

# USU Newsletter

VOLUME 2, ISSUE 7

WWW.USUHS.MIL

APRIL 16, 2007



## *In This Issue*

<i>NIH's New National Center for Research Resources Director.....</i>	<i>2</i>
<i>Federal Agency Ethics Update.....</i>	<i>3</i>
<i>Research Grant Award.....</i>	<i>4</i>
<i>Research Findings.....</i>	<i>4</i>
<i>"Courage to Care for Me" Campaign.....</i>	<i>5</i>
<i>National Minority Health Month..</i>	<i>5</i>
<i>Student Profiles.....</i>	<i>6</i>
<i>USU News Briefs.....</i>	<i>7</i>



USU Newsletter  
Editorial Staff

**Carol R. Scheman**  
*Vice President for  
External Affairs and  
Managing Editor*

**Tech. Sgt.  
André Nicholson**  
*Editor*

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

**Mass Communications  
Specialist  
Seaman  
Jeffrey Hopkins**  
*Staff 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 [usunewsletter@usuhs.mil](mailto:usunewsletter@usuhs.mil) or call 301-295-3925.

**Front Cover Photo By**  
MCSN Raul Zamora

# USU Professor of Medicine Named Director of NIH's National Center for Research Resources

**NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH** — NIH Director Elias A. Zerhouni, M.D. has named Barbara Alving, M.D. to be the director of the National Center for Research Resources (NCRR). As acting director of NCRR, Alving has overseen the launch of the Clinical and Translational Science Awards (CTSA) program — a new national consortium of academic health centers that will transform the conduct of clinical and translational research to ensure that biomedical discoveries are rapidly translated into prevention strategies and clinical treatments for rare and common diseases.

Alving is a professor of medicine at the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences, and also a Master in the American College of Physicians, a former member of the subcommittee on Hematology of the American Board of Internal Medicine, and a previous member of the FDA Blood Products Advisory Committee. Before joining NIH, she served on the Hematology Study Section for NIH and was a member of the NHLBI Clinical Trials Review Committee. She currently serves the NIH Director as the official NIH liaison for the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services and is a member of the Advisory Board for Clinical Research at the NIH Clinical Center.

"Dr. Alving has demonstrated exceptional leadership in the recent efforts of the NIH to energize the discipline of clinical and translational research across the nation," said Dr. Zerhouni. "The CTSA program marks the first systemic change in clinical research in 50 years and is a critical component of how we will effectively re-engineer the clinical research enterprise, including training the next generation of researchers. It will be with Dr. Alving's vision, creativity, and leadership that we will be able to maximize our investment in the CTSA consortium, ensure that benefits extend to the greater research community, and that new medical advances are delivered to the people who need them."

"I am honored to lead NCRR at such a critical time and welcome the opportunity to work with my very talented and dedicated colleagues in NCRR as we capitalize on NCRR's long standing investment in clinical and translational science to enrich the CTSA program," Dr. Alving said. "I have been impressed by the variety and depth of the research that NCRR-funded investigators are conducting and the contributions NCRR makes to the entire biomedical research community. These investigators are fueling advances in clinical care by developing pre-clinical models, new technologies in imaging, and new informatics systems, which are critical to transforming clinical and translational research."

The NCRR budget of greater than \$1 billion will enable investigators throughout the country to conduct research that ranges from basic and clinical projects to community outreach and education. NCRR

funding provides training and research opportunities at minority institutions and colleges, as well as in academic centers located in states that are challenged by distance and low or often rural populations.

A native of Indiana and a graduate of Purdue University, Dr. Alving earned her medical degree — *cum laude* — from Georgetown University School of Medicine, where she also served as an intern in internal medicine. She completed her residency training, followed by a research fellowship in hematology at the Johns Hopkins Hospital in Baltimore. She began her research career as a Public Health Officer in the Division of Blood and Blood Products at the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) on the NIH campus. Dr. Alving then joined the Walter Reed Army Institute of Research, where she served at the rank of colonel as the Chief of the Department of Hematology and Vascular Biology. In 1997, Dr. Alving became the Chief of the Section of Hematology and Oncology at the Washington Hospital Center in Washington D.C. In 1999, she joined the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute (NHLBI) as the Director of the Division of Blood Diseases and Resources. She then became the NHLBI Deputy Director and Acting Director while also serving as the Director of the Women's Health Initiative (2002-2006). In 2005, Dr. Zerhouni tapped her to be the acting director of NCRR.

