



Lernik Torossian

Lernik Torossian, OD, of the USC Eye Institute was among the volunteers from Keck Medicine of USC.

## Assisting athletes at World Games

A team of USC Eye Institute volunteers that included Lernik Torossian, OD, and Veronica Isozaki, OD, provided eye exams, glasses and sunglasses to athletes at the 2015 Special Olympics World Games, joining many other Keck Medicine of USC volunteers. USC hosted about 7,000 athletes from almost 170 nations for the World Games, which ended Aug. 2.



Lernik Torossian

Lernik Torossian, right, said her favorite memory of working at the Special Olympics is the “joy on the faces of the athletes when they spoke about the medals they had won. Priceless.”



Sarah Wetari

Medical student Michael Chow was among those available to assist anyone who experienced health issues.

## Pioneering master’s program to welcome first class

By Douglas Morino

Considered the first of its kind in the United States, a new master’s degree program in the art and science of neuroimaging will welcome its inaugural class this fall at the Keck School of Medicine of USC.

The one-year master’s of science in neuroimaging and informatics (NIIN) is offered through the USC Mark and Mary Stevens Neuroimaging

and Informatics Institute. The research center, which joined USC in 2013, is considered one of the world’s finest neuro scanning and genetic testing labs.

“This program is a highly unique educational course of study for the field of brain imaging,” said John Darrell Van Horn, PhD, program director and associate professor of neurology at the institute and its Laboratory

of Neuro Imaging. “It’s also unique for USC. It’s going to put us as leaders in the rich and dynamic field of neuroimaging.”

Classes will be held at the Keck School of Medicine on the USC Health Sciences Campus. Students will be introduced to modern neuroimaging data through access to state-of-the-art neuroimaging systems. They

See **NEW MS**, page 3

## As Oct. 1 deadline nears, training begins on ICD-10 medical record protocol

By Douglas Morino

The Oct. 1 implementation of the new ICD-10 coding system for reporting of patient diagnoses and procedures has reenergized the journey toward accurate medical record documentation — and two physicians from the Department of Neurology are among those at Keck Medicine of USC who are blazing the trail.

Benjamin Emanuel, DO, and May Kim-Tenser, MD, launched an effort to optimize their documentation about a year ago after discovering that the existing process did not reflect the actual severity of illnesses and mortality risks of their patients, affecting their quality indicators.

“We asked ourselves: How can we improve our documentation to reflect how sick our patients actually are?” Emanuel said. “We found that accurately documenting how the patient is actively being treated had a huge impact.”

Their work has paid off. The neurology team has improved all measurable indicators of quality, complications rate, severity of illness, risk-adjusted mortality, case mix index and the respective proper reimbursement for the hospital.

Proper documentation is a narrative, Kim-Tenser said.

“You’re describing everything that’s happening with the patient in real time and documenting what is actively being treated,” she said. “I changed my wording to reflect the severity of their current condition and documented how their problems would be treated.”

The neurology team’s improved documentation has led to an additional billing reimbursement of as much as \$600,000 per month.

But the importance of proper documentation is not just financial, said Jeyson Flores, senior clinical documentation specialist for

See **ICD-10**, page 3

## Emergency medicine leader is recruited to Keck School

Carl R. Chudnofsky, MD, has been recruited from the Albert Einstein Medical Center to lead the Keck School of Medicine of USC’s Department of Emergency Medicine, effective Aug. 1.

“Dr. Chudnofsky is an established leader in emergency medicine, having successfully managed a complex emergency medicine department within a challenging organizational structure — a private teaching hospital that responds to and fulfills the enormous emergency department demands of a major public hospital,” said Keck School of Medicine Dean Carmen A. Puliafito, MD, MBA.

Chudnofsky began his 26-year academic career at the University of Massachusetts and University of Michigan.

