

USC Norris Festival of Life celebrates cancer survivors

'Learn about your disease, surround yourself with positive people, communicate with your doctors and—most importantly—don't forget to laugh.'

—Breast cancer survivor Nadia Estes, offering her advice on fighting the disease

By Ryan Ball

A pair of novelty T-shirts worn by a couple in the crowd said what a lot of people were thinking: "Cancer Sucks."

But there was another message made loud and clear at the 20th annual Festival of Life: "There is hope." Rather than being printed on sturdy cotton, that message was worn on the faces of more than 700 cancer survivors and family members gathered on the USC Health Sciences Campus on June 5. Held in recognition of National Cancer Survivors Day, the event was hosted by the USC Norris Comprehensive Cancer Center and Hospital.

Art Ulene, a Norris Cancer Center advisory board member and former Today Show medical correspondent, was there for the very first Festival of Life in 1991, and says the event took on a whole new meaning when he received his own cancer diagnosis about 10 years ago.

Back again to emcee this year's gathering, he said the event is more than a way to honor cancer patients past and present.

"It's a celebration of the extraordinary work being



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Keck School of Medicine student and cancer survivor Robert Martinez kisses his mother before the start of the 20th annual Festival of Life.

done by the doctors and the researchers who are here," Ulene stated. "It's a celebration of the people who have helped us get through an experience with cancer. It's a celebration of the future, a message of hope to patients in the hospital right now."

Also speaking at the event was Rick Selby, professor of surgery at the Keck School of Medicine, another physician who had his own bout with the big C. He said the Festival of Life helps raise enthusiasm for active research that is changing the way doctors treat cancer.



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Cancer survivor Nadia Estes releases doves at the close of the Festival of Life ceremony on June 5 at Harry and Celesta Pappas Quad.

"What is truly revolutionary is the advent of more selective medical therapies, whether they be targeted antibody therapies or selective block-

ing drugs that don't have the toxicities they did before," Selby remarked.

Among the acts providing

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Dental School receives ethics award

By Beth Dunham

The USC Office of Compliance has recognized individuals from the Herman Ostrow School of Dentistry of USC with the first annual USC Ethical Leadership Award.

Given to individuals who best embody the spirit of the USC Code of Ethics and principles of the USC Compliance and Ethics Program, the award was presented to Sigmund Abelson, associate dean for clinical affairs, and Ruby Hinds, director of the Health Care Compliance Program.

Abelson and Hinds took the lead in establishing the Ostrow School of Dentistry's official health care compliance program, a comprehensive program and set of policies regarding faculty credentialing schedules, privacy, security measures, risk management and more.

The new program significantly unifies, organizes and strengthens the school's compliance efforts. The policies and standards are strongly aligned with university compliance measures, Abelson

said, and both he and Hinds expressed gratitude for the involvement of and the guidance provided by the Office of Compliance.

"Awareness of and adherence to compliance policies is an essential part of the university and part of the day-to-day operations of a health care environment," Hinds said.

The extensive program was nearly three years in the making, and Ostrow School of Dentistry staff and faculty

readily have embraced the new structure and realigned policies, Abelson said.

"As we built this program, we did it in such a way as to build support from the school community at the same time," he said. "This is a partnership."

The school also has refined its partnership with members of industry through the program, including the institution of new industry relationship

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Ben Creighton

From left: Rene Aragomaniz, assistant director of faculty provider compliance; Tammy Capretta, assistant vice president for health care compliance; Laura LaCorte, associate senior vice president for compliance; Ruby Hinds, Ostrow School of Dentistry health care compliance program director; Sigmund Abelson, Ostrow School of Dentistry associate dean for clinical affairs; Todd Dickey, senior vice president for administration; and Avishai Sadan, Dean of the Ostrow School of Dentistry.

USC researchers discover new subtype of brain cancer

A study conducted by a collaborative team led by USC researchers may lead to better insight into the clinical outcome for some patients with a particularly aggressive type of brain cancer. The research may also provide a framework for development of targeted drug treatments.

The research by The Cancer Genome Atlas (TCGA), published online in the journal *Cancer Cell*, used epigenomics to determine that tumor DNA methylation profiles were distinctly different in about 10 percent of patients with glioblastoma multiforme (GBM).

