

## Scientists' consensus: Be wary of antimicrobials

By HELEN ADAMS  
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What some consumers don't know about antimicrobials could not only lead them to spend money needlessly but also could affect everything from their reproductive health to their susceptibility to allergens to the wellbeing of the environment.

That's the conclusion of more than 200 scientists who have signed a consensus statement released June 20. Research physiologist Patricia Fair at MUSC was one of 16 people who co-authored the statement, which warns of the potential risks associated with triclosan and triclocarban.

"Those chemicals are in personal care products, cosmetics, plastic household cutting boards, baby products, toys, building products, textiles and shower curtains. It just goes on and on," Fair said.

The Florence Statement on triclosan and triclocarban was introduced at a symposium on organic pollutants in Florence, Italy. It summarizes research showing the chemicals are for the most part ineffective and may be harmful, Fair said. She called them possible endocrine disruptors, which means they may interfere with naturally-produced hormones.

"The consensus was basically that these two antimicrobials, triclosan and triclocarban, are in about 2,000 products," Fair said. "They're persistent, they interfere

with hormone actions, they bio-accumulate in the environment and their use should be reduced unless they are medically or clinically necessary."

### CONSENSUS STATEMENT RECOMMENDATIONS ABOUT ANTIMICROBIALS

- ❑ Avoid using antimicrobial chemicals unless there is a health benefit and evidence that they're safe.
- ❑ When there is a need for antimicrobial chemicals, choose safe alternatives to triclosan and triclocarban.
- ❑ All products containing antimicrobials should be labeled, even if they don't make health claims.
- ❑ The safety of antimicrobials and the changes they cause should be evaluated over the long term.

Last year, the Food and Drug Administration issued a rule banning companies from marketing consumer antiseptic wash products containing one or more of 19 ingredients, including triclosan and triclocarban, which were the most commonly used antimicrobial chemicals. "After studying it for 40 years, they ruled and agreed with all the studies that show there's no benefit or necessary safety data for having these chemicals in hand soap and body wash," Fair said. "It's not more effective than plain soap and water."

But Fair said the ban doesn't go far enough, and consumers should be aware



Photo provided

The Food and Drug Administration has banned companies from marketing consumer antiseptic wash products containing one or more of 19 ingredients, including triclosan and triclocarban.



Dr. Patricia Fair says antimicrobial chemicals may do more harm than good in many cases.

Photo by Dawn Brazell

that triclosan and triclocarban are still in some products. For example, the nonprofit Environmental Working Group, which focuses on environmental health, reports that

triclosan may be in dish soap, deodorant, toothpaste, mattresses, plastic food containers and shoe insoles.

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## IMAGINE NATION

### A MESSAGE FROM Darlene Shaw, Ph.D., Chief Instit. Strategy Officer

This year's Faculty convocation speaker is particularly reflective of our Imagine MUSC 2020 goal of "Commit to Patients and Families First." The Office of the Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost will host the inaugural James W. Colbert Lectureship as part of 2017 Faculty Convocation. The inaugural Colbert Lecture speaker, Brian "B.J." Miller, M.D., is a preeminent speaker on patient-centered, palliative and end-of-life care and assistant clinical professor of medicine at University of California, San Francisco.



The 2017 Faculty Convocation is scheduled for Tuesday, Aug. 22 at 4 p.m. in the Drug Discovery Building auditorium, with a reception at 5:45 p.m.

### IMAGINE WINS

#### ❑ MUSC and RiverDogs partner to Embrace Diversity and Inclusion

MUSC was a proud sponsor of Larry Doby Weekend with the RiverDogs June 16 through June 19. A South Carolina native, three-sport high school all-state athlete and veteran, Larry Doby was the second man to break the baseball color barrier. At Saturday night's game, MUSC hosted a photo booth and social media photo contest encouraging fans to write down a word that expressed how they are unique. You can check out the photos that were shared by searching #MUSCAttheJoe on Facebook and Twitter. This event was a fun way to share with the community that we are committed to embracing diversity and inclusion in our work force and among those we are privileged to serve.

#### ❑ 'Kids Eat Free' returns in support of Build Healthy Communities goal

MUSC is again partnering with Sodexo to offer the Kids Eat Free program to 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. Summer meal programs, like Kids Eat Free, 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, MUSC became the first hospital in the Southeast to participate in this USDA summer feeding program. For questions about the program, including ways to get involved for an hour or two per week, contact registered dietitian Debbie Petitpain at [petitpa@musc.edu](mailto:petitpa@musc.edu) or (843) 792-9644.

