

# USC study shows social networks can influence health behavior

By Alison Trinidad

Most people call it the “art” of persuasion, but USC public health researchers are trying to pinpoint the “science” behind social influence.

They hope a better understanding of human interactions—both face-to-face and online—can help prevent disease and promote general health.

Whether the goal is to curb smoking at a local school or to reduce the spread of sexually transmitted diseases within a community, it is important to understand the social structure of the group and the dynamics of influence at play, says Thomas W. Valente, professor of preventive medicine at the Keck School of Medicine of USC.

“If I want to go into a high school and change physical activity or other obesity behaviors, I have to understand there are cliques and sub-groups of students that exhibit different risks,” Valente said. “I would design different interventions for the different groups. We constantly are concerned about how ineffective our interventions are—this is a big reason why those interventions are not working. We can do a much better job promoting healthy behaviors if we understand the social network contexts and design these interventions with those cues in mind.”

Valente, whose research focuses on social networks and influence, has compiled a collection of methods that public health advocates use to stimulate changes in behavior. He explains why certain methods may be more effective than others in particular situations. The analysis appears in the July 6 edition of the peer-reviewed journal *Science*,

the world’s leading outlet for scientific news, commentary and research.

Due to the large number of interventions available to researchers—Valente identifies 24, each with at least several variations—the researcher says a more robust framework is needed for deciding which tactics are best used in particular settings.

Word-of-mouth interventions, for example, depend on the social network to succeed. In some cases, word of mouth is used to spread the word and in other cases to create groups of like-minded friends.

“Existing evidence indicates that network interventions are quite effective,” Valente writes. “Yet, the science of how networks can be used to accelerate behavior change and improve organizational performance is still in its infancy. Research is clearly needed to compare different network interventions to determine which are optimal under what circumstances.”



Thomas W. Valente

Valente notes that behavioral research is often used in marketing and business arenas; the public health sector is just beginning to implement that information as tools like Facebook and Twitter have made it easier to collect data and spread information, he says.

Valente’s research was supported by National Institutes of Health grant 1RC1AA019239-01 from the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism.

## U.S. News ranks USC’s hospitals among nation’s best

By Alison Trinidad

Keck Hospital of USC and USC Norris Cancer Hospital have again been recognized among the top hospitals in the nation by *U.S. News & World Report* in its annual “Best Hospitals” report. USC-affiliated Children’s Hospital Los Angeles, staffed exclusively by USC faculty physicians, was also named last month to the magazine’s Best Children’s Hospitals Honor Roll and was ranked among the top five in the nation.

For the first time, *U.S. News* provides statewide hospital rankings in addition to rankings in select metropolitan areas. Keck Hospital of USC ranks No. 3 in the Los Angeles metro area and No. 6 in California.

In specialty areas, this year Keck Hospital of USC was ranked in the top 10 nationally for ophthalmology (No. 8, USC Department of Ophthalmology at the Doheny Eye Institute) and among the top 50 for geriatric care (No. 21) and neurology/neurosurgery (No. 29). Keck Hospital also was recognized as high-performing in nine additional specialty areas: cancer; cardiology and heart surgery; ear, nose and throat; gastroenterology; gynecology; nephrology; orthopedics; pulmonology; urology.

USC Norris Cancer Hospital was ranked in the top 50 in cancer care (No. 43) and high-performing in nephrology and urology.

Of the 5,000 hospitals reviewed nationwide, fewer than 150 are nationally ranked in at least one of 16 medical specialties.

“It is an honor to have our programs be recognized for the outstanding patient care and outcomes delivered by our physicians, nurses and staff members,” said Scott Evans, CEO of Keck Hospital of USC and USC Norris Cancer Hospital, both a part of the Keck Medical Center of USC. “We look forward to continuing the tradition of excellence in innovative and compassionate care that patients have come to expect from our hospitals.”

The hospital rankings are designed to help steer patients to hospitals with strong skills in the procedures and medical conditions that present the biggest challenges.

“All of these hospitals are the kinds of medical centers that should be on your list when you need the best care,” said *U.S. News* Health Rankings Editor Avery Comarow. “They are where other hospitals send the toughest cases.”

Both Best Hospitals and Best Children’s Hospitals lists are published by *U.S. News* in collaboration with RTI International, a research organization based in Research Triangle Park, N.C. The complete rankings and methodology are available at <http://health.usnews.com/best-hospitals>.