"Most GBM patients survive fewer than 15 months, and fewer than 10 percent live more than five years," said Peter W. Laird of the USC Epigenome Center, who led the TCGA team in collaboration with Kenneth Aldape at M.D. Anderson

Cancer Center, Stephen B. Baylin at Johns Hopkins School of Medicine and many other TCGA consortium members. "With this research, we have identified a subset of patients with a distinct type of GBM that have substantially better clinical outcomes, with a median survival time of more than three years from the time of diagnosis."

Epigenomics is the study of how DNA is packaged and marked to control which genes can be used in a particular type of cell or tissue. The distribution of one of these marks along the DNA, called DNA methylation, is often abnormal in cancer, contributing to the disease process. The characteristic epigenetic profile discovered by the TCGA team is called G-CIMP (Glioma CpG Island Methylator Phenotype) and was found to occur in much

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Keck School dean establishes community leadership council

By Ina Fried

A new Dean's Community Leadership Council will partner with the Keck School of Medicine of USC to explore ways to improve health services that meet the needs of the surrounding community.

"It's important that we communicate with the community about what we're doing and hear what the concerns of the community

are on an ongoing basis. So we would like to think of this as a forum to talk about health care issues," Keck School Dean Carmen A. Puliafito said May 27 at the first meeting of the Community Leadership Council on the USC Health Sciences Campus.

Puliafito mentioned two important ways in which the Keck School is connected to the community. First, "we provide health care to many tens of thousands of patients in this community," he said. Second, many staff members both of the Keck School and of its major teaching hospital, Los Angeles County+USC Medical Center, live in the community.

Glenn Ault, associate dean for clinical administration (LAC+USC Medical Center) briefed the council members about the medical school and its historic relationship with the county hospital, which is the largest provider of health care in Los Angeles County.

He then opened the floor for questions and discussions. "We want to hear from you, what your concerns are and how USC and the Keck School can help you," Ault said.



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Keck School of Medicine Dean Carmen A. Puliafito speaks with members of the new Dean's Community Leadership Council, from left, Carlos Vaquerano, Roland Fargo and Richard Zaldivar.

The council is expected to meet at least several times a year to address concerns and issues that arise from discussions.

Members of the Dean's Community Leadership Council are:

- Father Greg Boyle, S.J., founder, Homeboy Industries
 - Lou Calanche, executive director, Legacy LA
 - Jorge C. Corralejo, chair & CEO, Latino Business Chamber of Greater Los Angeles
 - J. Lorraine Estradas, chief executive officer, Arroyo Vista Family Health Center; represented at the meeting by Irene Holguin, director of community outreach
 - The Honorable Juan Marcos Gutiérrez González, cónsul general, Consulado General de México, represented at the meeting by Alan Sánchez, health window coordinator
 - Steve Kasten, president, Lincoln Heights Chamber of Commerce
 - Alicia Maldonado, president, Boyle Heights Chamber of Commerce; president, Mockingbird Communications
 - Ernest Moreno, president, East Los Angeles College
 - Cynthia Sanchez, executive director, Proyecto Pastoral
 - Rudy Torres, chair & CEO, Greater El Sereno Chamber of Commerce
 - Carlos Antonio H. Vaquerano, executive director & founder, Salvadoran American Leadership and Educational Fund; President, Board of Directors, Clínica Romero
 - Beth D. Zachary, president & CEO, White Memorial Medical Center, represented at the meeting by Roland Fargo, vice president, business development
 - Richard Zaldivar, president & founder, The Wall las Memorias
- Other participants from USC:
- Laurie Stone—USC Office of the General Counsel
 - Kristen Soares—USC Government Relations
 - Cesar Armendariz—USC Civic and Community Relations
 - David Galaviz—USC Local Government Relations
 - Thomas Sayles—USC Government and Community Relations

Ocular prosthesis offers 'new lease on life' for patients

By Leslie Ridgeway

A special prosthesis that fits over the entire eye is bringing hope to patients suffering from corneal irregularities and severe dry eye.

The Boston Ocular Surface Prosthesis (BOS-P) is now available at the Perry Rosenthal Clinic at the Doheny Eye Institute. The prosthesis, about the size of a quarter, bathes the eye in saline solution and is thin enough that the patient can easily blink. The prostheses are custom designed and fitted to each patient, who is then trained on proper insertion and removal of the devices. The extra work is worth the trouble, patients say.

