

## MUSC researchers cited for excellence in science awards

Staff Report

Dean G. Kilpatrick, Ph.D., and Michael G. Schmidt, Ph.D., were awarded the state's highest honor, the Governor's Award for Excellence in Science, during a ceremony May 24 in Columbia.

The governor recognized Kilpatrick with the Award for Excellence in Scientific Research, affirming his career has resulted "in monumental impact domestically and abroad on research and clinical practice as it relates to victimization, traumatic stress and mental health."

Kilpatrick pioneered methods for measuring exposure to sexual assault and conducted the first NIMH-funded National Woman Study in 1989 to use scientifically valid methods to measure exposure to sexual assault in a national probability sample of U.S. adult women.

As a clinical scientist studying traumatic stress, Kilpatrick has made major contributions studying the mental health impact of exposure to large-scale natural disasters, urban riots, and terrorist attacks. Numerous large-scale events have been studied including Hurricane Hugo, the Loma Prieta Earthquake, the Los Angeles riots, the Pan Am Flight 103 terrorist bombing and the September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center.

Kilpatrick joined MUSC in 1970 and is currently a distinguished university professor of clinical psychology and psychiatry, founding director of the National Crime Victims Research and Treatment Center and vice chair for research and research administration in the Department of Psychiatry & Behavioral Sciences.

Before receiving the 2017 Governor's Award for Excellence in Scientific Research, Kilpatrick earned many honors and awards, including:

- ❑ President's Award for Outstanding Service on Behalf of Victims of Crime presented by President George



Photo provided

South Carolina Governor Henry McMaster, center, honors Dr. Dean Kilpatrick, left, and Dr. Michael Schmidt for their excellent work in the field of science.

H.W. Bush, 1990

- ❑ U.S. Congressional Victim's Rights Caucus Award for Promoting Crime Victim's Rights and Services in the Mental Health Field, 2007

- ❑ Outstanding Scientific Achievement Award presented by Trauma Division of the American Psychological Association, 2007

- ❑ Lifetime Achievement Award for Outstanding and Fundamental Contributions to the Field of Traumatic Stress Studies presented by International Society of Traumatic Stress Studies, 2008

Schmidt received the Governor's Award for Excellence in Scientific Awareness. His nomination stated that, "he has been among the most visible advocate for science education, sharing knowledge

gleaned from his research focused on the use of antimicrobial copper alloys for reducing hospital acquired infections."

Even while engaging in his own research projects, Schmidt's achievements in science education and awareness have spanned his entire career. His early activities in sharing science with others came via his efforts with three collaborators at MUSC by creating interactive CD-ROMs for students and offering them to school systems across the country. At the time, this cutting-edge technology was impressive enough for then-U.S. Secretary of Energy Hazel O'Leary to include in her demonstration during testimony to the U.S. Senate STEM education funding needs.

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**Dental Medicine grad**  
New DMD left legacy of  
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# AROUND CAMPUS

## PEOPLE

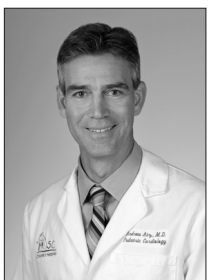
### Ray Anton



Ray Anton, M.D., distinguished university professor and Thurmond Wellness Endowed Chair in the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences, was named the 2017 recipient

of the Henri Begleiter Excellence in Research Award. Anton was honored for his substantial record in basic science work in alcohol research. He was recognized for chairing the steering committee of the largest alcohol disorder pharmacotherapy treatment trial for a decade as well as other research work.

### Andrew Atz



Andrew Atz, M.D., professor in the Department of Pediatrics, has been named chairman of the Department of Pediatrics. Atz previously served as interim chairman of the department.

Atz, who has been at MUSC since 1998, has served in several departmental leadership roles including director of pediatric cardiac intensive care, chief of the Division of Pediatric Cardiology and vice chair for clinical research.



**Dr. Jerry Reves, dean emeritus of the College of Medicine, receives the Community Pride Barrett Lawrimore Award for his work with the MUSC Arboretum established in 2012. Christine Von Kolnitz awarded it to him.**

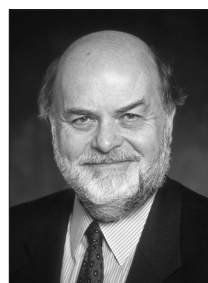
### Betsy Davis



Betsy Davis, DMD, an associate professor in the Department of Otolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery, was recognized in April in the Journal of Prosthodontics e-book, "Women

in Prosthodontics." The book features pioneering women in their fields who tell their stories and provide advice to future generations.

### Layton McCurdy



R. Layton McCurdy, M.D., distinguished university professor and dean emeritus of the College of Medicine, was the recipient of the Chairman's Recognition

Award from the MUSC Institute of Psychiatry. The award was presented by Thomas W. Uhde, M.D., professor and chairman, Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences.

## EVENTS

### Tea Room at Grace Church

Come to the 2017 Tea Room at Grace Church Cathedral Church, Mondays through Fridays from 11:30 a.m. until 2 p.m. until June 9. The Tea Room is celebrating its 27th year of serving delicious food for a great cause, serving homemade soups, salads, sandwiches, and desserts. Guests are serenaded by musicians during lunch. The Church Mouse Boutique is open from 10:30 a.m. until 3 p.m., where you can find everything from antiques to kitchenware to books.

