



Uniformed Services University
of the Health Sciences

In This Issue

- Dr. Rice presents plaque... 1**
- Hispanic Heritage Month... 1**
- USU in the news.....2**
- Today in History.....2**
- USU Medal.....2**
- News Brief.....3**
- 2010 Class Fact Sheet.....3**
- Look Who's Talking.....3**
- Calendar of events.....Back**



**HAPPY 59th
BIRTHDAY
AIR FORCE!**

USU Newsletter

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Photo by Heinz Linderman

Dr. Rice presents plaque at Pentagon

Dr. Charles L. Rice, Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences (USU) president, (far left) presents a plaque to Dr. John Baxter, 1989 USU alumnus, flight medicine clinic commander (center) and Lt. Gen. (Dr.) James Roudebush, U.S. Air Force Surgeon General, at the Air Force Flight Medicine Clinic in the Pentagon. The plaque is given to all health care facilities that have a teaching affiliation with USU.

National Hispanic Heritage Month Celebration

By MCSA Raul Zamora
Staff Writer, VPE

Faculty and staff members from the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences (USU) celebrated the kick-off of Hispanic Heritage month with a presentation by retired Army Maj. Gen. Enrique Mendez, Jr., M.D.,

Dr. Mendez spoke to the USU community about cultural competence in medicine education.

Dr. Mendez said culture is a composite of language, religion, art, manners and scholarly pursuits.

What is sociably acceptable in one culture may not be in another. He illustrated this point with an example; when a young man asked Dr. Mendez for a job, he offered him an interview. During the interview, the young man kept looking down at the floor. When Dr. Mendez asked why he kept looking to the floor, the young man responded "You are older than me." This was a sign of respect in his culture, while in the American culture it is important to look the interviewer in the eye.

"Cultural manners are almost routine to a lot of people," Dr. Mendez said.

"Language is an obvious barrier that can obscure a patient's needs," Dr. Mendez said. "For instance, an elderly Hispanic lady is complaining of chest pains to her doctor, her grandson is translating. He conveys the pain to the doctor as insignificant, because she is old and probably doesn't know what she is talking about."

"We have to be alert with body language," Dr. Mendez said. "Having language skills means that we are dealing with the language barrier and it makes us more competent."

America's culture is becoming more diverse. One in five people in the District of Columbia are foreign and one out of four in Fairfax and Arlington.

While there are 40 million Latinos in this country, Latinos from different parts of the world call different regions of the United States home. For example, on the West Coast, the majority of Latinos are from Mexico, East Coast Latinos are mostly from Central America and most Florida

Latinos come from Cuba.

"USU students should experience the importance of culture and beliefs," Dr. Mendez said.

Dr. Mendez served in the U.S. Army Medical Corps for 28 years after joining in 1955. He retired with the rank of major general in 1983. He became the first dean and subsequently, the dean and president of the Ponce School of Medicine in Ponce, Puerto Rico. He is currently a partner in Edward Martin and Associates, a consulting firm to the health care industry in Arlington, Va.

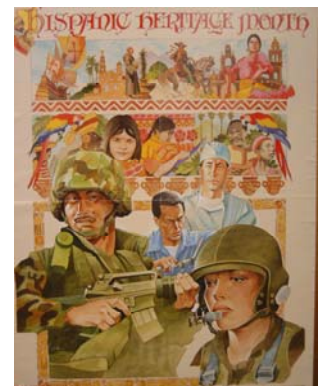


Photo by MCSA Jeff Hopkins

The graphic is one of the Hispanic Heritage Month posters.



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USU in the News

MedPix™ Receives Patent

A faculty member at the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences (USU), James Smirniotopoulos, M.D., developed MedPix™ a medical imaging database, which received its first patent in July.

President Bush Appoints Two New Members to USU Board of Regents

The Senate confirmed the Presidential appointments of two new members to the Board of Regents of USU Aug. 3. Colleen M. Conway-Welch, Ph.D., Nashville, Tenn., and C. Thomas Yarrington, Jr., M.D., Seattle.

USU Researchers Find Validity in 1918 Treatment for Avian Influenza

Navy Capt. Edward Kilbane, Army Col. Jeffrey Jackson and Navy Lt. Cmdr. Thomas Luke, are all alumni and faculty of USU. They, along with retired Navy physician Capt. Stephen Hoffman, have discovered that a treatment for Spanish Influenza

pandemic may also be effective for current Avian Influenza patients.

