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A National Telehealth Center of Excellence

UMMC was recently named a national Telehealth Center of Excellence by the Health Resources and Services Administration.

This honor is in recognition of the Center for Telehealth and their pioneering work using the internet to deliver care where it’s needed most.

5 ways to support the Jackson Free Clinic

1. Volunteer!
Be on the lookout for our weekly e-mail with a link to the sign up sheet. Contact Jessica Arnold, Hannah Miller, or Ford Franklin for more information! (jrarnold@umc.edu, hmmiller@umc.edu, jfordfranklin@umc.edu)

2. Purchase a JFC t-shirt!
Visit the JFC store at jacksonfreeclinic.org. Sorry, we’re out of scrubs this semester! Contact Patrick Wood or John Bobo for more info (rwood@umc.edu, jfbobo@umc.edu)

3. Amazon Smile
Visit smile.amazon.com and search for Jackson Free Clinic for the Homeless. 1% of each purchase you make on Amazon will be donated to JFC.

4. Add your Kroger Plus Card
Google “Kroger Community Rewards,” and click the first result. Select “Create an Account,” and add your info. Click on the link within the confirmation e-mail you receive, visit your “Account Summary” page, and add your Kroger plus card number in the “Plus Card” section. Scroll down to the “Community Rewards” section at the bottom. Our organization number is 32010 and our name is Jackson Free Clinic for the Homeless

5. Add your mom and dad’s Kroger Plus Card!
It’s not #savage if it’s for a good cause. Ok… a little #savage
Central Medical Society Physician - Student Mixer

At Rickhouse by The Manship

This year, our AMA/MSMA student chapter President and Central Medical Society Board of Trustees member, Avni Patel, organized a social event for students and key physician members of Central Medical Society (CMS). There was a time for networking with physicians and updates regarding Central Medical Society. It was a packed house with students ranging from M1 year to M3 year. This proved to be a great event to get an idea of what CMS is all about. If you missed this year’s mixer, stay tuned for more events this fall and in the spring. If you haven’t joined AMA and want to get more involved, please email our President at akpatel@umc.edu

An event coming up on behalf of our chapter that all MSMA members are invited to:

Friday, December 1: Central Medical Society Christmas Reception at The South at 7:30 PM

-Avni Patel, MS-3

Camp Kandu

Fall 2017

November 11-12, 2017

Twin Lakes Conference Center

Florence, MS

Camp Kandu - a place where kids with diabetes ‘Kandu’ anything! Join the Diabetes Foundation of Mississippi in empowering kids and making a difference in their lives! The camp is free for children with diabetes but fills up quickly. Parents, friends and family members also are encouraged to attend the camp to learn about diabetes management, including the importance of healthy meal planning, exercising regularly and monitoring blood-glucose levels.

Register by calling: 1-877-DFM-CURE or visit online: www.msdiabetes.org

CMS physician and student members

Camp Kandu

Dr. Meredith Travelstead, President-Elect of Central Medical Society & Avni Patel, Board of Trustees Member & UMMC AMA/MSMA President

Register by calling: 1-877-DFM-CURE or visit online: www.msdiabetes.org
Hello from the Evers Society!

As you all know, the Evers Society was created to strengthen medical education through the evaluation of coursework in the pre-clinical and clinical years of medical school. We also have the privilege of acknowledging faculty members who have shown outstanding teaching and dedication to students. We wanted to give you a chance to get to know some of these outstanding faculty members with short interviews to share a little more of their lives with you outside the classroom and hospital.

Our November edition is none other than Dr. Lyssa Weatherly. To be a student at UMMC means that you have heard of, learned from, or witnessed a tear shed by Dr. Weatherly. She is a patient and student advocate and an ever-present help and ray of sunshine to those around her. She graduated from Mississippi College and obtained her medical degree here at UMMC. She completed her residency training here and then served as Chief Resident. Most recently, she added to Geriatrician to that title as she completed her fellowship training. She serves as an assistant professor to the Department of Medicine and Geriatrics. She also is the advisor for the Jeanette Pullen Chapter of the Gold Humanism Society. In all of her spare time, she also assists the M1 class in Gross Anatomy each year, guest lectures in M1 and M2 courses, co-initiated a M3 bootcamp for incoming students to learn about their clinical years, and serves as mentor to many a student that comes through UMMC. We are thankful for all she does and hope you enjoy learning a bit more about her!

