

The Official USU Newsletter

the pulse

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Submissions

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Photo by By Staff Sgt. Matthew Rosine

On the cover

Staff Sgt. Katina James applies moulage makeup to Tech. Sgt. Louella Campbell Feb. 2. The moulage staff prepared several "victims" for the ATLS program exercise.



Faces of USU: Celebrating African-American History Month

by MC1 Chad Hallford

February was African-American History Month, designated as a time to reflect on the impact that African-Americans have had on American culture and history. While many people may reflect on the notable achievements made by political or scientific leaders, at USU this is a time to recognize and honor the many achievements of our faculty, staff and students.

Brigade Command Master Chief Clinton Garrett is the first African-American to serve in two Navy Medicine Executive positions, at the Naval Medical Education and Training Command as Director for the Executive Medical Department (first African-American male) and Navy Senior Enlisted Leader at Headquarters, U.S. Marine Corps, Washington, D.C. "Most of my motivation comes from my family. I am proud to be an

American — of African ancestry and descent — contributing to society."

"There are a lot of talented, intelligent and skilled military and civilian professionals here at USU. Since we are all human, we have our flaws, challenges and we make mistakes," said Garrett. "As Senior Enlisted Leader, I serve to mitigate these mistakes, harness potential throughout the ranks, synergize between multiple services, redirect, value and foster cooperation and collaboration towards mission success; these are all vital and an honor that comes with the job."

Recruiting, teaching and ensuring an increasingly diverse student and faculty population is a priority for USU. Army Col. (Dr.) John Farley, a U.S. Military Academy graduate and USU class of 1990 alumnus, has been

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Dr. Rice visits AFRICOM



Courtesy Photo

USU is working to identify opportunities to improve global health integration between the university and combatant commands throughout the world. Recently, USU President Charles L. Rice visited General William E. (Kip) Ward, Commander, U.S. Africa Command, as part of this initiative. Dr. Rice was accompanied by Gerald Quinnan, M.D., chair of USU's Department of Preventive Medicine and Biometrics, and Navy Cmdr. Glen Diehl, director of the university's new Master of Health Policy and Administration degree program.

USU presents teaching excellence awards

by Ken Frager



Photo by Ken Frager

Award recipients of the 2008 and 2009 USU Excellence in Teaching Awards were honored during the the 2010 Military Health System (MHS) Conference in January. The awards were presented, along with an educational grant from the Henry M. Jackson Foundation for the Advancement of Military Medicine (HJF), to recognize the excellent support of USU programs from large and small military treatment facilities.

The University officially presented its 2009 USU Excellence in Teaching Awards to Walter Reed Army Medical Center and DeWitt Army Community Hospital at Fort Belvoir, Va., at the 2010 Military Health System (MHS) Conference in January.

The awards were presented, along with an educational grant from the Henry M. Jackson Foundation for the Advancement of Military Medicine (HJF).

The awards recognized the excellent support of USU programs by both large and small military treatment facilities. Nominations were received from throughout the military health system, but according to USU President Charles L. Rice, MD, the 2010 recipients were easily recognized.

“The award recipients demonstrated strengths across the board, based on the criteria set forth by

“The award recipients demonstrated strengths across the board, based on the criteria set forth by the nominating committee.”

— USU President Charles L. Rice, MD

the nominating committee,” he said. “The criteria include overall support for our clinical teaching effort; strong command support, strong faculty participation and performance and strong administrative support. It gives me great pleasure to recognize these facilities and to challenge the rest of our educational partners to achieve an even higher level of success in the future.”

The National Naval Medical Center and the 96th Medical Group at Eglin Air Force Base, Fla., also received their 2008 awards since the MHS conference was not held last year.

Dr. Rice presented the awards with Larry Laughlin, M.D., Ph.D., dean of the F. Edward Hébert School of Medicine, Ada Sue Hinshaw, Ph.D., R.N., FAAN, dean of the USU Graduate School of Nursing, and HJF President John Lowe.

