

News Feb. 8 – March 11, 2005

February 8, 2005

Washington University's Cabassa Presents "Hispanic Immigrants' Intentions to Seek Depression Care" Colloquium

Doctoral candidate Leopoldo Cabassa from the George Warren Brown School of Social Work at Washington University in St. Louis presented his preliminary findings from his NIMH-funded study and dissertation, "Hispanic Immigrants' Intentions to Seek Depression Care" at the Hamovitch Research Center.

Go to article:

<http://www.usc.edu/dept/socialwork/news/item.php?id=55>

Demystifying genomics opens field to under-represented minority students and undergrads

Genomic science is still new enough that many people don't have a clear idea of what the interdisciplinary field is all about. But what is clear, according to University Professor **Michael Waterman**, a computational biologist and director of USC College's Center for Excellence in Genomic Sciences (CEGS), is just how important the field will become in the coming decades.

Go to article:

http://www.usc.edu/schools/college/news/2005_february/cegs

February 10, 2005

Aranda To Present Mental Health Issues in Elderly Latinos at California Policy Institute on Health

The National Association of Latino Elected & Appointed Officials (NALEO) Educational Fund has invited Associate Professor **Maria Aranda**, Ph.D., to be a presenter for the "Latino Mental Health: Youth, Women, and the Elderly" session of the California Policy Institute on Health: Mental Health and Substance Abuse conference on Feb. 12 in Palm Springs, Calif.

Go to article:

<http://www.usc.edu/dept/socialwork/news/item.php?id=56>

February 11, 2005

Arias lauded for work on women's health

The U.S. House of Representatives, the California State Assembly and the County of Los Angeles have honored **Raquel D. Arias**, Keck School of Medicine associate professor of obstetrics and gynecology and associate dean for women, for her promotion of women's health.

Go to article:

<http://uscnews.usc.edu/hscweekly/detail.php?recordnum=10985>

The topic was failure, but the symposium was a success

More than 450 health care providers attended the USC Heart Failure Symposium on Jan. 29 at the Los Angeles Biltmore Hotel. "Heart Failure 2005—An Update on Therapy" included presentations by USC faculty including **Uri Elkayam**, director of the Heart Failure Program, who discussed the relationship between heart failure and kidney failure, and spoke about a new heart failure treatment for African American patients. Other Keck School speakers included **Leslie Saxon**, director of USC Electrophysiology, **Shelly Shapiro**, director of the Pulmonary Hypertension Program, and **Mark Cunningham** of the Department of Cardiothoracic surgery.

Go to article:
<http://uscnews.usc.edu/hscweekly/detail.php?recordnum=10989>

February 14, 2005

Cardiologists praise implant coverage

The government's coverage of implantable defibrillators – a move likely to save thousands of lives a year – draws the praise of USC cardiologists. Until now, many patients have been unable to afford the devices.

Go to article:
<http://www.usc.edu/uscnews/stories/10977.html>

February 16, 2005

Survey finds U.S. companies, institutions taking steps to protect their cyberspace

In just two years, Americans businesses and institutions have gone from a vague awareness to a state of high alert about protecting the nation's information network and are taking a range of steps to secure it, according to a survey by the Institute for Critical Information Infrastructure Protection (ICIIP) at the Marshall School of Business, University of Southern California. The ICIIP surveyed a wide spectrum of more than 90 organizations including trade associations, large, multi-national corporations, small, owner-operated businesses, academic institutions and professional societies about steps taken in the past two years to protect their cyberspace.

Go to article:
http://www.marshall.usc.edu/Web/News.cfm?doc_id=6862

February 18, 2005

Patient care enters digital era as part of \$10 million system to streamline service

As part of a \$10 million system that went online in July 2004, USC physicians can now review their patients' medical images within minutes after the scans are completed.

Go to article:
<http://uscnews.usc.edu/hscweekly/detail.php?recordnum=11033>

Violence Intervention Program opens new learning center for abused children

Children now have another safe refuge in which to study and learn in East Los Angeles: the Sanders Family Foundation Education Center.

