

Uniformed Services University
of the Health Sciences

In This Issue

BRAC/Integration.....cover

Internal Control Program.....2

New Road Signs.....2

USU in the News.....3

Bldg. E Groundbreaking.....3

U.S. Military Cancer Institute.4

USU's Webmaster.....5

Tour of USNS Comfort.....5

Alumni News.....6

Look Who's Talking.....7

USU News Briefs.....7

Calendar of Events.....Back

USU Newsletter

VOLUME 1, ISSUE 12 WWW.USUHS.MIL OCTOBER 2, 2006

Integration~As I See It

Change Leader's Conference

*By Vern Schinski, Ph.D.
Special Assistant to the USU President for
BRAC Integration*

Once again the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences hosted the Integration Change Leader's Conference Sept. 20 and 21. Approximately 180 of the most senior leaders of military medicine in the National Capitol Area (NCA) met to be brought up-to-date on BRAC Integration activities in the NCA, and to receive new tools that will allow them to be change leaders in their parent commands.

One primary goal of the conference was to insure everyone understood that the two new members of the Flag Oversight Group (Maj. Gen. George Weightman, who replaced retired Maj. Gen. Kenneth Farmer Jr., and Brig. Gen. Gar Graham, who replaced Brig. Gen. Thomas Travis) continued to support our ongoing efforts. This continuity in Integration activities was clearly evident in their opening remarks and throughout their active participation during the two-day conference.

A second goal of bringing new and continuing members of the Change Leader Team up-to-date on the Integration Plan was clearly met by several activities. These included: an overview of actions to date, a detailed presentation on the Integration Plan, a review of functional Integration goals and Integration Subcommittee activities, and an exercise extending the action items in the over-arching objectives. Contents of these documents can be found on the Integration Website at: <http://www.usuhs.mil/usuhs/brac/SABI.htm>

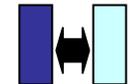
Attendees were divided into working groups on several occasions. First, members with similar areas of responsibility gathered to discuss stakeholders and roadblocks to Integration. Second, personnel from similar facilities met to review the over-arching objectives directed by the Flag Officers. Finally, staff from individual commands met to develop new action plans-based on these objectives.

The university team developed four topics for action during this process.

1. Continue to insure that education programs receive a high priority and appropriate resources in the Integration system
2. Identify and publish opportunities for hospital personnel and residents to become involved in ongoing university research programs.
3. Work toward establishing enhanced relationships between university department chairs, and hospital service chiefs.
4. Continue to work toward the identification of mechanisms of sharing university information services and electronic journal access with the entire NCA.



Steps to Integration

-  *Separate* - Little relationship between organizations and functions
-  *Coordinated* - Implies frequent communications and modest degree of cooperation
-  *Connected* - Regular and ongoing interaction between organizations and functions
-  *Consolidated* - Combines systems, processes, services or institutions based on commonality while retaining original cultural identity of components
-  *Integrated* - Integrated systems, processes, and services; creating an entirely new cultural identity using the best parts/practices from the original components while maintaining the cultural identity of each



USU Newsletter
Editorial Staff

Carol R. Scheman
Vice President Office
of External Affairs and
Managing Editor

**Tech. Sgt.
André Nicholson**
Editor

**Mass Communications
Specialist 2nd Class
Kory Kepner**
Assistant Editor

**Mass Communications
Specialist
Seaman Apprentice
Raul Zamora**
Staff Writer

**Mass Communications
Specialist
Seaman Apprentice
Jeffery Hopkins**
Staff Writer

Sharon Willis
Director
Alumni Affairs and
Contributing Writer

Marla Wright
Webmaster

Publishing
USU Duplicating Office

Production:

Editorial content is edited, prepared and provided by the USU Office of External Affairs unless otherwise indicated. The Newsletter staff may include or exclude articles based upon news value, impact on the university and space availability.

Submissions:

The USU Newsletter will be published bi-weekly on Mondays and deadline for submission is Friday at 4 p.m. Submissions can be sent to usnewslet-ter@usuhs.mil or call 301-295-3925.