Graduate student selected for binational research grant

by MC1 Chad Hallford

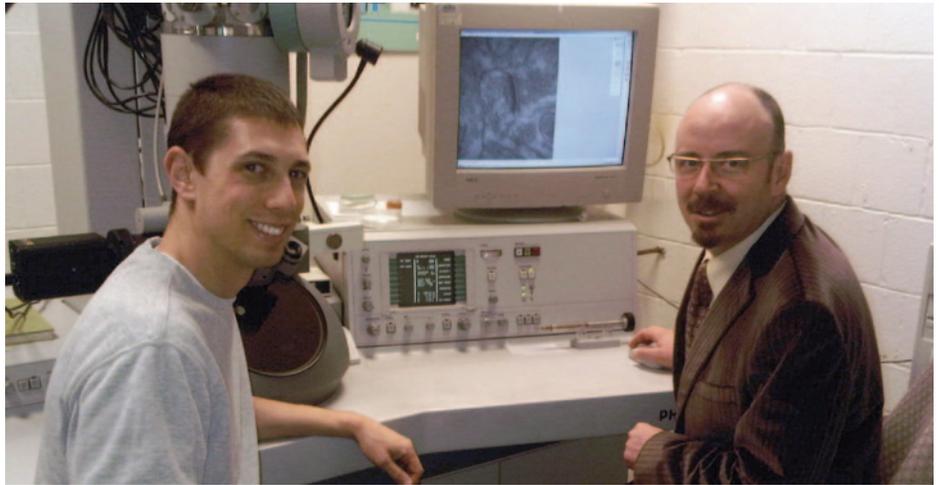
A USU graduate student was selected to receive the 2010 United States-Israel Binational Science Foundation (BSF) travel grant for young scientists.

Eric Prager earned the \$4,000 grant as a student in the University's Neuroscience graduate program.

"Our research examines how stress affects the acquisition of fear memories. It is a pertinent subject as it allows us to begin understanding the mechanisms involved in the development of anxiety disorders, such as Posttraumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD)," said Prager.

The BSF promotes scientific relations between the U.S. and Israel by supporting collaborative research projects throughout various scientific fields and communities.

"The opportunities this grant will allow me include working in a different environment and culture — to understand the approaches to a problem from more than one perspective," said Prager.



Courtesy Photo

Eric Prager, a USU graduate student, left, with Dr. Luke Johnson, USU assistant professor, Department of Psychiatry and program in neuroscience. On the screen is an image of a synapse from the lateral amygdala. It shows that one of the receptors activated by stress, the mineralocorticoid receptor, is localized to the postsynaptic density.

Later this summer, Prager will visit the laboratory of Dr. Raphael (Rafi) Lamprecht at the University of Haifa. Lamprecht specializes in the field of molecular neurobiology of memory. Together, they will research "synaptic

glucocorticoid and mineralocorticoid receptor signaling during fear learning."

"This grant will allow us to examine whether specific brain receptors, known to be activated by stress responses, are localized to synapses — an area where communication between neurons takes place — and how that affects memory acquisition. The grant will allow us to further examine the density of receptors in synapses so that we can further elucidate the role these receptors play in the acquisition of fear memories," said Prager.

Locally, Prager is studying under the direction of Dr. Luke Johnson, USU assistant professor, Department of Psychiatry, and program in neuroscience. Johnson is also a scientist with the USU's Center for the Study of Traumatic Stress.

"The grant is recognition of the excellent work in Dr. Johnson's lab and the work of Mr. Prager as a new and emerging scientist," said Dr. Robert Ursano, USU Chair of Psychiatry and Director, Center for the Study of Traumatic Stress. "The focus of the work holds great promise for fundamental understandings of basic mechanisms to target for intervention in PTSD."

Algerian delegation tours USU



Photo by MC1 Chad Hallford

The Algerian Military Health Service delegation visited USU Jan. 25 and discussed topics including University brigade function and support, School of Medicine operations, Graduate School of Nursing programs, military and emergency medicine, and humanitarian assistance medicine.

USU adjunct receives Wiegenstein award

by Staff Sgt. Matthew Rosine

A USU adjunct faculty member in Military and Emergency Medicine recently received the 2009 John G. Wiegenstein Leadership Award.



Robert E. Suter,
DO, MHA, FACEP

Robert E. Suter, DO, MHA, FACEP, an associate professor of emergency medicine at USU, earned the prestigious award presented by the American College of Emergency Physicians. The John G. Wiegenstein Leadership Award is presented to a current or past national ACEP leader, member of the Board of Directors or officer of the Council - for outstanding contributions to the College. The award is

named after John G. Wiegenstein, MD, a founding member and the first president of ACEP.

“Dr. Suter is an outstanding adjunct faculty member who brings many unique assets to department operations including Operation Bushmaster/Kerkesner,” said Navy Capt. (Dr.) Trueman W. Sharp, Military and Emergency Medicine department chairman. “He really adds a lot to the overall exercise, going out to the site and working extensively with the students. There is no doubt he is one of our top adjunct faculty members with students.”

