,” said George Holborow, who along with Dr. Rosemary Borke, represent USU on the State of Maryland Anatomy Board. “And the students come away with renewed faith and compassion that will help them to become better and more caring physicians.”

The University was represented at the service by a number of medical students, along with the USU Joint Services Honor Guard and the Dermatones, the USU student chorale group.



photo by Ken Frager

The USU Joint Services Honor Guard performs during the recent annual Anatomy Board of Maryland Memorial Service. The ceremony invites the surviving family members to a memorial service where medical students, medical faculty and State representatives honor those who donated their bodies to medical science.

Former USU faculty receives the Legion d’honneur

by Staff Sgt. Matthew Rosine

A former USU Graduate School of Nursing faculty member received the French Legion of Honor medal at a special ceremony, April 29.

Dr. Eugene Levine earned the prestigious award for his heroism during World War II and at Normandy.

The Légion d’honneur or Ordre national de la Légion d’honneur (National Order of the Legion of Honour) was created by Napoleon Bonaparte in 1802 and is the highest decoration in France.

Dr. Levine worked at the university for many years and was here during the founding of the Graduate School of Nursing. He helped build and establish the research enterprise at the GSN and coauthored several books.

“Not only is Dr. Levine a longtime friend of the Graduate School of Nursing and the USU, he was also a great national hero during World War II,” said Army Col. Bruce Schoneboom, the associate dean of academic affairs at the GSN. “He truly is one of the great Americans.”



Courtesy photo

Dr. Eugene Levine poses with the French Legion of Honor medal pinned to his chest following a special ceremony, April 29. He received the prestigious award for his heroism during World War II and at Normandy.

Postdoctoral fellows association meeting called a ‘success’

by Ken Frager

Intent on reinvigorating a support system for USU postdoctoral fellows, Judith Fontana, Ph.D., called on the support of her colleagues in June to determine if others felt the same way. And the USU Postdoctoral Fellows Association (PFA) was reborn.

The PFA is open to anyone affiliated with USU (including AFRRI and CPDR) who has a Ph.D. or equivalent degree (M.D., D.V.M., etc) and is not a principal investigator or faculty member. Approximately 25 USU postdoctoral fellows attended the June organizational meeting, participating in lively discussion about how the PFA can address the needs of the USU postdoctoral community.

“We want an organization where postdocs feel included and are encouraged to get involved,” said Dr. Fontana, the current organizer of the PFA. “This is really an initiative to revitalize a group that was established in 2002 by Dr. Jozwik and her colleagues, but when she completed her postdoc no one came forward to continue to push the organization along. Fortunately for us, she is still at USU and has been instrumental in getting us going in the right direction.”

Cathy Jozwik, Ph.D. will serve as a faculty advisor for the current PFA. Under the guidance of Dr Lee Metcalf, the USU Graduate Education Office has committed University resources to support the revived PFA.

The inaugural meeting included a brief summary of the USU Research Week Postdoctoral Symposium plenary talk followed by a discussion, led by Shilpa Kulkarni, Ph.D., on the importance of having a postdoctoral fellows association at USU. Dr. Jozwik discussed the history of the USU PFA – how it came to be established, what it has thus far accomplished, and where the group might go next. Finally, a survey was presented to the attendees by Dr. Fontana.

The survey was intended to prioritize the functions of a postdoctoral fellows association, as viewed by the USU postdoctoral community; to identify interested individuals that would implement the ideas garnered by the survey; and to establish a consistent meeting schedule for future, monthly PFA meetings.

The results of the survey indicate five areas of primary interest for postdoctoral fellows:

1. Career Development (workshops for public speaking, grant writing, job search strategies, etc.)

2. Information clearinghouse (website, newsletter and/or manual providing information on various issues of interest to postdoctoral fellows)

3. Scientific training (through either mini-courses, lecture series, or a coordinated mentoring program)

4. Orientation (assistance for international and domestic postdoctoral fellow relocation, welcoming committees and information on being a postdoctoral fellow at USU)

5. Networking (to provide a forum for networking with USU and non-USU postdocs through social events, special interest groups, etc.)

The monthly USU PFA meetings will be held on the third Wednesday of each month. The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, Aug. 19 at 4 pm, location to be announced.

If you have any questions about the PFA or would like more specific details of the survey, please do not hesitate to contact Judith Fontana at judith.fontana.CTR@usuhs.mil.



photo by Ken Frager

The recent postdoctoral fellows meeting in June breathed new life into the USU Postdoctoral Fellows Association. The action is intended to reinvigorate a support system for USU postdoctoral fellows.

