Keck School achieves full LCME accreditation

By Bryan Schneider

The Keck School of Medicine has received the maximum eight-year full accreditation from the Liaison Committee on Medical Education (LCME), the best results achieved since a 10-year accreditation was granted in 1981. The official notification letter, dated Feb. 12 and addressed to USC President Steven B. Sample, cited many strengths and offered praise for a number of medical school programs.

The nationally recognized accrediting authority for U.S. medical education programs gave the Keck School the maximum period of accreditation based on a “full survey visit” conducted by an LCME survey team at the Keck School in November.

“The full accreditation and praise received from this important committee that sets national standards for medical schools is a testament to the quality of our medical education program and our dedicated faculty,” said Keck School Dean Carmen A. Puliafito. In the letter, Puliafito was credited with creating “an energizing institutional spirit of commitment to teaching and the educational program,” with resources from university leadership. The letter commended Puliafito for significantly increasing funding for educational leadership, infrastructure and innovation.

Education, research and community service opportunities offered through the school's proximity and affiliation with Los Angeles County-USC Medical Center, USC University Hospital, USC Norris Cancer Hospital and Children's Hospital Los Angeles were also noted in the letter.

Three additional commendations recognized:

• The medical school’s adoption of an innovative program using non-physician medical student educators as faculty members associated with each core clerkship, financed by the dean, to help provide “consistent, responsive and effective clinical student education across all sites.”

• The division of medical education as an “impressive institutional resource, providing effective early development, an institution-wide Education Innovation Meeting, and other highly effective programs such as a system-wide Residents as Teachers program, Teaching and Leadership fellowships, and a Master of Academic Medicine degree.”

• Leadership provided by the Office of Faculty Affairs and its “pervasive impact on faculty enthusiasm, career advancement and productivity in education, research and clinical care.”

Keck School Vice Dean for Medical Education Henri Ford expressed his gratitude acknowledging the importance of our medical education program, acknowledging the importance and resources we put into educating future doctors,” he said.

The LCME is sponsored

See LCME, page 7
Does music in speech equal empathy in heart?

By Carl Marziali

Some people are annoyed by up-tempo; the habit of making a sentence sound like a question. But actually, being able to change intonation in speech—as in up-tempo—may be a sign of superior empathy.

A recent study in the journal *Science* found that people who were able to change their prosody in speech tended to report high empathy. The study, published in July, involved 24 male and female volunteers. As they heard and repeated a phrase, it was recorded and analyzed. They were asked to change the intonation of the phrase “da da da da da.”

The same part of the brain lit up when the volunteers heard the phrase as when they repeated it. It is called Broca’s Area and sits about two inches above and forward of each ear. The volunteers with the most activity in Broca’s Area tended to score high on empathy measures. They also used prosody more frequently in daily speech.

It is not clear whether empathy brings about prosodic activity or whether frequent use of prosody can somehow help to develop empathy—or whether there is no cause and effect relationship either way. The study is available at http://dx.doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0088759.

Richard Bergman, professor and chair of the Department of Pathology and Biophysics, presented the 2010 Kroc Endowed Lectureship at Baylor College of Medicine in Houston on March 11. Bergman discussed insulin resistance and approaches developed in his laboratory to assess the ability of the pancreatic beta-cells to compensate for insulin resistance in normal individuals and those at risk for type 2 diabetes mellitus.

During his stay, Bergman visited a variety of laboratories at Baylor, M. D. Anderson Cancer Center, Methodist Hospital, Children’s Nutrition Center and the Molecular Sciences Institute.

 Uri Elkayam, professor of medicine and obstetrics and gynecology at the Keck School of Medicine, recently chaired the First International Congress on Cardiac Problems in Pregnancy in Valencia, Spain. The event, held in late February, attracted more than 400 physicians from 60 countries.

Other Keck School faculty attending the event included Radah Sarma, from the division of cardiology; Isaac Nuno, Department of Cardiothoracic Surgery; and Joseph Ouzzoomian, from the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology.

