



# USU E-News

## Capt. Laughlin to be new dean

by JO3(SW) Robert Keilman

Navy Captain Larry W. Laughlin, Navy Medical Corps, has been selected to become the next dean of the F. Edward Hèbert School of Medicine at the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences (USU).

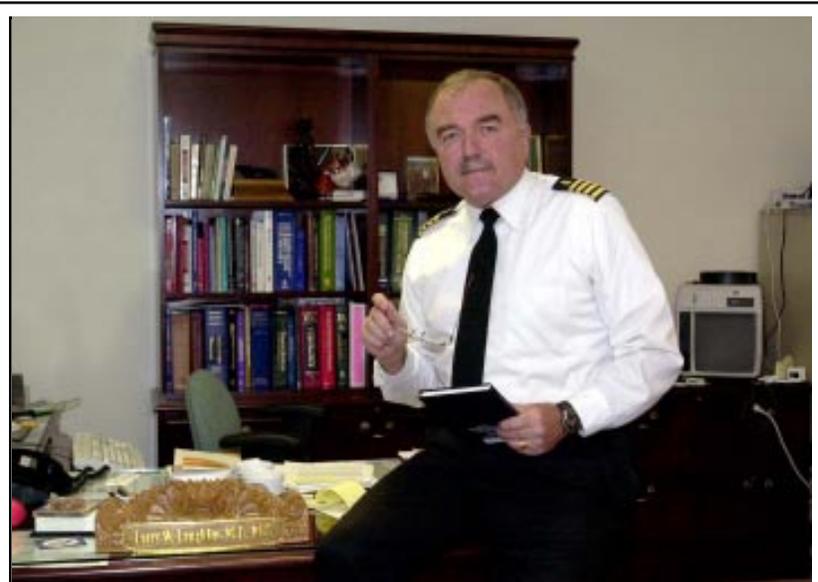
Dr. Laughlin chair of the university's Department of Preventive Medicine and Biometrics is succeeding Val G. Hemming, M.D., who will retire when the medical school's Class of 2002 graduates in May.

Dr. Hemming served as the School of Medicine's dean since May 1996. He also held other positions including the Specialty Consultant in Pediatrics to the Air Force Surgeon General, consultant in Pediatrics to the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Health Affairs, USU's Chair of Pediatrics, and the chair of the Department of Pediatrics and Medicine at the

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***"In these challenging times our unique school of medicine has a special role to play in preparing young military physicians to practice medicine in harms way."*** Dr. Laughlin

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**Photo by Albert Dalmau**

***Dr. Larry W. Laughlin, chair of the university's Department of Preventive Medicine and Biometrics is succeeding Dr. Val G. Hemming, who will retire when the university's class of 2002 graduates in May.***

David Grant Medical Center at Travis Air Force Base, CA. A retired Air Force colonel, Dr. Hemming earned a bachelor's degree in entomology from the University of Utah, and his Doctor of Medicine from the University of Utah College of Medicine.

Dr. Laughlin has been at USU since 1992 and has served as chair of the Department of Preventive Medicine and Biometrics since 1998. He is also the Sanford chair in Tropical Medicine.

"I am honored to have been selected, and I eagerly seek the opportunity to serve as the fourth

dean of the F. Edward Hèbert School of Medicine," said Dr. Laughlin. "In these challenging times our unique school of medicine has a special role to play in preparing young military physicians to practice medicine in harms way."

Dr. Laughlin's education includes a bachelor's degree from Millikin University in Decatur, Ill., in 1967. He received his medical degree from the St. Louis University School of Medicine in 1971. Dr. Laughlin also earned his master's degree (1979) and Ph.D. (1982) from the London School of Hygiene

**Laughlin continued on p. 2**

**James A. Zimble, M.D.**  
President

**Val G. Hemming, M.D.**  
Dean, F. Edward Hébert  
School of Medicine

**Faye G. Abdellah, Ed.D.,  
Sc.D.**  
Dean, Graduate School  
of Nursing

**Cinda J. Helke, Ph.D.**  
Associate Dean,  
Graduate Education

**Peter B. Esker**  
Director, University Affairs

**JO3(SW) Robert T. Keilman**  
Editor

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Proposed material, information or questions should be sent to the editor, USU E-News, Office of University Affairs (Building A-1025). The phone number is 295-3925; e-mail rkeilman@usuhs.mil

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## Dr. Laughlin Continued from p.1

and Tropical Medicine, University of London, England.