Television a little bit about yourself. How did you end up here at UMMC?

“I grew up in the delta, outside of Yazoo City. I attended medical school, residency, and fellowship here at the university. I absolutely love this place and its people. I chose to stay on as staff because I truly believe I couldn’t find a better group of people with whom to work or better patients anywhere else. You can be trained to be a good doctor anywhere, but UMMC made me a better person along the way.”

What do you enjoy most about teaching?

“I find a great deal of joy in being able to break something down where it’s easy to learn. I love the look on a student’s face when they have a “light bulb” moment. Selfishly, it’s my favorite part of my job because the students give me so much joy.”

Any advice to students?

“No matter who you’re watching or what you are doing, you’re learning something - either good or bad - and there is something equally powerful to learn from each. Whether it is what or who you want to emulate or what you never want to do or become, just remember there is something beneficial to learn from everyone.”

What do you like to do outside of work?

“I really love to eat - it’s my favorite hobby :) but I also like to run and spend time with my stud of a husband, Brandon, and our dog Harry.”

What is your favorite:
- Vacation: Napa
- Season: Fall
- Food: I could bathe in Amerigo Tiramisu
- Movie: Braveheart
- Sports team: Ole Miss ... does that even count?

Interesting fact people might not know?

“I worked as a chemist on explosives for the Department of Defense before medical school.”

Best experience teaching?

“I love working with the M3s and M4s on the wards - they teach me so much every time I am on service. They remind me how exciting it is to learn and what a joy and privilege it is to care for patients.”

Any funny story/last tidbit for readers?

“I have awful road rage - It’s a real struggle.”

-Meagan Henry, MS-4

Lyssa Weatherly with her husband, Brandon

Did you know?

The flu is a highly contagious virus which is spread through tiny droplets when infected persons talk, cough, or sneeze. The best preventative measure against contracting the virus that is responsible for the flu is to get your yearly vaccination! Still not convinced? Yearly flu vaccination is actually mandatory for all UMMC employees and students (with the exception of those who require special accommodations)! Vaccines are available at numerous locations on campus -- get yours!

The deadline to be vaccinated or provide proof of vaccination to Student Employee Health is: December 1, 2017

Flu Blitz 2017
School of Nursing Service Update

On October 19th, the School of Nursing class of 2019 participated in the campus-wide event Spooky-U! This event was hosted for UMMC students, family members, medical residents, faculty, and Batson children’s hospital families with all proceeds benefiting the Batson Children’s Hospital. The nursing school tent featured a superhero themed station where kids could play games, win prizes, and stock up on enough candy to last until next year’s Spooky-U! This served as a great opportunity for our student volunteers take a break from the books and enjoy our UMMC community.

With flu season upon us the School of Nursing has partnered with the Mississippi Nurses Foundation, the Mississippi State Department of Health, and the Department of Education to go into Jackson Public Schools and teach hand washing to kindergarten students. The nursing students were given class time to educate these kids through a variety of handwashing activities. These activities ranged from the storytelling of “Jeremy Germ and the Germinators” to the use of a black light to illustrate how germs spread from contact. Throughout the activities, the children consistently reviewed the steps of handwashing and demonstrated the proper technique for handwashing. At the end of the lesson, each participating teacher was given a poster with the steps of handwashing to be hung up in the classroom.

-Brady Darnell, SoN

The school of nursing donated many supplies for the victims of the recent hurricane in Texas. We were able to ship box loads of donated goods to those in need!

The senior class participated in a walk for sickle cell patients where we helped put the event together and supported the participants by handing out water, helping with registration etc.

The School of Nursing as a whole participated in a walk for Alzheimer’s and Walk for Diabetes

The Mississippi Association of Student Nurses was hosted this month in Biloxi, MS. UMMC students and faculty attended this event to help recognize our many programs and faculty.