NCRR provides laboratory scientists and clinical researchers with the environments and tools they need to understand, detect, treat, and prevent a wide range of diseases. Central to this effort, NCRR leads the Clinical and Translational Science Award (CTSA) program — a national consortium of academic health centers that will transform the conduct of clinical and translational research to ensure that biomedical discoveries are rapidly translated into prevention strategies and clinical treatments for rare and common diseases. With NCRR support, scientists make biomedical discoveries, translate these findings to animal-based studies, and then apply them to patient-oriented research. Through the CTSA consortium and other collaborations and networks, NCRR connects researchers with one another, and with patients and communities across the nation. These connections bring together innovative research teams and the power of shared resources, multiplying the opportunities to improve human health.



*Barbara Alving, M.D.*

# Federal Agency Ethics Update

U.S. Office of Special Counsel, the agency responsible for enforcing the Hatch Act, highlights four recent unanimous decisions by the Merit Systems Protection Board concerning federal employees using government email to engage in prohibited political activity.

The decisions by the MSPB have brought clarity to the email issue and dispel any misconceptions in the federal community that using government email to circulate partisan political messages was an exception to the Hatch Act's prohibition against engaging in political activity while on duty or in a federal building.

In each of these cases, the respondent raised the defense that their conduct was mere expression of opinion and no different from the water cooler conversation described in OSC's advisory opinion dated May 30, 2002, entitled "Use of Electronic Messaging Devices to Engage in Political Activity." In light of the clear guidance offered by the MSPB decisions, OSC has rescinded this advisory opinion.

The four MSPB decisions are highlighted below.

On June 9, 2006, the MSPB in *Special Counsel v. Morrill* upheld a sixty-day suspension imposed against a federal employee who was found to have violated the Hatch Act by sending an email while on duty and in a federal building that was directed toward the success of a candidate for U.S. Representative. Specifically, the federal employee sent an email to over 300 individuals with an attached announcement for a "Halloween party for Tim Holden," a U.S. Representative seeking re-election. It was found that the message described the candidate in highly favorable terms and strongly encouraged attendance at

the event, and that the email was "obviously ... directed toward the success of Mr. Holden's re-election campaign."

On June 12, 2006, the MSPB granted OSC's petition for review of an Administrative Law Judge's (ALJ) decision in *Special Counsel v. Davis and Sims*. The MSPB reversed the ALJ's dismissal of two OSC complaints for disciplinary action against two federal employees who sent partisan political emails while they were on duty and/or in a federal building. The first email in question contained a widely-circulated picture of President George W. Bush in front of an American flag with the statement, "I Vote the Bible." The text of the email contained several statements in support of President Bush, a negative statement about Democratic Presidential candidate John Kerry, and a statement urging recipients to "Pass along the 'I Vote the Bible' button." The second email contained the subject line, "Why I am supporting John Kerry for President" and it presented a letter that purported to be written by John Eisenhower, son of former President Eisenhower. The email contained several reasons why the reader should vote for Presidential candidate John Kerry and why the reader should not support the Republican Party.

The MSPB unanimously overturned the ALJ's decision, found in OSC's favor and held that the facts OSC alleged, if proven, could constitute a violation of the Hatch Act's prohibition against political activity on duty or in a federal building. The cases were remanded to the ALJ for further adjudication.

On Aug. 9, 2006, the MSPB unanimously upheld an earlier decision by an ALJ and ordered the removal from federal service of a Small Business Administration employee for

having engaged in partisan political activity while on duty. Specifically, it was found that over a three-year period the federal employee, an elected official of the California Green Party, received, read, drafted or sent more than 100 emails through his government computer that were directed toward the success of the Green Party. The extensive emails concerned such politically charged issues as party fundraising opportunities, outreach and recruitment plans, internal drafts of various party platforms, and the planning of a state-wide Green Party political convention. The MSPB unanimously found that the penalty of removal was warranted in this case.