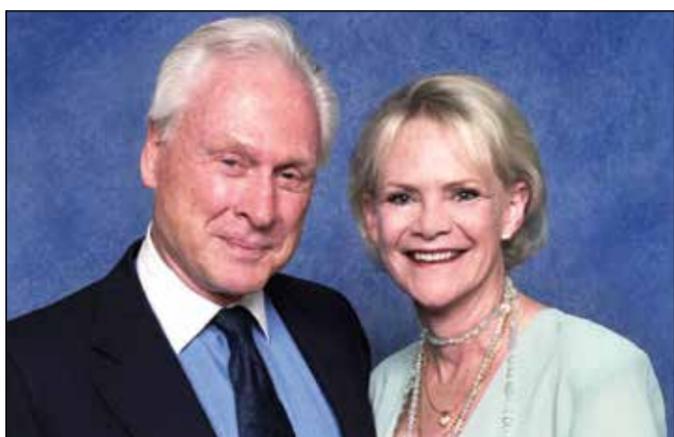


Carl R. Chudnofsky, MD

He had been chair of the Department of Emergency Medicine at Einstein Healthcare Network and a professor in the Department of Emergency Medicine at Jefferson Medical College in Philadelphia.

Among his responsibilities, he oversaw the Emergency Medicine Residency Program at Einstein Medical

See **CHUDNOFSKY**, page 3



USC Libraries

A new residence hall under construction at HSC will be named in honor of USC Trustee Malcolm Currie and his wife, Barbara.

## \$10 million gift to Keck School supports biomedical research and education

By Lynn Lipinski

USC Trustee Malcolm Currie, PhD, and his wife, Barbara, have given \$10 million toward the endowment of the Keck School of Medicine of USC and construction of the USC Michelson Center for Convergent Bioscience.

In recognition of their investment in the university’s biomedical research

and education, two facilities will be named in honor of the Curries: a new Health Sciences Campus residence hall that will open in 2016 and the lobby of the USC Michelson Center.

An engineering physicist who was chair and CEO of Hughes Aircraft, Malcolm Currie has served as a member of the USC Board of Trustees since 1989 and

chaired the board from 1995-2000. He and his wife, Barbara, have been generous supporters of the university, endowing the Malcolm R. Currie Chair in Technology and the Humanities in 2008. The chair, currently held by USC President C. L. Max Nikias, was USC’s first endowed faculty position honoring exceptional

See **ENDOWMENT**, page 4

## New Wi-Fi portal lets staff access Internet from other universities

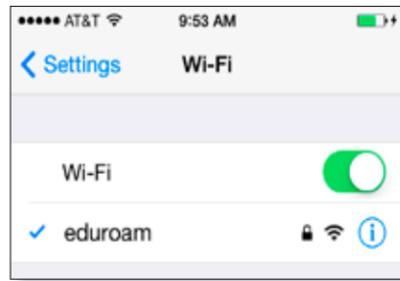
By Douglas Morino

Gone are the days of searching for an unlocked wireless signal while visiting another university — safe and secure high-speed Internet access is now as simple as opening your laptop.

Through a service called eduroam, Keck Medicine of USC physicians, students, researchers and staff visiting other universities and research institutions now have the ability to log into secure, roaming wireless access on their computer and mobile devices. The service gives users the ability to access the Internet safely and easily, without the inconvenience of searching for a guest network.

“These days, you have to be connected,” said Keith Paul, chief technology officer of Keck Medicine of USC. “This is a safe and secure way to connect to the Internet without accessing a network as a guest. You don’t have to worry about being on the open network, especially with confidential information.”

Access to the secure eduroam network is available wherever an eduroam access ID is visible in the



wireless settings of a device. After putting in their Keck Medicine ID and password, users have an instant connection to the Internet with high-speed access. Log-in information and credentials are not revealed to the host institution, eduroam officials say.

Eduroam is available at more than 100 U.S. university and research centers, including dozens in Southern California.

“Unlike any other Wi-Fi service, eduroam provides free, instant and secure access to hotspots around the world,” said Philippe Hanset, eduroam co-founder and CEO of Anyroam LLC.

The service for the Health Sciences Campus was implemented this summer through the work of Network Engineer Brian McCollam, Paul said. About 10,000 students, faculty and staff now have access.

“Brian was instrumental in putting all of this together, figuring out how to implement it in our environment and do it securely,” Paul added.



Kevin S. King will focus his research on the causes of Alzheimer’s disease and dementia.

## Faculty member is awarded prestigious radiology grants

By Douglas Morino

A Keck Medicine of USC neuro-radiologist has been awarded four grants that will pave the way for new research into the underlying causes of cognitive disorders such as Alzheimer’s disease and dementia.

Kevin S. King, MD, assistant professor of clinical radiology at the Keck School of Medicine of USC, will receive \$300,000 in grant funding to further his research for two years. His work is expected to begin this summer and will focus on cerebrovascular reactivity as an early predictor of brain hypoperfusion, microvascular injury and cognitive decline.