Internal Control is Everyone's Business



Graphic courtesy of DOD Comptroller

By Susan Bruff
Office of Review and Evaluation

In the September issue of the USU Newsletter (<http://www.usuhs.mil/uao/newsed10.pdf>), Dr. Charles L. Rice, USU president, announced the launch of a new Internal Management Control Program Awareness campaign. The campaign's message, "Everyone has a job to do, and every job is important", is designed to emphasize the responsibility each of us has to monitor internal management controls in our job.

Internal controls are everyone's responsibility, as we rely on each individual to ensure that

what should happen, does happen. These controls are in place to improve effective and efficient financial management and encompass every aspect of the university's operations. The entire university is encouraged to take the necessary steps to increase awareness of internal controls, and to protect our assets so that we can continue to meet our mission.

This month's focus is on acquisition. Internal controls are especially important at this time as we close down our fiscal year, and make preparations for the next. Posters, which are available through the Office of Review and Evaluation, can be displayed throughout your department so

Which Way to USU... New signs help people find their way

By MC2 Kory Kepner
Asst. Editor, External Affairs

It's no secret that finding the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences (USU) could have been a treacherous task in the past. However, that's no longer the case thanks to an effort that started four years ago.

People traveling to USU now have three new signs to help them find the university. There are two signs on Wisconsin Avenue, one coming from the North and another coming from the South, and the third is on the beltway.

"To finally see them erected is really a much welcomed sight," said Dr. J. Mauri Hamilton, deputy vice president, Recruitment and Diversity, about the signs.

Dr. Hamilton said that about four years ago former USU President, Dr. James Zimble, appointed him as a Strategic Planning Committee (SPC) Team Leader for Recruitment and Marketing (RM). Their goal was to bring publicity to USU.

"One morning while coming to work I noticed a sign on the beltway indicating the exit for Montgomery College," Dr. Hamilton said. "I went to my office and immediately started asking various USU administrators, including the former USU General Counsel, why couldn't we get a USU sign on the beltway? Almost everyone I contacted said they had tried several times in the past and were flatly told, USU enrollment size did not warrant a beltway sign."

Dr. Hamilton felt that was unacceptable and began making phone calls and writing e-mails to several different officials in the Maryland State Highway Administration. Unfortunately, he was met with resistance.

"I continued to push for beltway signs. My conscience told me it was now two-plus years and USU needed some signs on



Photo by MCSA Raul Zamora

The new road sign above, which is located on Wisconsin Avenue heading North, helps direct people to USU and the National Naval Medical Center.

Wisconsin Avenue, one of its main arterial streets," Dr. Hamilton said. I felt it would help decrease the many phone inquiries to various USU offices asking for directions."

"The new signs have actually helped," said Nashieka Knight, admissions assistant. "Our workload has already been lightened by not having to give directions to people who are lost and we

USU in the News

Military Health System DVD Wins Telly Award

Galen Barbour, M.D., professor and director of USU's Health Services Administration Division, Department of Preventive Medicine and Biometrics (PMB) and John Guevara, program manager, PMB, earned a bronze Telly award for their work on a Patient/Family Centered Care Video Project: *More than Just Caring*, during the 27th Annual Telly Awards. Both members wrote and produced the twenty minute video intended to educate military health care professionals in the tools and methods needed to continuously improve high-quality health care systems.



USU Alumnus Receives National Minority Role Model Award

John H. Farley, M.D., Army Lt. Col., a USU alumnus, received a Minority Access National Alumnus Role Model Award during the Seventh Annual National Role Models Conference in Las Vegas, Nev., Sept. 17-20. Dr. Farley received the award for his work on eliminating health disparities in the minority community.

USU Faculty Member Earns Top Prize in Federal Healthcare

Retired Army Col. Norman M. Rich, M.D., F.A.C.S., D.M.C.C., deputy chairman of the Department of Surgery, developed the Vietnam Vascular Registry during the Vietnam War and earned the 2006 Frank Brown Berry Prize in federal healthcare. His thorough

documentation of each of his cases throughout his medical career has allowed him and other military surgeons to study the results of battlefield trauma. His documented cases led to advancements in carrying for troops during Desert Storm and the War in Iraq.

USU Medical Historian Featured in USA Today

Dr. Dale Smith, professor of medical history and USU's medical historian, was featured in a Sept. 25 USA Today article about living wills or other care directives from soldiers being made available to battlefield doctors.