-Anna McLain, SoN
The Truth about Islam
Presented by Dr. Tarif Bakdash

Focusing on the youngest of the Abrahamic traditions in faith, this lecture aims to take a closer look at Islam—its basic principles and tenets and how it relates to healthcare. This lecture will be the third in a series of four lectures featuring the Abrahamic traditions.

Wednesday,
November 8, 2017
12:00 p.m.
R153
The Research Wing

*Lunch will be provided to the first 50 attendees.

Dr. Tarif Bakdash, M.D., MHSc,
MEHP Fellow, FAAN
Associate Professor
Pediatric Neurology
The University of Mississippi Medical Center
Jackson, MS 39216

Sponsored by the
UMMC Center for Bioethics and Medical Humanities
UMMC Office of Diversity and Inclusion
UMMC Faith Forum

ASB Blood Drive

Friday, November 10
10 a.m. - 4 p.m.
Student Union Gym

One lucky donor will win free parking 11/13 -12/8!

Donors will receive a T-shirt. Please bring ID.

MBS suggests that all donors eat at least four hours within giving blood and drink plenty of fluids prior to and after making a donation.

(888) 90-BLOOD / mbblood.com

Donors can now check their overall cholesterol on their MBSConnect Account. Also follow us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/givelive

(please note: T-shirt design is subject to change.)

Now you can download the free MBS App!
National Philanthropy Day is celebrated annually on November 15, and the UMMC Associated Student Body endeavors to establish this day as an occasion to celebrate philanthropy, Φιλανθρωπία, which in the ancient Greek φιλανθρωπία literally translates to mean “love to mankind.” We aim to express our love to mankind not only on this day through facilitating panel discussions on service-oriented leadership but also every day through modeling service by engaging in community outreach projects and leading others by encouraging them to embrace diversity and promote inclusive environments for all people.

What?: Please adopt at least 1 box and/or provide cost of shipment. Options include 4 boxes for a male (age 2-4), 4 boxes for a female (age 2-4), 3 boxes for a male (age 5-9), 3 boxes for a female (age 5-9), 3 boxes for a male (age 10-14), and 3 boxes for a female (age 10-14). The cost of shipping is $9 per box or $180 total.

When?: Supplies and money due by Friday, November 17, @ Noon

Where?: Pick up your box(es) in room A102 in the SON and return them to the same location after packing. Please DO NOT seal the boxes.

Christmas time is quickly approaching and along with this special season comes a lot of need. Operation Christmas Child is a way to give to those who are less fortunate than us. Operation Christmas Child involves providing items that other kids in developing countries cannot afford or [to which they] do not have access.

Sponsored By:
The Associated Student Body
Office of Diversity & Inclusion

Supplies Requested
Toys: stuffed animals, coloring books, crayons, dolls, jump rope, paddle balls, slinkies, dominoes, yoyos, play dough/cookie cutters, puzzles, balls, beach balls, soccer balls, harmonicas, cards, cards, spinner toys, toy tools, marbles, etc. Clothing: shirts, socks, capo, bandannas, gloves, shorts, flip flops, hats, scarves, etc. Clothing accessories: jewelry, barrettes, combs, hairbands, hairclips, lip balm, sunglasses, etc. School supplies: notebooks, paper, pens, pencils, calculators, markers, colored pencils, notepads, erasers, pencil sharpeners, scissors, highlighters, etc. Hygiene supplies: toothbrushes, soap, washcloths, dental floss, small towels, deodorant, hairbrush, combs, etc. Other girl supplies: manicure set, sewing kits, fun straws, diaries, journals, tote bags, handkerchiefs, garden tools, etc. Other boy supplies: stickers, playing cards, paint sets, activity cards, collapsible cups, fun straws, camping utensils, tool sets, flashlights/batteries, balloons, etc.

Please contact
S. Reed Thames (SON4) for additional information:
srthames@umc.edu

School Cup points apply to this philanthropy event.
ASB Clothing Drive

Supporting

We Will Go Ministries

We Will Go Ministries is a non-profit organization founded by David and Amy Lancaster who began traveling on mission trips to foreign countries in 2000, and now they have dedicated their lives to the mission here in Jackson, Mississippi, to serve those who are most in need.

Please join the UMMC Associated Student Body in helping the Lancasters in their mission.