King will be looking at causes of Alzheimer’s, dementia and other cognitive disease while examining potential therapeutic options that could prevent reduced cognitive function associated with aging.

“We could potentially be answering some interesting and important questions,” said King, who was recently recruited from the University of Texas, Southwestern, where he worked with the Dallas Heart Study. Although it is now widely accepted that vascular risk factors damage the brain and increase risk for dementia, little is known about how this occurs.

The grant funding will allow King to directly assess the relationships between the health and functions of blood vessels in the brain and cognitive decline.

To test his theory that decreased blood flow to the brain is the cause of cognitive decline, King will use noninvasive advanced imaging such as functional magnetic resonance

imaging (fMRI) to assess the health of blood vessels in the brain.

King will use those findings to help develop preventative measures for cognitive decline.

King hopes to identify the very earliest indicators to potential cognitive disorders, prior to onset of diminished blood flow to the brain or cognitive decline.

His research focuses on the causes of dementia that are related to blood pressure. He will conduct stress tests that increase flow in brain blood vessels. Early stages of disease may decrease the capacity of these blood vessels to increase flow. The brain uses a large amount of energy, and maintaining this ability to increase flow to meet metabolic demand may be critical to maintaining cognitive function.

King will collaborate with other researchers at USC’s Health Sciences and University Park campuses, and the study will be performed in conjunction with the Vascular Cohort Study of the USC Alzheimer’s Disease Research Center. King will work with patients in the Los Angeles area and the Huntington Research Institute. The project will include about 180 men and women older than age 70.

King’s grants are the Baxter Foundation Grant, the USC Alzheimer’s Disease Research Center Pilot grant, the Zumberge Grant and the Radiological Society of North America Research Scholar Grant, which is considered among the most prestigious research awards in the radiology community.

## Doctor crusades against elder abuse

By Diane Krieger

Laura Mosqueda, MD, a leader in the study and prevention of elder abuse, has seen things you wouldn’t want your grandmother to know about. On house calls with Adult Protective Services workers, she’s seen frail, demented seniors in appalling circumstances — victims of neglect, starvation, beatings, occasionally even rape. Instead of averting her eyes, the USC-trained geriatrician has directed her unflinching attention to these horrors and forced the medical community to look too.

A year ago, Mosqueda joined USC as chair of the Department of Family Medicine and associate dean of primary care at the Keck School of Medicine of USC. Mosqueda came to USC after 16 years at the University of California, Irvine, where she co-founded the nation’s first Elder Abuse Forensics Center — a hub for legal, medical, law enforcement and social services strategies to improve the investigation and prosecution of elder abuse cases. That center served



Laura Mosqueda

as the model for the USC-based Los Angeles County Elder Abuse Forensic Center, where Mosqueda continues to work with fellow Keck School geriatrician and center director Diana Homeier, MD.

Boosting USC’s leadership in the field is the National Center on Elder Abuse, which Mosqueda directs. Supported by a three-year, \$2.2 million federal Administration on Aging grant, the center is the nation’s only clearinghouse on elder abuse.

Mosqueda has been building interdisciplinary bridges around the study of elder abuse, reaching out to faculty in social work, law, education, business and the USC Davis School of Gerontology, where she holds a joint appointment.

For more, see the Q&A with Mosqueda posted online at [hscnews.usc.edu](http://hscnews.usc.edu).

## Calendar of Events

### Friday, Aug. 14

**5 p.m.** Educational Affairs White Coat Ceremony and Faculty Teaching Awards, Peter Crookes, MD, Department of Surgery. Harry and Celesta Pappas Quad. Info: Teresa Cook, (323) 442-2419, [teresa.cook@usc.edu](mailto:teresa.cook@usc.edu)

**9 a.m.** Trojan Search and USC Women in Management Workshop. “Career Search Strategies,” Alby Bocanegra, USC. NTT 7409. Info: Ginger Mayerson, (323) 227-1092, [mayerson@usc.edu](mailto:mayerson@usc.edu) RSVP: <http://uscwim.org>

### Thursday, Aug. 27

**9 a.m.** Trojan Search and USC Women in Management Workshop. “Career Search

Strategies,” Alby Bocanegra, USC HR. NTT 7409. Open to non-members. Info and RSVP: Ginger Mayerson, (323) 227-1092, [mayerson@usc.edu](mailto:mayerson@usc.edu), <http://uscwim.org>