Dr. Laughlin is certified by the American Board of Preventive Medicine, American Board of Internal Medicine, Public Health and General Preventive Medicine. Prior to his USU assignment, he was the commanding officer of the Naval Medical Research Institute in Bethesda.

### Lt. Col. wins Professor of the year

**T**he Department of

Obstetrics and Gynecology's Air Force Lt. Col. Andrew J. Satin, MD, has been named Professor of the Year for 2001 by the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists (ACOG).

Dr. Satin, Residency Program Director for Obstetrics and Gynecology at USU since 1998 received the award at the ACOG meeting in Norfolk, Va. The ACOG is a non-profit organization of women's health care physicians that advocates the highest standards of practice, continuing education and awareness of women's health care issues.

Some of Dr. Satin's other awards include the Association of Professors of Gynecology and Obstetrics Excellence in Teaching



*Dr. Andrew J. Satin*

Award (1998), The USU Outstanding Clinical Teacher Award (1996), The USU Medical School Clinical Teacher Award (1988), and the NIH Young Investigator Award, Prenatal Research Society (1997).

## Former student earns medal

**A**rmy Lt. Col. Peter Weina was awarded the soldier's medal

on January 8<sup>th</sup> for rescuing a hiker from rapids on the Potomac River last summer. The Soldier's Medal is awarded to recognize soldiers for taking risks with full knowledge of the hazards of a situation. Lt. Col. Weina graduated from USU in May 1996. He is now in his third year as an Infectious Disease fellow at Walter Reed Army Medical Center.

Dr. Weina teaches at USU, and is also the chief of pharmacology at WRAIR's Division of Experimental Therapeutics and the director of the Leishmaniasis Diagnostic Laboratory.

# Around USU

## LAM employee receives DOD Disability Award

by Master Sgt. Gary Carpenter

The Department of Laboratory Animal Medicine's Roosevelt McCoy has been named the university's Outstanding DoD Employee with Disabilities for 2001.

Mr. McCoy, a USU employee for 17 years, 13 of which have been spent in LAM, received a certificate at the DoD disability awards ceremony Dec. 11 at the Bethesda Hyatt Regency Hotel. The annual program, started in 1981, honors outstanding Department of Defense employees with disabilities. Those honored are selected by their organizations from among thousands of DoD employees worldwide. Past USU award recipients include Paul Pokinski, Karen Williams and Anita Springs.

Mr. McCoy, a graduate of the South Carolina School for the deaf is responsible for more than 300 research animals. He is hearing impaired and uses sign language to communicate.



Photo by Albert Dalmau

**Roosevelt McCoy, A 17-year employee in the Department of Animal Medicine, performs one of his duties at USU. Mr. McCoy was named the university's outstanding DOD employee with disabilities for 2001.**

## USU and AFRRI meet CFC goal

Mission accomplished! USU's assigned goal for the 2001 Combined Federal Campaign has been met.

USU and AFRRI combined raised a total of \$167,823, just topping the goal of \$167,000.

A total of 66.36 percent of the personnel donated to the campaign with an average donation of \$263.00 per giver. Achieving this goal has earned USU the Chairman's Award for the 2001 campaign.

The DOD raised a record total of \$12,429,513 in this year's campaign, exceeding the 11.1 million-dollar goal by over one million dollars.

## GSN gets accredited for eight more years

The National League for Nursing Accrediting Commission (NLNAC) sent a survey team to review USU and make recommendations on its reaccreditation.

The team found that the GSN provided an outstanding model for preparing advanced practice nurses for military service and care of patients in situations.

Retired Rear Adm. Faye G. Abdellah, Ed.D, Sc.D., RN, FAAN, Dean and Professor of the Graduate School of Nursing (GSN) met with the Evaluation Review Panel in Chicago on Feb. 2. The panel unanimously granted the GSN a maximum accreditation of eight years.