When?: Friday, November 3 (starts @ 4:00 p.m.) –

Friday, November 17, 2017 (ends @ 4:00 p.m.)

Where?: 7 locations on campus

Bin Locations by School

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bin</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SOD</td>
<td>1st floor near student lounge</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SGHS</td>
<td>Graduate School Office (N146)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SHRP</td>
<td>Front desk in SHRP building</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOM</td>
<td>Student Break Room in new SOM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SON</td>
<td>Beside doors to main lecture hall</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOPharm</td>
<td>Break area on north end</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOPH</td>
<td>Graduate School Office (N146)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Employees</td>
<td>old SOD portrait hallway</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Supplies Requested

Clothing & other items:
- New socks and new underwear for all ages and all sizes, good walking shoes for all ages and all sizes, toiletries, sleeping bags, etc.

Food items:
- Pop top meaty soups, canned fruits and veggies, bottled waters, healthy snacks such as granola bars, small pop top fruits, and peanut butter crackers, etc.

Please contact ASB Philanthropy Co-Chairs for additional information:
- Edgar R. Meyer
  emeyer@umc.edu
- Emily K. Theriot
  etheriot@umc.edu

School Cup points apply to this philanthropy event.
On October 17th, third-year students from the School of Pharmacy teamed up with the School of Nursing to immunize UMMC students, faculty, & staff during the annual Flu Blitz. The event took place in a wide variety of settings, with tables set up in various areas of the UMMC Hospital, Medical Mall, Student Union, and business offices around campus. Pharmacy and nursing students were able to put their vaccine administration technique to practice, giving over 1,000 vaccinations during the event and providing easy access to the flu shot for the UMMC campus.

Roommate Wanted!
- Looking for a 3rd female roommate beginning in January 2018
- House is 3 BR/2 Bath, located in a quiet, gated neighborhood in Flowood, MS
- $650/month including all utilities
- Amenities include: Shared garage space, washer and dryer, spacious living area and kitchen, plenty of study space, outdoor deck with grill and fireplace, <1 mile to Dogwood Festival Market
- Approx. 10-15 minute drive to UMMC campus (<8 miles)
- Please contact Sarah Farmer for more information!
  - 662-871-0778
  - sefarmer@umc.edu
American Society of Anesthesiologists Annual Conference

This year, Avni Patel, Anesthesiology Interest Group President, attended the American Society of Anesthesiologists (ASA) Annual Conference in Boston, MA both as an oral presenter and served as our UMMC Medical Student Delegate. Several months ago, Avni submitted a proposal for a grant to the ASA Committee on Professional Diversity as a part of a mentor-mentee research program. She was accepted for the grant and was invited to present her proposal in Boston. Dr. John Bethea, Immediate Past President of the Mississippi Society of Anesthesiologists and Associate Professor of the Department of Anesthesiology here at UMMC, served as Avni’s mentor. The objective of their grant proposal is to coordinate an event to foster political awareness and education among medical students in learning about policy, advocacy, and leadership potential because it affects everyday practice. They plan to pilot the program here at UMMC targeting medical students in all of the SOM classes in hopes that this project can be incorporated in the SOM curriculum and serve as a prototype to be adopted by other medical schools across the country.

- Avni Patel, MS-3
I was recently sitting in a meeting where we were discussing the importance of wellness and my attending mentioned the importance of designating the difference between thriving in medical school and surviving. As I was taking notes, the words thriving and surviving kept resonating deeply within me. I began reflecting and realized that there have been many instances where my “survival instincts” have been triggered and I have just been trying to get by and make it out of many situations unscathed. I also began to think about a conversation that I was having with a dear friend and she stated that she too had entered survival mode during a difficult M3 rotation and that was all that she knew to do in order to stay afloat and healthy. Have you ever found yourself just merely going through the motions, being present and not trying to be seen, but not actually taking the time to embrace your situation and bloom where you were planted? If we are honest, then we can all answer yes to these questions. I would like to take some time and journey through Scripture and look at a person who not only embraced the various situations that he encountered but also took each opportunity to bloom and sow seeds when God planted him in new places.