USU Microbiologist is Research Key to E. coli Outbreak

Dr. Alison O'Brien, an internationally recognized microbiologist and chair of the Department of Microbiology and Immunology, was featured in a Sept. 25 Los Angeles Times article about E. coli strains. Only some strains of E. coli are capable of making you sick according to Dr. O'Brien. Many types of E. coli reside in animals and humans. We coexist with our normal E. coli quite happily, although we may not be accustomed to strains living in people in other geographical locations.

Researcher Contributes to World Health Organization's DDT Policy Reversal

Many years of research have consistently shown that DDT is by far the most effective chemical for malaria control according to Donald Roberts, Ph.D., professor of USU's Department of Preventive Medicine and Biometrics. The World Health Organization's (WHO) decision to change its policy and promote the use of indoor residual spraying and the use of DDT for control of malaria represents the most important WHO decision on its global strategy for control of malaria since 1979. Dr. Roberts was recently featured on the Canadian radio station WJOB to discuss the issue.

For more information on USU in the News or to read the stories go to: www.usuhs.mil

University prepares to break ground on site of new facility



Artist rendition of Building E courtesy of NAVFACHO

The Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences (USU) prepares to celebrate the groundbreaking on one of its latest projects, Oct. 23.

Building E, which has been in the works for more than eight years, was awarded a contract Aug. 31 allowing construction on the new facility to begin shortly. The building will have three levels: ground, first and second floors, that will provide extra classrooms and office space for students, faculty and staff.

The new facility will accommodate the growth in the number of degree-granting programs conducted by the university and other responsibilities assigned to USU by the Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Health Affairs. Some of those responsibilities include: the Graduate School of Nursing, Graduate Medical Education Programs, and Continuing Health Education.

The ceremony is scheduled to begin at approximately 11 a.m. and the entire university is invited to attend. More information about the ceremony and a full story on Building E will appear in the next USU Newsletter, Oct. 16.



Fight Against Cancer Continues

By MCSA Jeff Hopkins
Staff Writer, VPE

The word cancer evokes many feelings in people. Some may feel fear of the genetic risk factors they may have inherited from parents; feel pride at having fought cancer and survived; feel helpless, at the mercy of terminal cancer. Some may feel nothing at all, having never come into contact with cancer.

Impressions aside, cancer is a very real threat to people worldwide. Unfortunately for cancer, it has a powerful enemy: the United States Military Cancer Institute (USMCI).

A vote of Congress established funding for the USMCI in 2002, which was created to aid cancer research for the Department of Defense (DOD). Dr. John Potter, a surgical oncologist and professor in the department of surgery at the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences (USU), is the director of the USMCI and reports directly to the president of USU. The USMCI is staffed by military personnel from the Army, Air Force and Navy, civilian oncologists, as well as civilian personnel from USU and contractor personnel from the Henry M. Jackson Foundation. The institute is currently headquartered at the Walter Reed Army Medical Center (WRAMC), with components at USU, USU's Armed Forces Radiobiology Research Institute (AFRRI), National Naval Medical Center (NNMC), Malcolm Grow Air Force Medical Center, and the Armed Forces Institute of Pathology.

The USMCI is currently investigating cancer risks through epidemiology, which is the study of the causes, distribution, and control of disease in populations.

Utilizing DOD databases, USMCI researchers analyze data from cancer patients and are attempting to better understand what causes cancer, and what areas of residence, occupations or activities put people at greater risk for cancer.

Several USU personnel take an active role in the advancement of the USMCI. Dr. Mary Lou Cutler, an associate professor of pathology at USU also works as the associate director for basic and translational science for USMCI. Her duties include arranging for outside cancer researchers to present seminars at USU, arranging USMCI seminars where cancer researchers from within the university, WRAMC and NNMC present seminars on their research.

The USMCI is currently investigating cancer risks through epidemiology, which is the study of the causes, distribution, and control of disease in populations.

Dr. Cutler says she became affiliated with the USMCI five years ago, and that the work is rewarding.

"All cancer researchers are ultimately interested in the 'translation' of basic research results into clinical treatments. In my association with USMCI, I have an increased opportunity to



hear about new translational developments, new clinical developments, and new research efforts designed to treat and prevent cancer," Dr. Cutler said.

