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Gala celebrates USC Norris' 40 years of progress

By Sara Reeve

The USC Norris Comprehensive Cancer Center has made tremendous advances in the understanding and treatment of cancer during its four decades of existence. At the gala anniversary celebration, "40 Years of Progress – Discovering New Cures," held on Oct. 11, USC Norris leaders, researchers and supporters came together to honor that advancement.

"This is a very special night for us. We are here to recognize 40 years of movement toward the goal that Ken Norris Jr. set: to end cancer as we know it," said Carmen A. Puliafito, MD, MBA, dean of the Keck School of Medicine of USC.

Top Right: Actor-comedian Martin Short was the master of ceremonies for the gala.

Top Left: USC Norris presented the Founders Award to the Kenneth T. and Eileen L. Norris Foundation, and the Visionary Award to alumnus and supporter Ming Hsieh and his wife Eva. Left to right: Stephen Gruber; Ming and Eva Hsieh; Harlyne Norris and Lisa Hansen of the Norris Foundation; actor Martin Short; and Keck School Dean Carmen A. Puliafito.

Bottom Right: Stephen Gruber (left) with James Watson, who discovered the structure of DNA, and USC Norris faculty researcher Peter Jones (right), who pioneered the field of epigenetics.

Bottom Left: Five hundred USC Norris guests gathered at the Westin Bonaventure Hotel to celebrate the cancer center's 40th anniversary in style. The celebration, which raised nearly \$2 million to support cancer research at USC Norris, was held at the Westin Bonaventure Hotel in Los Angeles, and attracted 500 guests. Actor/comedian Martin Short served as master of ceremonies, captivating the audience with his witty banter and his personal connection to the cancer center.

"Like so many in this room, I am here for so many reasons," Short said. "I am here for my wife, Nancy, my mother, Olive, my friend, Nora Ephron, and for so many of those who have left us far too early because of cancer. But in the aftermath of these terrible losses, I think we all come to realize that we are not hopeless victims. ... We know that USC Norris Comprehensive Cancer Center has some of the most brilliant scientists, most dedicated researchers and gifted physicians on the planet."

The event acknowledged the illustrious past of USC Norris and the tremendous advances made in the fight against cancer, hinting of an even brighter future. Past cancer center directors G. Denman Hammond, MD, Brian Henderson,

MD, and Peter Jones, PhD, DSc, were recognized for their accomplishments. Special guest James of the 1962 Nobel Prize in Medicine for the discovery of DNA structure, and Jones, distinguished professor of urology and biochemistry & molecular biology at the Keck School, renowned for his work in epigenetics, were applauded as "the fathers of modern genetics and modern epigenetics."

In honor of the anniversary, two awards were inaugurated to recognize outstanding leadership. The

See GALA, page 3





Hoag/USC partnership establishes new comprehensive cancer program

Keck Medicine of USC has announced a new partnership with Hoag Memorial Hospital Presbyterian in Orange County to establish new cancer and oncology services at the Hoag Family Cancer Institute and, eventually, other locations in Orange County.

The new Hoag/USC partnership marries Orange County's largest community cancer program with the strengths of USC Norris Comprehensive Cancer Center. The latest collaboration between the two leading medical centers promises to enhance patient care and services by significantly expanding cancer research and treatment — including advanced clinical trials — in Orange County.

"This partnership is tremendously exciting," said Tom Jackiewicz, MPH, senior vice president and CEO of USC Health. "We're joining the best of academic medicine with the best of private practice, working together to make sure that the care close to home is the best possible, and also to ensure that the cutting-edge, advanced care and clinical trials at USC Norris are also accessible. Local is better for the patient, hands down. This partnership ensures that the best care will be delivered locally whenever possible, while also offering treatment at Keck Medicine of USC if needed."

The new cancer and oncology services program is the latest — and undoubtedly the most significant — in a series of successful partnerships between Hoag and USC aimed at combining the resources and talent of both respected organizations, which have been collaborating on ways to better serve the health care needs of the region since 2008.

"This represents a durable partnership in an area of strength for both USC and Hoag," said Shawn Sheffield, MBA, MHA, chief strategy and system development officer for USC's medical enterprise, who played an integral role in affiliation negotiations, along with Darcy Spicer, MD, division chief of Cancer Medicine and Blood Disease, and others. "As we build on respective core competencies, later phases will be much more concrete, but this is an important initial step."