Memorial (from page 3)

career that included milestone experiments on the medical benefits and fallout dangers of radiation on living things.

He has close friends and former cohorts all over the world. John's family and close friends will miss this warm, sensitive, loving man; his professional colleagues will miss his vast knowledge, keen wit, global perspective and boundless humor.

The field of radiation research will miss a significant contributor whose loss will diminish the world's intellectual wisdom. His life was one of great achievements and dreams fulfilled.

John continued to contribute to science posthumously by gifting his remains to the University of California-San Francisco Willed Body Program so medical students can learn about many things, including esophageal cancer, one of the more rare

and most lethal forms of cancer.

He is survived by: wife Carolyn; daughters Sue Ellen and Lee Ann; son Brent; sons-in-law James Calcagno and William Caldwell; daughter-in-law Edie Ainsworth; granddaughters Kyla Ainsworth, Shannon Ainsworth, Melanie Caldwell, Lauren Caldwell and Serena Calcagno; and grandsons J. Dante Calcagno and Jared Caldwell.

A private family ceremony was held in one of his favorite places, by his rose garden and hummingbird feeder, in recognition of his tremendous joy of nature. The family wishes to thank the team at Hope Hospice of Dublin, Calif., for its exceptional support. In lieu of flowers, the family requests that you perform a simple act of kindness in his memory.

USU needs to remember Summer safety in 2009

by André Nicholson

The period between Memorial Day and Labor Day has come to be known as the "101 Critical Days of Summer." Now, well into those 101 days it is imperative to remember to put safety first.

According to DoD officials the critical days of summer is typically the time for a spike in vehicle and recreational accidents. It is during this time that more people are traveling and enjoying outdoor activities. The unfortunate result is an increase in accidents.

Last year, 115 servicemembers died in off-duty accidents during the 101 Critical Days of Summer. In an effort to reduce accidents and raise awareness, the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps and Coast Guard launched the 2009 Safe Summer campaign in May 2009.

The joint campaign provides information on a range of safety topics including the use of seatbelts, grilling outside and motorcycle driving.

According to a recent National Highway Traffic Safety Administration's (NHTSA) seat belt study, nearly one in five Americans, approximately 18 percent nationally, still fail to regularly wear their seatbelts when driving or riding in motor vehicles. Additionally, NHTSA research shows there is a problem with drivers and passengers not buckling up at night when the risk of a fatal crash is even greater. This is clearly an indication that some individuals are not taking the seat belt law seriously. Seatbelt use is the single most effective way to protect people and reduce fatalities in motor vehicle crashes. NHTSA statistics show that in 2006, 72 percent of passengers

who were buckled up when involved in a fatal crash survived.

Commander of the Naval Safety Center Rear Adm. Arthur Johnson said, "The hope is that everyone, military, civilians and family members are aware of the statistics so they don't become one."

For more information on summer safety visit the following Web sites:

Army Combat Readiness and Safety Center: <https://safety.army.mil/>

Naval Safety Center: <http://www.safety-center.navy.mil/index.asp>

Air Force Safety Center: <http://www.afsc.af.mil/>

Marine Corps Safety Division: <http://hqinet001.hqmc.usmc.mil/sd/index.htm>

Information for this article was obtained from the service Web sites and the American Forces Press Service.



USU Night with the Baltimore Orioles

Sunday, Aug. 16 - Orioles vs LA Angels

Saturday, Sept. 5 - Orioles vs Texas Rangers

(The USU Color Guard has been invited to present colors for this game)

Tickets will be available in the USU Alumni Bookstore beginning July 21.

Questions, please contact Ken Frager at (301) 295-3981 or via e-mail at: kenneth.frager.ctr@usuhs.mil.

Chen, De Soto recognized at World Cancer Congress



Courtesy photo

Dr. Joseph De Soto of the GSN was recognized for his cancer research and invited to speak at the 2009 World Cancer Congress in Beijing, China in June.

Courtesy of Dr. Joseph De Soto

Two USU faculty members, Drs. DeChang Chen of the Department of Preventative Medicine and Biometrics and Joseph De Soto of the Graduate School of Nursing, were recognized for their cancer research and invited to speak at the 2009 World Cancer Congress in Beijing, China in June.