"One of our patients with dry eyes was almost forced to

quit her job," said Samuel Yiu, medical director of the clinic and cornea specialist. "Now she is enjoying her work and her life again. Most of our patients feel the prosthesis gives them a new lease on their lives."

The prosthesis, developed by Perry Rosenthal, and approved by the Food and Drug Administration in 1994, previously required patients to travel to the nonprofit Boston Foundation for Sight in Boston, Mass., to be fitted for the lens. The lens has been available since Oct. 2009 at satellite clinics established at the Doheny Eye Institute at USC, Baylor University and the Brooke Army Medical Center in Texas. The Doheny Eye Institute clinic has fitted

25 patients with the prosthesis and is working with many others from throughout the United States. The clinic is led by Yiu, John Irvine, executive director, and Gloria Chiu, chief optometrist.

The device is designed for patients with keratoconus, a degenerative disease that affects the cornea, as well as other painful and potentially blinding diseases and conditions such as post-corneal transplant astigmatism and severe dry eye. The prosthesis fits on top of the sclera, which has few nerve endings.

Preservative-free saline solution is poured into a well in the center of the prosthesis. When the prosthesis is placed correctly, the patient can see

through the saline solution. The saline solution serves as a kind of protective "bandage" on the eye.

"The scleral footing of the prosthesis, along with the ability to bathe the cornea in fluid, allows a tremendous amount of improvement in selected patients' vision, comfort and quality of life," said Irvine. "Recognition of its potential for patient comfort and rehabilitation is growing. More physicians are weighing in on the device, which allows for positive feedback for further development."

After being fitted for and trained to use the prosthesis, patients return to the clinic

for regular lens maintenance. Cost for the prosthesis is in the \$7,000 range for patients without insurance. Irvine and Yiu are working to find a way to offer financial assistance to qualified patients, once funding becomes available.

Doheny Eye Institute's David Huang is exploring new applications of a technology called optical coherence tomography that may speed up production and decrease costs of the device.

For information on the BOS-P, or to make an appointment, call (323) 442-6337, or visit the Doheny Eye Institute website at www.doheny.org.

ETHICS: Award honors openness, compliance

Continued from page 1
reporting guidelines for faculty, the use of the RepTrax program in order to keep track of visiting industry partners and other measures that make productive, appropriate relationships with industry easier.

Hinds said that the new structure and the openness of the whole process have made adhering to compliance policies, as well as reporting any concerns or problems, simpler for staff and faculty members.

"We aim to be very inclusive and accessible for any of our community members who have questions about the program," she said. Avishai Sadan, dean of the

Ostrow School of Dentistry, praised Abelson and Hinds' leadership in implementing the new program throughout the school.

"In the ever-changing world of regulations which govern institutions such as USC, the Ostrow School of Dentistry has been able to adapt to new guidelines and new technologies while maintaining an environment that encourages productive, professional relationships with patients, students, visitors and industry partners," Sadan said. "This environment fosters research growth, improves education, enhances patient care and helps us to better fulfill our mission."

The Weekly

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Aging research seminar presents interdisciplinary perspectives

By Sara Reeve
The question of how to tackle challenges associated with an aging population was the topic of the day at an interdisciplinary conference hosted by the USC Davis School of Gerontology and the USC Office of the Vice Provost for Research Advancement on April 20.

The event, held in the Davidson Conference Center on the University Park Campus, featured presentations from USC faculty from a wide variety of disciplines—from gerontology to architecture, medicine to public policy. “When Social Security was created, life expectancy was 63, and retirement was 65—most people didn’t live to retirement,” said Randolph Hall, vice provost for research advancement. “The question now is, ‘How do we maintain a high quality of life as we age?’” J.C. Chen, associate profes-

sor of environmental health at the Keck School of Medicine, presented information about urban living and its effect on cognitive health in the elderly. “Urbanization is likely the single most important demographic shift worldwide for the past century and continuing into the 21st century,” he said. According to Chen, while urban living has several advantages for older people, including improved access to health care, arts and culture, issues of crime, pollution and social isolation pose distinct challenges. Air pollution, in particular, seems to cause increased harm to the elderly. Chen stated that older people may be more sensitive to air pollution due to a variety of factors, including reduced capacities for detoxification, increased cell damages and decreased capabilities for cell repairs. “One year’s worth of