Dr. Suter was elected to ACEP’s board of directors in 1999 and re-elected to the board in 2002. He has served on the organization’s council steering committee, finance

committee and is the first osteopathic emergency physician to serve as ACEP president. Dr. Suter was also the first award recipient who worked full-time as an emergency medical technician (EMT) and paramedic.

Currently, Dr. Suter is emergency department medical director at Spring Branch Medical Center in Houston, Texas; medical director for AMR-Dallas; and a partner in Greater Houston Emergency Physicians. He is also an associate professor of emergency medicine at the University of Texas-Southwestern and Medical College of Georgia.

“His seniority and leadership are a valuable asset to me and this department,” Captain Sharp said. “Dr. Suter is not just an ‘adjunct on the books.’ He does a lot for this department and USU.”

USU to Host Research Week

by Sharon Willis



Courtesy Photo

The Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences will be holding its annual Research Week, May 10-12. The three-day event reflects the complementary roles that basic science, medicine, nursing, public health and behavioral science play in health promotion.

The Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences will be holding its annual Research Week, May 10-12, 2010. This year’s theme, “Celebrating Excellence in Research,” reflects the complementary roles that basic science, medicine, nursing, public health and behavioral science play in health promotion.

The three-day event formally encompasses the Graduate School of Nursing (GSN) Research Colloquium, the School of Medicine (SOM)

Graduate Student Colloquium, and the Faculty Senate Research Day. The GSN Research Colloquium brings together GSN faculty and students to present and discuss nursing-specific research findings. The SOM Graduate Student Colloquium highlights the research interests and accomplishments of graduate students in the School of Medicine as well as a lecture by an internationally-known scientist. Faculty Senate Research Day draws the entire USU community to share

research achievements, foster collaborations, and stimulate intellectual exchange.

As part of the Research Week, the Postdoctoral Fellows Association (PDA) will sponsor a symposium that features talks by USU Fellows and a plenary speaker. In addition, the PDA and Graduate Student Council will co-sponsor an all-day workshop on career choices in today’s environment.

Overall, the events serve to inform the local scientific community, collaborative institutions, and other federal agencies about significant research projects conducted across the health sciences at USU and its affiliates.

The list of this year’s featured speakers includes Griffin Rodgers, M.D., M.A.C.P., director of the National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases, National Institutes of Health. The Presidential Lecture will be given by Haile Debas, M.D., USU Board of Regents member and Executive Director, Global Health Sciences, at the University of California, San Francisco.

History

Continued from page 2

helping to lead this effort. Farley, an associate professor of Obstetrics and Gynecology at USU, has focused his more than 20 years of faithful service to military medicine and the DoD on the treatment and research of gynecologic cancers and eliminating health disparities.

“A priority of the school, one that it needs to continue, is to recruit, retain and develop highly qualified individuals of all minority races. Outside the beltway, USU is lesser-known, and I have worked with Cmdr. Margaret Calloway and others to start reaching the potential pool of quality minority students as early as their junior year in high school — that is when they are starting to make that decision to prepare for medical school.”

Air Force Staff Sgt. Katina James, an information technologies manager, has served in the Air Force for 12 years.

Over her career, James has had the opportunity to serve at six bases, working with senior military leadership throughout the world. Her career and contacts have taught her the importance of working hard now to prepare for life outside of the military.

“Leadership in the Air Force and at the University have encouraged me to continue working to improve myself through educational opportunities. I have taken full advantage and am working toward my master’s degree,” said James. “I have already completed my Bachelor of Science in Computer Networking and have two associate degrees.”

Whether supporting the University from a specific function, or leading and shaping the future of military medicine, USU employees contribute to a greater cause. It is a cause each can say, as they etch their names into roles, that serves to improve USU.

Throughout the hallowed halls of USU there is a full spectrum of people who make up the University family. These are just a few of the notable contributions by African-Americans