An assembly of the world's leaders in cancer care, treatment and research were present at the World Cancer Congress was.

Chen presented to the International community. His talk was entitled, "Ensemble clustering algorithm enhances TNM prognostic assessment in lung cancer." The TNM (tumor size, number of lymph nodes, metastasis) system is used by oncologists to classify cancers and guide their counseling and treatment decisions.

Chen presented an advancement of the standard TNM system by utilizing

an ensemble algorithm of clustering data (EACCD) incorporating the TNM system to create a more robust and adaptable staging system that can be used by clinicians in their cancer care decisions.

De Soto presented his data in a talk titled, "The use of Poly(ADP-ribose) polymerase (PARP1) inhibitors in the treatment of Cancer."

De Soto showed how this new class of anticancer drugs PARP1 inhibitors could be used to treat breast, ovarian and pancreatic cancer in combination with standard chemotherapy enhancing the killing of the cancer while at the same time minimizing the toxicity of chemotherapy to normal tissue.

He presented preliminary evidence suggesting that PARP1 inhibitors could prevent the development of hereditary breast cancer. Dr. De Soto states that, "It was an honor to talk to such an esteemed group of World Experts – it was also a humbling experience."

USU Briefs

Helpdesk Closure: The UIS helpdesk is closed for training on Thursdays from 10 to 11 a.m. During this time, you can leave a voicemail message at 295-9800, utilize the HEAT Self Service (<http://www.usuhs.mil/uis/forms/trouble.html>), or email help@usuhs.mil. If an emergency should arise, please call 295-9870.

Personal Exercise/Fitness Areas: Physical Fitness training should be conducted in designated areas. The only authorized space for PT within the university is room G060. All other spaces within the university are not authorized for exercise or fitness, with the exception of the Student Community Lounge area during specified PFT testing dates/times. Indoor PT is also authorized on base at the Comfort Zone Complex, or CZC, in building 23. The CZC hours of operation are Monday – Friday from 5 a.m. to 8 p.m. and on weekends and holidays from are 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.

2009 Field Exercises: Operations Bushmaster and Kerknesner will be conducted from July 7-24 at Fort Indiantown Gap, Pa. Advance personnel will be deployed on July 7 and main body personnel on July 12. 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 more than 145 uniformed personnel needed to support this mission.

Proper Use of Computer Resources: Security incidents

continue to be a drain to limited USU Information Assurance manpower. The following highlight current DoD policy and best practices: Personnel must not install self-coded or non-licensed software on network resources; add, remove, configure, or attempt to modify USU computer operating systems or programs; move audio/visual or network cables, computers or attempt to connect personal computers to the network including MDL and lecture hall spaces; connect personal devices except for those previously authorized by UIS; download pornographic material and store or display offensive material, such as racist literature, sexually harassing or obscene language or material; store or process classified information on any USU system; permit unauthorized individuals access to a government-owned or government-operated system or program; access online gambling, games and social engineering sites.

Military Awards Nominations: The next military awards panel will convene July 28. Nomination packages will be due through the chain of command no later than July 21. Any award with higher precedence than the Defense Meritorious Service Medal must be submitted 150 days prior to presentation. Please provide a signed copy as well as an electronic version to Air Force Tech. Sgt. Louella Campbell at (301) 295-1515 or lcampbell@usuhs.mil or HM2 Sylvia McBee at (301) 295-3423 or Sylvia.mcbee@usuhs.mil.



photo by Ken Frager

Caption contest winner

“No, I’m serious about this, I think a group hug will do all of us a world of good,” from **retired Navy Cmdr. Dr. David Schauer**, Department of Radiology and Radiological Sciences.

Congratulations to Air Force Tech. Sgt. John Habblett, runner up, and Dr. Quinn Biggs, Center for the Study of Traumatic Stress, third place ...and thanks to all who submitted.

Name the USU Newsletter Contest

How would you like to go down in history as the person who named the USU newsletter? Well, here’s your chance. Since we started the newsletter several years ago we have used a generic “USU Newsletter” name. We know there is a good name out there, so we’re looking to you, our readers, for help. We’d love to hear your suggestions.

We’d like a name that reflects the University’s mission, our expertise and our audience. The name should cross services and programs, and should be memorable...but short, catchy and fun.

Please send your recommendations to us at usunewsletter@usuhs.mil by Aug. 15. We will select the top entries and give you one more chance to vote.



UNIFORMED SERVICES UNIVERSITY *of the Health Sciences*