average urban exposure to ozone is associated with poor performance in cognitive tests for coding ability, attention and short-term memory,” he noted. A hot topic at the conference was the issue of Alzheimer’s Disease, with several presenters speaking about different aspects of related research. Roberta Diaz Brinton, the R. Pete Vanderveen Endowed Chair in Therapeutic Discovery and Development at the USC School of Pharmacy, presented findings on the bioenergetics of menopause and the brain. Her research shows that estrogen helps to promote the brain’s use of glucose for energy. “When there is a decline in estrogen in the brain, it’s not as if the entire brain now can’t function, but you just are down 25 to 30 percent in your ability to generate energy,”

said Brinton. “A 25 to 30 percent drop actually hurts. In the case of your bioenergetic portfolio, you have a limited window of opportunity to restore this system. ... This has lasting consequences for sustaining the cognitive ability.” Other highlights from the conference included a presentation from Carolee Winstein, professor of biokinesiology and physical therapy and director of the Rehabilitation Engineering Research Center for Technologies for Successful Aging with Disability, she discussed the center’s projects harnessing technology to slow the progress of disability for older people. Technology lunch sessions that allowed attendees to interact with robots and virtual reality games designed for older adults. To view a webcast of the entire day’s panel presentations, visit www.usc.edu/dept/gero/USCAgingResearch.

‘The question now is, “How do we maintain a high quality of life as we age?”’

—Randolph Hall, USC vice provost for research advancement

Clinical marketing programs hit a home run for USC hospitals



The Tommy Trojan collage for the award-winning “We Are USC” ad featured head shots of nearly 400 employees.

Four marketing projects for the USC University Hospital and USC Norris Cancer Hospital have garnered five awards in a recent national competition. The four entries produced in 2009 received recognition in the Healthcare Marketing Report competition, which garnered more than 4,000 entries nationwide. The Healthcare Marketing Report is considered the national newspaper for healthcare marketers. The awards include:

- Gold Award in the magazine ad series category for last year’s Los Angeles Dodgers program ads. The two USC University Hospital ads featured a juxtaposition of baseballs with a stethoscope and baseball bats with an otoscope. The copy message reads, “Proud to be the official hospital of the Dodgers.”
- The two-ad series co-branding the hospital with the Dodgers also received recognition for outstanding creativity in advertising as one of 16 Best of Show entries.
- Gold Award in the employee communications program category

for the hospital acquisition celebration materials featuring the Tommy Trojan “head” collage created with nearly 400 employee head shots. The multi-part entry featured a newspaper ad announcing the hospital acquisition by USC, a lobby display banner and a commemorative poster published in *The Weekly*.

- Gold Award in the special video production category for the USC Institute of Urology video featuring interviews with Inderbir Gill and actress Shirley Maclaine. The video was produced for posting on the Institute’s website.
- Silver Award in the professional recruitment category for the full-page nurse recruitment ad appearing in *Trojan Family Magazine*. The ad says the USC hospitals are “looking for nurses who work like Trojans.”


The award-winning work was created by the USC Health Sciences Public Relations and Marketing staff in collaboration with Swanson Russell, the agency responsible for leading the development of the USC hospitals’ “Fight On” marketing campaign launched in January.

CANCER: Findings will help detection

Continued from page 1
younger patients. G-CIMP tumors have other distinct alterations in their genomic landscape, revealing an interesting association with an acquired mutation in the IDH1 gene. “Such findings are critical to the detection and treatment of brain cancer based on the genetic or epigenetic profile of each patient’s disease,” said National Institutes of Health (NIH) Director Francis Collins, “The depth and breadth of expertise in The Cancer Genome Atlas research network, combined with ever-improving genomic technologies, is generating remarkably detailed insights into cancer.” The Cancer Genome Atlas is a consortium funded by the National Cancer Institute and the National Human Genome Research Institute of the NIH to map molecular changes found in cancer. In a collaborative effort involving more than 150 researchers, TCGA collected and analyzed the first large-scale molecular data across multiple platforms from a cohort of patients with GBM and published their initial findings in an issue of *Nature* in 2008. The current integrative and collaborative work, published in the journal *Cancer*