Dr. Cutler also oversees the USMCI research grant program, which has funded cancer research efforts at USU and AFRRI.

"I am pleased that USMCI has been able to fund some research efforts at USU. Hopefully this will lead to an increase in cancer research at the university and an increase in funding for cancer research from outside agencies," Dr. Cutler said.

Upcoming projects include a tissue sample collection program called the BioSpecimen Network, which will allow USMCI oncologists to study malignant tissues. Once the protocol is approved, cancer patients at WRAMC and NNMC may enroll in the program and allow researchers to study the samples they have donated. The donors will remain anonymous.

The USMCI is at the center of an effort to establish the first military cancer center at the new Walter Reed National Military Medical Center when it is built on the Bethesda campus.

For more information on the USMCI, visit the homepage at www.usmci.org, or visit USU's webpage at www.usuhs.mil.

Master of USU's domain

By MCSA Raul Zamora
Staff Writer, Office of External Affairs



Photo By MCSA Raul Zamora

USU's Webmaster, Marla Wright, works on updating the current Web site. She is also currently working on a redesign of the USU Web site.

The Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences (USU) web master works with a hard drive to show the outside world what USU is all about, sitting behind a closed locked door.

Marla Wright, USU webmaster, says that the Web site is currently going through a redesign. "The original USU Web site contained dancing hamsters and rainbow colored text," Ms. Wright said. "So the site was updated. The first time

the site was updated, it was more design than organization. The second update was a bit more organization. The Web site has progressed so much but it still has a long way to go."

Ms. Wright has also been a big supporter of the branding initiative, using the new USU logo and color scheme. The branding initiative started with the current design of the Web site. After the USU Web site re-design the logo will have been incorporated at nearly every level.

Ms. Wright says that being the USU webmaster is a difficult job to have. A Web page text job can take five minutes, while a more complex job can take up to several days. As the webmaster, one can expect to receive strange e-mails from time to time. "One time I received a an e-mail asking for advice on the military," said Ms. Wright. She also received another e-mail with a note on the bottom about adding a time and date to the Web site if she loved this country.

The current Web site has some features that will continue to be used for the newly designed page, such as the bulletin board. This feature is mainly for posting general announcements, messages about free equipment, classifieds and university events.

Also incorporated is the search bar, which was recently added during the last Web site update. The new Web site will continue to have the current features, as well as new features that will make it easier to find USU faculty. The web site is scheduled to be completed sometime next year.

"The Web is often the first place that people go to find information, and our web site is like a calling card for USU," Ms. Wright said.

Floating hospital welcomes brigade with comforting presence

By MCSA Raul Zamora
Staff Writer, Office of External Affairs

On a sunny Friday in September, the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences (USU) Brigade took a tour of the United States Naval Ship (USNS) Comfort.

The brigade, consisting of sailors, airmen and soldiers, boarded a bus and journeyed to Baltimore Harbor. Once the military personnel reached the harbor, every one stepped off the bus and boarded the Comfort via gangway, where each saluted the flag and entered the ship.

Once aboard the Comfort, Capt. Albert J. Shimkus Jr., N.C., U.S. Navy, welcomed the USU brigade. He spoke to the visitors about the everyday operations of the ship and its long history.

After being welcomed aboard by Captain Shimkus, They separated into three groups and were treated with a tour of the historic ship.

The military members toured the different wards of the ship. The military personnel leading the tour explained each room and how they compare to a hospital and to other Navy ships, or "Gray Hulls".

"The USNS Comfort doesn't get a lot of respect from Gray Hulls because it doesn't deploy as much," Petty Officer third-class Feltovich, AOPO, USNS Comfort said. "While most people are still sleeping at four in the morning the Comfort's crew is up doing

physical training and preparing for the day."

Not only did the brigade get to see the wards, they also saw the laundry room, which contained five washers for the entire crew; the barber shop, which is run by ship servicemen; the ship's galley, which have tables that can be used as beds in case all of the hospital beds are full; and the living quarters.

Some of the sailors explained that the Comfort is very different from any other naval ship. The passage ways are much wider so that hospital beds can go through, and the crew of the Comfort each receives two lockers, while on a Gray Hull they only get one.