The Graduate School of Nursing is the newest School at USU. Established in 1993 to meet the needs for advanced practice nurses in the uniformed services (the Army, Navy, Air Force and U.S. Public Health Service), the GSN awards the Master of Science in Nursing (MSN) degree. Students admitted into the program are prepared as advanced nurse practitioners and investigators in the discipline of nursing.

Excellence in clinical practice along with the ability to respond to military mobilization, humanitarian needs and disaster relief during times of war and peace are the hallmark of the graduates of this program.

## New Assistant Secretary of Defense (HA) visits USU



*Photo by Albert Dalmau*

**Dr. Zimble shows Dr. Winkenwerder (back to camera) the proposed site for the new GSN building during his visit to USU on January 28.**

William Winkenwerder, Jr., MD, MBA, Assistant Secretary of Defense for Health Affairs (ASDHA) visited USU on January 28. Dr. Winkenwerder was briefed by the deans of the Schools of Medicine and GSN, met 13 prior-service students, and toured the university.

Dr. Winkenwerder was nominated ASDHA by President Bush on Sept. 21, 2001, and confirmed by the Senate on Oct. 16, 2001. He is responsible for the overall supervision of the health and medical affairs of the DOD. He also serves as the principal staff assistant and advisor to the Secretary of Defense for all DOD health policies, programs, and activities.

## USU Scores first at STA meeting

The Head Mounted Display (HMD) Presentation won first prize among 37 other presentations for best clinical abstract at the Society for Technology and Anesthesia (STA) for an international meeting on medical simulation from Jan. 9-13 in Santa Clara, Ca.

Richard Kyle, Operations Director at USU, and LCDR Darin Via, MC, Assistant Professor of Anesthesia and Clinical Director of the Patient Simulation Laboratory at USU, gave two presentations at the meeting: The HMD, which monitors data during anesthesia, and a simulated method of teaching responses to weapons of mass destruction and terrorism.

Leaders from other simulation facilities such as Harvard, Penn State and Stanford asked for USU's help in developing similar scenarios for their universities.

An article is scheduled to appear in Anesthesia News describing the presentations.

The STA is an international organization of physicians, engineers, students and others who are



*Photo by Albert Dalmau*

**Rich Kyle (Right) points out EKG readings to LCDR Darin Via during a simulated demonstration. Kyle and Via recently won first prize for best clinical abstract for methods of teaching responses to weapons of mass destruction in Santa Clara CA.**

interested in anesthesia-related technologies that improve the quality of patient care.

## **Servicemember Awards**

### **Servicemember of the Year**

**HM1 Angela Viers**

(PMB)

### **Servicemember of the Quarter**

#### **1st Quarter**

Sgt. Aaron Mead  
(LAM)

#### **2nd Quarter**

Sgt. Latresia Lightfoot  
(EHS)

#### **3rd Quarter**

Tech. Sgt. Darryl Conney  
(OPS)

#### **4th Quarter**

HM1 Angela Viers  
(PMB)

### **Sailor of the Quarter**

HM2 Rich Moyer, (LAM) 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter  
HM1 Kevin Dean, (MED) 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter  
HM1 Levita Ferrer, (LAM) 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter  
HM1 Angela Viers, (PMB) 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter

### **Soldier of the Quarter**

Sgt. Aaron Mead, (LAM) 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter  
Sgt. Latresia Lightfoot, (EHS) 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter

### **Airman of the Quarter**

Staff Sgt. Ed Punzalan, (MTN) 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter  
Tech Sgt. Darryl Conney, (OPS) 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter

### **Joint Service Achievement Medals**

Sgt. Latresia Lightfoot (EHS)  
Tech Sgt. Darryl Conney (OPS)  
HM1 Angela Viers (PMB)

### **Joint Service Commendation Medal**

MA2 Christian Lee (SEC)

### **Air Force Commendation Medals**

Staff Sgt. Tim Wells, (UIS)  
Staff Sgt. Mike Wright, (LOG)

