



USU E-News

USU provides huge cost avoidance numbers for DoD

Editor's note: The office of the vice president for Administration and Management, working in conjunction with the F. Edward Hébert School of Medicine and its departments, including the graduate education office; the Continuing Education for Health Professionals program; and the Graduate School of Nursing compiled and provided all information for this story. Figures used in the story are attributable to those organizations.

Four USU programs will generate more than \$21 million in cost avoidance for the Department of Defense in fiscal year 2001.

Clinical and consultative services to USU's affiliated medical treatment facilities, the Continuing Education for Health Professionals program, the Military Training Network, and the school of medicine's graduate education programs are the organizations generating the cost-avoidance numbers.

"The university has been capturing documentation on our cost-avoidance activities for the past seven years," said Mary Dix, vice president for Administration and Management. "All of the cited programs respond to the needs of the Military Health System, the surgeons general and the office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Health Affairs."

Antietam Road March held May 3



USU medical student Jesse Rohloff assists with a simulated leg amputation inside a make-shift hospital at the Antietam National Battlefield. Performing the surgery is Capt. John Denny, a military surgeon with the Federal and Confederate Field Hospital in Arlington, Va., and a member of the Society of Civil War Surgeons. Each year, the entire first-year class participates in a six-mile march around the battlefield, learning about medical conditions that helped shape the future of military medicine. The road march is part of the students' military medical history curriculum. (Photo by Tom Balfour.)

Clinical and consultative services

Thirteen school of medicine departments and the Graduate School of Nursing – a total of 144 providers from each school - are providing clinical and consultative support to DoD, projected to be nearly 135,000 hours in FY '01. That's an annual cost avoidance of \$9.3 million in manpower costs.

The National Naval Medical Center, Walter Reed Army Medical Center and Macolm Grow USAF Medical Center are the medical treatment facilities that use USU faculty to provide health care. The faculty maintain their credentials and level of proficiency by providing medical services and consultation to the hospitals' **See Cost avoidance, Page 2**

USU E-News

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Proposed material, information or questions should be sent to the editor, *USU E-News*, Office of University Affairs (Building B-1009). The phone number is 295-3925; e-mail <gcarpenter@usuhs.mil>

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Cost avoidance, from Page 1

patients and staff. They also teach and supervise residents.

In order to meet national accreditation standards, all teaching hospitals must provide patient care, as well as teaching and supervision of medical students, interns and residents. The cost avoidance to DoD is generated by the hours of clinical service and medical expertise provided by USU's civilian and military faculty.

Continuing medical education

The university is mandated by Congress to establish programs in continuing medical education. It is the Office of Continuing Education for Health Professionals that provides credit for physicians, nurses and other health care professionals through on-site and distance education, and certification programs. In addition to identifying educational needs, the office plans, implements and evaluates continuing education and resuscitative medicine programs.

In FY '00, CHE sponsored continuing medical education for 332 programs attended by almost 3,700 physicians. It also provided continuing nursing education for 43 activities attended by more than 2,100 nurses.

Because CHE brings medical training to health care professionals, an estimated cost avoidance of \$1.5 million was generated for the DoD by eliminating extensive travel expenses and time away from hospitals and clinics. The total cost avoidance was calculated by subtracting all of the operating costs for CHE, including civilian and military manpower, from the total savings generated by the elimination of travel, per diem and commercial registration expenses (\$2.2 million - \$720,126 = \$1.5 million).

Military Training Network

The MTN develops and implements policy guidance and ensures compliance with curriculum and administrative standards for resuscitative and trauma medicine

training programs for the Army, Navy and Air Force, and DoD affiliates. Because of the MTN, DoD can provide training in strategically critical areas throughout the world, including operational locations and remote sites where civilian training would not be available.

DoD sites affiliated with the MTN can conduct self-sustained resuscitative and trauma medicine training, which is cost-effective to the military health system because it eliminates the need to pay premium training costs for civilian resuscitative and trauma medicine programs.

During FY '00, more than 194,000 DoD members were trained through the MTN. The average commercial cost to provide training would have been more than \$10.6 million; however, the cost avoidance for DoD by using the MTN was almost \$9.9 million. The total cost avoidance was calculated by subtracting all operating costs, including civilian and military manpower, from the average commercial cost (\$10.6 million - \$712,201 = \$9.9 million).