On Dec. 14, 2006, the MSPB unanimously ruled in OSC's favor by holding that an employee of the Environmental Protection Agency violated the Hatch Act when he sent a partisan political email message while on duty and in the federal workplace. The MSPB found that the employee, while on duty and in a federal building, engaged in prohibited political activity by forwarding, via his government e-mail system, a letter from the Democratic National Committee (DNC) that urged its recipients to take immediate action after the Presidential debate in supportive of then-Presidential candidate John Kerry.

Special Counsel Scott Bloch said, "The four MSPB decisions send a clear message to the federal community. The Hatch Act prohibits federal employees from sending e-mails that advocate for a political party or candidate for partisan public office while on duty or in a federal building, and engaging in such activity may subject them to disciplinary action, including the loss of their job. No political activity means no political activity, regardless of the specific technology used."



Photo by MCSN Raul Zamora

## Blood drive a great success

Approximately 147 people came out to support the drive and 96 bags were donated. The Student Spouses Club would like to give a special thanks to MS1's for their support and for providing the baked treats.

The department with the highest percentage of donors tied between the Multi-Media Design Division and the Medical and Clinical Psychology students both with 29% and the MS1 class ran a close race with 25% donating.

The winners will be contacted soon with details about the ice cream social.

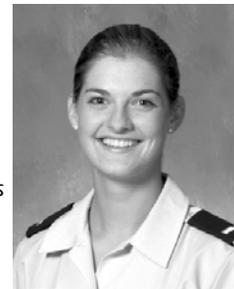
---

# Note of Gratitude

The Office for Student Affairs received a very touching note of gratitude from our graduate, COL John Baxter, MC, U.S. Air Force, whose daughter, our student, Catherine Baxter Wochos – USU Class of 2007 – passed away last month, following a long battle with cancer. Baxter referred to the whole USU community as a “beacon of light and a safe harbor during the shipwreck that was Catherine’s illness.” He noted that “the support of the USU community was really all that kept us from sinking into unbridled despair during the low points of her illness.” Anyone who knew Catherine had a friend for life. In kind, the friendship and support of the USU community not only was there for Catherine, but so sensitively acknowledged and

appreciated by her family.

A Memorial Service of fellowship for Catherine will be held at USU at 10:30 a.m. May 10, 2007 in Sanford Auditorium. Many of her classmates will soon graduate from USU, but have been away for senior year clerkships during Catherine’s final months of life. So, this will be an opportunity for her peers and many friends in the faculty and staff to remember her love for life, her commitment to the vocations of medicine and military service, and her many contributions to everyone she knew. We expect her family members to attend, and more details about the service will be forthcoming.



2LT

Catherine Baxter

---

# One Small Step for *Deinococcus* or One Giant Leap for Radiation Biology?

Results of a recent study titled “Protein Oxidation Implicated as the Primary Determinant of Bacterial Radioresistance,” are published in the March 20 edition of *PLoS Biology*. The study headed by Michael J. Daly, Ph.D., associate professor at the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences (USU), Department of Pathology, shows that the ability of the bacterium *Deinococcus radiodurans* to endure and survive enormous levels of ionizing radiation (X-rays and gamma-rays) relies on a powerful mechanism that protects proteins from oxidative damage during irradiation.

The field of radiobiology is built on the premise that radiation is dangerous because of its damaging effects on DNA. Contrary to that view, Daly *et al* report that the ability of cells to survive radiation is highly dependent on the amount of protein damage caused during irradiation. Surprisingly, a dose of radiation that is sufficient to cause only minor DNA damage in radiation sensitive cells will cause high levels of protein damage compared to resistant cells exposed to the same dose.

This new model of radiation toxicity shifts the emphasis away from DNA damage toward protein damage, where DNA repair-related proteins in sensitive cells are devastated by radiation long before DNA is significantly damaged. In contrast, repair enzymes in extremely resistant cells survive and function with great efficiency after irradiation because they are protected, specifically by a chemical mechanism involving manganese (II) ions.