### UPCOMING EVENTS

- ❑ June 22 – Lunchtime Loser Program launches [www.muschealth.org/weight/programs/LL.html](http://www.muschealth.org/weight/programs/LL.html) (Goal: *Build Healthy Communities*)
- ❑ July 14 – South Carolina Conference on Innovations in Teaching and Learning in Higher Education [www.musc.edu/sccitl](http://www.musc.edu/sccitl) (Goal: *Foster Innovative Learning*)
- ❑ July 18 – Science Cafe presented by Zihaj Li, M.D., Ph.D., at 5:30 p.m. at Charleston Beer Works <http://academicdepartments.musc.edu/research/science-cafe/index.html> (Goals: *Scientific Discoveries and Innovative Learning*)

How are you or someone you know connecting to one or more of our Imagine MUSC 2020 goals? Let us know by emailing [imagine2020@musc.edu](mailto:imagine2020@musc.edu).

# MUSC Health officer to lead health care quality organization

By MIKIE HAYES

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During the Medical Quality 2017 conference in Washington, D.C., MUSC Chief Affiliations and Business Transformation Officer Mark Lyles, M.D., was elected to the office of president of the American College of Medical Quality – a prestigious national organization that when founded in 1973 was the first of its kind, launching a new field of study. Its aim was to tackle shortcomings in the health care system.

Today, the ACMQ continues to provide leadership and education in health care quality management for health care professionals responsible for leading their organizations in quality and safety outcomes. The ACMQ offers the tools, experience and expertise necessary to improve the quality and safety of patient care.

Lyles has been with the organization for 19 years, 14 of them spent on the board of directors, having served in many roles and offices, most recently vice president and president-elect – both two-year terms.

As he assumes the top position of the organization, he and his board are working diligently to set the vision and direction for the coming two years, with numerous plans already in the works.

MUSC Health CEO Patrick Cawley, M.D., offered hearty congratulations.

“What a tremendous honor it is for all of us here at MUSC that our own Dr. Mark Lyles, MUSC chief affiliations and business transformation officer, has been elected to serve as president of the American College of Medical Quality – a well-respected and long-standing authority on the subject of medical quality. His years of service on the board have led to many innovative organizational advancements, and his leadership will undoubtedly transform the organization. We congratulate Mark and wish him the best as he steers the ACMQ toward even greater successes.”

Lyles proposed establishing chapters of ACMQ at academic health centers around the country, in an effort to foster the ideals of ACMQ with future generations of health care providers. In early 2016, his dream came to fruition when the first beta-site chapter was founded at MUSC for students, residents and



**Dr. Mark Lyles with Dr. Prathibha Varkey, immediate past president of ACMQ and CEO of Yale Northeast Medical Group at the 2017 medical quality conference.**

*Photo provided*

fellows. Officers were installed and programs presented. Lyles said they are challenging other academic medical centers to create their own ACMQ chapters as well.

While ACMQ was the first organization of its type, quality, he says, has gone mainstream. Today, he can count in the neighborhood of 10 organizations that offer programs geared to quality. While ACMQ membership continues to grow at approximately 20 percent per year, he foresees some natural consolidation for organizations on the horizon.

Manning the helm of ACMQ is a labor of love for the practicing general internist who sees patients twice a week, works in the teaching clinic and oversees a demanding area responsible for developing and deepening relationships between MUSC and other clinical and non-clinical entities for the purposes of population health management, enabling MUSC to deliver the full continuum of care to all of its patients. Lyles has administrative responsibility for MUSC’s telemedicine, population health, health promotion and wellness and business transformation programs. Lyles also writes regularly for the oft-cited ACMQ journal – which has more than 8,000 subscribers – and

its other publications.

In 2014, the ACMQ board changed its charter to allow for health care providers other than physicians into its ranks. Professionals have to have a master’s degree or higher to qualify for membership. It has led, he said, to richer and more collaborative discussions.

“Quality is now a team sport,” he said, “and our membership now reflects the expertise of other health care professionals who also focus on areas of medical quality.”

With a leadership track that currently is eight years long, ACMQ has yet to have any non-physician leaders. “I look forward to other disciplines playing major leadership roles in the organization in the near future,” Lyles said.