Anirban P. Mitra, a postdoctoral researcher associate in the Department of Pathology at the Keck School of Medicine, has been elected for a three-year term to the Associate Member Council—the main leadership body for young career scientists at the American Association for Cancer Research (AACR).

Mitra was chosen from hundreds of applicants from around the world and is the first scientist from USC to receive the honor from AACR, the oldest and largest cancer research organization in the world.

Mitra will be formally installed at the 2010 AACR Annual Meeting in April in Washington, D.C.
USC celebrates one very happy anniversary

By Tania Chatila

A growing workforce, expanded clinical services and a renowned medical staff performing innovative, breakthrough procedures are just some of the highlights of year one of USC’s acquisition of USC University Hospital and USC Norris Cancer Hospital. “Word on the street is the USC hospitals are the place to be,” said hospitals CEO Mitch Creem. “We are the exciting alternative for physicians, nurses, health care workers and patients. We are attracting the best and brightest talent, and we are creating a loyal fan base in our patients. They know our level of commitment to their care is unmatched.”

A new era in USC’s vision for an integrated academic medical center began on April 1, 2009, when the university acquired the hospitals from Tenet Healthcare Corp. in a historic $275-million deal.

At the time, USC Executive Vice President and Provost C.L. Max Nikias (who will succeed Steven B. Sample as USC president Aug. 3) said he believed the acquisition would enhance “the patient service that comes with the outstanding care provided by our Doctors of USC.” Sample and the USC Board of Trustees, which approved the deal, echoed his vision.

Now, one year later, the hospitals have experienced significant growth and have helped to solidify the USC brand of care. “Who wouldn’t want to come here for treatment?” said Bob Maney, who received a left lung transplant at the USC hospitals last year. “This whole place is perfect. USC is perfect.”

Maney isn’t alone in his sentiments. Inpatient admissions are up more than 6 percent, inpatient surgeries have increased more than 4 percent and outpatient surgeries have spiked nearly 15 percent when comparing April 2009 through February 2010 to the same period the year before.

In anticipation of this increased demand for services, administrators planned for the rapid growth of the workforce. Since April 2009, the organization has welcomed more than 620 employees to the Trojan Family. That has brought the combined hospitals’ total full-time equivalent employees to 2,121, and with 340 positions still open, that hiring trend will continue.

The hospitals have also committed a significant amount of resources to capital improvements —$40 million since the acquisition. That includes the purchasing of new, state-of-the-art equipment, revamping of the surgery infrastructure and exciting modernization projects. Some of those renovations have already been completed or are under way in the 1991 Tower of USC University Hospital, where patient rooms, family waiting rooms and nurse stations are receiving major cosmetic face-lifts.

Other significant accomplishments include:
• The opening of the 24-hour Evaluation and Treatment Center, providing a new service for existing patients who need to see their doctors after hours for post-operative issues or other concerns;
• Reorganization of the hospitals management team and physician integration into the leadership process;
• High-profile partnerships with USC Athletics and the Los Angeles Dodgers organization;
• A powerful marketing campaign launched in January that includes print and digital aids, radio spots and billboards to brand the USC hospitals, along with service line marketing for bariatric, cardiovascular surgery, and breast and prostate cancer programs;
• The welcoming of a number of new physician leaders, as well as the engagement of new and existing physicians to help expand clinical services;
• The opening of the new, beautiful Norris Inpatient Tower to care for all USC Norris Cancer Hospital inpatients. This tower includes two floors dedicated to hematology and medical oncology care and is uniquely designed to meet the growing medical and surgical needs of Norris-cancer patients.

“In so many ways, the first year for any new organization can be a critical marker of success,” Creem said. “All of our impressive achievements show how successful the USC hospitals have been in becoming a player of choice in the health care community. We’ve been able to accomplish so much in one year, and I believe that is a strong testament to our continued commitment to excellent patient care. In celebrating this anniversary, we are recognizing the dedication of our staff and physicians and the many successes still to come.”