Keck Hospital of USC ranks No. 3 in the Los Angeles metro area and No. 6 in California in the *U.S. News & World Report* rankings.



Philip Channing

Linda Fetters, professor and holder of the Sykes Family Chair in Pediatric Physical Therapy, Health and Development at USC, will serve as director of the Pediatric Physical Therapy Residency Program.

## USC, CHLA establish new pediatric residency program

By Cathy Curtis

Physical Therapy in the Division of Rehabilitative Medicine at Children’s Hospital Los Angeles (CHLA) and the USC Division of Biokinesiology and Physical Therapy and have created a new Pediatric Physical Therapy Residency Program that will combine the academic resources of the No. 1 physical therapy program in the nation with the physical therapy clinical expertise at a leading children’s hospital. The program is set to begin in September.

“This is an important and timely collaboration between the division and CHLA,” said Linda Fetters, professor and holder of

the Sykes Family Chair in Pediatric Physical Therapy, Health and Development at USC. “We will be only one of two pediatric physical therapy residency programs on the West Coast and we fill a very important educational need in the physical therapy profession.”

The mission of the one-year residency program is to train leaders and advanced practitioners with a coordinated, culturally competent, family-centered orientation to provide and ensure high-quality, evidence-based, cost-effective, community-based integrated services in their communities.

“The merged expertise of the academic and clinical

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# USC to offer nation’s first PharmD/MS Global Medicine dual degree

“Interdisciplinary collaboration is a great way to capitalize on the talents and ideas of our students and faculty.”

—Elahe Nezami, director of the Global Medicine master’s degree program at the Keck School of Medicine

By Kukla Vera

USC is currently enrolling its first class of students in the Doctor of Pharmacy/MS Global Medicine (PharmD/MSGM) dual degree program, a program that will graduate pharmacy professionals with an advanced understanding of the role of modern medicine and the provision of care in developing countries worldwide.

The program was developed by leaders at the Keck School of Medicine of USC and the USC School of Pharmacy to respond to the need for pharmacists and global health leaders who will effectively serve diverse populations through pharmaceutical care. The curriculum specifically addresses the urgent need for clinicians who are capable of analyzing and understanding the impact and use of pharmaceuticals in developing countries with populations that are often greatly underserved in health care.

“The USC School of Pharmacy has developed pharmacy education and community intervention programs for underserved and resource-poor areas of our local community, so applying similar innovations

in care at the global level seemed like the next logical step,” said Elahe Nezami, director of the Global Medicine master’s degree program at the Keck School of Medicine. “Both of our programs encourage entrepreneurial thinking in developing new approaches to solving difficult health problems, so interdisciplinary collaboration is a great way to capitalize on the talents and ideas of our students and faculty.”

The USC doctor of pharmacy curriculum is a four-year, postgraduate professional program that culminates with a final year of experiential training. The Global Medicine program examines the effects of disease around the world, as well as the development of innovative solutions for addressing accompanying health and social issues to prevent global health crises. The program offers students opportunities to travel abroad to see firsthand health challenges and delivery-of-care models in other parts of the world.

“Our pharmacy curriculum provides the expertise required of today’s pharmacist in pharmacotherapy, medication safety, health promotion and disease prevention,” said

Ronald Alkana, associate dean of graduate affairs and interdisciplinary graduate programs at the School of Pharmacy. “Complementing it with the global medicine program allows us to produce 21<sup>st</sup> century pharmacists with a unique global perspective.”

While students must meet admissions standards of both programs individually, once admitted, they enroll in a specialized curriculum that allows them to use core pharmacy course work in place of core global medicine course work. This allows students to complete the dual degree program more efficiently than pursuing the two degrees independently.

PharmD/MSGM students complete the requirements of both programs, acquiring the scientific knowledge and training to be adept pharmacists while simultaneously gaining an understanding of the global burden of disease and the cultural and socioeconomic factors affecting the health of individuals and communities.

More information about the dual degree program is available at: <http://tinyurl.com/d8esfns>.

## Keck School researchers identify potential target for improving vaccinations

By Alison Trinidad

A naturally occurring protein called TLR1 plays a critical role in protecting the body from illnesses caused by eating undercooked pork or drinking contaminated water, according to new research by USC researchers.

