

## Pediatrician honored for work to help abused women and children

Astrid Heger, assistant professor of pediatrics, is being honored with four prestigious awards for her work on behalf of women and children, her efforts to improve the justice system and her teaching expertise.

The awards recognize Heger's 14 years of service to victims of violence, beginning with the "Center for the Vulnerable Child," which she founded in 1984 for the evaluation of child abuse. The Center is now part of the larger Violence Intervention Program (VIP), a medically-based program providing multidisciplinary interventions for all victims of abuse and neglect, sexual assault and domestic violence.

Medical services are available seven days a week, 24 hours a day, and are conducted by professionals, including Heger, who are trained to provide appropriate diagnosis and treatment. In addition, the VIP provides ongoing monitoring and support and is the first Family Advocacy Center of its kind built on a multidisciplinary approach to all forms of family violence.

Heger is an internationally recognized expert on the medical diagnosis of child abuse and sexual assault in all ages.

She pioneered the use of photo-documentation techniques while developing standards for the



David Dubuque Photography

Astrid Heger accepted a 1998 Women of Courage Award from the FRIENDS of the Los Angeles City Commission on the Status of Women. Pictured from left: Marissa Castro, president of FRIENDS, Cynthia Telles, president of the Commission on the Status of Women, Heger, and KNBC-TV News anchor Linda Alvarez.

medical evaluation of child and adolescent victims of sexual assault.

Locally, the FRIENDS of the Los Angeles City Commission on the Status of Women presented Heger with a 1998 Women of Courage Award on Aug. 26, the 78th anniversary of the ratification of the 19th Amendment, which gave women the

right to vote. The award recognizes women who, by their valor and selfless commitment to others, have overcome numerous obstacles and turned challenges into courageous acts of accomplishment.

Heger will travel to Washington, D.C., to accept the Bud Cramer Award from the National Network

of Children's Advocacy Centers at a Congressional Breakfast on Sept. 16.

This award recognizes one individual's extraordinary commitment and dedication to children through promotion of the children's advocacy center model beyond the local or state level and moving the field forward through vision, leadership and the ability to motivate others.

Later in the month, Heger will accept an award from the not-for-profit Foundation for Improvement of Justice, Inc., in Atlanta.

Up to 10 awards will be given to innovative programs throughout the nation that have proven effective and can serve as models for others in areas of improving justice systems.

Heger is also being honored by medical students as Outstanding Teacher in the second year curriculum, by vote of the second year class.

At the end of the last academic year, students were asked to consider faculty who had taught them and Heger was one of five selected for the excellence and commitment she demonstrates in her teaching.

She will be recognized today, Sept. 11, at 3 p.m. in Mayer Auditorium, as part of the Teaching Awards and White Coat Ceremony.

—Mary Ellen Stumpfl

## School of Medicine faculty approve Governance Document

The votes are in and — 16 months after the process began — the School of Medicine Governance Document has been approved overwhelmingly by the faculty.

It hasn't been easy. The process to craft the rules and bylaws by which the school operates within its university framework began June 13, 1997, when Provost Lloyd Armstrong sent a revised and university-approved school governance document to the school.

He suggested that the school administration and faculty review it and modify it beyond the minimal changes made by the University Board of Trustees and central administration.

By early March this year, a new draft had been prepared and circulated to the faculty.

A subsequent revision was issued in April and aired at an open faculty meeting and at a

meeting of the Medical Faculty Assembly Executive Board.

With recommendations from those two meetings, an additional draft was prepared and approved by the Faculty Executive Council (FEC) and by the Medical Faculty Assembly (MFA).

On Aug. 17, ballots were circulated to all faculty with full-time appointments in the School of Medicine along with the final revised governance document and a joint letter from Leslie Bernstein, senior associate dean for faculty affairs, and Harvey Kaslow, president of the MFA.

Voting ended this Wednesday, Sept. 9, with the result:

For the document — 165

Against the document — 10.

The governance document can be viewed at:

<http://www.usc.edu/go/med-dean/govern/gov82198.html>

### There may be after the next election...

## *Is there a doctor in the House?*

Janice Nelson figures there is nothing wrong on Capitol Hill in Washington, D.C., that a good doctor can't fix. That's why she's running for the U.S. House of Representatives.