### College of Health Professions

The Bachelor of Science in Healthcare Studies (BSHS) program is sponsoring a Food Truck Fundraiser from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., Thursday, June 1 at the Horseshoe to help raise scholarship funds for students in their program. Kickin' Chicken, Miracle's Tasty Express Hot Dogs, and Sunset Slush will participate.

### Red Cross blood drive

Power red donors are needed for a blood drive at MUSC's Institute of Psychiatry 4-South on Friday, June 16. Time slots open are at 10:15, 11, 12, 1 and 2 p.m. for whole blood donations. Pizza and a Red Cross T-shirt will be provided to all donors. Email [jonesb@musc.edu](mailto:jonesb@musc.edu) to schedule or visit [http://www.redcrossblood.org/donating-blood/types-donations#double\\_red](http://www.redcrossblood.org/donating-blood/types-donations#double_red).

## THE CATALYST

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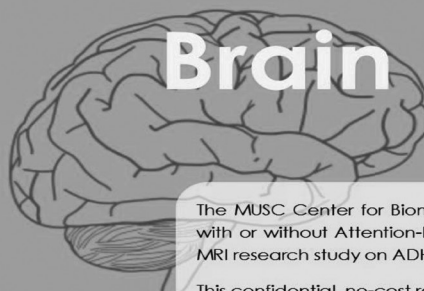
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## Brain MRI Study on ADHD

The MUSC Center for Biomedical Imaging is seeking males (ages 14 - 18) with or without Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD) for a brain MRI research study on ADHD.

This confidential, no-cost research study involves a phone screen, a clinical assessment visit & a MRI scan visit. If qualified, compensation is provided.

**For More Info:** call/text **BRAIN** 843-640-5382  
email [ADHDbrainMUSC@gmail.com](mailto:ADHDbrainMUSC@gmail.com)



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# Board member, friend of MUSC remembered for service

By MIKIE HAYES

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Longtime board of trustees member and graduate of the MUSC College of Medicine, E. Conyers O'Bryan Jr., M.D., 82, of Florence, South Carolina, died Sunday, May 21 in Charleston. Born April 2, 1935 in Kingstree, Dr. O'Bryan was the son of the late Edward Conyers O'Bryan Sr. and the late Margaret Huggins O'Bryan.

An overflow crowd packed the First Presbyterian Church of Florence on May 25 to pay tribute. Layton McCurdy, M.D., distinguished university professor, dean emeritus of the College of Medicine and Dr. O'Bryan's lifelong friend, was among the mourners.

"Conyers was an absolutely powerful doctor and man, a very bright man," McCurdy said. "If he said something, you could absolutely believe him. He was dedicated to patients, to the practice of medicine and to MUSC. The church was completely filled with people who loved him."

After the service, the line to offer support to Dr. O'Bryan's wife, Jennie, was 2 1/2 hours long, which to McCurdy signified the extraordinary legacy his friend had left behind.

As teenagers, the two were in the same grade in high school. As president of the class, McCurdy first met O'Bryan when he moved to Florence from Lake City. "I got to know him very well. He was just a really great guy," he said. "What many people don't know is that he was a really great baseball player, too."

For college, the two went their separate ways, O'Bryan graduating with a B.A. from the University of South Carolina. But in the fall of 1956, they would reunite in medical school at MUSC, becoming roommates during their freshman year – sharing a multitude of experiences, even a few antics. They were both inducted into the Alpha Omega Alpha Honor Medical Society – a prestigious organization that recognizes a small number of medical students who excel in leadership, character, community service and professionalism.

Again, life took them in different



photo by Anne Thompson

**Dr. Conyers O'Bryan served many roles on MUSC's Board of Trustees since 1976.**

"A great doctor and a great man – completely unselfish – one of my mentors and models."

– Donald Johnson, M.D.,  
MUSC Board of Trustees

"The passing of Dr. O'Bryan was a very sad day for MUSC. For more than 40 years, he proudly represented the institution from which he received his medical degree and completed his residency. He actively led in countless ways as a member of the Board of Trustees, and he touched many lives as an outstanding physician and cardiologist. He was a dear friend and generous supporter of MUSC and advanced our tripartite mission in many ways during his decades of service. He will be missed greatly at MUSC and throughout the state of South Carolina. Our thoughts and prayers are with his wife, Jennie, his son, Ed, his entire family, and all who loved him."

– David Cole, M.D, FACS,  
MUSC president

directions.

After medical school, Dr. O'Bryan served as a medical officer in the United States Marine Corps and later returned to MUSC to complete his residency. Upon completion, he returned to the Pee Dee region of the state to practice and start a family.

Dr. O'Bryan became a very active and generous alumnus, helping MUSC with many campaigns and projects. He established the Dr. E. Conyers O'Bryan Endowed Scholarship, which later became the Edward Conyers O'Bryan Jr. M.D. Fellowship in Global Health.

An avid supporter of the work of MUSC, Dr. O'Bryan dedicated himself to board service beginning in 1976, and twice serving as chairman of the MUSC Board of Trustees: first from 1994 to 1998 and again from 2000 to 2002. He most recently chaired the Board Education Committee. He also served on both the MUSC Heart and Vascular Center and Hollings Cancer Center

boards of directors.

But his heart was in Florence. A beloved member of the community, Dr. O'Bryan was the founder and director of the Coronary Care Unit for McLeod Regional Medical Center from 1966 to 1995, raising the bar for diagnosis and treatment of the heart in the Pee Dee, and ultimately advancing services into a full cardiac program, leading to the first open heart surgery at McLeod in 1986.