The story begins in Genesis 37 where Joseph is thrown into a pit and sold into slavery by his brothers due to their jealousy. Throughout Joseph’s journey from the pit to Potiphar’s house, he finds favor with his master and with God’s help, he becomes Potiphar’s personal assistant. The plot begins to thicken when Joseph is thrown in jail over a malicious lie told by Potiphar’s wife but as he is serving time in prison, God continues to not only remain with Joseph but also gives him favor with the guards. Joseph is given the opportunity to become second in command of Egypt! While Joseph was in this position, he prepared Egypt for the seven years of abundance as well as the seven years of famine and ultimately saved the entire nation as well as his family!

You may wonder why I chose to focus on Joseph and how his story applies to us thousands of years later. As you can see, Joseph was placed in several situations and places that were not ideal but each time, he thrived! Whether he was in Potiphar’s house or in prison, Joseph used his God-given skills and talents to bloom where he was planted. With these things in mind, how do we move forward and begin to transition from survival mode to thriving? Upon examination of Scripture, I realized a common theme throughout Joseph’s journey. Although he faced many hardships, it was repeated many times that God granted Joseph favor and that the Lord was with Joseph. In closing, I believe that we need to take the time to realize that all of our situations won’t be ideal but we need to realize that God is with us. He not only goes before us, but He is also standing alongside us, and granting us favor along the way. As we are in the midst of another academic year, won’t you join me as we thrive instead of merely survive?

Blessings,
Britney Williams, MS-4

The new school year is in full swing. Many students have experienced the taste of professional school for the first time. New experiences can be fun and exciting, but they can also make us anxious at the same time. Such new chapters in our lives can be, in a way, paradoxes that seem to comprise conflicting emotions, thoughts, and actions. I myself have experienced these moments with the first day of high school, the first day of college, the first day of teaching school, and, of course, the first day of graduate school. Perhaps, you too have had similar moments.

Sometimes, when I become very anxious, I try to calm my mind by talking to friends or family members, by engaging in hobbies, or by reflecting on inspirational or contemplative passages of text in various forms of genre. In our nation today where people often hesitate to express their beliefs peaceably and receive peace in return, we see again yet another paradox. We have the freedom to practice any faith we choose, yet we often are too afraid to express our beliefs for fear of offending others. My scientific community has taught me that I can collegiately express my beliefs in a scholarly setting, find disagreement in others, but still have respect for those who do not agree with me while simultaneously feeling the respect they maintain for me. How wonderful it is to have friends and colleagues whom you can love even at moments of disagreement! There is often great tension in the realm of discourse and debate, but there can also be great joy and exhilaration. As someone with such a diverse array of friends, I can truly say that I love them and that I appreciate all of the conversations we have held. Even when we cannot agree, we always agree to disagree and remain close in friendship.

Richard Rohr, and I have taken great insight from his discussion on the themes of faith and belief and “paradox.” Fr. Rohr writes; “If you are to live on this earth, you cannot bypass the necessary tension of holding contraries and inconsistencies together. Daily ordinary experiences will teach you nonduality in a way that is no longer theoretical or abstract. It becomes obvious in everything and everybody, every idea and every event, almost hidden in plain sight. Everything created is mortal and limited and, if you look long enough, paradoxical. By paradox, I mean something that initially looks contradictory or impossible, but in a different frame or at a different level is in fact deeply true. I am talking about just holding the tension, not necessarily finding a resolution or closure to paradox. We must agree to live without resolution, at least for a while. This is very difficult for most people, largely because we have not been taught how to do this mentally or emotionally. We didn’t know we could—or even should. As Paul seems to say (and I paraphrase), hope would not be the virtue that it is if it led us to quick closure and we did not have to ‘wait for it with patience’ (Romans 8:24-25).

I think this ‘opening and holding pattern’ is the very name and description of faith. Unfortunately, faith largely became believing things to be true or false (intellectual assent) instead of giving people concrete practices so they could themselves know how to open up (faith), hold on (hope), and allow an infilling from another source (love).

We share a contemplative practice each Saturday in the Daily Meditations so that these virtues can be ‘practiced.’ 

Edgar Meyer, 3rd Year Graduate Student in the clinical anatomy program

bnwilliams2@umc.edu
But God gives us real practices every day of our lives, such as irritable people, long stop lights, and our own inconsistencies.