"I think the American health care system is failing and that legislators with real-life experience must be included in the decision making process to guide the future of health care in this country," said Nelson, a USC professor and director of Blood Bank, Tissue and Transfusion Medicine Services at Los Angeles County+USC Medical Center.

Nelson, 47, said a lifelong interest in politics turned into a full-blown Congressional campaign when she decided many of the lawyers who make up the majority of elected officials are ill-suited to make crucial decisions on health care concerns ranging from managed care to cloning.

None of California's current 52-member Congressional Delegation is a physician.

"I think we have an abundance of lawyers and only a few doctors in Washington," said Nelson, a Democrat. "I'm concerned about where health care is going and how many people are uninsured. I'm also concerned about Medicare and research funding."

While it remains to be seen what District 28 voters think of Nelson's campaign platform (she was unopposed in the primary election), the issues are sure to resonate with her colleagues in the USC School of Medicine.

If elected, she plans to urge reconsideration of a universal health care plan to make up for shortcomings in managed care. She

also hopes to bring a physician's perspective to hot-button issues like abortion, assisted reproduction, end-of-life concerns and privacy issues regarding genetic testing.

Born in Jamestown, N.Y., Nelson came to USC as a resident in clinical pathology in July 1978.

She proved her physicians mettle by accepting the stressful position as chief pathology resident at LAC+USC for two years in row.

"No one has been foolish enough to do that two years in a row," Nelson laughed.

In 1981 she joined USC's Blood Bank and Transfusion Services as associate medical director and accepted a promotion to director in April 1995.

She also serves on the attending medical staff at USC/Norris Comprehensive Cancer Center and Hospital and as a transfusion consultant at several area hospitals.

—Phil Davis



Janice Nelson

# Ph.D. students seek new knowledge, tangible returns in field of medicine

One day, graduate student Harris Soifer hopes to help make gene therapy better. But for now, he is content learning the basics of gene splicing and dicing.

Soifer recently began his second year of graduate school at the Health Sciences Campus, where he works in the lab of Noriyuki Kasahara, assistant professor of pathology and a member of the Institute for Genetic Medicine.

By approaching medical science from the lab bench, Soifer plans to stay "on the cutting edge," he said.

Soifer is not alone. This fall, some 305 students are enrolled in the School of Medicine doctoral programs, according to the Office of Scientific Affairs. All are bent on becoming independent scientists.

Like their peers at universities across the nation, the graduate students at the Health Sciences Campus are motivated to expand the base of knowledge by studying how basic biological systems work.

They have chosen to do that, however, in the realm of medicine, where the exploration takes on a more practical flavor. Any discoveries will have the potential to better the health or reduce the suffering of many.

Soifer said the possibility of translating his research into a clinical application is what inspired him to study biomedicine in the first place.

"Many students come into this wanting to focus on a practical, important project that will influence people's lives," agreed Michael Stallcup, professor of pathology and director of a relatively new addition to graduate studies at HSC, the interdisciplinary PIBBS, or Programs in the Biomedical and Biological Sciences, program.

Doctoral programs, in general, prepare students to become independent researchers, educators, and, increasingly, to work in biotechnology.

Whatever their career goals, "everyone comes to learn how to think and do research," Stallcup said.

## New Trends in Biomedical Graduate Programs

- How students hear about USC: These days, the World Wide Web is *the* recruitment tool for students. Listing programs on sites such as gradschools.com and the online Petersen's guide, has resulted in much more feedback and attention than brochure mass mailings ever did, Stallcup said.

- Interdisciplinary interactions: The life sciences have become both vast and broad, and not easily divided up into disciplines. That shift has prompted faculty to create umbrella programs like PIBBS and the Neurosciences Program and to pursue collaborations with diverse groups of scientists.

- Changing job opportunities: Faced with the reality of fewer openings and tenured positions in academia, many graduate students enter their training already considering jobs as full-time researchers, teachers, science administrators, science communicators or entrepreneurs. "Fortunately, biotechnology has really started taking off. It's a big shift and we are still adjusting to it," Stallcup said.