Graduate education programs

The university has established master's degrees and Ph.Ds from within existing resources to respond to the specific needs of the uniformed services. More than 650 advanced degrees have been granted by the university since 1977. During 2001, 25 uniformed officers are receiving degrees (24 master's and one doctorate).

At an average cost of \$30,000 per advanced degree, the graduate education programs are generating a cost avoidance for DoD of \$750,000 during 2001. The average cost of \$30,000 for an advanced degree was based on the current tuition at six universities in the National Capital Area: Catholic University of America, Georgetown University, Howard University, George Mason University, Johns Hopkins University and the University of Maryland at Baltimore.



An employee with the Public Work Center of Washington, D.C., works on the drainage system upgrade currently under way on the plaza. The project calls for installation of new drainage tile and expansion joints. The old drainage system could not handle runoff on the plaza, which caused water to leak into ground floor offices. The Facilities office said the project should be completed in September. (Photo by MSgt. Raul Navas, USAF.)

USU department recognized by national organization

The Department of Family Medicine's Family Medicine Interest Group has been named a 2001-02 Program of Excellence by the American Academy of Family Physicians.

The group will receive formal recognition at the academy's national conference in Kansas City in July.

"This is undoubtedly the result of the energy, enthusiasm and commitment of our students and the wonderful vision and dedication of their adviser, Lt. Cmdr. Mark Stephens," (MC, USN) said department chair Col. Jeannette South-Paul, MC, USA. "USU is indeed richer because of them and what they do. We as a department feel honored to be associated with them."

School of nursing welcomes new class of students

The Graduate School of Nursing enrolled 27 officers into the Class of 2003 in June. There are 14 students in the family nurse practitioner program and 13 in the nurse anesthesia program. Also enrolled are three post-master's students, all family nurse practitioners, in the Class of 2002

The breakdown by service is 16 Army, nine Air Force, two Navy and one U.S. Public Health Service student. Many of the students are prior enlisted or have spent time in the National Guard or Reserve. Their ranks range from second lieutenant to captain (the PHS student).

Created in 1993, the GSN is fully accredited by the National League for Nursing, with emphasis on advanced nursing practice, theory, role, research and the basic sciences. Graduates earn a master of science in nursing degree after completing the nurse practitioner or nurse anesthesia program.

around USU

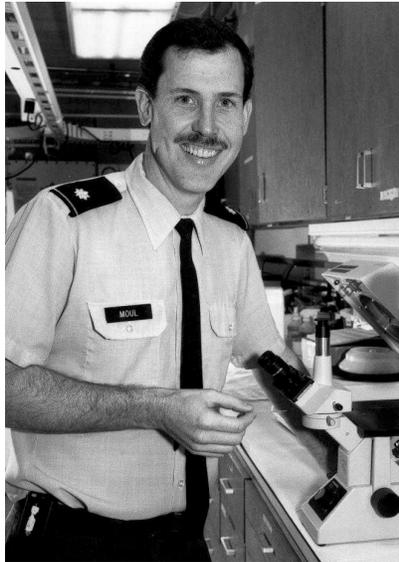
Webcast provides news on prostate cancer

Technology, research and medicine have combined to create a groundbreaking product for health care professionals, an Internet webcast called "Prostate Cancer in the African-American Community," which can be viewed at www.cancereducation.com.

The webcast, which is operated by USU's Center for Prostate Disease Research, features presentations by CPDR director Col. Judd Moul, MC, USA, a professor of surgery at USU. It raises particular issues related to African-American men and prostate cancer, and seeks to educate urologists and urology professionals on the challenges of diagnosing and treating the disease in this segment of the population. Clearly presented topics allow viewers to simultaneously hear discussions, and see charts and diagrams speakers are referring to.

Established by Congress in 1991, the CPDR integrates basic and clinical science to develop refined detection techniques and promising treatments for prostate disease. The CPDR is affiliated with the Armed Forces Institute of Pathology, Walter Reed Army Medical Center and other tri-service military medical centers.

(Center for Prostate Disease Research)



Dr. Judd Moul, earlier in his USU career when he was a lieutenant colonel.

