



Matt Winkelmeyer/Getty Images

Marc and Lynne Benioff focus their philanthropy on children's health, public education, homelessness and other social issues.

Trustee's \$20 million gift to support Ellison Institute

By Lynn Lipinski

USC Trustee Marc Benioff '86 and his wife, Lynne, have given \$20 million toward construction of the Lawrence J. Ellison Institute for Transformative Medicine of USC, a new center in Los Angeles that will combine interdisciplinary research with the holistic prevention and treatment of cancer. In recognition of the gift, the lobby of the Ellison Institute will be named in honor of Marc Benioff's late father, Russell Benioff.

A pioneer of cloud computing and chairman and CEO of Salesforce, Marc Benioff has served as a member of the USC Board of Trustees since 2010. Widely recognized for his visionary leadership, he is noted for integrating philanthropy into the core of his business with the creation of the 1-1-1 model of philanthropy, donating 1 percent of Salesforce's equity, employee time and product to non-profits and educational institutions to improve communities around the world. Today, more than 1,000 companies around the world have adapted this model through Pledge 1%.

The Benioffs have focused their extensive

personal philanthropy on children's health, public education, homelessness and other social issues.

Under his leadership, Salesforce has grown from a groundbreaking idea into a Fortune 500 company and the fastest-growing top-10 software company in the world. Prior to launching Salesforce, Benioff spent 13 years at Oracle Corp., which was founded by Larry Ellison, the Ellison Institute's primary benefactor. Benioff founded his first company, Liberty Software, which created video games, at age 15, and also worked at Apple Computer's Macintosh division as a teenager. He has a bachelor's in business administration from the USC Marshall School of Business.

Lynne Benioff is an independent marketing consultant and philanthropist. In 2011, she co-founded Star Community Home, a short-term residential community for homeless families in San Francisco. She is a member of the board for several organizations, including the University of California, San Francisco (UCSF) Foundation, UCSF Benioff Chil-

See **GIFT**, page 3

Chen earns top pharmacy honor

By Michele Keller

Steven Chen, PharmD, chair of the Titus Family Department of Clinical Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Economics & Policy, received the 2016 Pinnacle Award from the American Pharmacy Association (APhA) at a ceremony Sept. 19 at the APhA headquarters in Washington, DC.

Chen has received the award, one of the nation's highest pharmacy honors, twice previously, in 2007 and 2013. He is being recognized this year as part of an interdisciplinary team of public health leaders for their collaborative work on two significant initia-



Steven Chen

tives: the Health Resources and Services Administration's Patient Safety and Pharmacy Services Collaborative and the USC School of Pharmacy's

See **PHARMACY**, page 3

Sanger named David L. Lee and Simon Ramo Chair

By Douglas Morino

A new chair named in honor of two pioneers in the fields of business and engineering will help strengthen bridges between technology and the health sciences at USC.

Terence Sanger, MD, PhD, was named the David L. Lee and Simon Ramo

Chair in Health Science and Technology at a ceremony Sept. 29 on the Health Sciences Campus at the Eli and Edythe Broad Center for Regenerative Medicine and Stem Cell Research at USC.

A provost associate professor of biomedical engineering, neurology and biokinesiology

See **CHAIR**, page 4



Steve Cohn

From left, USC Provost Michael Quick, David Lee, Terence Sanger, USC President C. L. Max Nikias and Rohit Varma are seen at the David L. Lee and Simon Ramo Chair in Health Science and Technology installation.

Families find good neighbors in USC

By John Hobbs

When it comes to eating healthfully and staying active, not all neighborhoods are created equal.

The community just east of USC's Health Sciences Campus is one of L.A.'s many food deserts — low-income areas where affordable, nutritious food can be hard to find, particularly for those without a car.

"There are literally no gro-

cery stores and no gyms," said area resident Angelica Reyes, 24. "Learning to live healthfully in those circumstances can be very challenging."

Reyes hopes to help by working as a community liaison for USC Fit Families, a free service that helps low-income children — ages 7 to 17 — and their families, develop healthy eating and exercise habits.