- A Ph.D. is no longer what it used to be: "A postdoctoral research position is not considered optional any longer," notes Stallcup. Especially in the life sciences, a post-doctoral fellowship has evolved into a de facto terminal degree. "Students that come out of our graduate programs usually get very good post doc positions...and go on to succeed," he said.

- The number of Ph.D.s in the life sciences exceeds the jobs available to them, according to a new report prepared by the National Research Council and reported in the *Chronicle of Higher Education* this week. As a result, universities should limit growth in the number of graduate students and avoid developing new programs, the council says

The year-old PIBBS is not a degree-granting program, but a recruitment tool that allows incoming graduate students to study with virtually any life scientist at the university.

First-year PIBBS students spend time in three different labs before committing to a project and faculty mentor, who may be from medicine, pharmacy, dentistry or the college of letters and sciences at the University Park Campus.

So far, most students have ended up joining traditional medical graduate programs sponsored by the departments of cell and neurobiology, biochemistry and molecular biology, molecular microbiology and immunology, pathology, physi-

ology and biophysics and preventive medicine.

An alliance similar to PIBBS unites neuroscientists on both campuses in the USC Neurosciences Program, which allows graduate students to pursue research interests across departmental, school and campus lines.

Stallcup says the HSC graduate programs create a focus of intellectual activity on campus. "It's a catalyst to help faculty keep up on the latest findings in their area of study, to keep in contact with colleagues about their research," he said.

Symposia designed for graduate students bring renowned speakers to campus. Journal clubs and seminars provide an arena for discussion.

"The teaching we do with graduate students forces us to be on the highest level, because not only do we have to convey the latest in biomedical research, but also how students can participate in creating that knowledge," he said.

Also, the campus research efforts are largely fueled by the graduate students, who devote years to a project in collaboration with their mentor.

The terms of the collaboration, and the balance is struck between guidance and independence on the Ph.D. projects varies from lab to lab.

"In a smaller lab, you may get more personal attention from the faculty member," said Jean Teng, a second-year biochemistry student training with cancer researcher Peter Laird, assistant professor of surgery at the Norris. "In a bigger lab you may get left alone more to figure things out," she said.

Whether that is a good or a bad thing varies according to each student, and is something that faculty often respond to, Soifer said. "The faculty recognize that everyone is an individual...and really go out of their way to support you."

Faculty benefit from the increasing independence of the graduate students.

"What you hope is that by the end of the training period students can think up angles and insights for the project on their own. In that way, a faculty member gets the power of another brain applied to a project," Stallcup said.

"Mentors matter," said Rebecca Nelson, who is "very close" to completing requirements for her Ph.D. degree, working with Leslie Bernstein, professor of preventive medicine. "The more they make you work, the more they challenge you, the more equipped you will be to go out on your own."

The appeal of running her own research studies is what led Nelson, who has already received her first job offer, to pursue a Ph.D. "You can't really do independent projects or compete for grants without one."

—Eva Emerson

## Nurse practitioner wins \$104,000 grant to combat teen smoking

Karla Parsons, a 1998 graduate of USC's Family Nurse Practitioner master's program, recently won a \$104,000 grant from the state of California to battle teen smoking in her home community of Santa Catalina Island.

As project manager, Parsons will work closely with USC administrative staff at Avalon Municipal Hospital and Clinic to curb smoking among the island's roughly 300 teenagers. The California Health and Human Resources Tobacco Control Program awarded the grant, but the actual program will be all local.

"This is really a grassroots project," Parsons said. She became interested in tobacco control while working on an independent study project with Andy Johnson, director of the Institute for Health Promotion and Disease Prevention Research.

She learned that the state wanted to extend anti-smoking efforts to Santa Catalina Island, a rural island community of 3,500 people about 26 miles off the coast of Los Angeles County. The problem: No one had taken the time to draft a viable plan to reach Santa Catalina teens.

Parsons, who was raised on the island, had a



Karla Parsons

personal interest in the problem and—coincidentally—needed a research project to complete her nursing degree.

"It just all fell into place beautifully," Parsons said.

Working with her instructor and research men-

tor, Maryalice Jordan-Marsh, assistant chair of USC's nursing program, Parsons drafted ambitious anti-smoking concepts and strategies she believed would resonate with her fellow islanders.