### **Air Force Achievement Medal**

Senior Airman Rachel Broussard, (FAP)

## **Civilian Employees of the 4th Quarter**

### **Senior Employee**

Yolanda E. Smith (SUR)

### **Junior Employee**

Ruth E. Sullivan (MTN)

## **Pay**

**Servicemembers and government employees** can find out new pay rates by logging on to three websites.

- **Servicemembers** can view their **basic pay** at [www.defenselink.mil/specials/militarypay2002/paychart2002.html](http://www.defenselink.mil/specials/militarypay2002/paychart2002.html).
- **Government employees** can view their **salaries** at [www.govexec.com/pay/](http://www.govexec.com/pay/)
- **Servicemembers** can also view **basic allowance for housing (bah)** rates at [www.dtic.mil/perdiem/bahform.html](http://www.dtic.mil/perdiem/bahform.html).

## **CPDR Program Receives Grant**

The Center for Prostate Disease Research (CPDR) has received two grants totaling \$850,000 from the Department of Defense Prostate Cancer Research Program (PCRP).

Of the \$850,000 received, \$440,000 will be used to continue studies of a novel prostate-specific gene (PSGR). \$410,000 of the PCRP grant will be used toward the database side of prostate cancer research. The CPDR is located in Rockville, Maryland and is administered by USU and supported by the Henry M. Jackson Foundation for the Advancement of Military Medicine.

Congress established the CPDR in 1991 to combat the increasing occurrence rate of prostate cancer. A number of its research findings have led to improved understanding and management of the disease.

## Senior Employee of the Quarter

The Senior Employee of the Quarter for the fourth quarter is Yolanda E. Smith, a Course Administration Specialist for the Department of Surgery.

As the Travel and Conference Coordinator for her department, she arranges travel schedules, airline reservations, hotel accommodations, ground transportation, itineraries and reimbursement paperwork for faculty members, visiting professors and conference participants. She has also developed internal forms for use by faculty and visitors to facilitate travel arrangements.



**Yolanda E. Smith**

For the second time in two years, Ms. Smith worked with the Chairman and Course director in organizing, planning, coordinating and attending “Emerging Surgical Technologies,” and international meeting in Strasbourg, France.

With the exception of her own responsibilities, Ms. Smith assumed a position that has been vacant for over a year, the Faculty Coordinator.

## Junior Employee of the Quarter

Ruth E. Sullivan, a 2-year, 9-month employee who works as an Office Automation Assistant in the Military Training Network for Resuscitative Medicine department, is USU’s Junior Employee of the Quarter for the fourth quarter of 2001.

Ms. Sullivan coordinated the American Heart Association (AHA) Guidelines 200 Rollout by making all travel arrangements, developing and maintaining a complex database, devising Training Site location rosters, and preparing Course Completion Certificates.



**Ruth E. Sullivan**

## Finalist selected for Humanism in Medicine Award

Army Lt. Col. Francis G. O’Connor, MD, Assistant Professor of Family Medicine and Director of Primary Care Sports Medicine at USU’s F. Edward Hébert School of Medicine has been selected as a finalist for the 2001 Humanism in Medicine Award, an annual award sponsored by the Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC) through the support of the Pfizer Medical Humanities Initiative.

Dr. O’Connor is one of 56 honorees from across the nation who were selected by the AAMC’s Organization of Student Representatives (OSR) who base their decisions on five characteristics of humanism in medical education, positive mentoring skill, active in community service, compassion/sensitivity, collaboration and observance of professional ethics.

“Medical Studnets learn by exposure to role model physicians who are not only scientifically qualified, but who also exemplify compassion, understanding and partnership,” said Mike Magee, MD, senior medical advisor for Pfizer Inc and director of the Pfizer Medical Humanities Initiative. “Dr. O’Connor is such a physician, and the students of the USU F. Edward Hébert School of Medicine, through this award, have expressed their appreciation to him as both as a physician and an outstanding human being.”