The new model of extreme radiation resistance reconciles many

seemingly conflicting results published over the last two decades, and points directly at the existence of potent manganese-based radioprotectors that prevent protein damage. Daly expects that delivery of purified radioprotective Mn-complexes into sensitive cell-types will make them temporarily radiation resistant. This possibility opens up new avenues for radioprotection, including approaches to facilitate recovery from short- or long-term exposures to radiation such as cancer therapies, accident- or terror-related nuclear events, and astronauts exposed to cosmic radiation. Furthermore, given that many bacteria with favorable bioremediation functions are extremely sensitive to radiation, the new insight provided by *D. radiodurans* on how to survive radiation might prove useful in efforts to contain the toxic runoff from the immense radioactive- and heavy metal-contaminated waste sites left over from the Cold War.

The work was funded by the US Department of Energy Office of Science’s Environmental Remediation Science Program (ERSP). DOE’s Office of Science is the single largest supporter of basic research in the physical sciences in the nation, manages 10 world-class national laboratories, and builds and operates some of the nation’s most advanced R&D user facilities. Its website address is [www.science.doe.gov](http://www.science.doe.gov).

The complete manuscript can be read in *PLoS Biology* at: <http://www.plosbiology.org>. *PLoS Biology* is an open-access, peer-reviewed journal that features works of exceptional significance in all areas of biology. In ISI’s category of general biology journals, *PLoS Biology* is ranked number-one.

---

# TBI Research Grant Award

An interdisciplinary research team at the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences (USU) has been given a \$736,100 grant for a three-year research program into traumatic brain injury (TBI), which is the most common combat injury caused by improvised explosive devices (IED).

Using rodent models of blast traumatic brain injury (BTBI), the team proposes to characterize the cellular, molecular, and behavioral consequences of moderate and severe BTBI. Because the leading symptom of BTBI is

memory impairment, they will also test the effect of anti-inflammatory treatment combined with enriched environment and physical exercise on memory performance.

The large number of troops currently suffering from BTBI may face several decades of special treatment and greater levels of dependent care. The relevance of this study is its ability to expedite clinical trials to treat memory impairments that currently interfere with a veteran’s ability to return to normal lives and reduce long-term treatment of blast-injured soldiers.

The study will determine the effect of different blast intensities on spatial working memory and cellular changes using commercially available antibodies against selected cellular markers including microglia, astroglia, cellular

proliferation, de novo hippocampal neurons and histological markers of cell death. Changes in levels of TNF- $\alpha$ , IL-6, FGF2 and VEGF will be examined. Various treatment schedules will be observed, as well as the effect of enriched environment on spatial memory performance to determine the effect of administered minocycline.

Co-investigators of the research team headed by C.E. Kasper, PI (GSN) include Denes Agoston, Anatomy, Physiology, and Genetics, and COL Geoffrey Ling, Anesthesiology, Neurology and Surgery. Neil Grunberg, Medical Clinical Psychology and Joseph P. Long, Chief, Department of Polytrauma and Resuscitation, Division of Military Casualty Research, Walter Reed Army Institute of Research, will collaborate on the study.

---

# USU's CSTS launches "Courage to Care for Me"

Healthcare professionals at the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences' (USU) Center for the Study of Traumatic Stress (CSTS) have launched the "Courage to Care for Me" campaign as part of the "Courage to Care" initiative during April, the Month of the Military Child.

The campaign intends to raise awareness of the strength and courage required in parenting during stressful times of deployment, redeployment, extended deployment and reintegration into one's home life upon return from duty.

The vehicle for this message is a onesie, which is emblazoned with one of two colorful Courage to Care for Me logos and accompanied with a tag that asks "Why Courage?" The tag explains that parenting during times of war involves courage at home, just as on the battlefield. The goal is to help clinicians and family advocacy professionals reinforce the values of positive parenting, especially to new mothers in military settings.

The Center for the Study of Traumatic Stress conducts research, education, con-

sultation and training on preparing for and responding to the psychological effects and health consequences of traumatic events. These events include natural (hurricanes, floods and tsunami) and human made disasters (motor vehicle and plane crashes, war, terrorism and bioterrorism). The Center's work spans studies of genetic vulnerability to stress, individual and community responses to terrorism, and policy recommendations to help our nation and its military and civilian populations.

---

## USU Center for Health Disparities Observes National Minority Health Month

By Gloria Ramsey, JD, RN  
Associate Professor, GSN and Director of COIDC

---

April is National Minority Health Month, and across the nation communities both lay and professional are working together to raise awareness about racial and ethnic health disparities, and to implement strategies to address the urgent health needs experienced by racial and ethnic minorities and the rural and urban poor.