As the hospitals move into the future, we are recognizing the dedication of our staff and physicians and the many successes still to come.”
Faculty recruitment is also planned in areas such as neurosciences, cardiology, oncology, gastrointestinal and transplant services. Other planned initiatives include:

- Development of concierge services for all patients and the launch of a new call center for patients and referring physicians;
- Implementation of information systems technology such as a new electronic medical records system and a general ledger system;
- Development of a permanent outpatient surgery center;
- Creation of satellite clinics in areas such as Pasadena that will focus on primary care and other specialties.

HOSPITALS: Services, workforce grow

Continued from page H1 their second year under USC ownership, focused planning is already under way to continue growing. More facilities upgrades are on the horizon, including planned renovations of public spaces, entryways and the USC University Hospital lobby.

A concerted effort is also in motion to reprogram the current Norris facilities for expanded outpatient services. As services continue to grow, so will the workforce. A 5 to 10 percent increase in the USC hospitals staff is projected over the next year, and aggressive efforts are under way to hire experienced part-time and full-time nurses.

USC hospitals welcome dozens of new Doctors of USC

The following physicians began practicing as part of The Doctors of USC since the hospitals acquisition. Those recruited from out of state were credentialed after receiving their California medical licenses.

Rajat Agrawal, MD: Ophthalmology
Sophoclis Alexopoulos, MD: Transplant
Arun Anam, MD: Neurological Surgery
Sedo Anwar, MD: Anesthesiology
Mohsin Aslam, MD: Urology
Andrew Bank, MD: Anesthesiology
Regina Baker, MD: Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery
Alex Baken, MD: Pulmonary and Critical Care Medicine
Josh Barner, MD: General Internal Medicine
James Bubuam, MD: Gastrointestinal and Liver Disease
Jeffrey Canales, MD: General Internal Medicine
Peet Chaudhary, MD: Hematology
Philip Cheng, MD: Radiology
Srashti Christianakis, MD: Rheumatology and Immunology
Robert Cobb, MD: Psychiatry
Ranmit Cohan, MD: Anesthesiology
Samuel Daneshmand, MD: Urology
Mihir Desai, MD: Urology
Waltas Elaine, MD: Pathology
Jane Emerson, MD: Pathology
Maria Clara Espin Escova, MD: Anesthesiology
Indeblit Egi, MD: Urology
Michael Gould, MD: Pulmonary and Critical Care Medicine
Mitchell Gross, MD: Oncology
Helen Gu, MD: Oncology
Leila Hashemi, MD: General Internal Medicine
Ji Martin Hue, MD: Ophthalmology
James Hu, MD: Oncology
Henry Huang, MD: Cardiology
Tara Humphrey, MD: Anesthesiology
Dhiraj Jeyanandarajan, MD: Neurology
Shervin Kandil, MD: Anesthesiology
May Kim, MD: Neurology
Irina Knezevic-Maramica, MD: Pathology
Susil Krook-Kim, MD: General Internal Medicine
Edward Kwon, MD: Anesthesiology
Hany Lam, MD: General Internal Medicine
Eva Meng Lee, MD: Radiology
Christopher Lee, MD: Radiology
William Lee, MD: Vascular Surgery

Elaine Lee, MD: Anesthesiology
Yvonne Lin-Liu, MD: Obstetrics and Gynecology
Yoshinori Makino, MD: Gastrointestinal and Liver Disease
Rabia Malik, MD: Family Medicine
George Matsui, MD: Radiology
Rodney McIntyre, MD: Anesthesiology
Monique Mognem, MD: Radiology
Chuck Nguyen, MD: Anesthesiology
Daniel Nguyen, MD: Anesthesiology
Daniel Oakes, MD: Orthopaedic Surgery
Amy Oren, MD: Pulmonary and Critical Care Medicine
Faith Ough, MD: Pathology
Kathleen Page, MD: Endocrinology and Diabetes
Andre Panosian, MD: Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery
Shaula Patel, MD: Anesthesiology
Douglas Price, MD: Pulmonary and Critical Care Medicine
Nina Robichaud, DO: General Internal Medicine
Catherine Rodziewicz, MD: Anesthesiology
Stephen Seagren, MD: Radiation Oncology
Michael Seldes, MD: Pathology
Stephen Sener, MD: Surgical Oncology
Azn-Shahnaznejad, MD: Obstetrics and Gynecology
Bahman Shamlos, MD: Anesthesiology
David Shavelle, MD: Cardiology
Mark Shihomi, MD: Radiology
Imran Siddiqi, MD: Pathology
Eso Sodaye, MD: Psychiatry
Chee Han Tan, MD: Ophthalmology
Amy Thomas, DO: Anesthesiology
George Lowell Torres, DO: Anesthesiology
Debashis Tripathy, MD: Oncology
Herman To, MD: Anesthesiology
Ani Tulipane, MD: Hematology
Mark Urata, DO: Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery
Helga Van Hael, MD: Cardiology
Erica Waller-Williams, MD: General Internal Medicine
Alex Wong, MD: Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery
Karen Woot, MD: Vascular Surgery
Camilo Zaks, MD: Family Medicine