The LAC+USC Violence Intervention Program, or VIP, celebrated the opening of the Sanders Family Foundation Education Center, nestled within the VIP's S. Mark Taper Foundation Family Advocacy Center, on Feb. 11.

Go to article:

<http://uscnews.usc.edu/hscweekly/detail.php?recordnum=11034>

USC president says university must redouble efforts to excel

USC President **Steven Sample** delivered his annual address to the Health Sciences Campus on Feb. 16, calling on faculty members to renew their commitment to propelling USC into the ranks of the nation's elite private research universities.

Go to article:

<http://uscnews.usc.edu/hscweekly/detail.php?recordnum=11035>

February 24, 2005

Davis school alumna appointed assistant secretary for long-term care in California

Davis School of Gerontology alumna **Sarah Sutro-Steenhausen** has been appointed by Governor Schwarzenegger to the position of Assistant Secretary for Long-Term Care. She will be working at the Health and Human Services Agency serving under Secretary Kimberly Belshe. Sutro-Steenhausen's appointment enhances a team that has placed a priority on ensuring that California moves forward thoughtfully and responsibly with implementation of the Olmstead decision.

Go to article:

<http://www.usc.edu/dept/gero/news3.shtml>

February 27, 2005

The changing realities of Asian commerce will be explored in a two-day, international trade conference at the University of Southern California.

Asia/Pacific Business Outlook 2005 will be held April 7-8 at USC's Davidson Conference Center in Los Angeles. It is the 18th annual executive conference on Asia trade and investment and is one of the longest-running conferences about the Pacific Rim economies.

Go to article:

http://www.marshall.usc.edu/Web/News.cfm?doc_id=6909

March 1, 2005

The age of pharmacy

True to a 100-year tradition of innovation and leadership, USC's top-rated School of Pharmacy challenges age-old assumptions about the proper sphere of drugs and druggists.

Go to article:

http://www.usc.edu/dept/pubrel/trojan_family/spring05/pharmacy.html

March 4, 2005

American Heart Association honors Keck School surgeon Vaughn Starnes

The American Heart Association honored USC cardiothoracic surgeon **Vaughn Starnes** on Feb. 12 at its 28th Annual Los Angeles Heart Ball at the Millennium Biltmore Hotel in downtown Los Angeles. Starnes is Hastings Distinguished Professor and chair of the Department of Cardiothoracic Surgery at the Keck School of Medicine.

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<http://uscnews.usc.edu/hscweekly/detail.php?recordnum=11050>

Zach Hall named to head California's stem cell research institute

Zach W. Hall has been appointed interim president of the California Institute for Regenerative Medicine (CIRM), the funding agency created as a result of the passage of California's Proposition 71—the stem cell initiative—last November. He also announced his resignation from the Keck School of Medicine.

Go to article:

<http://uscnews.usc.edu/hscweekly/detail.php?recordnum=11049>

Keck School answers national call to boost enrollment

Responding to an anticipated need for more physicians nationwide in the next few decades, USC leaders will increase the number of students entering the Keck School of Medicine, beginning in autumn.

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<http://uscnews.usc.edu/hscweekly/detail.php?recordnum=11051>

Keck School physician-scientist Shelly Lu honored by Western Society for Clinical Investigation

Keck School of Medicine gastroenterologist **Shelly Lu** recently received the Western Society for Clinical Investigation's Outstanding Investigator Award. Lu accepted the honor on Feb. 3 at the joint plenary session of the Western Society for Clinical Investigation, Western Association of Physicians, Western Society for Pediatric Research, and Western Section of the American Federation for Medical Research. The session was held in Carmel, Calif.

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<http://uscnews.usc.edu/hscweekly/detail.php?recordnum=11052>

Longtime Keck School surgeon to be honored by Spanish monarchs

The king and queen of Spain awarded the Gold Medal of the Mutua Foundation, the monarchs' favorite philanthropic foundation, to USC's **Juan A. Asensio** on March 3. Asensio received this honor for his work on difficult injuries and difficult problems in trauma surgery, including his work in cardiac, thoracic and vascular injuries and exsanguination research, along with trauma-prevention work and human rights advocacy.