Parsons solicited the help of Kiki Nocella and Leah Tang, USC's administrative team at Avalon Medical Center. Avalon nurse Santa Dominguez drafted a budget and goals. And USC grant writer Steven Spade put the final touches on Parson's proposal.

Parsons is looking forward to a year working to improve the health of her neighbors.

She said while Catalina does not have a glut of cigarette billboards to deal with, teens on the island are still bombarded by media images—and promotions by tobacco companies that sponsor events on the island.

Now, Parsons can counter with an anti-smoking effort.

"It's neat," Jordan-Marsh said of Parson's program. "What they're trying to do is curb teen smoking where it exists and discourage it from starting."

—Phil Davis

## HSC Weekly

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# American Psychiatric Assn. honors USC professor for advocacy on behalf of mentally ill

H. Richard Lamb, professor of psychiatry, is being honored by the American Psychiatric Association with the Arnold L. van Ameringen Award in Psychiatric Rehabilitation.

The annual award recognizes advocacy on behalf of people with severe mental illness, noteworthy contributions in research and scholarship and innovative approaches to development of a wide variety of psychiatric rehabilitation programs.

Lamb received his medical degree and psychiatric residency training from Yale University. He was director of psychiatric rehabilitation services for San Mateo County Mental Health Services from

1964 to 1976.

In the early 1970s he was the first to document the plight of persons who had spent many years in state hospitals and were residing in substandard living situations in the community.

He came to USC in 1976 as a professor. In 1979 he created and became editor-and-chief of his quarterly journal *New Directions for Mental Health Services*, of which there are now 78 issues in print. That same year he contributed to the founding of the National



H. Richard Lamb

Alliance for the Mentally Ill.

In the early 1980s Lamb turned his attention to the plight of the mentally ill in jail, prompting a long series of studies, articles and presentations on the subject. He has served in various positions for the American Psychiatric Association including chair of the Task Force on the Homeless Mentally Ill in 1983-84.

Lamb has published six books, more than 100 peer reviewed articles and 40 book chapters.

He was nominated for the award by William Arroyo, assistant professor of psychiatry and president of the Southern California Psychiatric Society.

In the nomination letter Arroyo states, "Clearly Dr. Lamb has made an enormous contribution to the community treatment and psychiatric rehabilitation of persons with chronic and severe mental illness. He has played a crucial role in calling attention to the need for more and better services for this population and has had a tremendous influence on defining and developing the principles and practice of psychiatric rehabilitation."

—Mary Ellen Stumpf

## Faculty Center celebrates anniversary with blast from past: 1978 prices

The Edmondson Faculty Center will celebrate the birth of an idea on Sept. 16, 17 and 18.

It has been 20 years since the concept of building a faculty center on the Health Sciences Campus originated. The celebratory event has been dubbed "EFC-20."

The idea of creating a faculty center was brought to the Medical Faculty Assembly in early 1978 by John W. Parker, professor of pathology. He was subsequently appointed by the Assembly to chair a committee to conduct a feasibility study on the concept and eventually lead the fundraising and development efforts to build the center.

The project was financed with contributions from Dr. and Mrs. Hugh Edmondson; the medical school faculty and senior staff; Joseph P. Van der Meulen, vice president for health affairs; the Medical Faculty Wives; the Professional Staff Association of the LAC+USC Medical Center, and the deans of the schools of pharmacy and medicine — plus a loan from the University.

In addition, more than 524 charter memberships were sold for \$50 each. The price included the member's name inscribed on a plaque in the entry way of the Faculty Center.

In 1982, the main dining room and

lounge at what was named the Dr. and Mrs. Hugh Edmondson Faculty Center (EFC) were opened in the Seaver Building. Private dining rooms and new restroom facilities were completed in 1985. EFC repaid the University's loan in 1987.

Parker, who currently serves as the Faculty Center president, said at the 1982 opening that the Faculty Center would provide "a facility where faculty and staff may meet in a collegial atmosphere to enjoy both professional and social contacts . . . a location where individuals from various health sciences specialties and disciplines will be able to meet and exchange ideas and

where young faculty members will have the daily opportunity to associate informally with senior members of the faculty and staff. The resulting cross-pollination of knowledge, the broadening of contacts and acquaintances and the generally greater sense of community should enhance significantly the quality of professional life on the Health Sciences Campus."