Dr. O'Bryan explained the success at McLeod by crediting others. "When I first came here, cardiology was just beginning to really bloom out, almost like a dynamite explosion. And we were able to, with an awful lot of people helping, make this a regional heart center," O'Bryan said.

He recently retired from private practice after 51 years of dedicated service. His patients were not ready for that news.

See **FRIEND** on page 12

"Conyers O'Bryan was chairman of the Board of Trustees when he recruited me as dean and vice president. On many occasions we had deep discussions about the direction that the college could and should go. He was unwavering in support of his alma mater. Aside from our affection for the College of Medicine, we shared a love of wine, and on the very first time I visited him in Florence, he surprised me by giving me a bottle of 1969 Château Latour. His gift was special because he knew I graduated from "the Medical College" in 1969 and that was a very good year for Château Latour."

– Jerry Reves, M.D.,  
dean emeritus,  
College of Medicine

"Dr. O'Bryan set the bar very high for other servant-leaders here at the Medical University. Between his family, patients, church and other obligations throughout the state of South Carolina, he had more than

enough to keep him busy at home in Florence. Yet he still gave 41 years of support, service and leadership to this institution, and he did so with a devotion, wisdom and integrity that inspired us all. MUSC is a far better institution today because of Conyers O'Bryan, and we will miss him greatly."

– Jim Fisher, vice president for  
development and alumni affairs

"Dr. O'Bryan possessed one of the brightest minds of the MUSC Board of Trustees and of the medical community of South Carolina as well. His sharp wit was evidenced by his astute questions posed to speakers to our board. He kept them on their toes, and the best interests of MUSC were foremost on his mind at all times. His dedication and sense of humor will be sorely missed."

– James Lemon, DMD,  
MUSC Board of Trustees

See **O'BRYAN** on page 11

# Charismatic student leader proud of her journey

BY CINDY ABOLE

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It's tough to miss Neizel Songalia around MUSC's campus. Her presence is unmistakable, as are her contagious smile and cheerful personality. Although she's petite in stature at just 5 feet tall, she can easily be the most memorable, most charismatic person in a room.

Neizel, which is pronounced Nee-cell, embodies the values of her native Philippine and American cultures – possessing virtues that both dentists and health care professionals hold dear. For the past four years, Neizel, president of the MUSC Student Government Association, has been able to shine some of her Filipina “Bayanihan” spirit of hospitality, love and support on others around the MUSC campus, which won her many fans.

Tariq Javed, DMD, professor and James B. Edwards College of Dental Medicine associate dean for academic and student affairs, admires how Neizel exemplified the spirit of service to her fellow students, helping them in any way she could and encouraging them along the way. He said she has already proven herself an accomplished student leader, effective collaborator and compassionate advocate for her fellow students and her patients.

“Everyone who meets Neizel sees that she's genuine, helpful and approachable. She's someone students can relate to. Anyone who spends time around her quickly feels comfortable in her presence,” said Javed.

## BAYANIHAN SPIRIT

She comes by these traits honestly. Filipinos, as a people, are known for being industrious, caring and hospitable. They value family more than anything else, and for the past four years, MUSC has been Neizel's family.

Like many immigrants, Neizel's story begins with a journey. She was born in Tacloban, Leyte, an island in the Philippines. The middle child of five, she her mom, Edna Songalia and her siblings stayed behind while her father, Romeo Songalia, pursued an opportunity in the early 1990s to work abroad and stay with

an aunt in Greenville, South Carolina.

Her father worked hard at many odd jobs to support his family: from dishwasher and cook to finally working full time as a machinist at the Hitachi plant. Eventually Romeo attained his U.S. citizenship and saved enough money to purchase a house and petition for his family to relocate to Greenville and join him. Within a week after Neizel and her family arrived in 2001, she and her siblings were enrolled in school.

“It was a culture shock and hard for me at first,” remembers Neizel, who was 10 years old when she moved to America. “We knew what to expect – our environment would be greener, cleaner and roomier. We were even prepared to speak and understand some English. But it was the speed of learning English, both written and verbal, that was tough,” she said.

But Neizel and her siblings adapted very quickly.

A good student in the classroom, Neizel was inspired by her father to work hard and be a high achiever. Originally, she wanted to pursue medicine, but after researching it and shadowing physicians in clinics and hospitals, she found the environment to be incompatible with her personality.

It wasn't until fellow Clemson University student and now co-dental medicine graduate Elizabeth Rowe, DMD, suggested she try dentistry that she first considered it as a career.

That same year, Neizel began shadowing her family dentist, John McCraw, DMD, and later Greenville cosmetic dentist, Linda W. Bridges, DDS, and determined it was indeed the path she wanted to take.

By summer 2013, both Neizel and Rowe joined the James B. Edwards College of Dental Medicine's Class of 2017.

Although the curriculum was tough, she loved everything about MUSC's dental school experience. She loved the small class size and family-like environment and especially the students, faculty and staff. She enjoyed exploring cutting-edge dental technologies such as computer-aided design and computer-aided manufacturing, CAD/CAM, dental restorations and working with simulators



Photo by Anne Thompson

College of Dental Medicine graduate and 2017 SGA president Neizel Songalia receives her diploma from MUSC Board of Trustees Chairman Dr. Don Johnson at the May 19 commencement. Songalia moves on to conduct a general practice dental residency at the Denver Health Science Center in Colorado.

and practice techniques.