See **GOOD NEIGHBORS**, page 3



Virginia Baca

FARM FRESH FOODS: Steven Giannotta, MD, chair and professor of neurological surgery, and Stephanie Hall, MD, chief medical officer of Keck Medical Center, check out a fresh fruit vendor Oct. 4 at Hazard Park. A new farmers market has opened at Hazard Park, offering fresh fruits and vegetables, flowers and hot food from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Tuesdays on Norfolk Street across from Keck Hospital Gold Lobby. The market is open to the public and a portion of the market's proceeds will benefit the local community.

Students inducted into Gold Humanism Honor Society

By Amanda Busick

A prestigious national student organization has established a new chapter at the Keck School of Medicine of USC. Twenty-five members of the Keck School’s class of 2017 were inducted into the Gold Humanism Honor Society (GHHS) on Sept. 7 in Aresty Auditorium on the Health Sciences Campus. The GHHS is well-known for recognizing individuals who excel at providing humanistic patient care with the goal of encouraging compassion, empathy, respect and other important qualities among medical students and doctors. Henri Ford, MD, MHA, vice dean for medical education at the Keck School, welcomed attendees to the event and spoke about the importance of humanism in medicine today.

“We live in a global environment and each one of us can contribute to making the world a better place to live,” he said. “That is humanism.” He went on to say, “Humanism, the relentless pursuit of excellence and teamwork, are the essential building blocks for reaching our ultimate goal in life: to achieve significance by making a difference in the lives of others locally and globally.” The Arnold P. Gold Foundation, sponsors and administrators of the society, have a long history of fostering humanistic practices in the medical field. A generous grant from the foundation has made the GHHS chapter at the Keck School possible.



The Keck School of Medicine of USC now is the site of a chapter of the Gold Humanism Honor Society.

Sajjad Yacoob, MD, assistant dean for student affairs and chapter adviser of the medical school’s chapter of the GHHS, also spoke, explaining that the inductees would be responsible during this school year for creating a project that will be their legacy, as it will be continued by future members of the GHHS at the Keck School. The keynote speaker at the ceremony was Jo Marie Reilly, MD, associate professor of clinical family medicine, who received the 2016 Humanism in Medicine Award from the society. She advised

students, “Dig deep for empathy and compassion. It’s hard to do when we are working long hours. But if we don’t, we become angry, bitter and jaded at the work we do. We forget why we’re called to do it.” Donna Elliott, MD, EdD, senior associate dean for student and educational affairs, joined Yacoob in distributing pins and certificates to the new members of the society. After the inductees were presented, Ford led them in the oath of the society, which concludes with the words, “I will dedicate myself to joining others to make health care optimal for all.”

Calendar of Events

Friday, Oct. 7
8:45 a.m.-4:45 p.m. USC Hearing and Communication Neuroscience Training Program, Caruso Department of Otolaryngology–Head and Neck Surgery, and USC Dornsife College of Letters, Arts and Sciences. “The Second Annual Hearing and Communication Neuroscience Symposium.” Herklotz Seminar Room, ZNI 112. Info: Gloria Wan, (213) 740-6091, yuhungw@dornsife.usc.edu, <http://bit.ly/2dIcDvI>

9 a.m.-3 p.m. USC Stevens Center for Innovation. “10th Annual USC Stevens Student Innovator Showcase.” Hancock Foundation Building (AHF), University Park Campus. Info: Peijean Tsai, peijeant@usc.edu, <http://stevens.usc.edu/events/student-innovator-showcase>

Noon. Department of Neurology Grand Rounds. “Writing and Reviewing Scientific Papers,” Marc Fisher, MD, editor-in-chief of *Stroke*, Harvard Medical School and University of Massachusetts Medical School. CHP 224. Info and RSVP: Alejandro Vazquez, (323) 442-7793, alejandro.vazquez@med.usc.edu, <http://neuro.keckmedicine.org/neurology/>

Saturday, Oct. 8
7 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Department of Medicine, division of rheumatology, Continuing Medical Education. “USC Rheumatology Update: Focus on RA and Spondylarthropathies,” Daniel Arkfeld, MD, and Samy Metyas, MD. Aresty Auditorium. Info: Anika Bobb, (323) 442-2547, anika.bobb@med.usc.edu. RSVP: Chelsea Michel, (323) 442-2555, uscme@usc.edu, <http://www.usc.edu/cme>

Sunday, Oct. 9
3 p.m.-6 p.m. Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences Symposium. “The ABCs of Overcoming OCD,” Jonathan Grayson, PhD, The Grayson LA Treatment Center for Anxiety & OCD. Harkness Auditorium. Info: info@ocdsocal.org, <https://iocdf.org/programs/ocdweek/>. Kid- and family-friendly activities will be included. Refreshments will be served.