John Ferrelli, who was recently hired as chief administrative officer of USC Norris Cancer Hospital, will manage the ongoing affiliation with Burton L. Eisenberg, MD, who has been hired as the executive medical director of the cancer program. Eisenberg will be based at Hoag and comes from the Dartmouth-Hitchcock Norris Cotton Cancer Center, where he served as deputy See **HOAG**, page 2

OCTOBER 25 • 2013

USC researcher reveals how to better master stem cells' fate

By Cristy Lytal

USC scientist Qi-Long Ying, PhD, MSc, and a team of researchers have long been searching for biotech's version of the fountain of youth ways to encourage embryonic stem cells (ESCs) and epiblast stem cells (EpiSCs) to endlessly self-renew, or divide to produce more stem cells.

In a pair of studies published in Nature Communications in September and in The EMBO Journal in August, Ying and his team revealed some of the ways that ESCs and EpiSCs retain their pluripotency, or ability to differentiate into virtually any kind of cell.

The studies in Nature Communications identified a novel way of culturing human ESCs by focusing on the Wnt/beta-catenin signaling pathway — a group of molecules that work

The Weekly NEWSMAKERS

An Oct. 18 article in the Beverly Hills

Courier featured the creation of a network

ties. "We will be able to offer every eligible

of 49 acute stroke and rehabilitation medical

centers across Los Angeles and Orange coun-

patient the opportunity to participate in a trial

conducted through the network," said Gene

ogy and chief of the division of neurocritical

care and stroke at the Keck School, which is

An Oct. 17 broadcast on CBS News This Morn-

ing featured an interview with David Agus, MD,

professor of medicine at the Keck School, about

research that shows achy joints can predict the

weather. "Think of a joint like a balloon. There's

always pressure on it from the air, but when that

what people are feeling in their joints," Agus said.

pressure lowers, when the weather is going to

change, it actually expands a little, and that's

part of the network.

Sung, MD, MPH, assistant professor of neurol-

together to control various cell functions, including some related to embryonic development.

According to the researchers, this pathway can prompt mouse EpiSCs and human ESCs to either self-renew or differentiate. When the protein beta-catenin remains within the cell cytoplasm but outside of the nucleus, the stem cell continues to self-renew. When beta-catenin moves into a stem cell's nucleus, differentiation begins.

The paper published in The EMBO Journal addresses mouse ESCs, which are derived from the embryo at an earlier stage and are more pluripotent than mouse EpiSCs. The study revealed the important role of Tfcp2l1 - a transcription factor, or protein that controls which genes are turned on and off in a cell. In mice, Tfcp2l1 helps

communicate to ESCs that they should self-renew. The transcription factor also shows promise for "rewinding" slightly more differentiated EpiSCs into the more naïve ESC state.

By learning more about the ESC and EpiSC playbooks, Ying and his colleagues can better control stem cell self-renewal, offering hope for patients with currently untreatable diseases and creating potential for a wide variety of other applications.

"These new findings have allowed us to develop conditions for the efficient propagation of human ESCs, and might also enable us to establish pluripotent stem cells from different species," said Ying, associate professor of stem cell biology and regenerative medicine at the Eli and Edythe Broad Center for Regenerative Medicine

Researcher Qi-Long Ying, PhD, MSc, and his team have discovered ways to get stem cells to divide to produce more stem cells.

and Stem Cell Research at USC. "This has far-reaching implications for a variety of applied areas of investigation, ranging from manipulating agricultural animal genomes to developing stem cellbased therapies for ailments such as Parkinson's disease or spinal cord injuries."

for Regenerative Medicine (CIRM) New Faculty Award II (RN2-00938-1) provided support for both studies, and the CIRM Scientific Excellence through Exploration and Development (SEED) Grant (RS1-00327-1) provided additional funding for the work published in Nature Communications.

isty Lyta

The California Institute

HOAG: Exceptional local cancer care

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director and associate director of clinical research.

The announcement comes at a time when national health experts are calling for improved quality of care for cancer patients. Barriers to achieving excellent care remain daunting with demand for cancer care projected to skyrocket, according to a new report from the Institute of Medicine in Washington, D.C.