We must move from a belief-based spirituality to a practice-based spirituality, or little will change in religion, politics, and the world. We will merely continue to argue about what we are supposed to believe and who the unbelievers are. Consider the wisdom taught in the ancient aphorisms and stories of Hinduism, Confucianism, Taoism, Sufism, Zen, Buddhism, the Jewish prophets, Jesus, Paul, and the Desert Fathers and Mothers. Much of their teaching feels abstruse, naïve, or irrelevant to us today. With only rational, dualistic thought available to most of us, we are unable to decipher koans, proverbs, and parables. For example, the man coming at the last hour receives the same reward as the one who worked all day. This makes no sense at all to a dualistic mind or to anyone who rushes toward a quick judgment. So we reject the story and merely forget that Jesus said it. We need contemplative practices to loosen our egoic attachment to certainty and retrain our minds to understand the wisdom of paradox.*

Honestly, Father Rohr writes so eloquently that I feel paraphrasing or summarizing his words would be not only a disservice to him but also to everyone who would have the opportunity to read them. How awesome it is to remain steadfast in heart and mind even in the midst of the greatest paradoxes of all: warfare and peace, suffering and solace, and hatred and love! We may always sit and ponder how tragedies and violence can occur or, perhaps, how a higher power could allow such instances to happen. But, in reality, the greatest acts of kindness and love are those which bear the brunt of suffering willingly for others and confront the face of evil with fear and resolution at the same time. Father Rohr writes in another of his “Daily Meditations” for July 26 that “The people who hold the contradictions—and resolve them in themselves—are the saviors of the world. They are agents of transformation, reconciliation, and newness.” Let’s pray that we all can be such agents in the world today and every day.

So, when life hands us paradoxes, we can learn to find meaning in the various gradients between two opposing extremes—between pain and joy. How else could a woman be able to experience the birth of a baby without the labor pains and the thrill of holding her offspring in her arms? How else would we seize the moment in picking an unblemished rose in all of its ephemeral beauty without pricking our fingers on its thorns? How else would we visually capture the multihued color scheme of a sunset or sunrise without allowing our eyes to be burned slightly by the sun? How else will a member of Alcoholics Anonymous truly empathize with another without having had the addictions himself? How else will the professional student ever learn to save a life unless she endures the tiring and tedious rigor of study? All around us paradoxes abound. But in many of the paradoxes, we understand more fully the meaning of life, the meaning of love and passion in which the black and white of pain and joy are inseparable with shades of grey in between.

When life hands you paradoxes, perhaps you can find peace and love the next time someone wrongs you or the next time someone misjudges you. After all, Christ did.

Peace be with you all,
Edgar R. Meyer
3rd-Year Graduate Student
Doctoral Candidate
Clinical Anatomy Program
Hello, everyone,

The weather is getting cooler, and so are we in the Graduate School. We have participated in a number of memorable walks as well as our annual Graduate Research Day this October.

Cheers,
Edgar R. Meyer
GSB President

Spooky U
Service | Grad Students | October 19, 2017
Members of the GSB and other Graduate students participated in Spooky U with a Harry Potter theme. We solemnly swear we are up to good!

Hello, y'all,

I would like to welcome all of the new students to UMMC and to welcome back all of the other friendly faces. We in the Graduate School just want to fill everyone in on what has been happening this summer.

Spooky U is an annual philanthropy event hosted by the UMMC Medical Student Family Alliance, and the proceeds benefit Mustard Seed. Children of UMMC students, faculty, and staff as well as seedsters from the Mustard Seed community visited our booth.

Have you seen these wizards?

The Graduate School Shows Representation at Several Walks During the Month of October

UMMC students from the various schools on campus participated in the Mississippi’s Walk for Diabetics (where SHRP and GON students also performed blood glucose screenings) and in the Walk to End Alzheimer’s.

Graduate Students also served along with other UMMC students at the golf tournament benefiting Blair E. Batson. October 23-29, 2017

Fellowship | Grad Students & Friends | October 14, 2017
Graduate students joined friends for a night of fun at the Mississippi State Fair.

A fair is a veritable smorgasbord!