Tuesday, Oct. 11
11 a.m. USC Stem Cell Seminar. Andrew Brack, PhD, University of California, San Francisco. Broad CIRM Center First Floor Conference Room.

Noon. USC Institute for Global Health and the USC Gould School of Law. “Global(HEALTH+LAW) — Maximizing Sexual Health & Rights of Transgender Populations: The Changing Role of the International Classification of Diseases,” Sofia Gruskin, JD, MIA. LAW 118/120. Info and RSVP:

Mia Poynor, (415) 879-6542, mpoynor@usc.edu, <http://bit.ly/2dwWOZ0>

Wednesday, Oct. 12
Noon. Zilkha Neurogenetic Institute Seminar. “G-WiZ: Genome-Wide Zeitgeist: Moving from Etiology to Pathophysiology based Animal Models of Schizophrenia,” Steven Siegel, MD, PhD. Herklotz Seminar Room, ZNI 112. Info: Emily Chu, (323) 442-3219, Emily.Chu@med.usc.edu

Noon-2 p.m. Office of Research Workshop. “USC Awards to Fund Your Research,” Silvia da Costa, PhD, director of faculty research relations, Office of Research. CUB 329, University Park Campus. Info and RSVP: (213) 740-6709, uscce@usc.edu, <https://research.usc.edu/internal-awards-to-fund-your-research/>

Thursday, Oct. 13
10:30 a.m.-Noon. Amgen and the Eli and Edythe Broad Center for Regenerative Medicine and Stem Cell Research at USC. “R&D Insights from Lab Bench to Patient Bedside.” Broad CIRM Center First Floor Conference Room. Info: qliumich@usc.edu, karenw03@amgen.com. RSVP: www.usc.edu/esvp, Code: [amgenlecture](http://www.usc.edu/esvp)

1:30 p.m. Keck Medicine of USC Stroke Support Group Meeting. “Sleep Disturbance After Stroke,” Sebina Bulic, MD. Keck Hospital, 3 North, Day Room (3261A). Info: Melody Sharifi, (323) 442-0049, msharifi@med.usc.edu. Snacks provided and parking validated.

3-5 p.m. Office of Research Workshop. “USC Awards to Fund Your Research,” Silvia da Costa, PhD, director of faculty research relations, Office of Research. USC Norris Medical Library West Conference Room. Info and RSVP: (213) 740-6709, uscce@usc.edu, <https://research.usc.edu/internal-awards-to-fund-your-research/>

Friday, Oct. 14
8 a.m.-2 p.m. Office of Research Workshop. “Short Course in Research in Diverse Urban Populations,” Jonathan Samet, MD, MS, Workforce Development Director, SC CTSI. NRT LG 503/4. Info and RSVP: (213) 740-6709, uscce@usc.edu, <https://research.usc.edu/short-course-in-research-in-diverse-urban-populations/>

8:30 a.m. Hastings Center for Pulmonary Research Seminar. “Making and Breaking Barriers: Molecular Regulation of Lung Epithelial Tight Junctions,” Michael Koval, PhD, Emory University. IRD 734. Info: Elva Rubio, (323) 409-7184, elvarubi@usc.edu

Friday-Saturday, Nov. 4-5
8 a.m.-5 p.m. USC Marshall Executive Education Seminar. “Organizational Burnout in Healthcare,” Karen Weiner, MD, CPE, MMM, Oregon Medical Group. Downtown Los Angeles. Info and RSVP: Maelaine Mira, (213) 740-9577, rmira@marshall.usc.edu, <http://bit.ly/2dPE1Z8>. Contact for staff/alumni discount. Registration closes Oct. 14.