The Center seats 75 in the main dining room and 15 in each of the two private dining rooms.

Membership is open to all USC Health Sciences faculty, including part time and voluntary faculty, alumni, and senior level staff (grade G or

above). The Center is open daily for lunch and is used for meetings and special events, evening seminars, and receptions, which are scheduled throughout the week and on weekends.

The Faculty Center is celebrating EFC-20 by inviting all Health Sciences faculty and staff to make reservations for lunch September 16, 17 or 18 between 11 a.m. and 3 p.m. On these three days prices on two EFC signature dishes will be rolled back to \$4.25 for the Chinese Chicken Salad and \$3.50 for the Faculty Club Sandwich.

Reservations are required and are currently being accepted at 442-1591.

—Mary Ellen Stumpf

## School of Pharmacy gets \$300,000 for renovation

Creating a charitable challenge to renovate the School of Pharmacy's teaching facilities, Josephine and William Heeres ('63) have agreed to give the school \$300,000 — with the ultimate goal of helping raise five times as much.

The gift will be used to create the

Heeres Challenge that will encourage and subsidize other donors' participation in the USC Associates, the university's premier support group, said Mary Wackerman, director of major gifts for the school.

Money raised through the challenge will pay for multimedia and computer

upgrades as well as expanded seating in two lecture halls, she said.

"We're thrilled about the gift. It will help fund our 'Tomorrow's Technology Today' program which calls for replacing the current seating in the lecture halls.

When the renovations are completed

we'll have all new desks that have wide surfaces and data ports to accommodate laptop computers," she said.

For more information on the Heeres Challenge, contact Mary Wackerman at 442-1360.

—Jon Nalick

## Etcetera

The Office of Faculty Affairs has announced plans to hold an orientation dinner for **all faculty** hired since July 1, 1997.

All new faculty are encouraged to attend the dinner, which will be held at the Edmondson Faculty Center on September 17 at 4 pm. Topics to be covered at the dinner will include the appointments and promotions process and faculty benefits.

For more information or reservations, call Sandra Mosteller, assistant dean for faculty affairs, at 442-1607.



The July issue of the *Journal of Nuclear Medicine* included a major review of therapeutic radiopharmaceuticals that highlighted work performed by **Michael Siegel**, director of nuclear medicine and professor of radiology.

The article listed LAC+USC Medical Center as one of the 10 "key research institutions" in therapeutic radiopharmaceuticals in the nation. Research here includes studies on possible treatments for rheumatoid arthritis and hemophilia using a radioactive isotope of phosphorus.



Steve Mahanna

## Red Ribbon Day

From left, Clive Taylor, senior associate dean for academic affairs, and Donna Poole, director of multidiscipline teaching facility, share a laugh as Dwight Warren, associate dean for curriculum, prepares to cut the ribbon for the newly renovated lecture hall, McKibben 149.

# Pew Scholars Program invites applicants

The Pew Scholars Program in Biomedical Sciences is accepting applications for a four-year, \$200,000 grant for research in basic and clinical sciences.

The program rewards outstanding young investigators pursuing advances in human health with \$50,000 a year for four years.

The funds may be used for personnel, equipment, supplies or travel directly related to advances in research or the scholar's career. No more than \$10,000 can be used for the recipient's salary or fringe benefits.

Applicants must be junior members of the faculty who will have been at the university less than three years as of July 1, 1999.

Individuals with less than three years experience, but who have advanced enough to receive the title of associate professor — or its equivalent — are not eligible for the program. Pew Scholars may not be funded by a similar private trust during the first two years of the scholarship.

Completed applications should be submitted to Richard Lolley, associate dean of research, on or before Oct. 14.

A copy of a Proposal Approval Record (PAR) should be attached to the application. A copy is available at [www.usc.edu/dept/contracts/par.html](http://www.usc.edu/dept/contracts/par.html).

For more information on guidelines, call the Office of Development at 442-2358. Scientific or academic questions should be directed to Lolley at 442-1607.

Finalists will be reviewed by Pew Charitable Trusts. The scholarship recipient will be announced in May 1999.