Department of Family Medicine selects new chair

Lt. Col. Brian Reamy, USAF, MC, has been appointed chair of the Department of Family Medicine at USU. He will begin his duties Sept. 4.

Doctor Reamy, who is currently the residency program director in the Department of Family Practice at Malcolm Grow USAF Hospital, Andrews AFB, Md., earned his bachelor's degree in biology and medical degree from Georgetown University. He completed his residency in family medicine at David Grant

USAF Hospital, Travis AFB, Calif.

Doctor Reamy, a graduate of the Air Force War College, succeeds Dr. Jeannette South-Paul, who is retiring from the Army Medical Corps. She is returning to her alma mater, the University of Pittsburgh, to become chair of the Department of Family Medicine.

Two departments merge to enhance information transfer

The Department of Anatomy and Cell Biology and the Department of Physiology have combined to form

the Department of Anatomy, Physiology and Genetics.

According to department officials, a primary goal of the merger is to integrate the "information explosion" resulting from the Human Genome Initiative, and myriad cellular and molecular biological approaches. The merger will allow the department to further improve the information transfer process for both medical and graduate students at USU, officials said.

Division changes name to better reflect mission

The Research Division in the Department of Military and Emergency Medicine has been changed to the Applied Human Biology Division and includes the Human Performance Laboratory, the Casualty Care Research Center and the Center for Disaster and Humanitarian Assistance Medicine.

Department officials said applied human biology better describes the research, education and service activities of the three subordinate elements of the division, identifying it as a significant interface between USU and the Department of Defense's military services and medical departments, as well as other federal entities that conduct studies, research and educational programs in applied human biology.

Patricia Deuster, Ph.D., is the new division's director.

Policy announced for hazardous waste turn-in

The Bioenvironmental Engineering Division in the Center of Environmental Health and Occupational Safety has an improved process for the turn-in of hazardous chemical waste. With the assistance of

University Information Systems, EHS developed an electronic internal manifest form, which can be completed by going to www.usuh.mil/usuhs_only/ehs/chemicalwast.htm. Instructions for completing the form are available at the same url. (See related story, Page 12).

MSgt. Roberto Rolon, NCOIC of the division, said the electronic manifest generates an e-mail notification to EHS, which will inform users of receipt. EHS will notify the user whether turn-in at USU's pharmacy supply is authorized. He said that for pharmacy turn-in to be authorized, the chemical must be listed on the hazardous chemical inventory in the EHS database. EHS will notify users of a pick-up date if authorization is denied.

Sergeant Rolon said all hazardous chemical waste must have a USUHS Form 6031 (pink label) on the exterior of the container. He said users should not date the label because EHS uses the date block to note when the chemical waste was placed into the university's 90-day chemical waste storage facility.

For more information, call Sergeant Rolon at 295-9451.

Civilians have new process when departing university

The civilian personnel office has developed a new checkout system with a shareable folder that contains the names of departing employees. The system is for departing USU civilian employees (both faculty and staff), volunteers and contractors. It does not apply to people who work at the Armed Forces Radiobiology Research Institute because they have their own checkout system. It also does not apply to military members, students or Jackson Foundation employees.



Sgt. J.T. Thomas, Department of Military and Emergency Medicine, displays the Army's new black beret that all soldiers are now wearing. The berets were unveiled for the first time at the Army's 226th birthday celebration June 14. (Photo by MSgt. Raul Navas, USAF.)

A description of the civilian checkout process can be found at www.usuhs.mil/chr/Out-Processing.htm. The site contains documents departing employees will need. For more information, call Chris Barnett at 295-9426.

Washington memorial recognizes veterans

The United States Navy Memorial Foundation in Washington, D.C., has established the "Navy Log" in an effort to honor veterans who have served the country. The log, which includes Navy, Marine Corps, Coast Guard, and Merchant Mariners, has already collected the names,

service information and photographs of more than 250,000 servicemembers.

All enrollments form a part of America's enduring naval heritage, a permanent and publicly accessible video register available for reviewing at the Naval Heritage Center next to the Navy Memorial on Pennsylvania Avenue, midway between the White House and the Capitol, or on the memorial's Internet web site www.lonesailor.org.

For more information, write to the U.S. Navy Memorial Foundation, Attn: Navy Log, 701 Pennsylvania Ave NW, Suite 123, Washington, DC 20004-2608 or call 1-800-821-8892, ext. 730.