And then, according to Neizel, things got even more exciting once she began treating patients in the student clinics.

“One thing I learned from my patients is that they really do trust you,” Neizel said. “This encouraged me to be the best dentist I can be, reading and understanding what my patients really need and want. Once this has been established, it's as if they have just received a whole new smile. And you get to be the first witness.”

She was able to expand her skills volunteering at local free dental clinics that served the Lowcountry, in addition to one special experience that had her and five other dental students traveling nearly 8,800 miles across the globe. The experience brought her full circle back to her hometown, Tacloban, in 2016.

The team of MUSC dental students volunteered to provide teeth cleaning, restorative work and extractions at a free dental clinic sponsored by the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. This clinic, as well as other health care clinics, sprouted up after Typhoon Haiyan, a Category 4 Pacific hurricane,

devastated the area in November 2013. Neizel served as an interpreter to patients and the dental team, as well as a student practitioner. She hopes to be able to continue this volunteer partnership and participate in other dental mission trips in the future.

“This opportunity to help my own people was not only professionally rewarding, it was personally truly meaningful. It reminded me how big a difference we can make in people's lives, and I believe we have an obligation to do so,” Neizel said.

Her volunteer efforts also benefitted students. Described by classmates as a social butterfly, her goal was to involve as many students as possible in campus activities, bringing together students from all six colleges to participate in events and decision-making and also socialize together. As chair of the SGA Student Welfare Committee, she polled students to determine the issues that were bothering them.

In her role as president of the SGA, she blossomed into an outstanding leader

See **LEADER** on page 11



## MEET JOHN



John Brooker

**Department; How long at MUSC**  
*MUSC Sustainability; 1.5 years*

**How are you changing what's possible at MUSC** *I am communicating MUSC's sustainability initiatives and demonstrating how others can contribute to a more sustainable and healthy future.*

**Last book read**  
*"On a Winter's Night a Traveler" by Italo Calvino.*

**A unique talent you have**  
*I'm really into Indie Rock and sing and play guitar in a band.*

**Best thing about living in Charleston**  
*I really like being close to the ocean. You're never more than a 10-minute walk or so to the water. And well, the food.*

**Favorite place in the world**  
*I went to Italy in 2016, and that was the coolest place I've ever been.*

**Words of advice**  
*"Wherever you go, there you are."*



## 2017 YES Campaign



"It's not just about my contribution...it's about us all coming together because that's when we truly make a difference. That's what the YES Campaign is all about."

**Cami Meyer**  
 COLLEGE OF HEALTH PROFESSIONS



**Make your gift today.  
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[giving.musc.edu/yes](http://giving.musc.edu/yes)**

**Your Gift, Your Choice.**

*it starts with*  
**MUSC**

For more information on the YES Campaign contact: Whitney McLuen, Campaign Coordinator at 843-792-1973 or [mcluen@musc.edu](mailto:mcluen@musc.edu)

## MUSC Research Town Hall

**Wednesday, June 7, 2017**

**11:00am to 12:00pm**

**MUSC Bioengineering Building Auditorium 110**



Please join Dr. Kathleen Brady, Vice President for Research, for updates on research resources, infrastructure, and to hear research updates from across MUSC.



Questions? Contact Ford Simmons at 2-2994 or [simmonwi@musc.edu](mailto:simmonwi@musc.edu)

# Teaching Excellence awards recognize MUSC faculty

BY JEFF WATKINS  
watkinsj@musc.edu

Three veteran members of the Medical University of South Carolina faculty will be honored for their academic contributions during the annual faculty convocation on Aug. 22. Following is a summary of this year's winners of the Medical University of South Carolina Foundation's Teaching Excellence Awards.

□ Patricia Coker-Bolt, Ph.D., associate professor, Division of Occupational Therapy, College of Health Professions, Educator-Lecturer

□ Laura Kasman, Ph.D., assistant professor, S.C. College of Health Professions-Physician Assistant Studies, Educator-Academic Scholarship

□ Jason S. Haney, PharmD, assistant professor, Department of Clinical Pharmacy and Outcome Sciences

Coker-Bolt, an associate professor in the Division of Occupational Therapy, is consistently described as passionate about her profession and the success of her students. She earned her bachelor's and master's degrees at MUSC and her doctorate at Capella University. Coker-Bolt joined the faculty as an adjunct professor in 2001, rising in the academic ranks to her present position in 2013.



**Patricia Coker-Bolt, Ph.D.**

**Educator-Lecturer**

She has earned numerous awards within and without MUSC, including the foundation's Developing

Teacher award in 2006 and the Teacher-Mentor award in 2012. Other honors include

the United States President's Council on Service & Civic Participation Volunteer Service award in 2005 and 2009; Charleston Influential Women in Business Volunteer Award from the Charleston Regional Business Journal; American Occupational Therapy Foundation Patterson Foundation Award for Community Volunteerism in 2011; Charleston Magazine's "Giving Back Award" Volunteer of the Year, also in 2011; and the American Occupational Therapy Association Roster of Fellows Award in 2014.

Coker-Bolt's record of community service is exemplary. Since 2009, she has made medical mission trips to Haiti, Uganda and Nicaragua; has served on the board of directors of the Charleston Miracle

League since 2004; served on the Pattison's Academy board of directors for 11 years; and in 2015 and 2016, participated in the Wounded Warriors Amputee softball game.