The Graduate School Body met for their bi-annual meeting this fall. This meeting featured guest speakers Dr. Andrew Notebaert, Director of the Clinical Anatomy Program, who spoke about the importance of pedagogy in the teaching of the health sciences and two graduate students from his pedagogy course.

Pictured from left to right: Dr. Andrew Notebaert with his family, Sara Klender (2nd year Clinical Anatomy graduate student) with her cat, and Erika Guise (3rd year Physiology graduate student).

Making Strides Against Breast Cancer WALK
Service | Grad Students | October 28, 2017
The Graduate Students promoted as a Graduate Student Body philanthropy the Making Strides Against Breast Cancer Walk by joining the UMMC Cancer Institute Breast Services team.

Pretty in Pink!
The School of Graduate Studies held its annual Graduate Research Day, featuring six oral presentations delivered by postdoctoral fellows, 83 poster presentations displayed by graduate students, and an alumni luncheon where Dr. Robert Hester was honored as the Distinguished Alumnus of 2017.

A Brief History

The first annual School of Graduate Studies in the Health Sciences Research Day was held on Friday, October 26, 2007, and was sponsored by the School of Graduate Studies in the Health Sciences Alumni Chapter. The day began with a continental breakfast reception (planned for 50) in the Student Union Conference Center from 8:00 to 8:30 a.m. followed by two oral presentation sessions with six presentations in the first session and five presentations in the second session. All 120 chairs in the conference room were filled. 150 box lunches were served for the Distinguished Alumnus Lecture in R153 from 12:00 to 1:00 p.m. Dr. Luis Gabriel Navar, Chairman of the Department of Physiology at Tulane University Medical School, was the invited lecturer, and approximately 150 people attended the lecture. A dessert reception (for 100) and poster presentations in the Student Union Gym followed the lecture.

62 posters were presented by graduate students. Five of those graduate students were presented awards for the top five posters: Valeria Cucchiarelli (Biochemistry), Erin White Norcross (Microbiology), John Smith (Pharmacology), Kristin Weaver (Anatomy), and Lan Zhou (Anatomy).

From 2007 to 2012, Research Day was the forum which gave graduate students the opportunity to showcase their research. In 2013, the postdocs joined the event. Each year as part of the Research Day agenda, a former student returns to campus and is awarded the Distinguished Alumnus Award. The past recipients of the award are as follows: Dr. Luis Gabriel Navar (2007), Dr. Dennis J. O’Callaghan (2008), Dr. Douglas Lyles (2009), Dr. Robin Robinson (2010), Dr. D. Neil Granger (2011), Dr. Helen Turner (2012), Dr. Richard J. O’Callaghan (2013), Dr. David Datak (2014), Dr. A. P. “Pete” Shepherd (2015), and Dr. Kaye Bender (2016). And, of course, the 2017 recipient is Dr. Robert Hester.

—Mary Canterbury, Director of Business Operations, SGSHS

Pictured above from top to bottom: [Top] Graduate students, postdocs, and faculty gather for the postdoctoral oral presentation session. [Middle] Postdoctoral award recipients stand for their photo, pictured left to right: Dr. Matthias Krenn, Dr. Aleisha Moore, Dr. Fabio Gava, Dr. Kristen Edwards, and Dr. Edgar Torres Fernandez. Not pictured is Dr. Sadia Ashraf. [Bottom] Graduate student award recipients stand for their photo, pictured left to right: David Spencer, Xiao Zhang, and Lindsey Kuiper. Not pictured is Sydney Vita.
Now I can...
follow the path of champions

At age 17, Stevelyn Robinson of Winona was paralyzed from the neck down in a school bus crash.

And just like the late Chucky Mullins—who became a quadriplegic as an Ole Miss football player—Robinson’s motto is: Never quit!

He persevered through almost six years of therapy with Methodist Rehabilitation Center’s spinal cord injury team. And now he’s at Mullins’ alma mater, enjoying his dream to earn an Ole Miss degree.

“My long-term goal is to have my own business,” he said. Meanwhile, he has much to be proud of already.

“I was in the ICU thinking I wouldn’t be able to move at all, and now I can walk with assistance,” he said. “It’s unbelievable.”