## RESEARCH GRANT HIGHLIGHTS

### *Ophthalmology*

#### **Karoline Rocha**

A Phase 3, Multi-Center, Double-Masked, Vehicle-Controlled, Randomized Parallel-Group Study to Assess Loteprednol Etabonate Ophthalmic Gel, 0.38% (BID and TID) versus Vehicle Gel for the Treatment of, \$136,000, from Bausch and Lomb, Sept. 3, 2016 to Sept. 30, 2017

#### **Karoline Rocha**

A Phase 2, Multi-Center, Double-Masked, Randomized, Vehicle-Controlled, Parallel-Group Study Evaluating the Safety, Efficacy, and Pharmacokinetics of the Fixed Combination of AGN-199201 and AGN-190584, \$158,850, from Allergan, Inc., Oct. 28, 2016 to Oct. 27, 2018

### *Otolaryngology — Head and Neck Surgery*

#### **Judy Dubno**

Maximizing Speech Recognition Under Adverse Listening Conditions, \$576,915, from NIH/USC (1R01DC015465-01), July 1, 2016 to June 30, 2021

#### **David Neskey**

The Tumor Suppressor Capability of p53 is Dependent on Non-muscle Myosin IIA Function in Head and Neck Cancer, \$405,000, from NIH/NIDC (1K08DE026542-01), Sept. 6, 2016 to Aug. 31, 2019

### *Pediatrics*

#### **Michelle M. Macias**

Leadership Education in Neurodevelopmental and Related Disabilities (LEND), \$616,392, from HRSA/Maternal and Child Health Bureau, July 1, 2011 to June 30, 2021

#### **Sakamuri V. Reddy**

CXCL5 Control of RANKL Gene Expression in Paget's Disease, \$336,375, from NIH/NIA (1R56AG052511-01), Sept. 30, 2016 to Aug. 31, 2017

### *Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences*

#### **Anna Birks**

SC Rural Access to Veterans Health Resources (SC RAVHR), \$128,000, from SC Office of Rural Health, Aug. 1, 2016 to July 31, 2019

#### **Virginia Adair Fonner**

Patterns and Risk Factors of HIV and Non-Communicable Disease Co-Morbidity in Urban Tanzania-Exploring the Potential for Family-Based

Interventions, \$327,685 from NIH/Fogarty Intl. (1R21TW010482-01), Sept. 1, 2016 to June 30, 2018

#### **Meng Liu**

Gene Transfer for Cataplexy of Narcolepsy, \$1,862,775, from NIH/NINDS (1R01NS096151-01A1), Sept. 15, 2016 to June 30, 2021

#### **Lindsay Squeglia**

Neuroscience-informed Treatment Development for Adolescent Alcohol Use Disorders, \$1,003,860, from NIH/NIAAA (1K23AA025399-01), Sept. 20, 2016 to Aug. 31, 2021

#### **Michael D. Sweat**

Impact of Integrated HIV/NCD Screening on HIV Testing Uptake and Engagement in HIV Care: an RCT in Kisarawe, Tanzania, \$3,113,602, from NIH/NIMH (1R01MH111366-01), Sept. 15, 2016 to June 30, 2021

#### **Thomas W. Uhde**

A Pilot Trial Investigating the Effect of Applying Low Field Magnetic Stimulation (LFMS) in Slow Wave Sleep on Electrographic (EEG) Power in Healthy Adults, \$100,444, from Tal Medical Inc., Oct. 24, 2016 to April 23, 2017

### *Public Health Sciences*

#### **Benjamin A. Toll**

Gain-Framed Messages and NRT Sampling to Promote Smoking Cessation in Lung Cancer Screening Programs, \$2,986,729, from NIH/NCI (1R01CA207229-01), Sept. 8, 2016 to Aug. 31, 2021

#### **John E. Vena**

Environmental Contributors to Child Health Originating from National Fetal Growth Study (ECCHO-NFGS), \$1,576,742, from NIH (1UG3OD023316-01), Sept. 21, 2016 to Aug. 31, 2018

#### **Brandon Welch**

Improving Cancer Family History Collection Through Social Networking and Artificial Intelligence, \$867,265, from NIH (1K07CA211786-01), Sept. 15, 2016 to Aug. 31, 2021