A sampling of supporting letters from former students provides the foundation for the honors Coker-Bolt has received over the years. "She is dedicated to getting to know each of us as individuals and making sure we get the most out of our overall academic experience," says a 2017 graduate. Another graduate says Coker-Bolt "always put us students first, had the best in mind for the women abroad, took a global approach to every problem, and showed compassion throughout the whole project."



**Laura Kasman, Ph.D.**

**Educator-Mentor: Academic/Scholarship**

Kasman completed a postdoctoral fellowship and was a research assistant professor in

*See AWARDS on page 8*

MUSC Board of  
Trustees Meeting

## UPDATE

The MUSC and MUHA Board of Trustees held its regular scheduled meeting May 18, hearing from City of Charleston Mayor John Tecklenburg and Charleston County School District Superintendent Gerrita Postlewait, Ed.D. The two special guests advised the board that MUSC's goal of building healthy communities is having widespread impact.

MUSC President David J. Cole, M.D., FACS, told the board he asked Tecklenburg and Postlewait to attend and share some of the ways the MUSC enterprise is partnering with their entities to build healthier and more economically viable communities.

Tecklenburg began by lauding the good working relationship between the city and MUSC, noting monthly meetings to discuss the numerous initiatives taking place. In one example, he referenced the WestEdge development currently under construction and plans for the new medical district. "It's just an incredible new development area for our city and an opportunity for medical and related technology business growth. The medical district concept is going to make this part of the city more walkable, more pedestrian-friendly... It has a long way to go but we — MUSC and the city — are working with our partners at the veteran's hospital and Roper. We also thank MUSC for being the title partner in our Holy Spokes bike share program. The bikes are really terrific," he said.

Tecklenburg mentioned drainage issues facing MUSC and the city, providing the board with a brief update on the \$180 million drainage project underway along "the Crosstown" parkway. He also shared an early glimpse into plans on the drawing board for the next major drainage project, which will affect the MUSC campus and surrounding area.

While introducing Postlewait to the board, Cole connected the dots on why MUSC needs to be in schools, noting the complex set of factors that create learning readiness and how many of those are tied to a child's physical, mental and emotional well-being.

Postlewait thanked the board and MUSC leadership for their foresight in creating these programs and opportunities for improved student health. Citing the MUSC STAR clinic for behavioral intervention referrals, 10 schoolbased health clinics and 16 school-based telehealth partnerships, she praised MUSC as "a stellar example of a community partnership that is healthy, growing and leading to more thriving outreach services available for our students."

Postlewait asked the board to consider expanding current services and innovative programs that address the growing substance abuse problem among students and families, and for MUSC's help in recruiting more health practitioners to teach courses in the STEM curriculum throughout Charleston County.

**GROWING AMBULATORY SERVICES**

MUSC Health CEO Patrick J. Cawley, M.D., offered an update on ambulatory service planning for the enterprise, citing five primary drivers for MUSC's expansion throughout the Lowcountry:

- ❑ Patient expectations for convenience and comfort (shift from inpatient to outpatient care)
- ❑ The need for closer chronic disease management
- ❑ Population management on the peninsula
- ❑ Improved health care technology available in the outpatient setting
- ❑ Cost (to the institution and to patient populations)

Given these drivers, Cawley said that a new pediatric ambulatory imaging and surgical facility would break ground in North Charleston this summer, expansion of space and services already available in West Ashley near West Ashley High School are underway and there are plans to submit certificates of need for an oncology center in the northern Tri-county area (Summerville) and an ambulatory surgery center in Mount Pleasant.

Cawley also briefed board

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**AWARDS** *Continued from Page Six*

microbiology and immunology from 1999 to 2004 at MUSC.

She was led to a science career, as she explains in her teaching philosophy, because “I preferred subjects that dealt with objective facts. Time standardized tests and reproducible experimental results were my friends.” Even the sports in which she engaged, such as track and cross country, had only “objective winners,” with no need of referees or judges. Over time, however, she has learned that pure objectivity is not possible when judging theses or dissertations. “By analogy, there is not only one way to sing beautifully. My students and colleagues have taught me this by example, and for this I am grateful.”

The feeling of gratitude is mutual. In student evaluations, one said she was a “breath of fresh air in a block where the majority of lecturers were very disorganized and hard to follow.” Another called her “queen of the College of Medicine.”

Cynthia Wright, Ph.D., professor of microbiology and immunology and associate dean in the College of Graduate Studies for admissions and career development, says Kasman always has the students’ best interests in mind. “When you walk into her office you will notice that she has plastered its walls with charts that track the progress of the PREP (Postbaccalaureate

Research Education Program) students so she sees at a glance what milestones they have met, what programs they have applied to, and where they have been accepted,” she says.

Kasman has won the American Medical Student Association Golden Apple award four times in the past five years and two COM2 Teacher of the Year awards.



**Jason S. Haney,  
PharmD,  
Educator-Lecturer**

Haney, an assistant professor in the Department of Clinical Pharmacy and Outcome Sciences at MUSC’s campus for the South Carolina College of Pharmacy, served as a captain in the U.S. Army Medical Corps before working at MUSC, Indiana Heart Hospital and Roper Hospital before returning to MUSC in 2010.

“As department chair, I can tell you that Jason has a very challenging schedule, and yet he is always willing to help volunteer in our laboratories and clinical applications courses because he is a team player and loves having a positive impact on students’ lives,” says Kelly Ragucci, PharmD, professor and chairwoman of

Clinical Pharmacy and Outcomes Sciences, in a letter of recommendation.