### Tuesday, Sept. 1

**11 a.m.** USC Stem Cell Seminar. Markus Grompe, Oregon Health and Science University. Eli and Edythe Broad CIRM Center Auditorium. Info: Cristy Lytal, (323) 442-2172, [lytal@med.usc.edu](mailto:lytal@med.usc.edu), <http://stemcell.usc.edu>

### Tuesday, Sept. 8

**11 a.m.** USC Stem Cell Seminar. Sean Morrison, University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center. Eli and Edythe Broad

CIRM Center Auditorium. Info: Cristy Lytal, (323) 442-2172, [lytal@med.usc.edu](mailto:lytal@med.usc.edu), <http://stemcell.usc.edu>

### Thursday, Sept. 10

**1:30 p.m.** Keck Medicine of USC Stroke Support Group Meeting. “Depression and Stroke,” May Kim-Tenser, MD, USC. Keck Hospital, 3 North, Day Room (3261A). Parking validated and snacks provided. Info: Ozyy Obiwuru, (323) 442-0049, [obiwuru@med.usc.edu](mailto:obiwuru@med.usc.edu)

### Tuesday, Sept. 15

**11 a.m.** USC Stem Cell Seminar. Adam Engler, UC San Diego. Eli and Edythe Broad CIRM Center Auditorium. Info: Cristy Lytal, (323) 442-2172, [lytal@med.usc.edu](mailto:lytal@med.usc.edu),

<http://stemcell.usc.edu>

### Thursdays, Sept. 10-Oct. 29

**8 a.m.** Southern California Clinical and Translational Science Institute, Otolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery, Preventive Medicine and Children’s Hospital Los Angeles. Introduction to Clinical and Translational Research Study Design course at HSC and CHLA campuses. Locations to be announced. This three-hour course is for residents, fellows and junior faculty members as an introduction to clinical research methods. Applicants must identify a research topic and faculty adviser. Tuition is \$400. Info and RSVP: Jeanne McKean, (323) 442-8281, [WD@sc-ctsi.org](mailto:WD@sc-ctsi.org), [https://sectsi.formstack.com/forms/info\\_intro\\_to\\_ctr\\_8\\_week\\_series](https://sectsi.formstack.com/forms/info_intro_to_ctr_8_week_series)

# In memoriam: Jane Hoffman Popovich, 72

By Lynn Lipinski

USC Trustee Jane Hoffman Popovich, 72, an accomplished businesswoman and philanthropist with a lifelong commitment to the university and the community, died Aug. 4 following a long battle with cancer. “My wife, Niki, and I will miss Jane deeply,” said USC President C. L. Max Nikias. “She was a close and caring friend, a good neighbor and, yes, a great Trojan. She has left all of us with so many wonderful memories at USC and in Sun Valley, that we will cherish them for the rest of our lives.”

Popovich and her husband, J. Kristoffer Popovich, have been longtime, generous volunteers and benefactors to USC, supporting many areas of the university, including the Keck School of Medicine of USC, the USC Marshall School of Business, and USC Athletics. Their giving, which encompasses more than \$20 million in gifts and pledges, most recently included \$4 million in June toward cancer research at USC Norris Comprehensive Cancer Center.

Advancing the legacy of her parents, H. Leslie and Elaine S. Hoffman, was of

paramount importance to Jane Popovich. Her parents were avid supporters of higher education, which was a driving force for their decades-long support of USC — even though they didn’t attend the university. Several USC buildings bear the Hoffmans’ names, including H. Leslie Hoffman Hall of Business Administration, named for her father, a 17-year member of the USC Board of Trustees and national committee chair of the university’s 1961 Master Plan; and Elaine Stevely Hoffman Medical Research Center on the Health Sci-

ences Campus, which honors her mother.

Cancer research also was a major focus of her family’s charitable giving and involvement. The Popoviches’ \$4 million gift this year funded the Jane and Kris Popovich Chair in Cancer Research at USC Norris. The donation came a decade after the family’s gift to endow the H. Leslie Hoffman and Elaine S. Hoffman Chair in Cancer Research at the Keck School of Medicine.

Jane Popovich is survived by her husband, three daughters and sons-in-law, and eight grandchildren.



Courtesy of Popovich family

Jane Popovich and husband Kris had recently established the Popovich Chair in Cancer Research at USC Norris.