Cell, builds off of this publicly available data and provides a unique and informative look at the epigenome of patients suffering from this most aggressive cancer. The USC Epigenome Center (<http://epigenome.usc.edu/>), led by Laird, is one of the nation’s first research centers focused on the genome-scale study of epigenetics. Created with a \$10 million gift from the Kenneth T. and Eileen L. Norris Foundation, the center is one of the leading institutions for epigenomic research, a field that shows great promise for cancer and disease research. The center is affiliated with the USC Norris Comprehensive Cancer Center and Hospital and the Keck School of Medicine of USC. Most analytic TCGA datasets are publicly available to the research community through a web database, <http://cancergenome.nih.gov/dataportal>. To learn more about TCGA, including Quick Facts, Q&A, graphics, glossary, a brief guide to genomics and a media library of available images, visit <http://cancergenome.nih.gov>.

Noushmehr H., et al., Identification of a CpG Island Methylator Phenotype that Defines a Distinct Subgroup of Glioma, Cancer Cell (2010), doi:10.1016/j.ccr.2010.03.017



FAT VS. FIT IS A TOUGH FIGHT—Rudolph Leibel, professor of pediatrics and medicine, head of the division of molecular genetics, and co-director of the Naomi Berrie Diabetes Center at Columbia University Medical Center, discussed his views on obesity at a May 27 lecture as part of the Dean’s Translational Medicine Seminar Series. Leibel took the audience on a tour of some of the best translational research in the field of obesity. He characterized appetite regulation as a system that evolved to prevent starvation, not obesity. Thus, it is relatively easy to fool the system and gain weight, especially in a world where there are lots of good-tasting calories to be had very easily. This phenomenon is one of the challenges that contribute to rising rates of obesity and emphasizes the importance of obesity prevention. Leibel’s presentation is available via webcast at http://keckmedia.usc.edu/mediasite/Catalog/catalogs/Rudolph_Leibel.aspx.

Calendar of Events

This Calendar of events is also online at www.usc.edu/hscalendar for the Health Sciences Campus community

Monday, June 14

11 a.m. Diabetes Research Center Seminar. “Implications of Targeting PGC-1 Alpha in the Pathogenesis of Metabolic Disease,” Jennifer Estall, Harvard. NML Lower Level West Conference Rm. Info: (323) 442-1040

11:45 a.m. – 5:15 p.m. Center for Craniofacial Molecular Biology Symposium. “Stem Cell Research and Application,” Various speakers. CSC 250. Info: (323) 442-3170.

Wednesday, June 16

Noon. Attending Physician Lunch Forum. “C. Difficile Colitis@ UH – A surgical View,” Andreas Kaiser, USC. UNH Copper Rm. Info: (323) 442-8686

Friday, June 18

7 a.m. USC Physical Sciences in Oncology Center Symposium. Various speakers. UPC Davidson Conference Center. Info: (323) 442-2596

Monday, June 21

Noon. KSOM Research Seminar. “A New Molecular Understanding of Heart Outflow Tract Development and Congenital Heart Defects,” Henry Sucov, USC. NOR 7409. Info: (323) 442-1144

Wednesday, June 23

3 p.m. KSOM Research Seminar. “PARY in Adipocyte Differentiation and Function,” Susanne Mandrup, Univ. of Southern Denmark. NOR 7409. Info: (323) 442-1144

Friday, June 25

8:30 a.m. “A Role for Class II HDACs in Fibrogenesis,” Joe Lasky, Tulane Univ. IRD 734. Info: (323) 226-7923

Monday, June 28

Noon. KSOM Research Seminar. “Transcription Factor Mediated Epigenetic Regulation of Cell Growth and Phenotype,” Gary Stein, Univ. of Massachusetts. NRT Aresty Aud. Info: (323) 442-1144

Wednesday, June 30

8:30 a.m. “Administration and Management of an MICU,” Hidenobu Shigemitsu, USC. IRD 734. Info: (323) 226-7923

Noon. Attending Physician Lunch Forum. “How Not to Get Sued,” Marty Lockwood, Beta Healthcare Group. UNH Copper Rm. Info: (323) 442-8686

Thursday, July 8 – Sunday, July 11

8 a.m. 6th Annual International Head & Neck Symposium. Various speakers. USC Health Sciences campus. Registration deadline: May 15. Info: (323) 442-7432

Thursday, September 23

8 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. 14th Annual Max R. Gaspar Vascular Symposium. “Vascular Emergencies and Complications,” R. Patrick Clagett, Univ. of Texas Southwestern Medical Ctr. Millennium Biltmore Hotel. Info: (323) 442-2555

Saturday, September 25

8:30 a.m. 14th Annual Max R. Gaspar Grand Rounds Lecture. “Aortic Graft Infection: The Problem is Still with Us,” R. Patrick Clagett, Univ. of Texas Southwestern Medical Center. DOH 100. Info: (323) 442-6835

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 or fax to (323) 442-2832, or e-mail to 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.