Above, USC University Hospital nurse Cynthia Doma assists patient Margaret Rosales on a walk near 7-North. In the past year, additional support and resources have led to nurse retention rates that are higher at USC hospitals than the national average.
Above left, more than 120 USC employees gathered at the Rose Bowl on Oct. 3, 2009, to participate in the American Heart Association Start! Heart Walk, for which USC University Hospital was the official sponsor of the finish line. The sponsorship provided additional community visibility for the hospital’s cardiovascular services, while the USC team fostered camaraderie among employees.

Above right, USC University Hospital greeter Martin Rabotilov welcomes a patient on the first anniversary of the USC hospitals acquisition. The new service is part of efforts under way to improve the patient experience.

Left, USC Hospitals CEO Mitch Creem (far left) chats with USC Norris employees during a May 2009 event for housekeeping staff.

Inderbir S. Gill was recruited from the Cleveland Clinic to chair the Department of Urology at the Keck School of Medicine and to head the new USC Institute of Urology, which provides patient care at USC hospitals. Gill is one of dozens of physicians recruited in the last 12 months.

Highlights of a momentous year for USC hospitals

USC University Hospital nurse Marivic Adalin smacks a ball at batting practice as part of a June 2009 hospital nurses’ visit to Dodger stadium. The event, hosted by hospitals CEO Mitch Creem and chief nursing officer Ellen Whalen, was made possible by a promotional relationship that makes USC University Hospital the “Official Hospital of the Los Angeles Dodgers.”
Hospital employees sound off on being a member of the Trojan Family

It is an extreme privilege to work every day alongside very gifted and talented clinicians. Being part of a team that provides the highest quality of care, while integrating patient care, research, prevention and education. A team of clinicians, that does not give up, that holds themselves to the highest of standards.

A team that keeps the patient and their family as the primary focus as why we are here, and the reason why we come in to work each day.

Richelle Beneditto
USC Norris Cancer Hospital Supervisor, Clinical Authorization Center

Just working for a very prestigious hospital and knowing we are making a difference in someone’s life. It gives me satisfaction to know that today, I made someone hopeful for a better tomorrow.

Being a Trojan Family member means: just continue to grow, appreciate and dedicate. Working for USC is not just a job—people’s lives depend on us every day. Our family creates a foundation and structure to support those who feel like they’re in it alone.

Amelie Basconcillo
Director of Infection Control

Here in the infection control department, we interact with all the different services of the hospital. In the last year, we’ve been very excited to have the physicians so engaged with us and our work. I came here in 2006, and I saw the transition to USC ownership. I see that a lot of our employees want us to be the best and are giving 100 percent every day. I have great employees and they are high achievers who want the best outcomes for patients. This hospital has been very supportive, in terms of providing the tools we need to be the best. It’s never boring here. Every day we learn new things, new functions and new procedures. We have new technology and updated services. It’s all very exciting.

Lenton “Tony” Antonio
USC University Hospital Pulmonary Technologist

My philosophy is I have to enjoy the work I do. USC has given me the chance to do that. This hospital has given me the chance to do that. I love this place.

Oralia Aragon
USC University Hospital Clinical Educator Cardiac Telemetry

I am happy to come to work every day because of the feeling that I am part of something great. I am proud to work at USC University Hospital because of its supportive nursing team, the excellent care that is provided to its patients by all levels of the health care team...