## NEW MS: Inaugural class of 30 to pursue neuroimaging degree

Continued from page 1

will be responsible for collection of data and creation of analytics, and they will draw scientific conclusions.

In addition to intimate class sizes taught by neuroscience faculty, students will have access to the institute’s new brain scanning facility expected to open next spring.

“Students will be able to gather, analyze and explore piles and piles of neuroimaging data on brain form, function and connectivity,” Van Horn said.

The inaugural class includes about 30 students from diverse educational backgrounds. The program is suited for students who have earned bachelor’s degrees in psychology, neuroscience, computer science, engineering, physics and biology.

“This exciting new master’s program has something for everybody and provides an environment where everybody can make contributions,” Van Horn said.

The neuroimaging and informatics program is ideal for students looking to expand their knowledge before pursuing medical degrees or doctoral studies, Van Horn added.

The program consists of 10 courses; 26 units are required to graduate. The

curriculum focuses on the basics of the human brain — particularly from the perspective of neuroimaging — and data collection using state-of-the-art MRI scanners and other systems, cell structures, genetic tests and microscopy.

Admission requires a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.0, along with GRE scores. The degree program was made possible by a recent \$50 million gift from longtime USC benefactors Mark and Mary Stevens. The gift is part of the \$6 billion Campaign for the University of California, one of the most ambitious fundraising campaigns in the history of higher education.

Neuroscience is considered one of the fastest-growing scientific fields, and demand for graduates with specialized neuroimaging training is expected to boom. USC’s graduates will be well-equipped to become scientific coordinators or lead analysts in research laboratories or to apply to a medical training program or to engage in public policy or regulatory administration of academic, clinical or business efforts.

“NIIN students will ideally positioned to enter any field related to the study of the brain,” Van Horn said.



Robert Vance III

Staff members check in during an evacuation drill at USC Norris Comprehensive Cancer Center.

## USC Norris drill simulates earthquake response

By Douglas Morino

More than 400 staff members participated in an evacuation exercise on July 17 at USC Norris Comprehensive Cancer Center.

The drill centered on a simulated earthquake of magnitude 7.0 that struck near Santa Monica, damaging medical facilities throughout Los Angeles. Employees evacuated and assembled in three assembly areas while physicians and nurses gathered at a triage area in Pappas Quad to treat the injured.

The exercise allowed HSC security and emergency management staff to set and test the Norris Hospital Command Center and victim triage areas. It also provided building search and clearance practice for members of the HSC-CERT team.

“The exercise marked the first time in 15 years that all components of the complex USC Norris operation participated on this scale,” said Safety and Emergency Management Officer Robert Vance III.

Evacuation drills at Keck Medical Center of USC are done at least four times a year.

## CHUDNOFSKY: New leader for Emergency Medicine

Continued from page 1

Center, a fully accredited, long-standing residency program with a Level 1 Trauma Center that receives over 100,000 annual emergency department visits.

Chudnofsky graduated from George Washington University School of Medi-

cine and completed his residency in emergency medicine at the University of Cincinnati Medical Center. He succeeds Ed Newton, MD, who had served as interim chair of Emergency Medicine since August 2014.

The Department of Emergency Medicine at

LAC+USC provides world-class emergency, trauma and medical services. It is the county’s largest emergency department, offering a safety net for emergency care to the 10 million residents of Los Angeles County, for which it provides more than 28 percent of all trauma care.

## ICD-10: Training set to begin on new medical documentation protocol

Continued from page 1

Keck Hospital of USC and USC Norris Cancer Hospital. Accurate documentation in the medical record will translate into proper coding and reporting that will produce meaningful clinical data that will truly represent the severity of illness, risk of mortality and complications rate of patients. It will also support decisions about the medical necessity and length of stay in the hospital, he said.

Clinical data is analyzed by entities that make the information publicly available to help consumers make

decisions when choosing hospitals, physicians and health plans, Flores said. Additionally, properly reflecting a patient’s condition and the care they receive can protect physicians from lawsuits.

“Documentation drives everything,” Flores said. “If you already have good documentation, you won’t be affected by the ICD-10 transition.”

The focus on documentation comes as Keck Medicine of USC and other medical facilities across the nation prepare for the Oct. 1 implementation deadline of ICD-10, the latest

edition of the International Classification of Diseases published by the World Health Organization as the standard diagnostic tool for epidemiology, health management and clinical purposes. ICD-10 will be used to report diagnoses in all clinical settings.