"The implications of this agreement are far-reaching," said Jack Cox, MD, senior vice president and chief quality officer of Hoag. "We are equally strong partners coming together to deliver cancer care in a new and different way in Orange County, with the potential to extend this new delivery model to our St. Joseph Health affiliate partners in the future.

Scott Evans, chief executive officer of USC Norris Cancer Hospital and Keck Hospital of USC, added, "USC Norris is a destination for patients seeking the most innovative cancer care. People

drive miles — even fly across the country — just to see our physicians. Any opportunity to be closer to them makes our services more efficient and impactful. This coming together of two leading organizations is going to allow us to deliver patient care in ways Orange County has never seen." The cancer affiliation between USC and Hoag is the latest example of strategic alignments for Hoag, which formally affiliated earlier this year with St. Joseph Health to further expand its health-care services into the Orange County community. A graduate of the University of Tennessee College of Medicine in Memphis, Tenn., Eisenberg will oversee development of infrastructure and standardized practices for the new program, as well as the identification, recruitment and retention of outstanding physicians specializing in oncology and oncology related services. The new cancer and oncology services program will include the development of a local research program and the expansion of access to ongoing USC Norris clinical trials for Hoag patients. These additional will occur as the program progresses. "The increasing complexities of cancer care delivery as well as complete care of the cancer patient require a new multidisciplinary approach," Eisenberg said. "The Hoag/USC aligned cancer programs will provide an innovative spectrum of cancer treatment. This includes better access to new cancer therapies, development of evidence-based standardized clinical pathways and informed cancer research choices that will be transforming in the years to come."

Burton L. Eisenberg, MD, is the executive medical director of the new cancer program at Hoag.

An Oct. 17 article in The Guardian (U.K.) contained a quote from Michael Goran, PhD,

The Weekly

Codex, RedOrbit, and Medical Xpress.

professor of preventive medicine, physiology &

about the health dangers of fructose. "In the long

term, excess fructose is more damaging metaboli-

cally for the body than other sugars," Goran said.

An Oct. 16 report by Agence France-Presse

featured research by Paul M. Thompson, PhD,

professor of neurology, psychiatry, engineer-

ing, radiology and ophthalmology at the Keck

carry a specific genetic mutation associated

of brain-tissue loss. The TREM2 gene variant

with Alzheimer's disease have double the rate

carriers lost 1.4 to 3.3 percent more of their brain

tissue than non-carriers, and lost that material

twice as fast. "If you carry this genetic mutation,

we've found that there is this wildfire of tissue

Day News. The story was also covered by La

Presse (Canada), La Repubblica (Italy), TVI 24

(Portugal), South Africa Press Association (South

Africa), Magyar Távirati Iroda (Hungary), Science

loss in the brain," Thompson told Health-

School, and colleagues finding that people who

biophysics and pediatrics at the Keck School,

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Being a good neighbor can help HEAL a local community

By Sara Reeve

Q: Can USC staff and faculty help to transform the food environment of East Los Angeles?

A: Yes, if they contribute to the USC Good Neighbors Campaign.

The Community Youth Health Education and Action Leaders (HEAL) program teaches youth in the Boyle Heights area about urban agriculture and healthy food choices. A partnership between the USC Norris Comprehensive Cancer Center's Patient Education and Community Outreach Center and Proyecto Jardin Community Garden, HEAL received a new grant of \$45,000 in June 2013 from USC Neighborhood Outreach (UNO), funded by the Good Neighbors Campaign.

"We're not only teaching youth about urban agriculture and transforming land into a food source for the local communities, but also how to impact policies and demand access to fresh, healthy food in their communities (schools, local stores, homes and community agencies)," said Zul Surani, program manager for community

outreach and partnerships at USC Norris. "This approach impacts the whole community eventually by making healthier choices, easier choices."

The program is recruiting 10 youth members and one peer youth crew supervisor to participate in a 12-week institute that teaches skills to help the participants lead the development of a sustainable community food system.