The Comfort played a vital role in several operations including Operation Desert



Photo By MCSA Raul Zamora

USU Brigade in front of the USNS Comfort. The Comfort has been in several operations including Operation Noble Eagle, in which Comfort helped victims during Sept. 11.

Shield and Storm, Operation Noble Eagle, Operation Iraqi Freedom and Joint Task Force Katrina.

At the end of the tour the brigade thanked the crew of the USNS Comfort. Each of the different branches gained a little bit more knowledge about ships and those who have been stationed on Gray Hulls have more respect for the crew of the USNS Comfort..





“The intent of the course was to present state-of-the-art, Western medical training to a focus area for U.S. aid in Yemen,”

USU Graduate Leads Medical Training in Yemen

*By Senior Airman Sarah Stegman
CJTF-HOA Public Affairs*

CAMP LEMONIER, Djibouti – The command surgeon of Combined Joint Task Force-Horn of Africa recently returned from instructing at a training course for Yemeni physicians at the President’s Hospital in Marib, Yemen, in the hope of establishing a strong relationship with Yemeni medical professionals.

Navy Cmdr. (Dr.) Craig Bonnema along with Dr. Yahia Huraibi, chief anesthesiologist at al-Thawra Hospital in Sana’a, Yemen, conducted a first-ever refresher course August 26-28 for 28 Yemeni anesthesiologists from the governorates of Marib, Shabwa, Sa’dah, al-Jawf and Amran.

The three-day course covered various topics in anesthesiology, including advanced cardiac life support, emergency airway management, regional anesthesia and peripheral nerve blocks.

“The intent of the course was to present state-of-the-art, Western medical training to a focus area for U.S. aid in Yemen,” Bonnema said.

The training proved to be beneficial to everyone involved.

“Given the deep underlying suspicions of the Yemeni people toward Western culture, any effort that reflects well on the U.S. government and CJTF-HOA is positive,” Bonnema said.



Courtesy of State Department Press Release

(left to right front row) Dr. Jean Rinaldo, Dr. Yahia Huraibi, CDR (Dr.) Craig Bonnema and Dr. Muftah with trainees at the President’s Hospital.

“Marib governate is one of five in Yemen that are at the center of U.S. development efforts.”

“The U.S. Agency for International Development has infused more than \$6 million in assistance to the President’s Hospital in Marib and it’s in our interests and the Yemeni’s to be recognized for establishing a good, viable hospital in an area desperately in need of adequate medical care,” Bonnema explained.

In the future, CJTF-HOA plans to continue this type of conference at the President’s Hospital

in Marib.

“The Yemeni’s are interested in a wide range of medical knowledge. So, we are planning to send an orthopedic surgeon on the next mission, which may also include clinical training during surgical procedures. Follow on steps will be to transition from using only CJTF-HOA physicians to sending physicians from academic medical centers in the U.S., under the sponsorship of the U.S. State Department or USAID, or other non-governmental organizations,” he said.

USU Alumnus to Head Disaster Center

Robert G. Darling, M.D., a graduate of USU’s class of 1985, was recently selected to head the university’s Center for Disaster and Humanitarian Assistance Medicine (CDHAM).

Darling, an emergency physician, recently retired from the Navy after 25 years’ service. Prior to his retirement, he served as the director of Homeland Security for the Navy Medical De-

partment. He also held positions in operational medicine at the U.S. Army Medical Research Institute of Infectious Diseases, and served as a physician on the Presidential medical team at the White House during the Clinton administration.

He holds a faculty appointment to USU’s Department of Military and Emergency Medicine.

Look Who's Talking... *What is your theme song and why?*



"She Works Hard For The Money! Every woman has one great big job... Working to keep herself in sexy shoes."

Bianca Bostic
Office of External Affairs
Secretary



"Fat Bottomed Girls by Queen. Why? Because they make the rockin' world go 'round'"

Melanie Joy
Affiliations and International Affairs
Program Manager



"John Mayer's Gravity, because I am feeling completely weighed down by all the work in front of me."