But today, one year after the acquisition of the hospitals by USC, I can really feel the move forward. So much has been accomplished that you can’t help but get excited that we are doing great things.

We’ve hired so much staff to help us support our growth, Norris has finally moved into the new tower, we’re in the midst of a hospital face-lift for the 1991 tower, and we’re moving forward in our Magnet journey. These are great accomplishments that all lead to our goal: to become a world-class center of excellence for all the different specialties and services we offer. We can only keep moving forward, and I am proud to be part of it.

Notes of gratitude to hospitals’ staff

To the staff at USC University Hospital ICU,

We want to thank you for the care you have given to our family member who received a heart transplant last fall. Your professionalism was evident in the care he received, and it was a great comfort to us that he was getting the very best care possible. We were all very impressed and thankful for your wonderful encouragement to him and to us his family. President Obama or the queen of England could not have been treated better. Thank you again. We will forever be in your debt.

—A grateful family

To USC Hospitals CEO Mitch Green

We had met a number of times at various USC events when you handed me your card and said, “If you ever need medical assistance, please call me.” I never thought I would need medical assistance so soon, but when I did, I called your office and spoke to your assistant, Malinda Mendoza.

I would like you to know that Malinda was a great help to me. Please compliment and tell her I appreciate her prompt, effective and courteous assistance.

Malinda connected me up with one of your orthopaedic surgeons. I was really impressed with the skill with which he attended to my injury.

While I am at it, I want to add one more compliment, it is the fact that I sensed a new, more positive and friendly attitude throughout the hospital than I had ever experienced before.

Keep up the good work and make the USC University Hospital a real player in Southern California.

Mr. Green,

I wanted to make sure and drop you this note about our experience at USC. My son had surgery at the surgery center and stayed in your hospital. I don’t know where to start. Everyone we encountered down there was awesome! From the guards at the front desk, to Dr. Hatch himself, we were treated with respect, courtesy and just plain old fashioned hospitality. The facility was clean, well staffed and very well run. In particular, we had a great experience with Kwok Vulary (Marc Nawar, Oscar Castro and Miguel Gonzales), the nurses on the 6th floor, the food service staff, and on and on. I have never had this kind of treatment at any medical facility. It was definitely worth the drive from Bakersfield to come to USC. Keep up the good work.

Isabel Lastra
USC Norris cashier

I come in to work each day. Here, and the reason why we primary focus as why we are

Yolee Casagrande,
Director of patient experience

What binds me here, it’s absolutely the people here. This has been really like a family. The people here, for 21 years, have been part of my life. This is an extended family to me.

It’s the patients, I feel like what I’m doing really contributes to people’s lives. I feel like this is where I am supposed to be, and I love the patients.

Isabel Lastra
USC Norris cashier

I’ve been here since the beginning of this hospital, and I’m very excited about all the changes we’re seeing. Whenever there is change, it’s a challenge.

But I think our current changes are for the best. Our staff is more at ease, and our patients are happier. We all want to be one happy family. I love the new tower. I think we will work well focusing on our patients services here.

Dene Branda
USC Norris lab assistant

I love working with people. I went through cancer myself, so I can relate to what our patients are going through. I feel like I am an extension of God’s hands by doing what I do.

As far as the work of the hospitals, we’re not quite as busy as we could be, but a new influx of doctors will really help, and we’ll be able to do even more to benefit the community.

To USC Hospitals’ CEO Mitch Green

We had met a number of times at various USC events when you handed me your card and said, “If you ever need medical assistance, please call me.” I never thought I would need medical assistance so soon, but when I did, I called your office and spoke to your assistant, Malinda Mendoza.

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While I am at it, I want to add one more compliment, it is the fact that I sensed a new, more positive and friendly attitude throughout the hospital than I had ever experienced before.

Keep up the good work and make the USC University Hospital a real player in Southern California.

...
NURSES: Retention rates at USC hospitals exceed national average

Continued from page 1.

Administrators say Aragon’s sentiments are indicative of the nursing staff at the USC hospitals and help explain an annual turnover rate of about 14 percent among nurses here. That figure is far better than the national average of more than 24 percent for bedside nurses.