Keck Medicine of USC has begun information and training sessions. Under the old system, physicians may have been providing the patient with optimal care but that care was not accurately reflected in the patient’s medical record, Flores said.

The work in the De-

partment of Neurology highlights the success of the Clinical Documentation Improvement Program and shows what can be achieved when physicians and other staff members commit to accurately reflecting patient conditions and care in the medical record, Flores said.

“Emanuel and Kim-Tenser understood what needed to be done,” Flores said. “They were receptive. Having the support of administration and department leaders is crucial to documentation success.”

Keck Hospital of USC treats some of the most

severely ill patients, making accurate documentation critical for patient care and accurate billing, said Katy Sullivan, clinical information manager.

“In the current health care climate, it is vitally important that our physicians, nurse practitioners and physician assistants accurately represent that severity of illness in their documentation so that we are able to be reimbursed fully for the care we provided,” Sullivan said. “Additionally, we need to ensure that our complication rate is not artificially high due to unclear documentation.”

## HSC Newsmakers

A roundup of news items related to Keck Medicine of USC, which may include philanthropic donations, research grants, publication in academic journals and mentions in the news media:



Virginia Baca

### First Huddle for night staff is held

A **KNOWN ROUNDING** was conducted on July 30 at Keck Medical Center, followed for the first time in the evening by a Keck Huddle. More than 100 night shift staff members attended. Future evening rounding and huddles are planned for the fall, with dates to be announced soon.

### Research focuses on effects of near-roadway air pollution

**POLICYMAKERS AND DEVELOPERS** planning high-density housing near public transit with the goal of reducing automobile use and greenhouse gas emissions need a clearer understanding of the health risks of air pollution from busy roads and freeways nearby, according to new research by Keck School of Medicine of USC scientists. The study is one of the first to focus on heart disease that can result from residential exposures near major roadways in a large urban area. The study estimated the current impact of near-roadway pollution and of likely future exposure under proposed urban redevelopment plans for Southern California in response to landmark California legislation passed in 2008 to reduce greenhouse gases by 2035. The anticipated result is less reliance on private automobiles, reduced greenhouse gas emissions and corresponding reduced levels of air pollution hazardous to health. “The health benefits of these reduced emissions are partially offset by increased exposure to high concentrations of near-roadway pollutants among a larger population living next to major traffic corridors,” said Rob McConnell, MD, corresponding author and professor of preventive medicine, Keck School of Medicine of USC.

### New associate dean for Health Sciences Libraries is named



Henderson

**CYNTHIA L. HENDERSON** is the new associate dean, Health Sciences Libraries, and director, Norris Medical Library, effective July 16. Henderson is responsible for providing leadership and direction for the USC Libraries’ Health Sciences Libraries, which includes the Norris Medical Library, the Wilson Dental Library, as well as the provision of information services to the USC hospitals and clinics and Children’s Hospital Los Angeles. Henderson comes to USC from the position of Executive Director of the Louis Stokes Health Sciences Library at Howard University in Washington, D.C., where she had been since 2010. She had held leadership positions at the Morehouse School of Medicine, Samuel Merritt College (now Samuel Merritt University) and the University of Illinois at Chicago since 1995. She is a past member of the Board of Directors of the Medical Library Association, is published and has made presentations at numerous conferences and workshops.

### Security app provides quick access to emergency assistance

**SAFETY IS JUST** a click away with a new mobile app available to USC students, staff and faculty. The LiveSafe app can be used to initiate contact with emergency responders at and around the University Park and Health Sciences campuses. Managed by the USC Department of Public Safety and the USC Department of Emergency Planning, the mobile app is available for free download on iOS and Android devices.

**IN AN EMERGENCY,** call the Department of Public Safety at **(323) 442-1000**.  
**FOR A SAFETY ESCORT** to your vehicle or to reach the department for a non-emergency, call **(323) 442-1200**.

# Keck Medicine of USC gets new director of Kidney Research Center

By Douglas Morino

A pioneering physician has joined Keck Medicine of USC as chief of the Division of Nephrology and director of the USC/UKRO Kidney Research Center.

Kenneth R. Hallows, MD, PhD, is an internationally recognized expert in ion transport physiology and in transport-metabolism coupling via the metabolic sensor AMP-activated protein kinase, an enzyme that plays a role in cellular energy homeostasis.

His clinical interests include electrolyte disorders, acute kidney injury and polycystic kidney disease.