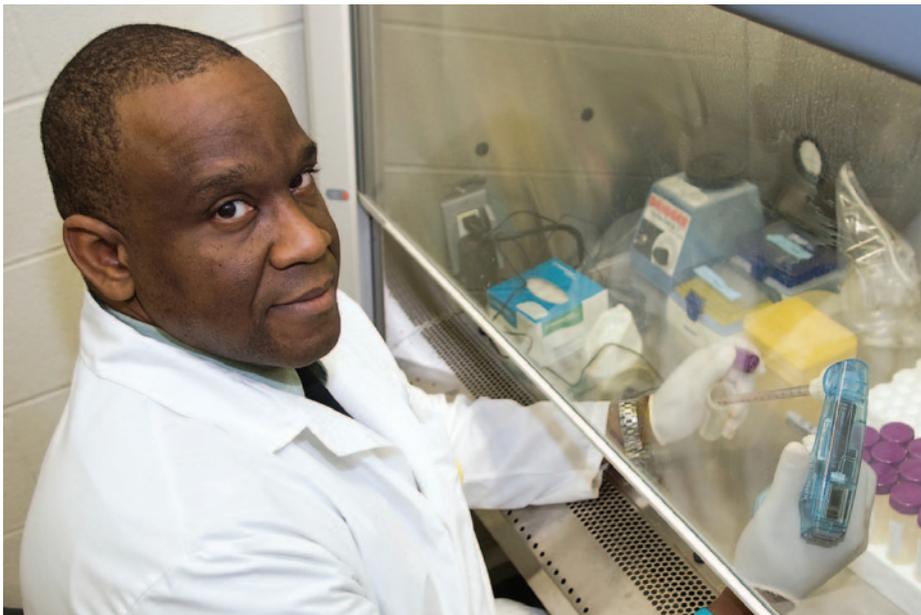


Photo by Tom Balfour

Army Col. (Dr.) John Farley at work in his research laboratory.



Photo by MC1 Chad Hallford

Master Chief Clinton Garrett visits with Brigade enlisted as they tour The National Museum of the Marine Corps.

at USU to create a legacy to federal service and military medicine.

February is a time to honor ‘African-American History’ and the contributions made here at USU and elsewhere, beginning with a premise “That all men (and women) are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness.

“Leadership in the Air Force and at the University have encouraged me to continue working to improve myself through educational opportunities.”

— Katina James, Air Force Staff Sgt.

Briefs

License plates:

The USU Alumni Bookstore still has USU organizational license plates available for purchase.

For more information about reserving your USU Maryland license plates, call the bookstore at 295-3686.

Using 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.

Personnel must not permit unauthorized individuals access to a government-owned or government-operated system or program; access online gambling, games and social engineering sites.

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.

Exercise/Fitness Areas:

Physical Fitness training should be conducted in designated areas.

The only authorized space for PT within the university is room G060.

The campus' Student Community Lounge area is also authorized, but only during specified PFT testing dates or times.

2010 Antietam Medical Staff March:

The Department of Military and Emergency Medicine will conduct the Antietam Medical Staff Walk at the Antietam National Battlefield on April 29, 2010. The Medical Staff Walk, a component of Military Medical Field Studies, is designed to give students an appreciation of how historical lessons learned have shaped modern and future military medicine. This year's medical walk will retrace a Civil War casualty's evacuation route from the battlefield to supporting hospitals within the area, highlighting military medical lessons learned along the way.

The Chaplain Team Relationships Series

From the Brigade Chaplain's office

The Brigade Chaplain's office is presenting a series of classes that "will introduce the concepts, practices, and skills that underlie successful communities."

Open to USU's military, dedicated civil service, contractors, friends and family, or those looking to build clubs in the community, these classes will help build the framework for success.

Serving and organizing community groups to provide mutual support to each other is the result of practicing these skills.

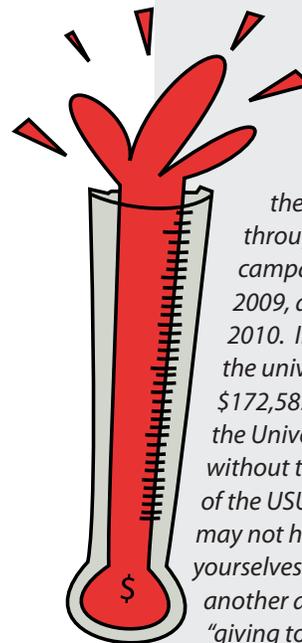
"Clearly and concisely communicate—we want participants to practice effective communications and take this skill to every part of their lives."

The series contains substantial condensed information and skills practice for relationships. Dates and locations may change as new programs are added.

Date	Class title	Time	Room
Completed	Building friendships	1215	C1026a
Completed	Intense communications	1215	G263
Mar. 3	Needs in marriages	1215	C1026a
Mar. 16	Getting organized	1215	G263
Mar. 24	Working through conflict	1215	C1026a

CFC Concludes, meets goal

by Army Capt. Sean Tyler,
CFC manager



This year's Combined Federal Campaign was another great success. Despite the turmoil of the Nation's economic situation the USU community came through with flying colors. The campaign kicked off in October 2009, and finished on Jan. 15, 2010. In just over three months, the university was able to collect \$172,583 — \$7,583 more than the University's goal. Once again, without the compassionate hearts of the USU community, this goal may not have been reached. Give yourselves a round of applause for another amazing campaign of "giving to those in need."



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