“Our retention rates are so high, I believe, because of all the wonderful incentives we offer our nurses here,” said Chief Nursing Officer Ellen Whalen.

“If you are giving our nurses more resources than they ever had before and we are also providing them with the on-unit support they need to better care for their patients,” she added.

Since the beginning of the fiscal year, administrators have spent about $900,000 in new equipment for the nurses, such as vital sign monitors at each bedside and hemodynamic modules for the ICU monitors.

They’ve decreased the number of patients per nurse on medical/surgical and telemetry units, added a resource nurse on each floor to assist the nursing staff, and added more nurse managers so that each manager can spend more time with the staff on the units.

In addition, charge nurses at the hospitals have received combined annual market salary adjustments of more than half a million dollars in additional pay.

Both Whalen and Aragon agreed all of these perks are just some of the incentives that not only help attract nurses, but help to retain them as well.

For Aragon, the USC hospitals have been a place to nourish and grow her nursing career. She received her bachelor’s in nursing in 2006, through a program offered on-site at University Hospital, joined the Nursing Quality Committee shortly after and is now getting ready to begin a master’s program in nursing.

“The USC hospitals really allow you to expand your career,” Aragon said. “Plus, just the mere fact that you are working for USC is really exciting. I really love that.”

And she’s not the only one.

Since USC’s acquisition of USC University Hospital and USC Norris Cancer Hospital in April 2009, 60 experienced nurses and 75 recently graduated nurses have been hired. That has helped to dramatically decrease the number of registry nurses in the hospitals.

And with more than 180 nursing positions still vacant, Whalen hopes to quickly fill the nursing staff with permanent part-time and full-time employees.

“We are aggressively recruiting because we want to expand our services and accommodate our increase in patient census,” she said, adding that the average daily census is about 210 people.

Ryan Matthews is one of those recent hires. He was brought on board last year after completing the 18-week Versant RN Residency and now works on 3-West. He said the support he receives from his colleagues has been helpful in his transition as a recent graduate.

“This is a good place to work, and I really like my unit,” he said. “Everybody really works together to help new employees.”

The USC hospitals really allow you to expand your career. Plus, just the mere fact that you are working for USC is really exciting. I really love that.

— Oralia Aragon, clinical educator at USC University Hospital

PA: Program attracts those eager to help community

Continued from page 1.

I do in underserved areas,” said Byous. “We are considered a primary care PA program, which means that we specialize in preparing our students to take care of every practice’s—pediatrics, women’s health, family medicine, etc., with the goal of our students returning back to those communities to establish those kinds of practices when they graduate.”

According to Byous, 40 to 50 percent of the USC graduates practice in lower socioeconomic areas in Los Angeles.

The shift in the profession from people with a medical medical background to younger students embarking on their first career choice has been marked by the desire of students to enter a medical field that offers professional and personal flexibility.

“To become a PA, you have four years of an undergraduate degree, two to three years of graduate school and then out to practice,” said Byous. “Our students appreciate the fact that they have the flexibility of going between clinical practices without having to go through a residency. And many of our students come into our program because they can pursue their dream and work without all the perceived demands of what becoming a physician would take.”

Byous keeps both her students and the communities they will serve in mind as she endeavors to maintain the school’s tradition of excellence.

“I educate about 128 students per year, and I look at what that means—how that number grows exponentially when I think about how many lives I am touching through those 128 students,” she said. “With each graduating class, I have an obligation, a commitment, and a challenge to impact health care for so many people. By being a teacher, mentor and model for them, I will have enabled them to take those lessons out into the community.”

The Weekly NEWSMAKERS

A March 26 Los Angeles Times article quoted Joel Hay of the USC School of Pharmacy about the possible legalization of marijuana in California.

A March 24 Associated Press article reported that the Doctors of USC will participate in a neurological care program for retired NFL players. The Sports Network also covered the story.

A March 24 Los Angeles Times article quoted professor of psychiatry and pathology Thomas Coates about sickle cell disease risks in children.