Quarterly Award Winners

January-March 2001



Sgt. Aaron Mead, USA



Suzanne Pletcher



Yvette Cobb

Servicemember of the Quarter

Sgt. Aaron Mead, Department of Laboratory Animal Medicine, is the university's Servicemember of the Quarter for the first quarter of 2001.

As the assistant noncommissioned officer in charge in LAM, Sergeant Mead is the drug control custodian of the department's pharmacy, maintaining the drug inventory and ordering drugs each quarter that are valued at almost \$1,000. He also serves as the safety NCOIC, ensuring that the chemicals in the Veterinary Medical Division have accurate and current material safety data sheets, which are used to alert users to potential hazards and how to respond if an accident occurs. Sergeant Mead also performs a quarterly chemical inventory, verifies the amount of chemicals on hand and ensures all hazardous materials are properly stored.

Sergeant Mead supervises the facility animal health surveillance program, ensuring that the quality of life for research animals is maintained. This action allows for early detection and mitigation of any environmental hazards that may affect the animals' well-being. He also is responsible for keeping accurate data, including a record of vaccinations, on all animals received by LAM.

A member of American Legion Post 615, Sergeant Mead has completed five Federal Emergency Management Agency correspondence courses and is currently enrolled in preventive medicine specialist and dietician correspondence courses.

Senior Employee of the Quarter

Suzanne Pletcher, Department of Laboratory Animal Medicine, is the Senior Employee of the

Quarter for the first quarter of 2001.

An 18-year university employee, Mrs. Pletcher single-handedly manages the department's histology section. This year alone, she has prepared more than 6,000 tissue blocks and more than 11,000 histological sections. Over the years, she has saved the university thousands of dollars by preparing teaching materials at one-third to one-sixth the cost of commercially purchased items.

Mrs. Pletcher works closely with investigators to devise precise methodologies. Her collaborative efforts have contributed to the production of numerous scientific posters and co-authorship of research papers supporting university investigators.

Junior Employee of the Quarter

Yvette Cobb, Department of Anesthesiology, is the Junior Employee of the Quarter for the first quarter of 2001.

Employed by the department since March 2000, Mrs. Cobb has helped provide third- and fourth-year medical students with accurate information concerning the science of anesthesiology. She ensures that third-year packages are properly prepared at the beginning of each student rotation, and, at its conclusion, students are prepared for testing. She also helped create a spreadsheet containing important data on all rotations.

Mrs. Cobb is responsible for department timekeeping and CUFS orders, taking on the latter duty with minimal supervision. She also assumed IMPAC duties for principal investigators, ensuring timely and accurate ordering of supplies.

faculty

Ruth Bulger, Ph.D., Department of Anatomy, Physiology and Genetics, spoke at two national meetings in May. Her first address, "Ethics of Teaching and Learning," occurred May 3-4 at the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association's Conference on Promoting Research Integrity in Communication Sciences and Disorders and Related Disciplines. Doctor Bulger also spoke at the 13th annual Tri-service Clinical Investigation Postgraduate Short Course in San Antonio May 7-9. Her topic, "Scientists' Role in Society."

Maj. Andrew Bauer, MC, USA, pediatrics, is a 2001 recipient of The Endocrine Society's Abbott Thyroid Research Clinical Fellowship and Mentor Award. The award goes to authors of selected abstracts who conduct research as a major investigator in clinically relevant aspects of thyroid disease. Doctor Bauer made an oral presentation at the society's 83rd annual meeting earlier in June.

Founded in 1916, The Endocrine Society is the world's oldest and

Faye G. Abdellah, Ed.D., Sc.D., R.N., dean of the Graduate School of Nursing, received the Breaking Ground in Women's Health Honors Award April 30 in Chicago. The award recognizes women who have distinguished themselves as leaders and innovators in the advancement of women's health. The presentation, which occurred in conjunction with the 50th anniversary of the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists, featured a display of Doctor Abdellah's achievements.



largest organization devoted to research on hormones and the clinical practice of endocrinology.

Cindy Wilson, Ph.D., professor and faculty development director in the Department of Family Medicine, has received the Robert H. Kirk Distinguished Doctoral Alumni Award in Health and Safety from the University of Tennessee-Knoxville. Doctor Wilson earned all of her degrees from Tennessee, including the Ph.D. in 1978.