HEAL program youth members Heriberto Alfaro and Eddie Mendoza chop produce grown in the Proyecto Jardin community garden in Boyle Heights. The program teaches participants how to grow and prepare healthy food in several stages: planting, harvesting and cooking. The grant will also provide seed funding to start a community garden near the newly established Wellness Center at the historic Los Angeles County hospital building.

The USC Good Neighbors Campaign, the university-wide faculty and staff fundraising effort, supports community organizations affiliated with the university and located in the neighborhoods surrounding the Health Sciences and University Park Campuses. Nearly \$14 million in UNO grants have been awarded to community programs since the campaign's inception in 1993.

"UNO grants help us take our science to the streets!" said Surani. "We need a way to speed up this process of putting what works into circulation through a careful process of cultural adaptation. The Patient Education and Community Outreach Center at USC Norris has trusted and seamless partnerships with communities because of its cultural expertise and leadership it provides in community applications of research. Leveraging UNO funds has helped us ensure that all our communities benefit equally from advances here

at Norris. Its a matter of equity for us to ensure that members of our community just living across the street from us benefit from our work."

The 2013 campaign runs through Oct. 31, with strong participation being crucial to reaching this year's goal of \$1.7 million. For more information or to make a donation to the Good Neighbors Campaign, visit http://goodneighbors.usc.edu.

BREAST CANCER DECODED — Stephen B. Gruber (far right), MD, PhD, MPH, director of the USC Norris Comprehensive Cancer Center, discusses thoughts about the discovery of the BRCA1 breast cancer gene at the Sept. 17 Los Angeles premiere of Decoding Annie Parker, a feature film about the researcher who discovered the gene and Annie Parker (second from the left), who was one of the first women determined to have the gene. USC Norris was one of the premiere's sponsors.

GALA: Passion for curing cancer celebrated

Continued from Page 1

Founder's Award was presented to Harlyne Norris and Lisa Hansen of the Kenneth T. and Eileen L. Norris Foundation.

"We can think of no finer recipient than the family whose name we share," said Stephen B. Gruber, MD, PhD, MPH, director of the cancer center. "Our history could not have been written — and thousands of lives would not have been saved — without the Norris family's passion and commitment to advancing cancer research and treatment."

The inaugural Visionary Award was presented to USC alumnus and benefactor Ming Hsieh and his wife Eva. A self-made entrepreneur from China, Ming Hsieh is the founder of Pasadena-based Cogent, Inc. In 2010, the Hsiehs made a transformational gift to USC to establish the Ming Hsieh Institute for Engineering Medicine for Cancer.

"With remarkable insight and a deep desire to help people, the Hsiehs clearly envision the day when USC will bring science, engineering and nanotechnology together with medicine to vastly improve outcomes and eventually conquer cancer," said Gruber.

To close out the event, Academy Awardwinning singer-songwriter Randy Newman charmed the crowds.

The gala celebration was part of a larger public campaign to accelerate the strides USC Norris is making against cancer. This campaign is one component of the \$1.5 billion Keck Medicine Initiative, which is part of the \$6 billion Campaign for the University of Southern California.

USC, UCLA get \$2M to develop stroke center network in Southland

By Mark Wheeler

Stroke is the second leading cause of death in Los Angeles County. To cut those numbers, it's imperative that new treatments be developed and refined for stroke prevention, acute in specific neurovascular research will facilitate the implementation of these trials and serve as a resource to the Regional Coordinating Center's leadership and the individual sites.

Keck Medicine of USC and Ronald

African-Americans and members of other minority populations.

• To educate and encourage fellows, residents, medical students, premedical students and junior faculty to engage in stroke

therapy and recovery after stroke.

Now, a three-way partnership between the USC Comprehensive Stroke and Cerebrovascular Center at Keck Medicine of USC, the UCLA Stroke Center at Ronald Reagan UCLA Medical Center, and UC Irvine has been awarded a \$2 million grant from the National Institutes of Health to address these three stroke priorities.

Together, the three universities will form the Los Angeles–Southern California Regional Coordinating Center, which will marshal a network of 49 acute stroke and rehabilitation medical centers throughout Los Angeles and Orange counties. Combined, these centers will perform five to 10 stroke-related clinical trials that will examine ways to improve prevention and enhance therapies and recovery. Within this network, 12 working groups with expertise Reagan UCLA Medical Center will jointly lead the center.