Saturday-Sunday, Oct. 15-16
8 a.m.-7:30 p.m. Society of Graduate Radiologists and Department of Radiology Continuing Medical Education. “Advances in Radiology: Focus on Neuroradiology and MSK Imaging,” Alison Wilcox, MD. Terranea Resort. Info: Anika Bobb, (323) 442-2547, anika.bobb@med.usc.edu. RSVP: Chelsea Michel, (323) 442-2555, uscme@usc.edu, <http://www.usc.edu/cme>, <http://bit.ly/2adTEf0>

Sunday, Oct. 16
8 a.m.-Noon. Keck School of Medicine of USC and USC Pain Center. “USC Quench the Fire 5K/10K Run-Walk-Roll & 1 Mile Fun Walk,” Steven Richeimer, MD. Woodley Park, Van Nuys. Info: Lynne Popadak, (818) 288-0754, Suzanne Miller, (805) 704-5970, suzanne.miller@gmail.com, <http://www.QuenchTheFire.org>. All USC students/staff/faculty/alumni can save \$10 off the \$30 entry fee with discount code: Anniversary10.

Monday, Oct. 17
Noon. Division of Cardiovascular Medicine Grand Rounds. “Inaugural Shahbudin H. Rahimtoola, MD Visiting Professorship,” Melvin Scheinman, MD, University of California, San Francisco. McKibben Lecture Hall 149. Info: Vanessa Freeman, (323) 442-6135, Vanessa.Freeman@med.usc.edu

Noon. Southern California Clinical and Translational Science Institute. “Research Ethics Forum: Who Should Decide Whether Cancer Patients May Enroll in Research Without First Undergoing Conventional Treatment,” Alex Capron, LLB, and Nathan Robison, MD. Aresty LG503-504. Info and RSVP: Jeanne Dzekov McKean, (323) 442-7289, dzekov@usc.edu, <http://bit.ly/2bQ7Mf9>

Tuesday, Oct. 18
Noon. Department of Psychiatry Grand Rounds. Herklotz Seminar Room, ZNI 112. Info: Lunch will be provided.

Noon. USC Institute for Global Health and GlobeMed at USC. “The Costs of Exclusion: How Gender Inequality Stymies Global Development,” Jennifer McCleary-Sills, PhD, MPH. The Forum at Tutor Campus Center

450, University Park Campus. Info and RSVP: Larissa Puro, (323) 442-7233, global.health@usc.edu, <https://globalhealth.usc.edu/costs-of-exclusion/>

6 p.m. USC Institute of Urology Seminar. “Men’s Health Seminar.” Catherine and Joseph Aresty Conference Center Auditorium, Room LG 500. Info and RSVP: Regina Rezex, (323) 865-3594, <http://urology.keckmedicine.org>

Wednesday, Oct. 19
10 a.m.-1 p.m. USC Stem Cell. “15th Annual BioResearch Product Faire.” Eli and Edythe Broad CIRM Center Auditorium. Info: Cristy Lytal, lytal@med.usc.edu, <http://stemcell.usc.edu/events>

Noon. Zilkha Neurogenetic Institute Seminar. “Wiring Up a Circuit to Perform Computations: Development of Direction Selectivity,” Marla Feller, PhD, University of California, Berkeley. Herklotz Seminar Room, ZNI 112. Info: Emily Chu, (323) 442-3219, Emily.Chu@med.usc.edu, <http://www.usc.edu/zni>

Noon-2 p.m. Office of Research Workshop. “Obtaining Department of Defense (DoD) Medical Research Funding,” Carl Castro, PhD, director, Center for Innovation & Research on Veterans & Military Families. USC Norris Medical Library West Conference Room. Info and RSVP: (213) 740-6709, uscce@usc.edu, <http://research.usc.edu/obtaining-department-of-defense-medical-research-funding/>

Thursday, Oct. 20
10:30 a.m.-Noon. Amgen and the Eli and Edythe Broad Center for Regenerative Medicine and Stem Cell Research at USC. “R&D Insights from Lab Bench to Patient Bedside.” Zilkha Neurogenetic Institute Herklotz Seminar Room. Info: qliumich@usc.edu, karenw03@amgen.com. RSVP: www.usc.edu/esvp, Code: [amgenlecture](http://www.usc.edu/esvp)

Noon. Department of Radiology Grand Rounds. “Abdominopelvic Imaging.” Aresty Auditorium. Info and RSVP: Rosy Diaz, (323) 442-7469, rosaura.diaz@med.usc.edu, <http://keck.usc.edu/radiology/divisions>. Lunch will be provided, reservations requested.