Carol Fullerton, Ph.D., associate professor in the Department of Psychiatry, and director of science in the Center for the Study of Traumatic Stress, attended the American Psychological Association's Advanced Training Institute in Functional Neuroimaging, a program sponsored by the National Institutes of Health. As one of hundreds of applicants for the program, she was selected based on past work and promise for future important research.

The proposal, "Mental Stress as a Trigger of Cardiac Electrical Instability in Altered Autonomic Responses in Health Failure," written by **David S. Krantz, Ph.D.**, professor and chair in the Department of Medical and Clinical Psychology, has been selected by The Charles A. Dana Foundation as one of 14 finalists for development as a full proposal. The private philanthropic foundation has principal interests in health and education.



A presentation by **Maj. Steve Salerno, USA**, at the meeting of the Society of General Internal Medicine won the Milton Hamolsky Award for outstanding research by a junior faculty member.

Contributing to the presentation, which was titled, "Effect of a faculty development workshop on the amount and quality of feedback," were **Maj. Patrick O'Malley, USA**; **Col. Louis Pangaro, USA**; and **Lt. Col. Jeffrey Jackson, USA**. All four physicians are assigned to the Department of Medicine.

people

On May 11, the F. Edward Hébert School of Medicine held a graduation awards ceremony for the Class of 2001. The following students received awards.

2nd Lt. Herman Ellemberger, USAF
*Society for Academic Emergency Medicine
Excellence in Emergency Medicine Award*

Ensign Kenneth Terhaar, USN
*Government Services Chapter of the American College of
Emergency Physicians Emergency Medicine Award*

Ensign Steven Hanling, USN
2nd Lt. Tina Kinsley, USAF
2nd Lt. Jeremy Pamplin, USA
Ensign Daniel Sherwood, USN
LTC Daniel Kayanan AMSUS Military Medicine Award

2nd Lt. Anthony Montegut, USAF
2nd Lt. Angelita Moore, USA
*Uniformed Services Academy of Family Physicians
Outstanding Students of the Year Award*

Ensign Sherri Rudinsky, USN
Outstanding Student in Pediatrics Award

2nd Lt. Kimberly Barrett, USA
*Armed Forces District, ACOG,
Outstanding Student in Obstetrics and Gynecology Award*

2nd Lt. Kevin Banks, USA
Captain Richard Hooper Memorial Award

Ensign Gregory McNabb, USN
John F. Maher Award

2nd Lt. Dawn McDowell Torres, USA
Marcia Salzer Award for Humanism in Medicine

Ensign Jeffrey Gafner, USN
*Navy Chapter of the American College of Physicians
Outstanding Achievement Award*

2nd Lt. Matthew Griffith, USA
*Army Chapter of the American College of Physicians
Outstanding Achievement Award*

2nd Lt. Kevin White, USAF
*Air Force Chapter of the American College of Physicians
Outstanding Achievement Award*

2nd Lt. Kevin Banks, USA
Emma L. Bockman Memorial Award

Ensign Trisha Clarke, USN
2nd Lt. Shannon Faber, USAF
Ensign Carrie Hallett, USN
2nd Lt. Paula Jackson, USA
2nd Lt. Julie Masters, USAF
2nd Lt. Michelle Moyer, USA
Ensign Sherri Rudinsky, USN
Glasgow Memorial Achievement Citation

2nd Lt. Kevin Banks, USA
Ensign David Boyd, USN
Ensign Trisha Clarke, USN
Ensign Christopher Duplessis, USN
2nd Lt. Matthew Fargo, USA
Ensign Jonathon Gilhooly, USN
2nd Lt. David Harper, USA
2nd Lt. Paula Jackson, USA
2nd Lt. Christopher LeBrun, USAF
2nd Lt. Julie Masters, USAF
2nd Lt. Stephen Maturo, USAF
Ensign Gregory McNabb, USN
2nd Lt. Peter Michaelson, USAF
2nd Lt. Timothy Phillips, USAF
Ensign Sherri Rudinsky, USN
Ensign Daniel Sherwood, USN
2nd Lt. Brent Tinnel, USA
2nd Lt. Melvin Wagner, USA
Who's Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges

2nd Lt. Aaron Amacher, USA
2nd Lt. Amy Costello, USAF
Ensign David Boyd, USN
2nd Lt. Matthew Burke, USA
2nd Lt. Joseph Dougherty, USA
2nd Lt. Herman Ellemberger, USAF
2nd Lt. Shannon Faber, USAF
2nd Lt. David Hsieh, USAF
2nd Lt. David Huang, USAF
2nd Lt. Paula Jackson, USA
2nd Lt. Tina Kinsley, USAF
Ensign Gregory McNabb, USN
2nd Lt. Peter Michaelson, USAF
2nd Lt. Dina Parekh, USA
2nd Lt. Mark Robinson, USA
2nd Lt. Kevin White, USAF
Admissions Committee Certificates of Appreciation

Ensign Gregory McNabb, USN
Navy League Award

2nd Lt. David Harper, USA
Association of the U.S. Army Award

2nd Lt. Stephen Maturo, USAF
Air Force Association General Malcolm Grow Award

Ensigns named to student liaison panels

Two medical students will represent the Association of American Medical Colleges on a pair of key student liaison panels this year.

Ensign David Brett-Major, who will begin his fourth year this fall, will represent the AAMC as the student member on the Liaison Committee on Medical Education. His one-year term begins July 1.

Ensign Sean McBride has been appointed by the Administrative Board of the AAMC to serve as the student liaison to the Committee on Admissions. He is entering his third year of medical school.

Founded in 1876, the AAMC comprises the 125 accredited U.S. medical schools, 16 accredited Canadian medical schools, 400 major teaching hospitals and health systems, 90 academic and professional societies representing nearly 100,000 faculty members, and the nation's medical students and residents. The AAMC works to improve the nation's health through the advancement of medical schools and teaching hospitals.

The AAMC and its members set a national agenda for medical education, biomedical research, and health care. The association also works to strengthen the quality of medical education and training, to knowledge, to advance research in health sciences, and to integrate education into the provision of effective health care.



Ensign David Brett-Major



Ensign Sean McBride

Ensign Sean Leonard, a third-year medical student, has won the 2001 Alpha Omega Alpha Medical



Ensign Sean Leonard

Honor Society Research Award. His research topic was drug responsiveness of bone cells, an area of study considered important because of prolonged space travel and care for patients with osteoporosis and other bone disorders.

Capt. Aaron Holley, MC, USA, a member of the Class of 2001, was the top area finisher in the Boston Marathon this spring. His time of 2 hours, 36 minutes, led all runners from Maryland, Virginia and

Washington, D.C. Doctor Holley is an intern in internal medicine at Washington's Walter Reed Army Medical Center.

Retired **Rear Adm. Frederic G. Sanford**, received the Anthony Curreri Award during the Class of 2001 graduation awards ceremony May 11. Mr. Curreri was USU's first president, serving from 1973-76. Admiral Sanford is the executive director of the Association of Military Surgeons of the United States.

Three people affiliated with departments at the Uniformed Services University are serving on committees that develop the United States Medical Licensing Examination.

Alicia Armstrong, M.D., obstetrics and gynecology; **Cmdr. Cynthia Macri, MC, USA, OB/GYN**; and **David Munter, M.D.**, military and emergency medicine, all help develop and review test items from which the licensing examination is composed.

people

Promotions

Army

Katrina Stallworth, Senior Enlisted Adviser, master sergeant.

Navy

Furron Thomas, University Information Systems, petty officer second class.

Brad Preston, Laboratory Animal Medicine, petty officer third class.

Air Force

Gary Carpenter, University Affairs, master sergeant.

Darryl Jerome, USU Brigade, master sergeant.

Debra Randle, Military Personnel, master sergeant.

Awards/Decorations

Army

Col. Emmanuel Cassimatis, Associate Dean (Clinical Affairs), Defense Superior Service Medal.

Col. Lydia Coffman, Military and Emergency Medicine, Defense Meritorious Service Medal.

Lt. Col. Scott Gordon, Preventive Medicine, Defense Meritorious Service Medal.

Capt. Wilson Ariza, Commandant's Office, Defense Meritorious Service Medal.

SSgt. Daniel Fuller, Clinical Pharmacology, Joint Service Commendation Medal.