The Uniformed Services University Center for Health Disparities Research and Education (USUCHD), an NIH funded National Center on Minority Health and Health Disparities (NCMHD) Project EXPORT Center, aims to reduce health disparities among racial and ethnic minorities through research, education, training, community outreach and information dissemination. The Community Outreach and Information Dissemination Core (COIDC) has been actively involved with uniting academic scholars, and public, private and community organizations to address health disparities among African-Americans, Hispanics, and active-duty military personnel and their beneficiaries. One specific aim of COIDC is to utilize National Minority Health Month to raise awareness about health disparities by participating in forums and seminars with military and civilian collaborators to discuss the impact of health disparities on their communities.

As racial and ethnic disparities continue to threaten efforts to improve the nation's health, noteworthy is the work of Dr. Booker T. Washington, founder and president of the Tuskegee Institute (now Tuskegee University), and his contributions to this nationally-recognized campaign.

In 1914, Dr. Washington launched a national public health education campaign in Tuskegee Institute, Ala., to address the health of blacks in America which focused on the disproportionately high mortality rate among them and the need for federal government intervention. The campaign, National Health Improvement Week, which later became National Negro Health Week and the National Negro Health Week Movement, was a community outreach initiative that brought together community members, local, county, state and federal governments, and national organizations whose

memberships included blacks and whites to spearhead a movement across the nation to reduce health disparities.

The goals of the month are to raise awareness and implement initiatives to reduce health disparities among African-Americans, Hispanics, Asians, Native Americans, Pacific Islanders, Alaskan Natives and Native Hawaiians at the community level. This nationally, and annually, recognized month is intended to serve as the impetus to raise awareness about health disparities throughout the year.

A debt of gratitude is owed to the legacy of the National Negro Health Week Movement to eliminate health disparities. Tuskegee Institute served as headquarters for the National Negro Health Week Movement from 1915-1930, at which time the U.S. Public Health Service managed the campaign and made it a year-round effort. Efforts continued until 1932 when the Office of Negro Health Works was established and charged with carrying out the goals of the campaign. The office was decommissioned in 1951 and 34 years later, in 1985, Margaret Heckler, secretary of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services released the *Secretary's Task Force Report on Black and Minority Health*.

This landmark report which covered all ethnic minorities, not just blacks, documented the "excess" death experienced by racial and ethnic minorities, and made health disparities an issue for the national agenda.

The Office of Minority Health was established in 1986 to implement the report's recommendations, and since then, greater attention has been placed on minority health. The federal government continues to address this national health concern.

In addition, federal law has been instrumental; one such law, Minority Health and Health Disparities Research and Education Act of 2000 (42 U.S.C. 202,) mandates the National Institutes of Health to focus on health disparities and to establish the NCMHD. The 107th Congress passed a concurrent resolution in October 2002 to identify April as National Minority Health and Health Disparities Month.

### National Minority Health Month 2007: COIDC Events

- April 18 Academic Scholars and Public-Private Organizations Dinner
- April 18 USU Information Table (outside cafeteria)
- April 23-24 Maryland Office of Minority Health and Health Disparities  
2007 Disparities Conference and Public Health Forum
- April 25 Nursing Spectrum Career Fitness Expo
- April 26 Trinity Health Ethics Forum
- April 28 Montgomery Hospice

---

## USU student profile: Heather Rogers

By MCSN Jeff Hopkins  
Staff Writer, Office of External Affairs

The Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences (USU) offers excellent medical education not only to military students, but civilians who wish to further their knowledge through the Graduate Education program.

Heather L. Rogers is a fourth-year student in USU's, Medical and Clinical Psychology Ph.D. program, and holds a Master of Science in medical psychology. She is originally from Michigan, and earned her degree from Western Michigan University, in a small town called Kalamazoo.

"There's these big buttons that say, 'Yes, there really is a Kalamazoo,'" she said jokingly.

Rogers says she integrates psychology into medicine, and wants to learn more about the physiological effects of stress on the body. This is a great opportunity to continue training in psychology, and at the same time become strongly educated in physiology.