The discovery may help

create more effective oral vaccines for infections of the respiratory and gastrointestinal systems and already has launched an examination of how TLR1 is linked to inflammatory bowel disease, said R. William DePaolo, assistant professor of molecular microbiology

and immunology at the Keck School of Medicine of USC and the study’s lead investigator.

“It’s not clear what drives the body’s immune response,” DePaolo said. “This paper identifies a receptor that is important in driving a mucosal immune response

against *Yersinia enterocolitica*, bacteria like *Salmonella* and *E. coli* that can cause food poisoning. Although the receptor’s role against other bacteria is still unknown, our research emphasizes that the way the body initiates an immune response depends on the pathogen and the route of infection.”

The study, “A specific role for TLR1 in protective T<sub>H</sub>17 immunity during mucosal infection,” is scheduled to appear in the July 30 edition of *The Journal of Experimental Medicine*, a leading biomedical journal published by the Rockefeller University Press. The manuscript is now available on the journal’s website.

DePaolo’s team compared the immune responses of mice bred with and without TLR1 when infected with *Y. enterocolitica* by mouth and by blood. They found that TLR1 played a significant role in

controlling mucosal infection (by mouth) but not systemic infection (by blood), initiating the creation of antibodies that specifically fight against oral infections.

“Now that we have identified the receptor’s role, the next step is to determine how we can manipulate that receptor to enhance vaccine development,” DePaolo said. “We also are studying the receptor in different models of mucosal inflammation including inflammatory bowel disease and colitis-associated cancers. The idea is to take a personalized approach to medicine and use genetic profiling to better treat or manage disease.”

The research was supported by the National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases (5K01DK082725-05) and The Crohn’s and Colitis Foundation of America (Senior Research Award 2831).



Lisa Brook Photography

### HONORING ALLAN

**ABBOTT**—The Keck School of Medicine of USC recently celebrated Allan V. Abbott, professor of clinical family medicine, associate dean for curriculum and director of continuing medical education, for his 31 years of dedication and service to USC. From left, at a July 18 retirement party at Dean Carmen A. Puliafito’s home in Pasadena, are: Abbott, Kathe Nelson and Lawrence Opas.

The Weekly

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## PT: Applicants sought for new program

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cal communities at USC provides unique opportunities for our residents to become leaders in community-integrated clinical care and to expand the body of clinical and scholarly knowledge in the profession,” said Feters, who will serve as director of the program.

Leadership and family-centered care will be fostered through residency participation in CHLA’s California Interdisciplinary Leadership Education in Neurodevelopmental and Related Disabilities Training Program, which educates health professionals to shape effective health policies, programs and outcomes for children and youth with neurodevelopmental and related disabilities, including autism spectrum disorder.

Applications are now being accepted for the program. Applicants must have a minimum of one year of clinical experience in pediatric physical therapy, a California State license to practice physical therapy, and a degree from an American Physical Therapy Association-accredited physical therapy program.

The Pediatric Physical Therapy Residency Program is the fourth clinical residency program to be established at the division. It follows the orthopaedic, neurologic—a partnership with Rancho Los Amigos National Rehabilitation Center—and sports residency programs.

# USC research sheds light on vascular damage associated with Alzheimer’s disease

**By Leslie Ridgeway**  
A gene variant responsible for vascular damage to the brain is a promising new target for drug therapy to fight Alzheimer’s disease and other neurodegenerative diseases, according to research published recently by Berislav Zlokovic, director of the Zilkha Neurogenetic Institute at the Keck School of Medicine of USC.

Zlokovic is the corresponding author on a study indicating that the gene variant apolipoprotein E4 (ApoE4), a major genetic risk factor for Alzheimer’s disease, causes inflammation of blood vessels in the brains of genetically engineered mice. The gene variant allows entry of dangerous proteins that cause damage to the central nervous system.

The research may be helpful not only for Alzheimer’s patients but also for individuals with other neurological disorders associated with ApoE4, such as stroke and Down syndrome.

“Understanding the role of ApoE4 in Alzheimer’s disease may be one of the most important avenues to a new therapy,” said Zlokovic, who is also professor and chair of the Department of Physiology and Biophysics at the Keck School. “Our study shows that ApoE4 triggers a cascade of events that damages the brain’s vascular system.”

The research, “Apolipoprotein E controls cerebrovascular integrity via cyclophilin A,” was published May 16 in the journal *Nature*. Zlokovic conducted the research with first author Robert D. Bell, Ethan Winkler and other investigators from the University of Rochester.