Sgt. J.T. Thomas, Military and Emergency Medicine, Army Certificate of Achievement.

Navy

Capt. Brad Bennett, Military and Emergency Medicine, Defense Meritorious Service Medal.

Capt. Kim Gibson, Preventive Medicine, Defense

Meritorious Service Medal.

Capt. Jerry Thomas, Radiology, Defense Superior Service Medal.

Capt. Richard Thomas, Preventive Medicine, Defense Meritorious Service Medal.

HM1 Dwayne Thompson, Military and Emergency Medicine, Joint Service Achievement Medal.

Air Force

Lt. Col. Andrew Satin, Obstetrics and Gynecology, Army Commendation Medal.

Lt. Col. Ken Tashiro, Military and Emergency Medicine, Army Commendation Medal.

Lt. Col. James Titch, Graduate School of Nursing, Defense Meritorious Service Medal.

Maj. Mark Devoe, Commandant's Office, Defense Meritorious Service Medal.

MSgt. Roberto Rolon, EHAS, Joint Service Achievement Medal.

TSgt. John Smith, Tech Services, Joint Service Commendation Medal.

SSgt. Victoria Candelora, EHAS, Joint Service Achievement Medal.

SSgt. Charles DiBello, Psychiatry, Joint Service Commendation Medal.

SSgt. Rosemarie Russ, University Health Center, Joint Service Commendation Medal.

SrA Joy Mosley, EHAS, Joint Service Achievement Medal.

Military Education

Air Force

SSgt. Raymond Ferguson, Logistics, 7-level upgrade training.

Welcome Aboard

Air Force

TSgt. Lonnie Carpenter, Audiovisual.

Civilian service pins

35 years

Werten Bellamy

30 years

William Jackson

25 years

James Saris

Kristen Trump

Jane Bradley

Shoshana Segal

David Little

15 years

Philip McEnaney

Joseph Piemontese

Karen Dern

John Ebaugh

Robin Grove

Sara Contente

Carol Fullerton

Yvonne Upshur

Venita Miner

10 years

Christina Johnson

Ramesh Bhatt

Robert Carter

Dolores Harron

Laurella Bell

5 years

Leroy Russel

Kimberly Gonzales

Terese Tansey

Wendy Law

Anne Jerse

Heidi Dickstein

Erin Maxwell

Ruth Bulger

Three earn medical school slots through unique program

Three people who completed the USU Preparatory Program this spring have been commissioned and will begin medical school at USU this fall.

Gregory Williams and **Khayanga Namasaka** received Air Force commissions, and **Bryan Alvarez** has been commissioned in the Navy. He was commissioned by his father, **Everett Alvarez**, a member of USU's Board of Regents.

Williams spent 12 years in the Air Force as a medical technician before he was accepted into the preparatory program. He was in the unique position of being the only enlisted member (staff sergeant) to go through the program.

The F. Edward Hébert School of Medicine developed the one-year preparatory program to enhance student academic preparation for the study of medicine. The program gives the USU admissions committee an opportunity to evaluate a student's



Bryan Alvarez takes the commissioning oath from his father, Everett Alvarez Jr., as Bryan's mother, Tammy, looks on. (Photo by Tom Balfour.)

ability to successfully complete the medical school curriculum.

Students considered for the preparatory program must meet the same admissions criteria, physical and security standards required of all

USU medical students prior to matriculation. Each student accepted into the program takes a reduced portion of the first-year curriculum and must reapply to medical school during the year.

Class of 2003 Appreciation Awards

Col. Morton Levitt, USAF, and **Col. Richard Conran, USA**, instructor of the year.

Col. Stephen Brietzke, USAF, student advocate.

Ensign Richard Catherina, 2nd Lt. Dena George and **2nd Lt. Adam Brown**, action officers of the year

Lt. Col. John Wightman, USAF, military studies.

Col. Roy Wong, USA, clinical concepts lecturer.

Lt. Col. Andrew Satin, USAF, clinical concepts lecturer.

Maj. James Oliver, USA, clinical concepts small group leader.

Cmdr. Glenn Merchant, USN, preventive medicine and ICM II preceptor.

Dr. Motilal B. Pamnani, ICM II preceptor.

Lt. Col. Paul Hemmer, USAF, ICM II

preceptor.