USU Faculty Identifies Injury Severity as a Risk Factor for PTSD and Depression among Wounded Soldiers

The emotional impact of injury deepens in the first year after evacuation from combat according to a study by Thomas A. Grieger, M.D., and colleagues of USU, Walter Reed Army Medical Center, and Walter Reed Army Institute of Research.

USU, NJMS, and USDA Researchers Perform Breakthrough Research on Protective Immune Response Against Nematode Parasites

Robert M. Anthony, a Ph.D. graduate student in USU's Molecular and Cell Biology program, under the supervision of the principal investigator, Dr. William Gause and collaboration with Dr. Joseph Urban, USDA, discovered a mechanism that provides natural protection

against intestinal roundworm infections, which affect more than 1.4 billion people throughout the world, and which may lead to more effective therapies against nematode parasites.

GSN Student Graduates from Summer Genetics Institute

Maureen N. Hood, MS, RN, assistant professor of Radiology and Radiological Sciences, and a doctoral student in the Graduate School of Nursing at USU, has graduated from the 2006 Summer Genetics Institute (SGI) at the National Institute of Nursing Research, National Institutes of Health (NIH).

The SGI is a competitive two-month summer research training program held on the NIH campus in Bethesda. The program is designed to provide a foundation in molecular genetics for clinical practice and the research laboratory.

For more information on any of these excerpts, visit: www.usuhs.mil.



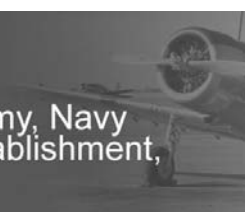
Photo by Michael Dukes

Maj. Gen. Kenneth Farmer earns University Medal

Maj. Gen. Kenneth L. Farmer Jr., who retired after more than 33 years of military service to the U.S. Army, was awarded the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences (USU) Medal. The University Medal is one of USU's highest honors. It was created in 1999 to pay tribute to deserving alumni, staff, faculty, friends, and supporters of the university, its schools, programs, and mission. The recipients earn the University Medal through endorsement and recommendation for professional or academic success or public service.

Today in History-

In 1947, the National Security Act, which unified the Army, Navy and newly formed Air Force into a National Military Establishment, went into effect.



Look Who's Talking... *What is your favorite film and why?*



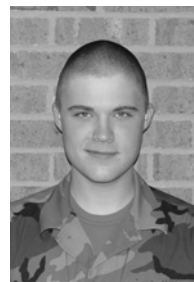
"Biker Boyz: I am a motorcycle enthusiast. I believe that everyone should ride motorcycles. Always remember that Suzuki bikes are the number one bikes, not Harley Davidson."

**Army Sgt.
Leonardo Ashford**
TSB Log



"Forrest Gump. It's my favorite movie because it spans many decades in the 20th century, has an outstanding cast (Tom Hanks) and the best soundtrack ever! "That's all I have to say about that." (Tom)

Mike Taylor
Library Techni-
cian



"E.T. the Extra Terrestrial. It's the only time I've seen a kid on a bike play chicken with a cop car and win."

MESA Jeff Hopkins
VPE
Staff Writer

Class of 2010 Fact Sheet

The F. Edward Hébert School of Medicine matriculated its 31st class with 1,674 applicants having competed for 171 positions. The applicant-to-position ratio was 9.8:1.

Two hundred and seventy-six conditional offers were tendered for the 2006 first-year class, providing an acceptance rate of 62 percent.

The incoming class is comprised of 42 women (25 percent) and 129 men (75 percent). Thirty-two percent of the applicant pool was female. The average age of the entrants at the time of application was 23.9 years.

Thirty seven members of the entering class are from minority groups, including eight from

the groups classified as under-represented in U.S. medicine. The class includes one African American, two American Indians, 26 Asian/Pacific Islanders, one Puerto Rican, three Mexican Americans, one Hawaiian, and three Other Hispanics.

Twenty-one of the incoming students are re-applicants to the School of Medicine.

Geographically, the student representation is as follows: the North is the legal residence of 27 percent of the class; 24 percent are from southern states; 15 percent are from central states; and 34 percent are from the West.