"I'm really interested in how emotions and things in our environment affect the body," Rogers said. "I was always fascinated by how the body works," she said. "We take some classes with the nursing students, so we know what's going on with the body's systems to figure out how it is that stress

enters the body. Specifically, we look at the heart, and the cardiovascular system. We take a section of the medical student's physiology course also, and learn about the heart at the level of the medical student."

When Rogers finishes her education at USU, she would like to start a research career, possibly working for the National Institutes of Health, or an academic research center where her primary responsibility would be advancing science. Through grant writing, experiments, research, Rogers would like to provide the scientific community, as well as clinical psychologists with new ideas and approaches, which she hopes will be useful in the treatment of cardiovascular disease and cancer.

In addition, she hopes to educate physicians as to the importance of clinical psychology.

"I don't see myself working in a university and teaching so much as focusing on meaningful research so that medical personnel, would recognize the importance of psychology for the people that they are treating. Part of my role would be to educate physicians to the importance of psychology not only in the mental health of their patients, but in physiological outcomes. For example, people who are depressed after they have a heart attack are likely to have another heart attack," Rogers said.

Also among her academic interests is the social-support system; how many people a person surrounds themselves with, how integrated a person is into their community, and how that affects the body's physiology.

"A lot of studies have shown if you're

very close to your family and are active in your community, you live longer. The question is why, and one of the answers I think is that social support influences our immune system. I'd like to specialize more in social support and the body's immune system," she said.

Rogers says she does not come from a medical background, but more of an educational one; her father was an engineer, and her mother was a teacher. It is likely this reason that inspired her quest for knowledge.

Likewise, Rogers has had no real contact or experience with the military, and says this is one of the reasons she finds USU interesting.

"I think this school's very unique, and one of the things that drew me to it was the fact that I could be in classes with military students who had traveled and lived on different bases, like Japan or Italy," she said. "I think this university recruits a different caliber of student than general programs in other places; the military students who come here bring a lot of different experiences to the classroom. It's a very small program, so I've done a lot of learning about the military while I've been here."



Heather Rogers  
Graduate Education

---

## USU student profile: Ensign Paul Maliakel

By MCSN Raul Zamora  
Staff Writer, Office of External Affairs

The Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences (USU) has students who have different experiences and a story to tell.

Ensign Paul Maliakel was born in Arlington, Texas in 1984, where his parents had moved a year earlier. Later that year they would move to New Jersey, where he was raised. Maliakel has two younger brothers, one is a freshman at Georgetown University and the other is a junior in High School in New Jersey.

While in the fourth grade, Maliakel's grandmother, who lived in India, became ill. His mother took him and his two younger brothers to India so they could take care of their grandmother. He credits his experience in India as the spark of his interest in medicine.

"I saw so many people in dire need of medical care, but they just didn't have access to it or couldn't afford it," he said. "I wanted to help them, but there was nothing I could do. That's when I decided I wanted to become a doctor."

A year later, he returned to New Jersey where he lived until he went to college at Tufts University in Medford, Mass. While at Tufts, Maliakel double majored in mechanical and biomedical engineering and spent his four years of college in the Navy Reserve Officer

Training Corps (ROTC) Program.

Maliakel's choices for medical schools were Tufts Medical School, the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey, and USU.

Since Maliakel went through ROTC, he knew that he wanted to become a military physician, so he chose USU.

"It seemed like I would get the best education at USU as opposed to some other civilian medical school," Maliakel said. He also said that the only thing that the other schools had to offer was that the school would be closer to home, and longer summer breaks.

"My summer breaks could have also been longer, but that doesn't matter to me," he said, "That is one of the reasons I picked USU, because of the extended curriculum. I would get all of the military specific training; I wouldn't have gotten that at any other school, so missing a few weeks of summer break wasn't that big of a deal to me."

Maliakel said, "What makes USU so unique is that it has a wide variety of people who come from a whole range of different backgrounds like industry, prior service, and straight out of college so there are always great stories, and you can also learn a lot."



Ensign Paul Maliakel  
School of Medicine

---

# USU News Briefs

**Commencement** : The Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences (USU) announces the 28th Annual Commencement Exercise for the class of 2007 will be held May 19 at 11a.m. The exercise will be held at the National Society Daughters of the American Revolution Constitution Hall. Admission to commencement is by ticket only. To reserve staff and faculty audience tickets contact Carrie Hibler at [chibler@usuhs.mil](mailto:chibler@usuhs.mil) or in room B1009 External Affairs Annex no later than April 30.