Friday, Oct. 21
11:45 a.m.-1:30 p.m. Office of Research Workshop. “Developing NIH Grant Applications,” Steve Moldin, PhD, executive director, Washington, D.C., Office of Research Advancement. Saban Research Building, First Floor Auditorium, Children’s Hospital Los Angeles. Info and RSVP: (213) 740-6709, uscce@usc.edu, <https://research.usc.edu/developing-nih-grant-applications/>

Notice: Calendar items are due at least 10 days before publication date. Timely submission does not guarantee publication in print. See more calendar entries at hscnews.usc.edu/calendar-of-events. Submit items at tinyurl.com/calendar-hsc. Include day, date, time, title of talk, first and last name of speaker, affiliation of speaker, location and a phone number/email address.

Massry Prize winners to speak on campus

By Hope Hamashige

The winners of the 2016 Meira and Shaul G. Massry Prize are a trio of scientists — Gero Miesenboeck, Peter Hegemann and Karl Deisseroth — whose research paved the way for a breakthrough technology called optogenetics that has revolutionized the way scientists study the brain.

The Meira and Shaul G. Massry Foundation established the Massry Prize in 1996 to recognize contributions to the biomedical sciences and the advancement of health.

The winners of this year's Massry Prize will give lectures about their work at 1:30 p.m. Oct. 20 in Mayer Auditorium on the Health Sciences Campus.

Optogenetics allows scientists to turn on and turn off electrical activity in specific brain cells by introducing photosensitive proteins that make them react when exposed to light. Optogenetics made it possible to study the role of specific neurons in both normal brain function and disorders such as Parkinson's disease, depression and schizophrenia.

"The fundamental findings of Miesenboeck, Hegemann and Deisseroth, which enabled neuronal function to be controlled through optogenetics, have now become a crucial tool to understand how neurons work, at the single cell and with groups of neurons working together," said Shaul Massry, MD, professor emeritus

of medicine at the Keck School of Medicine of USC. "Scientists all over the world routinely use the optogenetic technology that was developed by these eminent scientists and collaborators. This field has become one of the most interesting and exciting areas of neuroscience."

Miesenboeck, MD, a physiology professor at the University of Oxford, was the first to genetically modify a brain cell so that its electrical activity could be controlled with light by altering them with opsin proteins from the retina of a fruit fly.

Hegemann, PhD, professor of biophysics at the Humboldt University of Berlin, discovered that green algae possessed a type of light-sensitive

molecule that gave it the ability to move toward light in spite of having no eyes and no evidence of opsin receptors. These proteins, called channelrhodopsins, made cells respond to flashes of blue light, converting light into electricity in a single step at the speed of electrical impulses in the brain.

Deisseroth, MD, PhD, professor of bioengineering and of psychiatry and behavioral sciences at Stanford University, combined these findings by introducing channelrhodopsins into the brain cells of mice. Using flashes of light delivered via optic wires inserted into the mouse's brain, he was able to turn on certain cells in the mouse's brain that induced specific behaviors.



Ricardo Carrasco III

Paul Browde, left, and Murray Nossel perform their acclaimed show "Two Men Talking" at Mayer Auditorium on Sept. 19.

Storytellers address compassion in medicine

By Amanda Busick

The USC Visions and Voices series, co-sponsored by the Keck School of Medicine of USC's Program in Medical Humanities, Arts, and Ethics, came to the Health Sciences Campus recently to present the critically acclaimed "Two Men Talking," a thought-provoking spoken-word performance piece about compassion, communication and listening.

"Two Men Talking" was written and presented by Paul Browde, MD, a psychiatrist and performer from South Africa now living in New York City, and Murray Nossel, PhD, a former clinical psychologist, also from South Africa, who is an Oscar-nominated documentary filmmaker and former social worker. The event was held Sept. 19.