“He incorporates a multitude of teaching and learning strategies, including lectures, hands-on learning, student-led discussions and patient-case presentations,” says Ardis Copenhaver, PharmD, a resident at the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center. “His genuine interest in student development is evident.”

An Eagle Scout, Haney earned the U.S. Army’s Expert Field Medical Badge. He was nominated multiple times for the South Carolina College of Pharmacy’s Lowcountry Advanced Pharmacy Practice Experience Preceptor of the Year, winning the award in 2013. Haney received the Excellence in Service Award in 2016 from the SCCP’s Department of Clinical Pharmacy and Outcomes Sciences and was a nominee for the Medical University of South Carolina Foundation’s Developing Teacher Award.

In his philosophy of teaching, Haney says, “Though I will never be perfect, I strive to learn from each student and patient encounter. I aim to consistently seek and embrace new information and, by example, inspire students to continue a pursuit of lifelong learning.”

Other convocation awards, including Outstanding Clinician, Peggy Schachte Research Mentor, Developing Scholar and Distinguished Faculty Service, will be announced at a later date.



# MUSC recognizes each college's top honor graduates

*Editor's Note: MUSC's Class of 2017 first and second honor graduates are recognized for their academic excellence. On May 17, the group was celebrated at a luncheon hosted by MUSC President David Cole and Kathy Cole.*

## College of Health Professions

*Bachelor of Science – Cardiac Perfusion*

First Honor Graduate – Amy Phelps; Second Honor Graduate – Mary Rose Steffan

*Master in Health Administration–Executive*

First Honor Graduates – Gregory Alan Hall and Paul G. Thacker Jr.; Second Honor Graduates – Adam Michael Mayer and Amer Dastgir

*Master in Health Administration – Residential*

First Honor Graduate – Sonia Kohli; Second Honor Graduate – William Derrick Stalvey

*Master of Science in Nurse Anesthesia*

First Honor Graduates – Eric Joseph Kern and Hannah Wood Secunda; Second Honor Graduates – Emily Maureen Long and Alan Keane Phillips

*Doctor of Health Administration*

First Honor Graduate – Dayle Elizabeth Benson; Second Honor Graduates – Steven Gregory Brewer and Angela Black Smith

*Doctor of Physical Therapy*

First Honor Graduates – Justin Michael Cox and James Zotto; Second Honor Graduates – Katherine Leigh Huey and Ellen Claire Schafer

## College of Dental Medicine

First Honor Graduates – Melinda Rae Lee and Blake Lewis Tollison; Second Honor Graduate – Riley David Wilson

## College of Nursing

*Bachelor of Science in Nursing*

First Honor Graduate – Susannah Lee Rogers; Second Honor Graduates – Rosanne Leah and Thomas Graham Lovett

*Doctor of Nursing Practice*

First Honor Graduates – Brittany Forren Dillon and Catherine Margaret Melin; Second Honor Graduates – Elizabeth Carter Galvin and Theresa Lee Trivette

*Doctor of Philosophy*

First Honor Graduate – Anna C. Fisk

## College of Pharmacy

*Doctor of Pharmacy*

First Honor Graduates – Meredith Shieder Jenkins and Taylor Nicole Peters; Second Honor Graduates – Lindsay Pruitt Deloney and Jennifer Rose Raffa



MUSC's Class of 2017 top honor graduates gather at the courtyard between Colcock Hall and St. Luke's Chapel at the May 17 honors luncheon hosted by MUSC President David Cole, far right, and Kathy Cole, far left.

*photo by Anne Thompson*

## College of Medicine

*Master in Public Health*

First Honor Graduate – Sophia Stephanie Sourlis; Second Honor Graduate – Ariel Rose Christensen

*Doctor of Medicine*

First Honor Graduate – Kelsey Derrick Wilson

## College of Graduate Studies

*Doctor of Philosophy*

First Honor Graduates – Rachel Weber and Ellen McGlinchey

*Master of Science in Biomedical Sciences*

First Honor Graduates – Lillian Neal and Bradley Krisanits

## AWARD *Continued from Page One*

Schmidt continued to significantly impact science awareness in South Carolina through his efforts in the field of environmental sustainability and the development of environmental studies programs. Working collaboratively with colleagues from USC, Clemson, and the State Energy Office, they developed the Sustainable Universities Initiative resulting in major and important sustainability efforts at the three research universities and other institutions of higher education in the state.

The breadth and depth of his work has been validated by publication of more than 100 peer-reviewed manuscripts; grants totaling over \$88 million; participation on expert panels focused on various impending biological crises; quotes in lay press vehicles such as The Wall Street Journal and Glamour magazine; design of interactive multimedia programs for middle school students; serving as a speaker and coach for the TEDx programs; and his work as the former editor for the NPR program, "Microbeworld."

Schmidt serves as a professor and vice chairman microbiology and immunology in the MUSC's College of Medicine and professor of stomatology of craniofacial biology for the College of Dental Medicine.

# Kids Eat Free at MUSC returns for third season

MUSC is once again partnering with Sodexo, a leader in food service operations, to offer Kids Eat Free at MUSC, a program to help reduce food insecurity for children under 18 during the summer months.

Food insecurity contributes to the rising cost of health care. Participation in hunger-relief programs within health care's existing infrastructure provides an opportunity to improve population health by increasing access to nutritious meals for those most in need. The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) funds the much-needed program and allows children who receive free or reduced-cost meals during the school year to continue to receive food while school is out. The USDA summer meal programs, like Kids Eat Free at MUSC, help bridge the gap for more than 18 million children who lose their most reliable source of nutrition once the school year ends.

