Earlier this year, Galveston businessman Tilman Fertitta hosted the 11th Mardi Gras San Luis Celebration at the Galveston Convention Center. Held annually since 1997, the San Luis Salute helps to promote UTMB programs and assists the university in maintaining its mission of bettering the health of society. This year’s salute honored The Department of Orthopaedic Surgery and Rehabilitation.

On October 5, the DOSR accepted a check in the amount of $100,000, the total raised for the department by this year’s event.

Message from the Chair

I usually admire people who can do what I can’t (or won’t)…I guess it’s just human nature. Everyday I’m confronted with such a group of individuals. They are the quintessence of everything that should be healthcare; they symbolize caring, trust, stability, hope, sensitivity, tenacity, and altruism. They are nurses.

Undoubtedly, we all have a strong appreciation of the enormous influence of nursing in healthcare; and it has been suggested that nursing forms the basic foundation of all patient care. But this sentiment does not even begin to denote the true impact that the nurse has on modern medicine.

Nurses work long hours, odd hours, and nights/weekends/holidays. Unlike physicians, who occasionally make rounds to dispense orders or change dressings, they spend their entire work day with our patients.

Whether it is the ER/Clinic/OR/Inpatient floor, nurses are always the first and last healthcare provider that the patient encounters. Yet, despite all of this, they are frequently ignored, usually under-appreciated, and (on a bad day) occasionally disrespected by the physician (to whom they provide unconditional support).

Moreover, in light of the cost of modern healthcare, their compensation is woefully disproportionate to the service they provide. Physicians often gauge success by the outcome of treatment on a large group of patients over an extended period of time. Nurses usually measure their success from day to day, patient to patient.

Several years ago, I made innumerable trips to the hospital bedside of my sister Vicki, who had the misfortune of spending far too much of her young life in and out of the hospital. Her doctor, who had the respect of all in my family, was quite knowledgeable, competent, and prudent. But I will never forget her nurse. She always requested to care for my sister and, along the way, developed a special bond with her. Her nurse became her friend, her uncompromising advocate, and her ever-present “family”…and, to her nurse, it was not a job, but a mission.

Whenever I make hospital rounds these days I not only speak with my patients, but I always make a point of greeting their nurses. What I have to offer the patients often pales in comparison to what the patients can receive from their nurses.

Ronald W. Lindsey, MD

Honors & Awards

Earlier this year, Galveston businessman Tilman Fertitta hosted the 11th Mardi Gras San Luis Celebration at the Galveston Convention Center. Held annually since 1997, the San Luis Salute helps to promote UTMB programs and assists the university in maintaining its mission of bettering the health of society. This year’s salute honored The Department of Orthopaedic Surgery and Rehabilitation.

Dr. David A. Yngve, Dr. Steven F. Viegas, and Dr. Ronald W. Lindsey have recently been named to the 2007-2008 “Best Doctors in America” database compiled annually by Best Doctors, Inc.

The database is a Web-based resource that helps link individuals with serious illness to expert medical specialists for second opinions or treatment. It is compiled through a series of anonymous, peer-to-peer surveys given to more than 35,000 doctors throughout the United States. The surveys are both quantitative and qualitative and ask doctors to rate the clinical abilities of other doctors in the same areas of specialization.

Ronald Lindsey, William Buford, Steven Viegas, E. Burke Evans & DOSR resident Robert Launikitis display the presentation check from the 2007 San Luis Salute
Publications


Presentations


Lindsey, RW. Management of Orthopaedic Emergencies. Podium presentation, Annual Fall Workshop of The Texas Gulf Coast Chapter of the National Association of Orthopedic Nurses (NAON), Houston TX, October 20.


--Panchbhavi VK, Vallurupalli S, Morris R, Patterson R. The Use of Calcium Sulfate and Calcium Phosphate Composite Graft to Augment Screw Purchase in Osteoporotic Ankles (Podium).


--Panchbhavi VK, Trevino SG, Baker C, Hendricks K, Zander DF. Reducing Ankle Stiffness in Individuals with Flat Feet (Poster).

Faculty Spotlight

Dr. Kelly D. Carmichael went to medical school and completed his residency here at UTMB. He stayed here for a fellowship in Pediatric Orthopaedics and has been on staff ever since. In 2003 he was named Orthopaedic Residency Director. He is board certified, a member of the American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgery, and of the Pediatric Orthopaedic Society of North America. Dr. Carmichael is nationally distinguished as a pediatric orthopaedic specialist. In addition to his numerous responsibilities as a DOSR faculty member, each year Dr. Carmichael and a senior resident from the department travel to Guatemala on a medical mission to provide orthopaedic care to populations who are otherwise underserved or entirely without access to medical care. Dr. Carmichael’s dedication and compassion are one more reason why both UTMB and the DOSR remain leaders in state and national healthcare.
Grand Rounds

On September 12, Stephen D. Cook, PhD, internationally acclaimed researcher from New Orleans, Louisiana presented, “Design and Evaluation of a Lumbar Partial Disc Replacement.”

Jack E. Lemons, PhD, Director of the Division of Orthopaedic Laboratory Research at the University of Alabama at Birmingham presented, “Adult Reconstruction Over 40 Years and the Biomaterials of Devices,” on October 10. Dr. Lemons’ lecture was preceded by a presentation by former DOSR resident Shawn Baker, MD, entitled, “Military Orthopaedic Experience: Bagram Afghanistan, Jan - May 2007.”

The Department of Orthopaedic Surgery & Rehabilitation Presents
The Austin Distinguished Lecture Series

On September 12, Stephen D. Cook, PhD, internationally acclaimed researcher from New Orleans, Louisiana presented, “Design and Evaluation of a Lumbar Partial Disc Replacement.”

Jack E. Lemons, PhD, Director of the Division of Orthopaedic Laboratory Research at the University of Alabama at Birmingham presented, “Adult Reconstruction Over 40 Years and the Biomaterials of Devices,” on October 10. Dr. Lemons’ lecture was preceded by a presentation by former DOSR resident Shawn Baker, MD, entitled, “Military Orthopaedic Experience: Bagram Afghanistan, Jan - May 2007.”

Upcoming Events

Upcoming UTMB Grand Rounds:
-- December 12: Michael Archdeacon, MD, Director, Division of Musculoskeletal Traumatology, Associate Professor, Department of Orthopaedic Surgery, University of Cincinnati Medical Center

The Austin Visiting Lecture Series Continues:
-- On December 12, James B. Bennett MD, will present “Elbow Salvage,” with local media outlets in attendance

Please mark your calendar:
--The 2008 AAOS reception - Thursday March 6 at the Four Seasons Hotel in San Francisco
--The 2008 Eggers Conference - April 18-19 at the Moody Gardens Hotel in Galveston.