The performance used non-linear storytelling, humor, drama and even seemingly spontaneous a cappella singing to weave various stories together from both men's pasts. While the basics of the performance were scripted, there was room throughout for improvisation, which created an atmosphere of immediacy where it seemed like almost anything could happen between the two storytellers.

Browde and Nossel met when they were pre-teen schoolmates in Johannesburg and their paths crossed again while they were young men in New York City. Browde was studying medicine and Nossel was beginning a career as a playwright. Their individual stories and anecdotes span their whole lives, but share a theme of empathy, whether it is for a patient who had been diagnosed with HIV and has gone blind, or one of the

Future Visions and Voices events at HSC

March 30: "When We Have to Talk About Something Less Pleasant: Aging, Alzheimer's and the End of Life"

April 6: "Doctors' Orders for a Good Death: Caitlin Doughty and Lindsey Fitzharris"

performers himself, learning that he was also HIV positive.

One of the most poignant moments was the story of when Browde, after many years of secrecy, decided to share his HIV-positive status with his colleagues during a talk at the American Psychiatric Association Conference in 1994. He had been witness to several doctors belittling AIDS patients out of earshot and realized that he could no longer be silent.

"I can tell you, ladies and gentlemen," he recalled saying, "that it hurts the people that we treat when we talk about them in the way that we do behind closed doors. And how I know that is because I am them."

Listening and reacting with compassion was not only depicted on stage, but asked for from the audience. In the end, the stories they shared were powerful reminders that medical professionals should be aware that those they are treating are human beings first, and people with a disease second.

USC Visions and Voices is a series of arts and humanities events offered to the USC community and the general public for over a decade.

GIFT: Benioffs are 'visionary philanthropists'

Continued from page 1

dren's Hospital Oakland and Common Sense Media. In 2015, President Barack Obama appointed her to the board of directors of the Presidio Trust. She earned a bachelor's degree from the University of Washington. The Benioffs live in the Bay Area.

"Marc and Lynne Benioff stand among our nation's most visionary philanthropists, and their extraordinary gift invests in USC's commitment to new technologies and research that fight cancer," USC President C. L. Max Nikias said. "Their gift also ensures that our university will remain at the fore of this field, and continue to bring hope and resolve to the fight. We should all applaud the Benioffs' dedication to our collective fight against cancer."

Announced in May, the Ellison Institute in West Los Angeles will house interdisciplinary cancer research laboratories that will harness proteomics, molecular biology, genetics and nanotechnology to seek new ways of ending cancer. The institute's collaborative environment will include patient care clinics, a think tank, education and outreach, and a wellness program.

David B. Agus, a professor at the Keck School of Medicine of USC and the USC Viterbi School of Engineering, will lead the institute, which will draw collaborators from many disciplines to study cancer and potential ways to prevent, detect and treat the disease. The institute will complement and integrate cancer research being conducted by faculty physicians and scientists across the university.

GOOD NEIGHBORS

Continued from page 1

Fit Families began in 2005 and has been financially supported by the Good Neighbors Campaign for 10 years.

The Good Neighbors Campaign raises money every October from USC faculty, staff and friends to give back to the neighborhoods surrounding the University Park and Health Sciences campuses in meaningful ways.

On Saturday mornings, the USC Fit Families team — composed of Trojan physical therapists and volunteers, many of whom are students from the USC Division of Biokinesiology and Physical Therapy — heads to Hazard Park for the weekly meetings.

Each session begins with health assessments and measurements to gauge participant progress. Afterward, the families take part in stretching then physical activity, including circuit training, soccer and basketball.

A daughter of street vendors, Reyes first took part in Fit Families as a participant, hoping to learn better exercise and nutrition strategies. She was so inspired by the program that she became a staff member.

"Seeing a shift in the way the families behaved has been really inspiring," Reyes said. "You see children asking for healthier food options and then telling you stories about how instead of watching TV, they went out for a family walk or hike. You see they're actually learning, and it's transformative."

Reyes hopes USC Fit Families could eventually add another meeting a week to its schedule or incorporate new sites to accommodate even more low-income families from across Southern California.

For more information on USC Fit Families, visit pt.usc.edu/fit_families/.