Col. Milton Smith, USA, ICM III preceptor.

Dr. John Hutton, ICM III lecturer.

Dr. Mark Haigney, ICM III lecturer.

Jon Spelman, medical ethics lecturer.

Lt. Col. Ralf Brueckner, USA, clinical pharmacology lab instructor.

Dr. Curtis Wright, clinical pharmacology lecturer.

Col. David Feigin, radiology lecturer.

Dr. Fredrick Friese, human behavior lecturer.

Col. Ann Norwood, USA, human behavior small group leader.

Dr. Guangyong Ji, microbiology (bacteriology).

Dr. Christopher Broder, microbiology (virology).

Dr. Stefanie Vogel, microbiology (lab instructor).

Dr. Zoltan Szallasi, pharmacology lecturer.

Dr. Cinda Helke, pharmacology lab instructor.

Cmdr. Tan Nguyen, pathology lab instructor.

Dr. Clifford Snapper, pathology lab instructor.

Dr. Ralph Gemelli, best overall human behavior instructor.

Dr. Elanor Metcalf, best overall (microbiology and immunology).

Dr. John Sarvey, best overall (pharmacology).

Col. J. Thomas Stocker, USA, best overall and best lecturer (pathology).

Dr. James Smirniotopoulos, best clinical correlation presentation.

Cheryl Marham, Jennifer Stecklein and **Joseph Andrews**, outstanding administrators.

Upgraded safety programs to enhance mission effectiveness

Laboratory inspections, chemical waste collection procedures included in recently implemented measures

The Bioenvironmental Engineering Division in the Center of Environmental Health and Occupational Safety office has instituted several new process improvements to address safety issues and better serve the university. They include:

- Complete overhaul of the hazard communication course, laboratory safety course and the blood pathogen course to ensure compliance with required federal regulations. Steps included

creating a new laboratory safety manual and developing a Powerpoint presentation to assist in presenting the material.

- Made a comprehensive laboratory inspection checklist with associated risk assessment codes (RAC) to properly rank deficiencies from minor to severe.

Established procedures to shut down lab practices with identified discrepancies with RACs of one or two.

- Currently training EHS radiation survey workers to observe lab safety violations such as improper chemical storage that our outside their normal quarterly radiation survey/surveillance duties.

“This will increase our lab safety surveillance, which is the foundation of any strong safety program, said Cmdr.

Shawn O’Toole, EHS director. “Additionally, we are in the process of developing a program to perform unannounced lab inspections that target new protocols in a newly occupied lab.”

- Revised the biohazard, controlled substances and dangerous form (BCD Form 3207) used to submit protocols into a more user-friendly form. Commander O’Toole said there is now more of a focus on significant safety issues versus minor

“We are in the process of developing a program to perform unannounced lab inspections that target new protocols in a newly occupied lab.”

- Cmdr. Shawn O’Toole, USN
Director, Environmental Health and Occupational Safety

administrative application errors. He said annual lab inspection results will be directly linked with the approval of protocols.

“For example, if a principal investigator submits a new protocol, the basis for granting a ‘safety assurance’ will be directly linked with any outstanding lab inspection discrepancies,” Commander O’Toole said.

- Received the command’s endorsement to spend an additional \$30,000 on chemical waste. Convened two chemical amnesty days that helped decrease the storage of nearly 11,000

pounds of unnecessary chemicals and decreased the possibility for improper storage violations and severe monetary fines by regulators.

- Initiated a command-endorsed program to exchange mercury thermometers with alcohol replacements. More than 250 thermometers were collected, significantly decreasing the potential for one of the most frequent causes of mercury spills at USU.

- Revised chemical waste collection procedures to ensure waste is collected within 72 hours of notification. EHS also started a pilot waste collection program with the pharmacy

supply store, allowing researchers to dispose of waste directly with the pharmacy instead of requesting a collection pickup using the phone.

“EHS also changed the pharmacy hours (9 a.m. to noon, Monday through Thursday) to mimic the self-service store hours, which has facilitated customer service,” Commander O’Toole said. “For example, researchers can drop off a sharps container, then go by a new one.”

- Revised chemical ordering procedures to ensure all extremely hazardous substances ordered either through USU or the Henry M. Jackson Foundation are approved by EHS.