The research is supported by the National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke (grant number R37NS34467) and the National Institute on Aging (grant numbers R37AG23084, RO1AG039452, and

R37AG13956), both part of the National Institutes of Health.

Previous research has shown that a buildup of the toxic protein fragment beta amyloid constricts blood vessels in the brains of Alzheimer’s patients. Zlokovic’s team found that ApoE4 damages vessels independently of beta amyloid, leading to a breakdown of the blood-brain barrier, obstructing the flow of oxygen and nutrients into the brain and allowing accumulation in the brain of multiple neurotoxic products derived from the blood that are normally denied entry.

“Rather than trying to destroy amyloid plaques, this research indicates that therapies targeting the ApoE4 beta amyloid independent pathway may alleviate the development of neurodegenerative changes in the brain,” Zlokovic said.

Apolipoprotein E helps to regulate levels and distribution of cholesterol and other lipids within the body and exists in three variations.

Two of three variants, ApoE2 and ApoE3, protect against Alzheimer’s disease and heart disease or have no effect on either condition. The third variant, ApoE4, was seen to be ineffective in clearing cholesterol out of the body, but until now its role in the brain was not fully understood.

ApoE4 appears to weaken the blood-brain barrier by activating an inflammatory response in brain perivascular cells called pericytes, caused by an overabundance of an inflammatory molecule called cyclophilin A (CypA). CypA is controlled by ApoE2 and ApoE3 but is not affected by ApoE4, Zlokovic’s team discovered.

The mice engineered to

produce ApoE4 had five times the amount of CypA in their systems, activating an enzyme that destroyed protein components of the blood-brain barrier and thereby weakening it.

“The *Nature* paper shows there is a beta amyloid-independent pathway of neuronal degeneration that depends on vascular damage primarily within brain capillary circulation and breakdown of the blood-brain barrier,” said Zlokovic. “This, in my opinion, is a very novel finding.”

The findings highlight a growing awareness of a possible link between Alzheimer’s-type dementia and stroke, and may open the door to therapies that improve vascular health in those predisposed to both conditions through high blood pressure, obesity and diabetes.

## USC students receive grant for game to help autistic children

**By Cathy Curtis**  
Four USC graduate students collaborating on an interactive virtual game that will encourage children with autism spectrum disorder (ASD) to jump in order to develop bodily stability and coordination have received a USC Diploma in Innovation grant.

The grant is awarded to Ph.D. students who have demonstrated outstanding ability to collaborate in pursuit of innovative solutions that will have a lasting influence.

Hyeshin Park and Na-hyeon Ko, Ph.D. students in the Division of Biokinesiology & Physical Therapy, and Alexander Reyes and Brendan Holt, students in the Ph.D. program in Biomedical Engineering, have been awarded \$5,000 by the Office of the USC Provost to design a system that will detect the frequency and quality of a child’s jumping by means of an accelerometer attached to the child’s shoe. Data from the accelerometer will be communicated to a video game receiver using Bluetooth technology.

The student team hypothesizes that this system may promote gross motor skills in

children with ASD, who tend to engage deeply with interactive devices.

During the yearlong project, the team will be mentored by Francisco Valero-Cuevas, a professor of biomedical engineering with a joint appointment in the Division of Biokinesiology and Physical Therapy.

Team members will participate in a series of six required seminars that will provide both practical skills and creative perspectives. Topics include creative thinking, methods of collaboration, social entrepreneurship, development of a business plan, and intellectual property law.

The interactive virtual game is one of 13 projects funded by the Diploma in Innovation this year, enabling 27 USC Ph.D. students to develop their projects in partnership with USC faculty mentors, master’s degree students, undergraduate students, postdoctoral scholars, and faculty from other universities.

During the concluding symposium in April 2013, each team will present its project outcomes to a faculty committee, which will determine if the work qualifies for a Diploma in Innovation.



On Sunday, Sept. 16, the USC Institute of Urology and USC Norris Cancer Hospital will host the 3rd annual LA Prostate Cancer 5k at USC University Park Campus. With a growing need to promote research for furthering the diagnosis and treatment of prostate cancer, all proceeds and donations from the event will be dedicated to prostate cancer research and education at USC. The 5K is open to all levels of runners, joggers and walkers. The race starts at 8:30 a.m. For more information and to register, please visit [uscurology.com/prostate-5k](http://uscurology.com/prostate-5k).