In 2015, Sodexo and MUSC became the first hospital in the Southeast to participate in the USDA's summer-feeding program, serving 2,385 meals. In 2016, the program expanded beyond the cafeterias to include the cafe in an outpatient building and, in total, served over 5,100 meals that summer, in addition to partnering with the Lowcountry Food Bank, I Heart Hungry Kids and Molina Healthcare to offer meals from the MUSC Urban Farm on Saturdays. In its third year, Kids Eat Free will kick off on June 5 and will serve meals at breakfast and lunch in both the

main hospital and ART cafeterias, seven days a week throughout the summer, and at Rutledge Tower Monday through Friday, ending on August 22.

The program has been designed so no child will feel singled out for receiving free meals. No questions are asked, and they do not need to sign up or show any type of registration, documentation, ID or proof of need to receive their meals. MUSC qualifies as a USDA open site because nearly 90 percent of children who attend nearby public schools qualify for free or reduced-cost meals during the school year.

Kids Eat Free at MUSC uses an "offer versus serve" format, meaning children can select from several choices. The USDA has strict guidelines on what can be served, ensuring the children receive enough as well as the right types of healthy and nutritious foods.

The process is easy. Kids follow the friendly purple octopus signs that lead them to MUSC employees who help them make their food selections and then to the proper cashier. As an open site, children can eat anywhere on campus, but for their own protection, and to make sure someone isn't taking their food away from them, they are not able to remove food from campus or give it away.

## FAQ's

### ❑ Who can participate?

All children ages 18 and younger, no matter where they live or what brings them to MUSC.

### ❑ How does it work?

Children can make their own selection from our hot food choices at the "FAVORITES" hot line or from other designated foods. Just look for the foods marked with the friendly octopus.

- For breakfast: Children must choose at least three different food items and no more than four different items total. Foods offered include grains (hot cereal, cold cereal, toast or muffins), fresh fruit (apple, orange or banana), an egg (scrambled or hard-boiled) and milk.
- For lunch: Children must choose from at least three different food groups and no more than five different items total.

- 1) Food groups offered are entrees, veggies, grains and milk.
- 2) Check out at the Kids Eat Free register. Just look for the line designated by the friendly octopus.
- 3) Kids must eat on the MUSC campus and cannot take the food to go.

### ❑ When and where does it happen?

Kids Eat Free in the main hospital and

## MUSC Health & Well-Being

By Susan L. Johnson, Ph.D., MUSC Office of Health Promotion



ART cafeterias during summer vacation (June 5 through Aug. 22). Breakfast is offered from 7 to 10 a.m. and lunch from 11 a.m. until 2 p.m., Monday through Sunday. MUSC Rutledge Tower will operate during the same hours but not on weekends or July 4th.

### ❑ How can I learn more?

If you need assistance in the cafeterias, please ask one of our Sodexo employees for assistance. For questions, contact Sodexo Wellness Dietitian Debbie Petitpain, RDN at [petitpa@musc.edu](mailto:petitpa@musc.edu) or 792-9644.

For more information on the program, please visit: [www.musc.edu/kids-eat-free](http://www.musc.edu/kids-eat-free).



**LEADER** *Continued from Page Four*

according to Kevin Smuniewski, director in the Office of Student Programs and Student Diversity. He and his team have worked with Neizel all four years — two years as a class representative and later in SGA leadership roles, serving first as vice president of programs and then as president.

“Neizel worked very hard to increase student participation in SGA events and was able to involve more students than ever before,” he said. She recently worked with student leaders to find ways to bring in money for the organization which included the sales of hand-fans at the 2017 commencement event. The fans say, “I’m a fan of a graduate.”

Interprofessionalism and inclusivity are important values to Neizel, and she constantly strived to ensure the SGA was representative of all students. Under her leadership, the SGA added additional student representation from student affinity groups including the Alliance for Hispanic Health and Alliance for Equality.

Nadia Mariutto, student programs coordinator in the Office of Student Programs and Student Diversity agreed. “Neizel’s a real go-getter. She’s collaborative, organized, caring and compassionate,” she said.

According to Javed, in addition to her affinity for building relationships between students across college lines, she’s also a champion for collaboration and interprofessional teamwork in dentistry and all areas of health care as well.

“Neizel’s committed herself to collaborating with colleagues from different disciplines. She firmly believes that dentists can be much more successful if they work collaboratively in all areas,” he said.

**A SMILE CAN CHANGE THE WORLD**

After four years at the College of Dental Medicine, her interests have gravitated to general and aesthetic dentistry, where she enjoys the art as much as the science of the field.

“Dentistry can be as artistic as painting,” Neizel said, referring to advanced technology, services, materials and treatment techniques to create pleasing results. “I’m

working with my hands and skills to prepare a good outcome. Instead, my ‘canvas’ is creating or enhancing a person’s smile. There’s just something exciting and satisfying to be involved in that.”

In cosmetic dentistry, some of the services Neizel will be performing will include teeth restorations, whitening, crowns, bridges and veneers, restoration bonding, extractions, dental implants, closing gaps and camouflaging cracks and chips.

The next stop of her journey will take her west to begin a general practice dental residency at Denver Health Science Center in Colorado starting July 1. She’s eager to continue learning new techniques and using dental technology, enhancing her treatment planning for patients.