"This research network is built upon the robust foundation of two decades of cooperative clinical care and clinical trials in cerebrovascular disease in Southern California," said Jeffrey Saver, MD, director of the UCLA Stroke Center and a professor of neurology. "The close collaboration of all three academic medical centers in the region represents a natural and important evolution of our extensive past collaborations."

The Regional Coordinating Center will have three fundamental aims:

• To perform high-quality trials of promising stroke therapies throughout Los Angeles and Orange counties.

• To ensure the participation of more individuals from underserved populations in the trials, including women, Hispanic-Americans, translational research.

To receive the NIH award, the three institutions were required to demonstrate that they have clinical science excellence, specialized expertise in stroke management, a strong background in stroke research and a proven ability to recruit stroke patients. Each is characterized by strong collaborative relationships between vascular neurology, emergency medicine, interventional neuroradiology, neurosurgery, neurointensive care, neuroimaging, stroke rehabilitation and pediatric neurology.

"With this proven expertise, we will be able to offer every eligible patient the opportunity to participate in a trial conducted through the network," said Gene Sung, MD, MPH, an assistant professor of neurology

The partnership between USC, UC Irvine and UCLA will mean better regional care for stroke patients.

and chief of the division of neurocritical care and stroke at the Keck School of Medicine of USC.

All participating stroke centers have committed to increasing clinical research data value through data sharing.

Calendar of Events

Find updated Calendar information online! Visit www.theweekly.usc.edu every Friday and search on "HSC Weekly Calendar."

Saturday, Oct. 26

7:30 – 11 a.m. Free Pancake Breakfast to benefit USC Norris Breast Cancer Research. Sponsored by Fork in the Road Foundation/Paseo Colorado Mall, voluntary donations accepted. Paseo Colorado, Garfield Promenade, 200 E. Colorado Blvd., Pasadena. Info: (626) 644-3227, phil@agentphil.com

4:30 p.m. Bloomingdale's Sherman Oaks "Fashion Presentation" fashion show. 10 percent of purchases will be donated to USC breast cancer research programs. New View – Sherman Oaks on 2 at Bloomingdale's Sherman Oaks, 14060 Riverside Dr., Sherman Oaks. RSVP: (818) 325-2230

Tuesday, Oct. 29

Noon – 1 p.m. Cancer Center Grand Rounds. "Cancer Burden by Ethnicity: The Multiethnic Cohort Study," Brian Henderson, USC. Aresty Auditorium. Webcast: keckmedia. usc.edu/mediasite/Catalog/catalogs/NorrisGR.aspx

Noon – 1 p.m. Faculty Development. "Motivating Learners," Julie Nyquest, Jane Rosenthal, USC. Keith Administration Building (KAM) 206. Info: (323) 442-2372, meded@med.use.edu

Noon – 1 p.m. Eli and Edythe Broad Center for Regenerative Medicine and Stem Cell Research at USC. "When Genomes Collide, a Domineering Subgenome after Allotetraploidy in Xenopus Laevis," Richard Harland, University of California, Berkeley. Broad CIRM Center Seminar Room. Info: (323) 442-8084

Wednesday, Oct. 30

Noon – 1 p.m. Faculty Development. "Facilitating Small Group Discussions," Dixie Fisher, Win May, Cha-Chi Fung, USC. Keith Administration Building (KAM) 206. Info: (323) 442-2372, meded@med.usc.edu

Noon – 1 p.m. Zilkha Neurogenetic Institute. "EPAC Signaling Links miR-129 Expression in Regulation of Learning and Social Behaviors," Youming Lu, USC. Herklotz Seminar Room (ZNI 112). Info: (323) 442-2144

Noon – 2 p.m. Center for Excellence in Research. "Library Resources & Digital Tools for Conducting Research," Jade Winn, USC. UPC Leavey Library Auditorium. Info: usccer@usc.edu

Thursday, Oct. 31

Noon – 1 p.m. Faculty Development. "Designing NBME-type Exam Questions," Cha-Chi Fung, USC. Keith Administration Building (KAM) 206. Info: (323) 442-2372, meded@med.usc.edu

Tuesday, Nov. 5

Noon – 1 p.m. Cancer Center Grand Rounds. "Understanding and Targeting the Tumor Microenvironment: From Discovering Pathways of Communication to Effective Clinical Trials," Yves DeClerck, USC. Aresty Auditorium.