## The Weekly NEWSMAKERS

A July 23 broadcast on KQED News interviewed **Paula Cannon**, associate professor of molecular microbiology, immunology, biochemistry, and pediatrics at the Keck School of Medicine of USC, about her research into finding a cure for HIV/AIDS. The story was cited by the CIRM Stem Cell Research blog. She was also interviewed by the *Los Angeles Times* on July 24.

A July 21 article in *Parade Magazine* features tips from **Bradley Hudson**, assistant professor of clinical pediatrics at the Keck School, on how to talk to children about the mass shooting in Aurora, Colo.

A July 21 article in the *Los Angeles Times* cites a letter to the editor written by **Jeff Victoroff**, associate professor of clinical neurology.

A July 20 article in the *San Francisco Business Times* mentions **Leslie Saxon**, professor of clinical medicine at the Keck School, and her work with wireless health monitors.

A July 20 post on KPCC-FM’s website features a photo of **Gabriel Zada**, assistant professor of neurological surgery.

A July 18 report by *Asian News* International featured a study by **Berislav Zlokovic**, director of the Zilkha Neurogenetic Institute at the Keck School, and colleagues, finding that an experimental drug reduces brain damage and improves motor skills among stroke-afflicted rodents when given with the standard treatment for stroke, tPA (tissue plasminogen activator). The research was also covered by *Science Daily*, *Medical Xpress*, *Medical News Today*, Science Blog, News-Medical.net, *Neuroscience News*, and *Futurity*.

A July 18 broadcast on Minnesota Public Radio covered “The End of Illness” by **David Agus**, professor of medicine at the Keck School.

A July 18 story in the *Jewish Journal* quoted **Richard Boles**, clinical associate professor of pediatrics at the

Keck School, about the chronic illness called Cyclic Vomiting Syndrome.

A July 17 report by *China Daily* (China) quoted **Jonathan Samet**, who serves as the Flora L. Thornton Chair of the Department of Preventive Medicine at the Keck School, about Chinese medical workers misunderstanding the dangers of low-tar cigarettes.

A July 16 article in *Bloomberg Businessweek* reported that Life Technologies Corp. has purchased Navigenics Inc., a company co-founded by **David Agus**, professor of medicine at the Keck School. Navigenics’ genetics labs and data systems will help Life Technologies develop tests that can guide doctors in prescribing cancer drugs, the story reported.

Agus said that Navigenics was established in 2006 to help patients and doctors understand how genetics impact health. Xconomy also covered the news.

## Patient’s artwork debuts at special Keck Hospital of USC exhibit

**By Tania Chatila**  
The Lucky Shots art exhibit at Keck Hospital of USC features original photographic artwork by Tammy Lumpkins, the first patient to leave the hospital on the West Coast after receiving a total artificial heart at Keck Medical Center of USC.

Lumpkins’ work is on display now in the Salerni Conference Room, on the 5th floor of Keck Hospital.

“I decided to call this Lucky Shots because they really all were lucky shots,” said Lumpkins, who has been a patient at Keck Hospital since Jan. 30 and is awaiting a heart transplant. Lumpkins said she picked up a camera as a way to

pass the time during her stay here, but has since found it therapeutic.

“It gives me something to do besides sitting in my hospital room, watching TV. I really enjoy it.”

To view more of Lumpkins’ work, visit <http://tinyurl.com/ca6uxcr>.

Prints are available for purchase at USC Norris Cancer Hospital’s Image Enhancement Center. All proceeds from the art sale will go to Patient Experience to establish an Entertainment Library for inpatients at Keck Hospital.

For more information, contact Patient Experience at (323) 442-9516.



Photos/Tammy Lumpkins

Tammy Lumpkins, the first patient to leave the hospital on the West Coast after receiving a total artificial heart at Keck Medical Center of USC, shot the images above as part of her “Lucky Shots” exhibit, now on display.

## Stringfellow named medical center’s director of planning

**By Tania Chatila**  
Andrew Stringfellow has joined the Keck Medical Center of USC as the new director of planning.

Stringfellow is responsible for providing strategic intelligence and decision support for infrastructure planning and program development across the medical enterprise. He reports to Shawn Sheffield, chief strategy and business development officer for the medical center. In his role, Stringfellow will play an integral part in developing and executing the medical center’s clinical strategic plan.