Sharon Willis
Office of External Affairs
Director of Alumni Affairs

USU News Briefs

DOD Privacy Program:

On May 22, in response to the theft of Department of Veterans Affairs data, the Office of Management and Budget requested that agencies remind their personnel of their specific responsibility for safeguarding personnel information. The "rules of conduct" set forth in DODD 5400.11, the DOD Privacy Program, state that DOD Personnel shall: take action to ensure that personal information contained in record systems be protected so that the security and confidentiality of the information is preserved; not disclose any personal information to the applicable point of contact for their component; and DOD system managers ensure that all personnel who have access to record systems, or who shall develop or supervise procedures for record handling, be aware of their responsibilities for protecting personal information that is collected.

Equal Opportunity Note:

There will be an annual Equal Opportunity training session held Oct. 5 from 1 to

2p.m. in Lecture Room B. This annual requirement is mandatory for all service members. Enlisted personnel who have already received this training are not required to attend. Fulfillment of this training requirement is monitored, and all Brigade members who have not completed this training for 2006 should plan to attend. For more info, please contact ccarrier@usuhs.mil.

NNMC Parking:

USU personnel are not permitted to park in the National Naval Medical Center patient parking lot. The only exception is for dependents with a USU decal that do not work on base, provided they display their dependent ID card and have an appointment. NNMC police suggest that personnel who work on base should walk to their appointments. If you have a disability, you can park in any handicapped space but must have a valid handicapped decal. There are staff parking spaces available for personnel who work on base, but it is very limited. If there are any questions or concerns regarding this issue please contact the base police at (301) 295-1247.

Legal Note:

Earlier this week, the Recording Industry Association of America (RIAA) alerted institutions of higher learning of an on going concern, i.e., theft of copyrighted music/movies via university computer networks. Although RIAA's announcements is focused solely upon student populations, the underlying message is applicable to anyone who is tempted to illegally download copyrighted materials via unlicensed peer-to-peer networks. Such an offender to potential criminal liability. Within the context of Department of Defense, an allegation of computer-enabled piracy or illegal copyright infringement is viewed as a serious matter. Bottom line, use of government phone or computer systems are governed by official use standards and unless used in such fashion, subjects violators to many adverse personnel actions.

Hail and Farewell:

Spc. Lawrence Reaves, Army recently reported from Fort Campbell, KY and will be assigned to LAM. Master Sgt. Peter Perkins, Army (MEM) recently detached to the Army Medical Activity, Heidelberg Hospital, Germany.

Courtesy of General Counsel

Serving as an Expert Witness

An employee shall not serve, other than on behalf of the United States, as an expert witness, with or without compensation, in any proceeding before a court or agency of the United States in which the United States is a party or has a direct and substantial interest, unless the employee's participation is authorized by the agency. 5 C.F.R. 2635.805.

Note: if the *United States does not* have an interest as described above, an employee may serve as an expert witness but must fill out an outside activity request (USUHS Form 1004) prior to accepting any offer.

For more information about government ethics visit:
<http://www.usuhs.mil/ogc/faq.html>.





USU Calendar of Events



October	2						
	3	4	5	6	7		
	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
	22	23	24	25	26	27	28

Uniform shift
for all Navy
personnel

The Molecular Biol-
ogy of Herpes Virus
Latency
11:30-12:30
Lecture Room C

Toastmasters
Meeting
Noon-1p.m.
A2011

Molecular Cell
Biology Seminar
3:30p.m.
Lecture Room A

Brown Bag
Teaching Seminar
Noon-1p.m.
Lecture Room A

Equal Opportunity
training session
1p.m.-2p.m.
Lecture Room B

Toastmasters
Meeting
Noon-1p.m.
AFRR1

Neuroscience
Seminar
3:30p.m.
Lecture Room A

Brigade Awards
Ceremony
1p.m.
**Sanford
Auditorium**

LRC Training
Noon-1p.m.

Toastmasters
Meeting
Noon-1p.m.
A2011

LRC Training
Noon-1p.m.

Brown Bag
Teaching Seminar
Noon-1p.m.
Lecture Room A

All services:
Physical Fitness
Testing
7a.m. and Noon
USU Softball Field

All services:
Physical Fitness
Testing
7a.m. and Noon
USU Softball Field

All services:
Physical Fitness
Testing
7a.m. and Noon
USU Softball Field