For more information on the Good Neighbors Campaign, go to good-neighbors.usc.edu.

PHARMACY

Continued from page 1

three-year, \$12 million Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Innovation program — in partnership with Geoffrey Joyce and the USC Schaeffer Center — which placed clinical pharmacy teams in AltaMed Health Services safety-net clinics in Los Angeles.

In announcing the award, APhA noted that synergistic federal and private-sector initiatives like these have generated substantial reductions in adverse drug events nationwide, with 2.1 million fewer incidents of patient harm in 2011–2014, and a 40 percent reduction in adverse drug events.

"This is a remarkable and well-deserved honor for Steve," said Glen L. Stimmel, the USC School of Pharmacy's former interim dean and John Stauffer

Dean's Chair in Pharmaceutical Sciences. "As far as I know, there never has been a three-time winner of the Pinnacle Award in its long history. This exemplifies what a tremendous leader and innovator we have in Steve, and his achievement reflects well on all faculty, staff and students of the School of Pharmacy."

Chen — the Hygeia Centennial Chair in Clinical Pharmacy and an associate professor at the USC School of Pharmacy — received the 2013 Pinnacle Award for Individual Career Achievement for promoting clinical pharmacy services, especially for underserved populations, as a way to improve patient outcomes and save healthcare dollars. He also was a member of the USC School of Pharmacy team that received the 2007 Pinnacle Award for the School's pioneering work in safety-net clinics.

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:



From left, Julie Lang, Laurie Feinstein, Mincin Golchini and her son Keivan, Bodour Salhia, Maria Nelson, Janice Lu, Stephen Sener and Christy Russell are seen Oct. 1 at the Los Angeles Memorial Coliseum.

Breast Cancer Awareness Month marked at football game

TO HONOR BREAST CANCER AWARENESS MONTH, a cancer survivor joined a team of physicians and staff from Keck Medicine of USC on the field during the Oct. 1 USC Trojan football game against Arizona State, while a group of nurses presented the game ball and administered the coin toss. Annette Sy, RN, chief nursing officer of Keck Hospital of USC and USC Norris Cancer Hospital, presented the game ball before kickoff, while Bob Allen, chief financial officer for Keck Medicine, and oncology nurses Laurie Feinstein, RN, and Paula Seno, RN, participated in the coin toss. After the first quarter of play, the crowd then recognized a group that included patient Mincin Golchini and her son Keivan, as well as Keck School of Medicine of USC faculty members Julie Lang, MD, associate professor of clinical surgery from the Keck School of Medicine of USC; Bodour Salhia, PhD, assistant professor of translational genomics; Maria Nelson, MD, assistant professor of clinical surgery; Janice Lu, MD, PhD, clinical professor of medicine; Stephen Sener, MD, clinical professor of surgery; and Christy Russell, MD, associate professor of clinical medicine.

Researcher earns NIH Pathway to Independence Award

ALEXIS M. COULOURIDES KOGAN, PhD, has received the National Institutes of Health (NIH) Pathway to Independence Award (K99/R00) as an outstanding postdoctoral researcher to help her complete the needed mentoring and training to transition to an independent, tenure-track faculty position. This highly prestigious award is offered to promising individuals at early stages in their career who wish to become independent investigators. The award is a four-year grant. Kogan is the first individual to receive such a grant in the Department of Family Medicine at the Keck School of Medicine of USC and also earned a perfect score on her submission (Impact score: 10). — **Claire Norman**



Alexis M. Coulourides Kogan, PhD



From left, Yang Chai, Gage Crump and Robert Maxson.