—Phil Davis



Authors Faye and Jonathan Kellerman recently hosted a reception for the Children's Circle of Care. The event recognized the contributions of the Children's Center for Cancer and Blood Diseases and the division of General Pediatrics at CHLA. Jonathon Kellerman, shown at left, describes his prized guitar collection to visitor William Goldstein. Kellerman pioneered the psycho-social treatment program for children with cancer at Childrens Hospital Los Angeles.

## Calendar

### Friday, Sept. 11

3 p.m. School of Medicine Faculty Teaching Awards in Conjunction with the Class of 2002 White Coat Ceremony. Mayer Aud. Info: 442-2541

### Saturday, Sept. 12

3 p.m. Circle of Hope. "Spiritual Support for People Living with HIV/AIDS, Cancer or Dealing with Grief or Imprisonment," Sister Nancy Bartasavich, USC. St. Camillus Chapel, 1911 Zonal Ave. Info: 225-4461

### Monday, Sept. 14

Noon. "LDL Disorders – Past and Future: A Case by Case Analysis," Randolph Linde, Stanford Univ. Univ. Hospital, Salerni Room A & B. Info: 442-2960

### Tuesday, Sept. 15

8 a.m. "Issues of Laboratory Compliance," Peter Nichols, USC. GNH 1645. Info: 226-7151

9 a.m. New Staff Orientation, KAM 308. Info: 442-1010

Noon. "Replication and Pathogenesis of Hepatitis C Virus: Challenges and Promises," Michael Lai, USC. Norris Tower 7<sup>th</sup> Floor Conf. Ctr. Info: 865-0800

### Wednesday, Sept. 16

10 a.m. "Evidence-Based Health Care in Action Teleconference," Pamela Corley, USC. Norris Tower 7<sup>th</sup> Floor Conf. Ctr. Info: 442-1125

Noon. The Institute for Genetic Medicine Distinguished Speaker Seminar Series. "From Disease Mutations Towards Molecular Pathogenesis of Human Disease: Examples of Finnish Disease Heritage," Leena Peltonen, UCLA. CSC 250. Info: 442-1144

Noon. Cell and Neurobiology Seminar. "Morphological Localization of Dopaminergic D2 Receptors in Mammalian Basal Ganglia," Robin Fisher, UCLA. AHC Aud., Room 102. Info: 442-2116

5:30 p.m. Biokinesiology and Physical Therapy Seminar Series. "Category Learning in Amnesia," Barbara Knowlton, UCLA. CHP G15. Info: 442-2900

### Thursday, Sept. 17

2 p.m. "Androgen Receptor Structure and Function in Breast and Prostate Cancer," Wayne Tilley, Flinders Cancer Center, Australia. Norris Tower 7<sup>th</sup> Floor Conf. Ctr. Info: 442-1145

### Friday, Sept. 18

11 a.m. "MDL Modulation of Refractory Acute Myeloid Leukemia," Ranjana Adrani, Stanford Univ. GNH 7441. Info: 865-3913

Noon. "Raf/ERK Pathway-Mediated Gene Regulation," David Ann, USC. PSC 104. Info: 442-2860

### Saturday, Sept. 19

3 p.m. Circle of Hope. "Spiritual Support for People Living with HIV/AIDS, Cancer or Dealing with Grief or Imprisonment," Sister Nancy Bartasavich, USC. St. Camillus Chapel, 1911 Zonal Ave. Info: 225-4461

### Monday, Sept. 21

Noon. "The Overactive Bladder: Solutions to an Urgent Problem," John Klutke, USC. Univ. Hospital, Salerni Room A & B. Info: 442-2960

### Tuesday, Sept. 22

9 a.m. New Staff Orientation, KAM 308. Info: 442-1010

Noon. "Genetics of Tumorigenesis & Tumor Response in Gastrointestinal Cancer," Peter Danenberg, USC. Norris Tower 7<sup>th</sup> Floor Conf. Ctr. Info: 865-0800

12:15 p.m. Department of Psychiatry. "Mental Health Law Review and Update," Timothy Botello, USC. Hoffman Hall, Hastings Aud. Info: (626) 457-4180