On May 19, Neizel walked across the stage at commencement, making her parents, Romeo and Edna, and the rest of her family extremely proud. For the young girl who came to America excited about the many things this new and exciting country had to offer, she has actually given so much back. And just as the word commencement signifies — this is just the beginning.

**UPDATE** *Continued from Page Seven*

members on the scheduled implementation of the Funds Flow process for compensation of MUSC physicians who provide clinical care. Like many other academic medical centers (AMCs) across the nation, this July MUSC Health will begin paying physicians for the number of patients they care for and the quality of that care, as opposed to the amount of revenue generated by the department. This involves the use of a health care metric called a relative value unit (RVU), among other measures, which will more accurately reflect a physician’s full scope of work. RVUs are used to help offset inequity among hard-working practitioners in departments that serve patients with varying levels of insurance coverage and financial resources. The idea is to reward clinicians for high clinical performance and quality care in a transparent manner, regardless of who they treat and their ability to pay, and alleviate some of the worry around bill collection for providers. Further, with success, this model will help MUSC better support its critical research and educational missions.

Hundreds of friends and family members joined the board May 19 in celebrating the successful matriculation of 650 new health care professionals into the next stage of their careers during the 2017 MUSC spring commencement ceremony. Graduates represented all six MUSC colleges: Dental Medicine – 78; Graduate Studies – 49; Health Professions – 149; Medicine – 167; Nursing – 126; and Pharmacy – 81.

“Since June 2016, we will have graduated a record number of talented men and women — 1,016 students — from top-tier education and training programs during three graduation ceremonies,” Cole said. “Our board of trustees plays a central role in guiding and supporting our three-part mission of education, research and patient care, and they do it voluntarily often balancing very busy careers and personal responsibilities. We value the knowledge, experience and commitment of each trustee. We are delighted and grateful when our board members participate in commencement, one of the most rewarding traditions of our academic year.”

Wofford College President Emeritus Benjamin Dunlap, Ph.D., delivered the commencement address and receive an honorary Doctor of Humane Letters degree. South Carolina State Sen.

John Matthews Jr. of Orangeburg and Timothy Keating, senior vice president of government operations for The Boeing Company, also received honorary Doctor of Humane Letters degrees.

Pamela Cipriano, Ph.D., RN, president of the American Nurses Association and a former administrator for MUSC, received an honorary Doctor of Science, honoris causa degree.

**O’BRYAN** *Continued from Page Three*

“When I was elected to the Board of Trustees in 2002, Dr. O’Bryan was the first person I met at MUSC. He took me under his wing and educated me about the inner workings of our campus and hospital. He has been my friend and mentor since that first day I arrived on campus. His legacy will live on in many of us.”

— Bill Bingham, Sr.,  
MUSC Board of Trustees

“I could easily go on for eight pages about my friend Conyers. We were friends who played a part in each other’s most important life moments. Conyers was funny, opinionated, and smart — and he always had good opinions. He was a devoted, honest and brilliant doctor, and his patients and colleagues loved him.”

— Layton McCurdy, M.D.,  
dean emeritus, College of Medicine

**FRIEND** *Continued from Page Three*

“Perhaps his most enthusiastic patient was my mother,” McCurdy said. “Conyers took wonderful care of her for years. She lived until she was 96, and he would even visit her at Bishop Gadsden. She would not let him quit practicing,” he said with a laugh. “He was a brilliant doctor.”

Dr. O'Bryan was the recipient of many awards and honors, including an Honorary Doctor of Humanity degree from Francis Marion University in December 2004 and the prestigious Order of the Palmetto in December 1994, awarded by then-Gov. Carroll A Campbell Jr. He held leadership positions in professional organizations at the local, state and national levels. He wrote numerous publications and made many scientific contributions to the fields of medicine and cardiology. In addition to the delight he took in writing, he was an avid reader and traveler.

The year 1974 sparks a treasured memory. During a yearlong sabbatical when McCurdy and his wife, Gwen, lived in London, Dr. O'Bryan came for a conference and stayed with them. A Churchill aficionado, McCurdy introduced him to a shop that carried mostly Churchill works, launching O'Bryan's love for Winston Churchill's books and subsequently his paintings.

“When Conyers came to England in the fall of 1974, it was also the 100th anniversary of the birth of Winston Churchill. When I took him to one of my favorite bookstores, Conyers became fascinated with him. Many people

don't know that Churchill also painted and was a pretty good artist. Conyers bought some books and got very serious about collecting. He had an incredible collection of his books and bought two of his paintings. I take great pride in his love of Churchill. Some of our greatest discussions were when we were visiting on those things,” McCurdy said.

Dr. O'Bryan was a longtime member and deacon at First Presbyterian Church in Florence. He is described by colleagues and friends as a loving husband, father and grandfather; a wise and loyal friend; a dedicated mentor; and a beloved doctor.

He is survived by his wife of 40 years, Jennie F. O'Bryan; his son, Edward C. O'Bryan III, M.D., wife Claire, and granddaughter, Evelyn Margaret O'Bryan of Mount Pleasant; sister, Marion Hicks of Alpharetta, Georgia; and many nieces and nephews.

In lieu of flowers, the family asks that charitable contributions be made to the Edward Conyers O'Bryan Jr. M.D. Fellowship in Global Health. Donations can be made online at [www.musc.edu/giving](http://www.musc.edu/giving) or by mail, with checks made payable to the MUSC Foundation and mailed to 18 Bee Street, MSC 450, Charleston, SC 29425.

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