Kulig Elected Catherine Worthingham Fellow

By Cathy Curtis

The Board of Directors of the American Physical Therapy Association has elected Kornelia Kulig, associate professor of clinical physical therapy, a Catherine Worthingham Fellow—the highest honor bestowed by the APTA.

The award recognizes “persons whose work has resulted in lasting and significant advances in the science, education, and practice of the profession of physical therapy.”

Kulig, who joined the Division of Biokinesiology and Physical Therapy in 1997, has played an instrumental role as principal investigator for the MUSSEL (Muscle-Specific Strengthening Effectiveness Post Lumbar Microdiscectomy) project in the Physical Therapy Clinical Research Network (PTClinResNet). Kulig’s team has been evaluating the ability of muscle-specific strengthening to improve function and quality of life and reduce pain and disability in individuals who have undergone this post-surgical intervention.

In her nomination letter, Carolee Winstein, principal investigator for PTClinResNet, praised Kulig for “her ideas, her passion, her intelligence, her hard work, and her unassuming personality; she has created a highly productive research environment.”

The author of more than 50 peer-reviewed papers published in a broad range of respected professional journals, Kulig has garnered over \$500,000 in research funding to support clinical research in orthopedics.

Her research aims to improve scientific and clinical understanding of tissue morphology, biomechanics, neurophysiology and pathology



Kornelia Kulig

in relation to degenerative processes in tendons, intervertebral discs and muscles.

Kulig is a three-time winner of the Physical Therapist Research Award in the Faculty category from the California chapter of the APTA for multi-authored publications. Winstein wrote that the letters in support of Kulig singled out her ability to develop strong collaborative relationships with colleagues.

At USC, Kulig teaches coursework related to anatomy and biomechanics and is a clinical mentor in the orthopedic physical therapy residency program.

Her work as an educator has been recognized by major awards, including the APTA’s James A. Gould Excellence in Teaching Orthopaedic

Physical Therapy Award (2002) and Dorothy E. Baethke-Eleanor J Carlin Award for Excellence in Academic Teaching (2004). She was honored by the Division as Outstanding Teacher of the Year in 2002.

The sole female founding member of the American Academy of Orthopaedic Manual Physical Therapists, Kulig has served it in many capacities, including chair of the Nominating Committee and program reviewer for orthopedic residencies. She has also served on the APTA Task Force on Residency Accreditation.

Kulig holds a B.S. in physical therapy from Oakland University, Rochester, Mich., and an M.S. in physical therapy and physical education and Ph.D. in biomechanics, both from the Academy of Physical Education, Wroclaw, Poland. She was a postdoctoral fellow at the University of Iowa.

LIFE: Festival puts spotlight on cancer survivors

Continued from page 1
the day’s entertainment was The TestosterTones, a Keck School student a capella singing group. Youthful, fresh-faced and energetic, group member Robert Martinez is not exactly what you think of when you hear “colon cancer,” but he said his experience with the disease and his treatment at Norris has given him one of the best tools a doctor can have: empathy.

“It helped me redefine the doctor-patient relationship, having the perspective of the patient first and now going into medical school,” said Martinez, a third-year student at Keck who hopes to inspire other people facing similar struggles.

Breast cancer survivor Nadia Estes of Asuza was one of two former Norris patients asked to share their experiences and words of encouragement. She stressed the importance of self-education and choosing the right treatment center. “For those of you who are about to embark on your journey with cancer, I urge you to love yourself, to learn about

your disease, to surround yourself with positive people, communicate with your doctors and—most importantly—don’t forget to laugh.”

The program concluded with the ceremonial release of 100 “Doves of Peace.”

Dedicated exclusively

to treating cancer patients, USC Norris Cancer Hospital is affiliated with the USC Norris Comprehensive Cancer Center, one of only 39 centers in the United States designated as “comprehensive” by the National Cancer Institute.

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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.