Trio of researchers awarded \$3.3 million NIDCR grant

RESEARCHERS FROM THE HERMAN OSTROW School of Dentistry of USC and Keck School of Medicine of USC have been awarded a \$3.3 million grant from the National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research to study craniosynostosis, a birth defect that causes the fibrous joints of the cranium to prematurely fuse together. Yang Chai, DDS, PhD, associate dean of research at the Herman Ostrow School of Dentistry of USC, is joined by Robert Maxson, PhD, professor of biochemistry and molecular biology, and Gage Crump, PhD, associate professor of stem cell and regenerative medicine, both from the Keck School of Medicine of USC, for the five-year project, titled “Molecular and Cellular Basis of Craniosynostosis.” The three researchers will leverage their complementary expertise in craniosynostosis, stem cells, genetics and craniofacial bone development to better understand the genetic and molecular mechanisms behind the birth defect, which can cause developmental delays, hearing loss, blindness and even death. — **John Hobbs**

Inaugural symposium addresses solutions to avoid elder abuse

By Claire Norman

Guests were welcomed from across the globe to gather in Los Angeles recently for the first annual USC Judith D. Tamkin International Symposium on Elder Abuse. In bringing together stakeholders interested in creating a safe and healthy environment for all older adults, this symposium focused on solving dilemmas in research methods in order to move the field forward.

The symposium, held Sept. 15-16, welcomed the first Tamkin Scholar Award winners, each of whom is in a graduate school pursuing an MD or PhD: Elizabeth Bloeman, MPH; João F. Fundinho, MS; and Katelyn Jetelina, MPH. Each scholar is committed to pursuing a career that expands the knowledge in how to prevent and detect elder abuse. At a luncheon on the second day, Georgia J. Anetzberger, PhD, was honored for her lifetime of work, innovation and inspiration in the field of elder abuse.

During the entire symposium, the meeting rooms were alive with ideas and thought-provoking conversations from the 125 registered participants.

“We want people to



Judith D. Tamkin, second from left, stands with the three Tamkin Scholar Award winners: Elizabeth Bloeman, left; Katelyn Jetelina, second from right; and João F. Fundinho, right.

contribute and think about these topics and we have just the right people in this room to be working on these issues,” said Laura Mosqueda, MD, chair and professor of clinical family medicine at the Keck School of Medicine of USC, in her opening address. “We are going to be asking people to work hard in the next few days. This is about solving problems and moving toward solutions.”

The world-renowned speakers inspired the audience through thoughtful discussions that addressed pertinent issues in elder abuse research.

“This and future symposiums will serve as a catalyst for critically needed research in the areas of elder abuse

interventions and prevention,” said Julie Schoen, JD, deputy director of the National Center on Elder Abuse. “Having national leadership speak concerning the issues made me more hopeful that the future will hold thoughtful work to impact the abuse and suffering of older adults, both in the U.S. and abroad.”

The Elder Justice Foundation has contributed funds that will allow the publication and dissemination of a white paper that summarizes the symposium, due out in January 2017. Through the generosity of Judith D. Tamkin, the next symposium will be held in 2018.

CHAIR: Sanger specializes in child movement disorders

Continued from page 1

at the USC Viterbi School of Engineering and Keck School of Medicine of USC, Sanger also is an electrical engineer, computational neuroscientist and child neurologist specializing in research and treatment of movement disorders in children.

“Today, we honor three people who embody what USC stands for: turning new knowledge and lofty vision into life-changing reality,” said USC President C. L. Max Nikias, PhD, at an event celebrating Sanger’s installation. “David L. Lee — a transformational force in finance, health care, and the life of our university. Simon Ramo — a legendary titan of engineering, innovation, and entrepreneurship, and Provost Professor Terry Sanger — a trailblazing leader in biomedical engineering, caregiving, and teaching.”

Sanger is the founder of the USC Health, Technology and Engineering Program and the Sanger Lab, which uses engineering principles to understand childhood movement and to discover new treatments and enabling devices to improve motor function in children with developmental disorders of movement.

“Like David and Simon, Dr. Sanger doesn’t see boundaries as much as possibilities,” Nikias said. “I can think of no one better to serve as our inaugural chair than Dr. Sanger.”

Lee is a co-founder and managing general partner of Clarity Partners, a private equity firm, and a founding

member of the Keck School’s Board of Overseers. Ramo was a USC professor and former chief scientist and technical director of the U.S. intercontinental ballistic missile program. He died this year on June 27 at the age of 103.

“I am honored for the

opportunity to further the vision of David Lee and Simon Ramo,” Sanger said. “When we bring together the fields of engineering and medicine, we are uniting two languages, two ways of thinking and two types of skills that, together, provide great force to improve health care and the lives of patients.”

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Next Issue:
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