A March 24 Inland Valley Daily Bulletin article noted that chair of the department of urology and associate dean for clinical innovation Inderbir Gill will be the featured speaker when the USC University Hospital Guild hosts its next Speaker Series luncheon on April 20.

On March 23, KTLA-TV interviewed associate professor of research in preventive medicine Michael Cousins about the congressional vote on health care reform. KABC-TV and the San Bernardino Sun also interviewed Cousins about the health care reform bill.

On March 23, the Pasadena Star-News quoted Keck School student Analisa Armstrong about job options for graduating medical students.


On March 22, CNN quoted assistant professor of clinical psychiatry Thomas Hicklin and highlighted USC research on how exposure to suicide increases the likelihood of a suicide attempt.

On March 22, Los Angeles Times article noted that in 1995 the Allergy and Asthma Foundation’s California chapter launched the Breathmobile—a free asthma and allergy treatment clinic—at USC to help control asthma in underserved areas.

On March 21, The Washington Post, in a Bloomberg News story, quoted professor of psychiatry, neurology and gerontology Lon Schneider about pharmaceutical companies.

On March 19, CBS News affiliate WSCS-TVC interviewed professor of clinical preventive medicine Edward Avol about living in proximity to ports and other high-traffic areas.
USC slates week of health events for April 5-9

The impact on health of growing urbanization in different regions of the world is the focus of events on both the University Park and Health Sciences campuses during the second annual Global Health Awareness Week April 5-9.

Presented by USC, UCLA and the Global Health Review, the week’s activities will recognize the World Health Organization’s 2010 global health campaign, “1,000 Cities, 1,000 Lives.” Unless otherwise noted, events are sponsored by the USC Institute for Global Health (IGH) and RSVPs go to global.health@usc.edu.

Only events on the Health Sciences Campuses and in the community are listed. For more information, visit www.globalhealthawareness.org.

Monday, April 5
8:30 a.m.: “Serum Amyloid A — link between Mycobacterium and Sarcoïdosis,” Dave Miller, Johns Hopkins. BID 732. Info: (323) 226-7923
11 a.m.: “Primary Immune Deficiency Syndromes,” Joseph Church, USC/CHLA. IGG 22103. Info: (323) 658-3914
1 p.m.: Neuroscience and Pharmaceutical Sciences Seminar: “Membrane Trafficking in Live Animals: Novel Approaches Based on Intravital Microscopy,” Roberto Weigelt, NIH. PRC 104. Info: (323) 442-1551

Tuesday, April 6
8:30 a.m.: Neurology Grand Rounds: “Multiple Sclerosis: New Directions.” Brigitte Flamme-Pichot, USC. ZNI 112. Info: (323) 442-7686
2 p.m.: Psychiatry Grand Rounds: “ADHD and Addiction.” Paul Eric Ikeda, Santa Barbara Cottage Hospital. ZNI 112. Info: (323) 442-4065

Wednesday, April 7
8:30 a.m.: “Paralytic and Sedative-Hypnotic Use in the Critically Ill.” Earl Strum, USC. BID 732. Info: (323) 226-7023
11 a.m.: “Treatment of Acute Metabolic Acidosis: What is Optimal Therapy?” Jeffrey Rentz, UCLA. Info: (323) 226-7070

Thursday, April 8
11 a.m.: Neuroscience and Pharmaceutical Sciences Seminar: “Model-based Verification and Validation Strategies from Nano- to Multiscale Dynamics.” Morten Videbaek, University of California, Irvine. Info: (323) 442-2637

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Notice: Deadline for calendar submission is 4 p.m. Monday for consideration for that week’s issue—although three weeks’ advance notice of events is recommended. Please note that timely submission does not guarantee an item will be printed. Send calendar items to The Weekly, KAM 400 or fax to (323) 442-2832, or e-mail to elbauxw.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.

In case of an emergency...

Call the Emergency Information Phone: 213-740-9233 The emergency telephone system can handle 1,400 simultaneous calls. It also has a backup system on the East Coast.

Visit the USC Web: http://emergency.usc.edu This page will be activated in case of an emergency. Backup Web servers on the East Coast will function if the USC servers are incapacitated.

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