**2007 USU Research Week**: The mission of Research Week is: -to promote research by faculty, staff and students at USU and its affiliate institutions; -to provide opportunities for interdisciplinary collaboration; and to facilitate communication among USU graduate students and faculty.

"Celebrating Excellence in Research" reflects the complementary roles that nursing, public health, behavioral science, basic science, and medicine play in health promotion. The poster presentations, invited speakers, and panels demonstrate USU's special role in civilian, public health, and military research initiatives across the health sciences.

This annual three-day event formally encompasses three events: the Graduate School of Nursing (GSN) Research Colloquium, which brings together 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 Research Day, which draws the entire USU community to share research achievements, foster

collaborations, and stimulate intellectual exchange. Together, they 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.

**Antietam Road March**: The annual Antietam Road March will take place on April 26 at 7a.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 black backpacks only. Further guidance will be disseminated as the date draws near.

**Holocaust Remembrance Day Program**: USU will present a Holocaust Remembrance Day (Yom Hashoah) Program on April 18 from 9-10a.m. in the USU Dining Facility. Ms. Marion Ein Lewin will be the guest speaker. The theme will be "Children in Crisis: Voices from the Holocaust." Refreshments will be provided, as will a sign language interpreter. All are invited and encouraged to attend.

**Frank H. Netter Exhibit**: The Frank H. Netter Exhibit, currently on display in the B building lobby, will be leaving USU April 27, so if you haven't had the opportunity to view it, there's no better time than the present!

Dr. Frank H. Netter was a U.S. Army officer during World War II, and was in charge of graphic training aids; he designed sketches for first-aid, X-ray, and survival manuals, and the army was able to use his pictures to educate soldiers in a wide variety of combat and peacetime endeavors. Netter is lauded for the incredible detail and accuracy of his artwork, and has been featured in many journals and publications. The Netter Exhibit showcases portions of the CIBA collection, which are pieces from the volume of work Netter did for the CIBA Pharmaceutical Corporation.

---

## USU History



**Anthony Rudolf Curreri**  
First USU President  
1974-1976

In 1974, this internationally known thoracic surgeon and oncologist took a three-year leave of absence from the University of Wisconsin, to become the first president of the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences (USU).

Curreri was born on Sept. 18, 1909, to Italian immigrant parents in Brooklyn, New York. One of seven children, he

attended elementary and high school in Brooklyn.

Before graduating from high school, he was advised by a science teacher that upon graduation he should attend college at the University of Wisconsin.

In 1926, at the age of 17, Curreri enrolled at the University of Wisconsin. While there, he was active in both baseball and boxing. In the latter, he became an Olympic-class competitor. Academically, he took a Bachelor of Arts degree in 1930, a Master of Arts degree in 1931, and a Doctor of Medicine degree in 1933. During the following two years, Dr. Curreri interned at Columbia and Children's Hospitals, both in Milwaukee. He spent the years 1935 to 1936 in a practice of general medicine at Isle Royale, Michigan. Following this he became a surgery resident at the University of Wisconsin Hospitals. His first faculty appointment was as instructor of Surgery in 1939. Curreri became assistant, associate, and full professor, respectively, in 1941, 1943, and 1954. He was Director of the Cancer Research Hospital in the years 1948 to 1961.

Curreri was Chief of Staff, Wisconsin University Hospitals in 1960 and 1961. He was appointed Director, Division of Clinical Oncology in 1963-1970. He served as Chair of the Department of Surgery from 1968-1972. He became Associate Vice Chancellor for Health Sciences and was in this position when he was appointed to the USU Board of Regents in 1973. One year later, he relinquished the Vice Chancellor position at the University of Wisconsin and he took a three-year leave of absence, beginning in January, 1974, to join USU.

Curreri served in the US Army Reserve from 1936 to 1939 as a First Lieutenant; the Wisconsin National Guard from 1939 to 1944 as a Captain; and the US Army Reserve again from 1945 to 1958, advancing from Major to Colonel. He was a mobilization designee in Surgery, US Army, from 1953 to 1970. Duty included time in both the Korean and Vietnam conflicts.