“We are delighted that Ken has agreed to join USC,” said Edward Crandall, MD, chair of the Department of Medicine. “He is an excellent scientist with outstanding credentials, and we expect he will lead the division and the Kidney Research Center to world-class status.”

Hallows graduated with a degree in biophysics in 1987 from Brown University. He was then recruited to the MD-PhD program at the University of Rochester School of Medicine in New York, earning his PhD in biophysics in 1993 and his MD in 1995.

UKRO, which stands for University Kidney Research Organization, is a Los Ange-



Kenneth R. Hallows

les-based nonprofit charity supporting medical research and education related to the causes, treatment and eradication of all forms of kidney disease. The organization has pledged an initial \$3.5 million to make this cutting-edge center a reality.

Vito M. Campese, MD, professor of medicine at the Keck School of Medicine of USC and chair of UKRO’s Medical Scientific Advisory Board — which is instrumental in the planning of the kidney center — serves as co-director.

“UKRO is delighted to welcome Dr. Hallows to USC’s group of nationally known researchers into various aspects of the kidney,” said UKRO President Kenneth Kleinberg. “We are counting on his leadership to place the USC/UKRO Kidney Research Center at the forefront of renal research

worldwide.”

Hallows’ goal as director will be to establish a research team that interacts well with the strengths of the university, fostering collaborations with experts with complementary skills and promoting research by faculty members in a challenging funding climate. He will seek out talented recruits with an eye toward translational projects that bridge basic science and clinical research.

Hallows plans to broaden his own experimental repertoire toward in vivo and human studies that utilize conditional and tissue-specific transgenic mouse models and clinical patient-centered studies in kidney disease.

“I envision that the Division of Nephrology will become a center of excellence in basic and translational kidney research with clinical initiatives that have a direct positive impact on patients with kidney disease in Los Angeles and nationwide,” Hallows said.

Hallows’ recruitment is expected to increase visibility of the division nationally through increased research and publications in national journals, as well as an expansion of faculty leadership and committee participation in national organizations.

## ENDOWMENT: Curries donate \$10 million

Continued from page 1  
 achievements in both realms.

“The Trojan Family will be forever grateful to Mal and Barbara for their leadership, generosity and commitment to our university,” Nikias said. “Their outstanding support of USC’s medical research and education has done so much to transform Los Angeles into a vibrant center for biomedical innovations, and it has kept the university at the very fore of this growth.”

The Malcolm and Barbara Currie Residence Hall will add 450 beds for HSC students. The building, now under construction, will include a day care facility for students with families.

The USC Michelson Center will be the largest building on the University Park Campus when completed in 2017. It aims to be a catalyst for a biomedical research corridor in Los Angeles.

The Malcolm and Barbara Currie Lobby within the 190,000-square-foot space will be the gateway to a center where engineers and scientists will work together to advance bioscience and bio-engineering research.

“I feel very privileged to have been part of USC’s rise to recognition as one of the world’s great research universities, and I look forward to USC’s continuing major contributions to society from our focus on the convergence of the engineering

and medical sciences,” Malcolm Currie said.

A defense and aerospace industry leader whose work underpins today’s national security systems, Malcolm Currie served in the 1970s as

Undersecretary of Defense for Research and Engineering and as the U.S.-designated national armament director in NATO. He is also known for leading Hughes Aircraft from 1988 to 1993.

USC Health Sciences  
 Public Relations and Marketing  
 2011 N Soto Street - SST-2830  
 Los Angeles, CA 90032

Non-Profit Organization  
 U.S. POSTAGE PAID  
 Industry CA  
 Permit 4029

## HSC News

HSC News is published for the faculty, staff, students, volunteers and visitors in the University of Southern California’s Health Sciences Campus community. It is produced by the Health Sciences Public Relations and Marketing staff. Permission to reprint articles is available upon request. No artwork may be reproduced without the creator’s consent.



Editor: Les Dunseith

Director, Internal Communications: Virginia Baca

Contributors: Andrea Aldana, Hope Hamashige, Cristy Lytal, Carol Matthieu, Douglas Morino, Sara Reeve, Leslie Ridgeway and Alison Trinidad

Phone: (323) 442-2830  
 Fax: (323) 442-2832  
 Email: hscnews@usc.edu  
 Web: hscnews.usc.edu | kecknet.usc.edu

Next Issue:  
 Aug. 28