### Wednesday, Sept. 23

Noon. Cell and Neurobiology Seminar. "Early Events in Skin Appendage Formation," Cheng-Ming Chuong, USC. AHC Aud., Room 102. Info: 442-2116

### Thursday, Sept. 24

Noon. "Prognostic Indicators in Colon Cancer," Heinz-Josef Lenz, USC. AHC Aud. Room 102. Info: 442-3109

Noon. Health, Behavior and Aging Colloquium Series. "Consequences of Managed Care for Minority Elderly," Stephen Wallace, UCLA. Andrus Gerontology Center Room 224. Info: 740-8242

### Saturday, Sept. 26

3 p.m. Circle of Hope. "Spiritual Support for People Living with HIV/AIDS, Cancer or Dealing with Grief or Imprisonment," Sister Nancy Bartasavich, USC. St. Camillus Chapel, 1911 Zonal Ave. Info: 225-4461

### Monday, Sept. 28

Noon. "Depression in the Elderly," Loren Lipson, USC. Univ. Hospital, Salerni Room A & B. Info: 442-2960

Noon. "BMP Signaling Pathways in Skeletal Development," Karen Lyons, UCLA. Norris Tower 7<sup>th</sup> Floor Conf. Ctr. Info: 442-1145

### Tuesday, Sept. 29

9 a.m. New Staff Orientation, KAM 308. Info: 442-1010

Noon. "Maternal Use of Prenatal Vitamins and Risk of Childhood Brain Tumors: Results from an International Study," Susan Preston-Martin, USC. Norris Tower 7<sup>th</sup> Floor Conf. Ctr. Info: 865-0800

12:15 p.m. Department of Psychiatry. "The Genetics of Schizophrenia: An Update," Douglas Levinson, Allegheny Univ. Hoffman Hall, Hastings Aud. Info: (626) 457-4180

### Wednesday, Sept. 30

Noon. Cell and Neurobiology Seminar. "Agrin Expression in the Brain: Who Needs It?" Martin Smith, UCL. AHC Aud., Room 102. Info: 442-2116

### Thursday, Oct. 1

Noon. "Epidemiology of Hepatocellular Carcinoma," Mimi Yu, USC. AHC Aud., Room 102. Info: 442-3109

### Saturday, Oct. 3

3 p.m. Circle of Hope. "Spiritual Support for People Living with HIV/AIDS, Cancer or Dealing with Grief or Imprisonment," Sister Nancy Bartasavich, USC. St. Camillus Chapel, 1911 Zonal Ave. Info: 225-4461

### Tuesday, Oct. 6

9 a.m. New Staff Orientation, KAM 308. Info: 442-1010

### Wednesday, Oct. 7

Noon. Cell and Neurobiology Seminar. "Molecular Mechanism of Visual Plasticity and the Study of Visual Diseases in Ani-

Notice: Deadline for calendar submission is 4 p.m. Tuesday to be considered for that week's issue. Please note that timely submission does not guarantee an item will be printed. Send calendar items to *HSC Weekly*, DEI 2510 or fax to 442-2832, or e-mail to [hscwkly@hsc.usc.edu](mailto:hscwkly@hsc.usc.edu). *Entries must include day, date, time, title of talk, first and last name of speaker, affiliation of speaker, location and a phone number for information.*

mals," Silvia Reid, UCLA. AHC Aud., Room 102. Info: 442-2116

### Thursday, Oct. 8

Noon. Health, Behavior and Aging Colloquium Series. "Innovations on the Information Super Highway in Health, Behavior, and Aging," Carl Renold, USC. Andrus Gerontology Center. Info: 740-8242

### Saturday, Oct. 10

3 p.m. Circle of Hope. "Spiritual Support for People Living with HIV/AIDS, Cancer or Dealing with Grief or Imprisonment," Sister Nancy Bartasavich, USC. St. Camillus Chapel, 1911 Zonal Ave. Info: 225-4461

### Tuesday, Oct. 13

9 a.m. New Staff Orientation, KAM 308. Info: 442-1010

### Wednesday, Oct. 14

Noon. Cell and Neurobiology Seminar. "The Role of Oxidative Stress and Apoptosis in Neuronal Cell Death," Julie Andersen, USC. AHC Aud., Room 102. Info: 442-2116

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