Dr. Curreri was married to the former Dorothy Huebsch. The couple had three children: Peter William, Cynthia, and Joanne. Anthony R. Curreri died at the age of 69 on May 3, 1979, in Madison.



# USU Calendar of Events



<p style="text-align: center;"><b>15</b></p> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: 2em; transform: rotate(-45deg);"><b>April</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>16</b></p> <p>The host response to chlamydiae <i>Quo Vadis?</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>11:30 a.m.-1 p.m.</b> Lecture Room C</p> <p>F. Edward Hébert School of Medicine, Commandant's Office-Officer Professional Development</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>3p.m.-4p.m.</b> Sanford Auditorium</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>17</b></p> <p>Introduction to Power-Point</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>noon-1p.m.</b> LRC</p> <p>Nuclear, Radiation, and High Yield Explosives</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>USU</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>18</b></p> <p>USU Center for Health Disparities Research and Education Information Table on Public Health will be available outside of the cafeteria across from the elevators (Bldg B)</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>11:30a.m.-1:30p.m.</b> Bldg. B Lobby</p> <p>USU Toastmasters Meeting</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>noon-1p.m.</b> Room A2011</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>19</b></p> <p>Alternatives in Animal Research</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>2p.m.-3p.m.</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>20</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>21</b></p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>22</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>23</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>24</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>25</b></p> <p>USU Toastmasters Meeting</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>noon-1p.m.</b></p> <p>AFRRRI Small Conference Room</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>26</b></p> <p>LRC Training Classes: Introduction to Power-Point</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>6p.m.-7p.m.</b></p> <p>LRC</p> <p>Antietam Road March</p> <p>Antietam Battlefield Sharpsburg, MD</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>27</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>28</b></p> <p>Regional Anesthesia Workshop</p> <p style="text-align: center;">USU</p> <p>CME. For more information, contact the Office of Continuing Education by phone at 301-295-0962, or by email</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>29</b></p> <p>Regional Anesthesia Workshop</p> <p style="text-align: center;">USU</p> <p>CME. For more information, contact the Office of Continuing Education by phone at 301-295-0962, or by email</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>30</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>1</b></p> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: 2em; transform: rotate(-45deg);"><b>May</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>2</b></p> <p>LRC Training Classes: PubMed Basics from</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Noon-1p.m.</b></p> <p>LRC</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>3</b></p> <p>LRC Training Classes: EndNote Basics from</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Noon-1p.m.</b></p> <p>LRC</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>4</b></p> <p>Spine Workshop</p> <p style="text-align: center;">USU</p> <p>CME. For more information, contact the Office of Continuing Education by phone at 301-295-0962, or by email</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>5</b></p> <p>Spine Workshop</p> <p style="text-align: center;">USU</p> <p>CME. For more information, contact the Office of Continuing Education by phone at 301-295-0962, or by email</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>6</b></p> <p>Spine Workshop</p> <p style="text-align: center;">USU</p> <p>CME. For more information, contact the Office of Continuing Education by phone at 301-295-0962, or by email</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>7</b></p> <p>LRC Training Classes Resources in Psychology</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Noonp.m.-1p.m.</b></p> <p>LRC</p> <p>Spine Workshop</p> <p style="text-align: center;">USU</p> <p>CME. For more information, contact the Office of Continuing Education by phone at 301-295-0962, or by email</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>8</b></p> <p>Spine Workshop</p> <p style="text-align: center;">USU</p> <p>CME. For more information, contact the Office of Continuing Education by phone at 301-295-0962, or by email</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>9</b></p> <p>Spine Workshop</p> <p style="text-align: center;">USU</p> <p>CME. For more information, contact the Office of Continuing Education by phone at 301-295-0962, or by email</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>10</b></p> <p>LRC Training Classes EndNote- Advanced</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Noon-1p.m.</b></p> <p>LRC</p> <p>LRC Training Classes EndNote- Advanced</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>6p.m.-7p.m.</b></p> <p>LRC</p> <p>Spine Workshop</p> <p style="text-align: center;">USU</p> <p>CME. For more information, contact the Office of Continuing Education by phone at 301-295-0962, or by email</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>11</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>12</b></p>