Academically, the accepted presented the following scores: at the time of application, their

college cumulative grade point average (GPA) was 3.54 and their science GPA was 3.48. The mean score of the accepted on the Medical College Admission Test (MCAT) was 9.8, compared to applicants' average score of 9.0. The MCAT consists of four sections: verbal reasoning, physical sciences, biological sciences, and a writing sample.

All of the students have received baccalaureate degrees. Eighteen hold master's degrees and three have been awarded doctorates. Biology was the most-represented undergraduate major of the matriculants (33 percent), followed by chemistry (11 percent), and nine percent in biochemistry.

Other majors for members of the Class of 2010 were: English, zoology, neuroscience, psychology, history, and computer science.

Ninety-six students (56 percent) have had no previous military experience. The remaining seventy-five students (44 percent) have been associated with the military in the following capacities: 17 were active duty officers; seven had prior active duty as officers; five had prior active duty as enlisted personnel; 22 were 2006 service academy graduates; 23 were direct graduates of ROTC programs and one Reservist. - Information is courtesy of the Admissions Office. - August 2006.

News Briefs

Subject Matter Experts List

The Office of External Affairs serves as a liaison to assist members of the media in contacting academic experts at the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences, and maintains a list of faculty who have expertise in various scholarly areas of research and health professions practice. The list of subject matter experts is located at <http://www.usuhs.mil/vpe/experts.pdf>. All experts can be contacted through the Office of External Affairs at vpe@usuhs.mil or by phone at (301) 295-9475.

Acting Brigade Commander

The brigade commander will be on temporary duty to the Chief of Naval Operations Plans and Policy Division at the Pentagon due to critical short notice leadership vacancy. Lt. Col. John Maurer, Army will serve as the acting brigade commander. Lt. Cmdr. Gina Trotter, Navy will serve as the acting executive officer.

Picnic Note

The picnic originally scheduled for Sept. 29 will be held Oct. 6. Picnic activities will begin immediately following the weekly 7:30 a.m. headquarters company formation. The picnic will be

held at the pavilion behind the softball field.

Hispanic Heritage Month

National Hispanic Heritage Month will be observed from Sept. 15 - Oct. 15. The theme is "Hispanic Americans: Our rich cultures contributing to America's future."

Navy Uniform Shift

All Navy personnel within the Naval District Washington area will shift to winter uniforms Oct. 2. For E-7 and above will be service dress blues or khakis; for E-6 and below, the uniform will be service dress blues or winter blues. Battle Dress Uniforms will be worn with sleeves down.

Hails and Farewells

Please welcome the following personnel to USU and AFRRR. Capt. Balagurchik, Navy; Col. Barnes, Air Force; Capt. Whitmeyer, Navy; Lt. Col. Rapp, Army; Lt. Col. Salter, Army; Maj. Beal, Air Force; Lt. Cmdr. Cook, Navy; Maj. Page, Air Force; Sgt. 1st Class Gould, Army; Sgt. McQuade, Army.

The following staff member detached from USU, Sgt. 1st Class Saure, Army, on his way to Soto Cano Airbase, Honduras.





USU Calendar of Events



September	18 USAF Birthday	19 Faculty Development Grand Rounds Pre- sents: The Academic's Toolkit Part 2 "Crossing the Digital Road" 9 a.m.- 4 p.m. LRC Computer Lab	20 USU Toastmasters Meeting. Noon -1 p.m. USU Campus, Room A2011 USU Molecular Cell Biology Seminar "Regulating Mitosis through SUMO & Ran" 3:30 p.m. Lecture Room A.	21 Brown Bag Teaching Seminar noon - 1p.m. Lecture Room A	22	23
	24	25 Dept. of Microbiology and Immunology Seminar "Development and testing of clinical cancer vaccines" Presented by Col. George Peoples, M.D. 11:30 a.m.—1 p.m. Lec. Rm C	26	27 USU Toastmasters Meeting noon—1 p.m. AFRRI Small Confer- ence Rm. Neuroscience Seminar "The Role of Infectious Agents in Human Neuropsychiatric Diseases - Opportuni- ties, Prevention, & Treatment" 3:30pm Lecture Room A.	28	29
October	1	2	3	4 USU Toastmasters Meeting. Noon—1 p.m. USU Campus, Room A2011.	5 Brown Bag Teaching Seminar noon-1 p.m. Lecture Room A	6
	7	8	9	10	11 USU Toastmasters Meeting noon -1 p.m. AFRRI Small Confer- ence Rm.	12