Tuesday, Nov. 12

4 – 5 p.m. Dean's Distinguished Lecture Series. "The End of Overeating," David A. Kessler, U.S. Food and Drug Administration. Mayer Auditorium. Info: ajrobles@use.edu, register at www.use.edu/esvp (code: Kessler)

Thursday, Nov. 14

Noon. Southern California Clinical and Translational Science

The USC Norris Comprehensive Cancer Center has sponsored a host of activities in October to celebrate the 40th anniversary of its founding as one of the eight original National Cancer Institute Comprehensive Cancer Centers.

NORRIS KNOWLEDGE (top) Simon Gayther, PhD, professor of preventive medicine, shares his insights on genomic epidemiology with attendees of the symposium "Genomic Cancer Medicine: The Power and the Promise" on Oct. 18 at Aresty Auditorium. The symposium was part of the USC Norris 40th anniversary celebration.

TROJAN PRIDE (bottom) Harlyne Norris (third from left), USC trustee and past chair of the Kenneth T. and Eileen L. Norris Foundation, and her daughter, Lisa Hansen (second from left), chair of the Norris Foundation, were saluted at the football game on Oct. 10 against the University of Arizona for their support of the Cancer Center. Pictured with Norris and Hansen are Stephen B. Gruber, MD, PhD, MPH, director of the cancer center (left) and USC President C.L. Max Nikias (right), PhD.

USC researchers to grow organs to unlock how cancer tumors develop

By Leslie Ridgeway

Using three-dimensional organ creation, Keck Medicine of USC researchers aim to discover clues to metastatic cancer growth by developing a first-ever integrated bioengineered/ computational model of metastatic colon cancer.

David B. Agus, MD, director of the USC Center for Applied Molecular Medicine and professor of medicine at the Keck School of Medicine of USC, is the principal investigator of a \$2.3 million, four-year "Provocative Questions" grant awarded recently by the National Cancer Institute (NCI), a division of the National Institutes of Health (NIH).

The goal of the research is to develop functional, bioengineered liver "organoids" in which colon cancer tumors can be grown and studied, Agus said. The research team will inject the liver organoids with cancer cells and watch as the cells grow into tumors and function within the organoids. The research combines cancer cells and the organ microenvironment interact. Our research merges the methods of physical science, regenerative medicine and tissue engineering to create a tissue model that approximates the actual environment where tumors live."

The liver models will have value to other cancer researchers seeking to attack tumor growth from different angles, said Shannon Mumenthaler, PhD, assistant professor of research in the Department of Medicine at the Keck School and one of the project leads.

"This exciting and novel reproducible,

USC Health Sciences Public Relations and Marketing 1975 Zonal Ave. KAM 400 Los Angeles, CA 90033 controllable system will also enable researchers to test hypotheses and make predictions that can be extrapolated to human cancer," Mumenthaler said.

The first phase of the project involves calibrating the model with data from bioengineered liver tissue. Phase two will subject the growing tumors to physical changes likely to affect them in the human body, including alterations to oxygenation and drug treatment. In the third phase, the team will compare simulations of tumor growth in actual patients with outcome data from these patients.

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Institute. "How to Apply for a Pre- and Post-Doctoral Research & Career Development Award," Cecilia Patino-Sutton, SC CTSI. Info: ecde@sc-ctsi.org

Noon – 1 p.m. Department of Medicine. "Biomarkers of Acetaminophen Toxicity," Laura James, University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences. Hastings Auditorium. Info: (323) 442-1283

Tuesday, Nov. 19

Noon – 1 p.m. Cancer Center Grand Rounds. "Mechanistic Dissection and Therapeutic Targeting of mTORregulated Translation in Cancer," Andrew Hsieh, USC. Aresty Auditorium.

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 email to hscwkly@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. bioengineering techniques developed at Wake Forest University with computational models of tumor growth developed at USC.

"Studying cancer metastasis in the lab is problematic because of discrepancies between cell culture models and tumor growth in living organisms," he said. "We need a much better understanding of the way

In case of an emergency...

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

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