Ms. Sullivan plays a key role in maintaining Military Training Network Databases. Her systematic approach to data input resulted in a 30 to 40 percent decrease in program manager time spent searching databases for affiliation information, cut annual report production time by 80 percent, maximized available information in databases, and created a separate database for training of Department of State Medical Personnel.

Some of Ms. Sullivan’s overall office management accomplishments include assuming responsibility as the Program Manager when the office was confronted with a delay in personnel replacement, and initiating the data input of all DOD resuscitative and trauma training for more than one hundred ninety-thousand personnel.



*Photo by Msgt. Raul Navas*

**Dr. Zimble presents a token of appreciation to Retired Brig. Gen. Clara Adams-Ender after her speech on Dr. Martin Luther King on January 25.**

## **USU employee becomes a princess**

Erin Ferrell, a part time recruiter for MAO, and daughter of Sheena Ferrell (GSN) at USU, has been chosen by the Maryland State Society to represent the state of Maryland as a princess during the National Cherry Blossom Festival.

Ms. Ferrell is an 18-year-old broadcast journalism major from Silver Spring who attends the University of Maryland at College Park. "This is an excellent opportunity that involves some of the same skills that a broadcaster uses such as public speaking," said Ferrell.

Erin is joining 70 other princesses chosen to represent their states and territories.

## **OB/GYN Residency takes 12 of 15**

The Uniformed Services Residency in Obstetrics and Gynecology (USROG) showed they were one of the best on Oct. 30<sup>th</sup> by taking home 12 of 15 1st place awards at the Armed Forces District Meeting in Norfolk, Va.

"I had never seen one program take home so many awards at the District Meeting before," said Air Force Lt. Col. Andrew Satin, USU Residency Program Director for OBGYN, who has been attending these meetings for over 15 years.

The Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education's Residency Review Committee recently recognized USROG with a five-year maximum accreditation, making this the only DOD Obstetrics and Gynecology program to receive this status.

USROG is an integration of independent residency programs from NNMC and WRAMC, and it is the only military OB/GYN residency in the National Capital Region.

## *Safety*

USU wants to become an mercury-free environment by Dec. 2002. EHS is inviting anyone to bring their mercury thermometers to room A-2020 to exchange for a free alcohol thermometer. EHS is asking that anyone bringing in thermometers should transport them in a secondary container.

## **Lt. Col. receives A Prefix "for excellence"**

Army Lt. Col. Richard R. Levine Ph.D., Director of Research Programs at USU, received the coveted "A" prefix on Thursday, January 10 for being considered by the Army's Medical department for having the highest level of proficiency in his specialty.

"I'm pleased to receive this honor, and I would like to look at this as a departure gift from the Army, since I'm retiring in February," said Dr. Levine.



**Dr. Richard R. Levine**



*Photo by Albert Dalmau*

**HM2 Rich Moyer (LAM) gives a presentation to Thomas V. Colella, Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Navy for Manpower and Reserve Affairs while RADM Kathleen L. Martin, NC, Commander of NNMC, looks on. Mr. Colella met with students, toured the university, and was briefed by the deans of the GSN and the F. Edward Hébert School of medicine during his visit to USU on Feb 13.**

## Officials sign for new review board

Dr. Zimble and Commanders from NNMC, WRAMC, and Malcolm Grow Medical Center signed a memorandum to create the first triservice institutional review board (IRB) of the U.S. Military Cancer Institute at the Wardman Park Marriott on Feb 4.

By combining the IRB's of these four medical facilities, the Institute is working to become a nationally recognized comprehensive center as certified by the National Cancer Institute of the National Institutes of Health.

## Faculty

**Retired RADM Faye Abdellah**, dean of the Graduate School of Nursing, will be inducted into the Douglass Society of Douglass College April 10. The society is the college's highest honor for its most distinguished graduates. Douglass College, which is the women's college for Rutgers University in New Brunswick, N.J., will recognize Doctor Abdellah for her pioneering work in nursing research, long-term care policies, home health and hospice services, as well as her leadership as dean of the GSN.

**Simon Auster, M.D.**, Department of Family Medicine, has received the Nancy C. Roeske Award for Medical Student Education from the American Psychiatric Association.