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<http://uscnews.usc.edu/hscweekly/detail.php?recordnum=11054>

Scientists answer key enamel question

Tooth enamel – tough, durable and nontoxic – researchers from the USC School of Dentistry solve a long-standing puzzle. Amelogenin has not been well understood despite investigations stretching over many years, said **Janet Moradian-Oldak**, a professor in the USC School of Dentistry and lead author of the paper in Science.

Go to article:

<http://www.usc.edu/uscnews/stories/11063.html>

March 7, 2005

AARP responds to President Bush's 2006 budget plan

AARP shares the President's goal of fiscal discipline in the nation's budget. We believe that the federal budget should be crafted in a way that provides real help for people in need, promotes fairness across all generations and is affordable.

Go to article:

http://www.aarp.org/legislative/elections/budget_statement_2005.html

March 9, 2005

Colin Powell names MPA-health services alum to national commission

Secretary of State Colin Powell has appointed **Chris Van Gorder** (MPA '86) to the United States National Commission for the United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization (UNESCO). Van Gorder is president and CEO of Scripps Health, the non-profit, San Diego-based health care system. "I am honored to have been selected to serve on the United States National Commission for UNESCO," Van Gorder said. "I look forward to participating in the good work of this fine international institution, work which has been made all the more important by the tsunami in South Asia, where it is playing a critical role."

March 11, 2005

Urologic surgeon earns USC Presidential Medallion

Renowned urologic surgeon **Donald G. Skinner** has received the 2005 Presidential Medallion, the university's top honor.

Skinner, chair of the Catherine and Joseph Aresty Department of Urology and the Hanson-White Chair in Medical Research in the Keck School of Medicine, received the honor along with Kevin Starr, University Professor and professor of history in USC College of Letters, Arts and Sciences and the California State Librarian Emeritus, at the 24th annual Academic Honors Convocation on March 10 in Town and Gown. The two were honored along with 20 other winners of faculty and student awards.

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<http://uscnews.usc.edu/hscweekly/detail.php?recordnum=11079>

USC Academic Convocation honors HSC professor

Thomas M. Mack, professor of preventive medicine and pathology in the Keck School of Medicine and chief of the school's division of epidemiology, received a Phi Kappa Phi Faculty Recognition Award at USC's 24th annual Academic Convocation on Thursday, March 10.

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<http://uscnews.usc.edu/hscweekly/detail.php?recordnum=11079>

Keck School hosts stem cell research symposium

The passage last November of Proposition 71—the California Stem Cell Research and Cures Initiative—created the first-ever institute operated and funded by a state to support and promote stem cell research. The California Institute for Regenerative Medicine (CIRM) now has the task of disbursing \$3 billion in funding to California's research institutions over the next 10 years.

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<http://uscnews.usc.edu/hscweekly/detail.php?recordnum=11080>

USC stem cell researchers plan bid for Prop 71 funds

Making sure that USC's stem cell research sees its fair share of the \$3 billion in Prop 71 funding over the next 10 years is a major priority, said **Frank Markland Jr.**, associate dean for scientific affairs at the Keck School of Medicine. What the school has in its favor, he said, is a strong faculty, a strong recruitment program, and the strong support of Dean **Brian Henderson**.

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<http://uscnews.usc.edu/hscweekly/detail.php?recordnum=11080>

Forum sees need for greater research into vitamin E's potential benefits

Scientific experts in pharmacology, toxicology and nutrition gathered at USC on Feb. 26 to discuss the benefits and safety of vitamin E. The group concluded that promising results from existing clinical studies suggest that antioxidant supplements are safe and appear to confer a health benefit in certain individuals and that future research is needed.

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<http://uscnews.usc.edu/hscweekly/detail.php?recordnum=11082>

Brinton named provost for diversity

Roberta Diaz Brinton, professor of molecular pharmacology and toxicology at the USC School of Pharmacy, has been named vice provost for institutional diversity.

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<http://uscnews.usc.edu/hscweekly/detail.php?recordnum=11083>