He will lead analytic evaluations for clinical program growth to ensure alignment

with the organization’s overall goals. He will also oversee expansion of business intelligence tools to thoroughly assess and manage clinical expansion efforts, while also tracking current health care trends among providers, academic medical centers and other competitors in the region. Additionally, Stringfellow will provide operational and strategic guidance around capital, facility and space planning decisions.

Stringfellow brings with him more than 15 years of experience in health care, education and research. He most

recently served as principal organizational planner for Health Sciences Planning at the UC San Diego Medical Center, and has previously held roles in research, administration and analytics at the Boston University School of Medicine, the Boston and San Diego VA Medical Centers and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

Stringfellow holds a bachelor’s degree from Boston University and master’s degrees from Boston University and UCSD.



Andrew Stringfellow

### ONLINE EXTRAS

*Read more HSC news online:*

**Researcher Discovers Micro RNA Required for the Growth and Spread of Cancer**  
<http://tinyurl.com/d9rcwco>

**Epidermal Growth Factor Inhibits Colitis-Associated Cancer**  
<http://tinyurl.com/c3x28cs>

**Keck School Wins Program of Excellence Award**  
<http://tinyurl.com/cc4tpqI>

**USC Institute for Genetic Medicine Art Gallery exhibit explores patterns of daily life**  
<http://tinyurl.com/d78okn2>

**USC Surgeon Stays on the Cutting Edge with 3D Visualization**  
<http://tinyurl.com/cxo8q4n>

**USC Stem Cell Research Lands \$1.75 Million Grant**  
<http://tinyurl.com/c96b5yl>

**Elder Abuse Disproportionately Affects Low-Income Latinos**  
<http://tinyurl.com/bpkmuab>

**Keck Faculty-Mentored Undergrads Receive Prizes during Symposium**  
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**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.

# Calendar of Events

**This Calendar of Events is also online at [www.usc.edu/hscalendar](http://www.usc.edu/hscalendar) for the Health Sciences campus community**

**Sunday, July 29**

**3 p.m. – 5 p.m.** USC Institute for Genetic Medicine Art Gallery Screening. “Dali: Love at First Sight.” USC IGM Art Gallery. Tickets: \$15 in advance or at the door. Proceeds support the Guangzhou SCA and IGM Art Gallery programs. Info: [lynn.crandall@gmail.com](mailto:lynn.crandall@gmail.com)

**Tuesday, July 31**

**8 a.m.** Roxanna Todd Hodges Lecture in Stroke Prevention & Education. “Chronic Kidney Disease and the Risk of Stroke: An Epiphenomenon or a Real Culprit?” Bruce Ovbiagele, UC San Diego. ZNI 112. Info: (323) 442-7687

Noon. Cancer Center Grand Rounds. “Inherited Susceptibility to Epithelial Ovarian Cancer: The Story So Far,” Paul Pharoah, University of Cambridge. NRT Aresty Aud. Info: (323) 865-0801

**Friday, Aug. 3**

**11 a.m. – 1 p.m.** KSOM Summer Research Program. “2012 Bridging the Gaps Student Poster Presentations.” HSC Pappas Quad. Info: (323) 442-2374

**Tuesday, Aug. 14**

USC HSC Fitness Center – Open House and First Year Anniversary. 2001 Soto Street. Entry to the fitness center and all the group exercise classes will be FREE on this day! Noon – 2 p.m. – cake and light refreshments. 5 – 8 p.m. Special USC workout classes. Info: (323) 442-7354

**Friday, Aug. 24**

**8 a.m. – 7 p.m.** Moving Targets 2012 – 11th Annual Symposium. “Metabolic Syndrome: Past, Present & Future,” Thomas Buchanan, USC. Radisson Hotel, Los Angeles. Info: (323) 442-2605

**Sunday, Sept. 16**

**6:30 a.m. – 8 a.m.** Registration. 3rd Annual LA Prostate Cancer 5K. USC University Park Campus. All proceeds and donations from the event will be dedicated to prostate cancer research and education at USC. The 5K is open to all levels of runners, joggers and walkers. The race starts at 8:30 a.m. Info: (323) 323-865-3731

**Notice:** Deadline for calendar submission is 4 p.m. Monday to be considered 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](mailto:The Weekly, KAM 400) or fax to (323) 442-2832, or email to [eblaauw@usc.edu](mailto:eblaauw@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.