### Department of Neurology

**Col. Bahman Jabbari, MC, USA**, presented the Department of Defense's epilepsy medical and surgical program results for the past 20 years during a lecture at the University of Bologna, Italy.

Doctor Jabbari and **Karen Koski, M.D.**, presented

the paper, "Spinal cord metastasis from breast cancer," at the annual meeting of the American Academy of Neurology.

Doctor Jabbari, along with **Maj. Leslie Foster, USA**, and **Maj. Marleigh Erickson, USA**, published the paper, "Efficacy of botulinum toxin A in chronic low back pain - A randomized double blind study," *Neurology* (2001: Volume 56, Pages 1290-1293). The American Academy of Neurology designated the study, which received press coverage on CNN, Canadian television and *Time* magazine, as being of significant public interest.

**Lt. Col. Geoffrey Ling, MC, USA**, has been appointed to the National Institutes of Health's PULSE (post-resuscitation and utility of life saving measures) committee. He also was named chair of the PULSE subcommittee on central nervous system trauma.

Doctor Ling was the senior author and co-author on three papers: "Quantitative model of intracerebral hemorrhage," *Critical Care Medicine* (2001: 29, 152-158); "Rituximab using a thrice-daily weekly dosing schedule in B-cell chronic lymphocytic leukemia and

small lymphocytic lymphoma demonstrates significant clinical activity,” *Clinical Oncology* (2001: 19, 2153-2164); and “Absence of early proinflammatory cytokine expression in experimental intracerebral hemorrhage,” *Neurosurgery* (2001: 49, 416-421).

**Deborah Warden, M.D.**, was the moderator and guest speaker at the International Brain Injury Association meeting in Turin, Italy. She has been appointed interim primary investigator of the Defense Veterans Head Injury Program, a head injury patient care/research program.

Doctor Warden has published the following papers in peer-reviewed journals: “Persistent prolongation of simple reaction time in sports concussion,” *Neurology* (2001: 57, 524-526); and “Relationship between somatic symptoms and impaired recognition memory performance for traumatic brain-injured individuals,”

*Brain Injury* (2001: 15, 697-714).

**Ann Marini, M.D., Ph.D.**, spoke on the issue of neuroprotection at the 5<sup>th</sup> International Congress on Amino Acids and Analogues in Vienna, Austria.

Her published papers include: “Synaptic deprivation and age-related vulnerability to hypoxic-ischemic neuronal damage,” *Annals of the New York Academy of Sciences* (2001: 939, 238-253); and “NF-κB is a critical determinant for NMDA receptor-mediated neuroprotection,” *Neurochemistry* (2001: 78, 254-264).

**Ajay Verma, M.D., Ph.D.**, has published two papers: “Low tech neuroprotection for brain injury,” *Head Trauma Rehabilitation* (2001: 16, 206-209); and “Erythropoietin and erythropoietin receptor expression in human cancer,” *Cancer Research* (2001: 61, 3561-3565).

## Media Mentions

- An article about **Jay Shapiro**, MD, Professor at USU, appeared in **American Medical News** on his bone-loss research. Dr. Shapiro, who heads a bone loss study team funded by NASA, is studying zoledronate, a bisphosphonate that slows down the rate on bone absorption.

- **Dr. Ignacio Provencio**, assistant professor of neuroscience at USU, and other doctors from other universities were mentioned in **The New**

**York Times, Nature magazine, Science magazine, National Public Radio, Germany’s Deutschfunk, and Reuters** about their discovery of a new class of light-sensing cells in the retina. Dr. Provencio’s work on frogs helped lead to the discovery.

- **Gideon Gil** of the **Louisville Courier-Journal** interviewed **James E. McCarroll, Ph.D.**, director of USU’s Family Violence and Trauma Project about the rates of spouse abuse

in the Army, details of the Army central registry of spouse abuse and correlation of civilian and military data about spouse abuse.

- **The American Psychiatric Association’s publication** wants follow up information about an article appearing in **Psychosomatic Medicine** on **Dr. James E. McCarroll’s** studies on incidence of PTSD among mortuary workers.