### *Orthopaedics*

#### **Richard Friedman**

Protocol 404-C-201, A Randomized, Single-Blind, Active-Controlled, Dose-Ranging Study to Evaluate the Pharmacokinetics, Safety, and Efficacy of Local Administration of DepoTXA for Reduced Postsurgical,

\$233,600, from Pacira Pharmaceuticals, Inc., Oct. 19, 2016 to Nov. 30, 2017

### *Urology*

#### **Eric S. Rovner**

A Multicenter, Randomized, Double-Blind, Placebo-Controlled Study, Evaluating Safety and Efficacy of LiRIS 400 mg in Females With Interstitial Cystitis With Hunners Lesions, \$259,116, from Allergan, Inc., Sept. 14, 2016 to June 30, 2018

**The Catalyst's Research Grant Highlights column showcases the MUSC research community's grant activities. For information about awards, visit the Office of Research & Sponsored Programs at <http://academicdepartments.musc.edu/research/orsp/reporting/>.**



*Lisa Saladin, PT, Ph.D.  
Executive Vice President and Provost*

*requests the honor of your presence at the  
inaugural MUSC*

*James W. Colbert Lectureship*

*and*

*2017 Faculty Convocation*

*to celebrate the new academic year and  
honor faculty award recipients*

*Keynote address*

*BJ Miller, M.D.  
Assistant Clinical Professor  
University of California  
San Francisco*

*Tuesday, the twenty-second of August  
four o'clock*

*Drug Discovery Building, Room 110  
70 President Street, Charleston, SC*

*Reception to follow in  
Drug Discovery Building Lobby*

## Construction Update

# President, Cannon streets intersection work extended

Due to multiple utility conflicts, the drainage work at the intersection of Cannon and President streets is expected to last an additional month; MUSC was originally given a tentative reopen date of July 1.

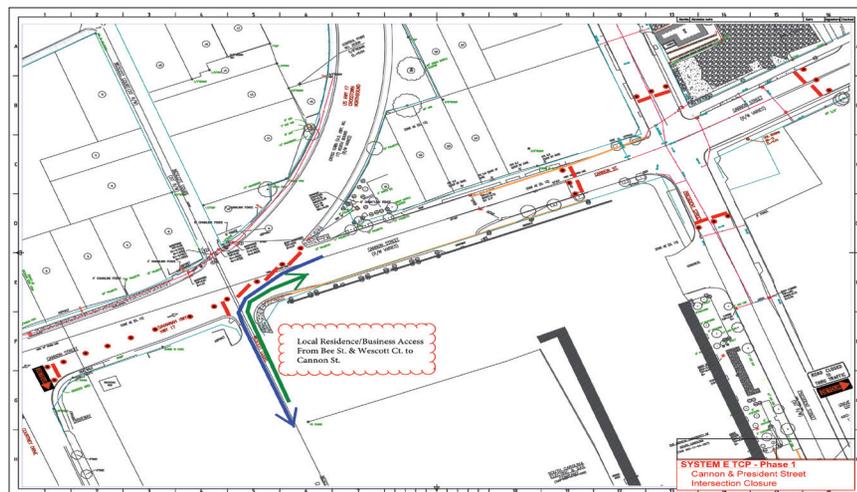
Drainage installation began in early June and the intersection will reopen as the construction and road closures shift along President Street, south of the intersection. Closures along President Street are required to complete the drainage installation, following the completion of the intersection work. Employees and

students are required to use alternate entrances, exits, and parking available, which are outside the marked construction zone.

Thank you for your cooperation and patience as the work continues to alleviate flooding in this area.

Specifically, Cannon Street will be temporarily open to two-way traffic in the vicinity of 135 Cannon and the parking lot to allow for local traffic.

For information, visit the project's website at [www.SeptimaClarkProject.com](http://www.SeptimaClarkProject.com) or email [SeptimaClarkProject@charleston-sc.gov](mailto:SeptimaClarkProject@charleston-sc.gov).



University HR



## You're Invited

### RETURN TO LEARN: CITADEL GRADUATE SEMINAR!

In today's competitive market many people are pushing beyond their bachelor's degree and striving for advanced education. If you are thinking about adding to your competitive edge, then you will want to attend this information seminar sponsored by The Citadel Graduate College. During this seminar, the presenter will discuss the various opportunities and benefits that are offered. Don't miss it.

Date: June 28, 2017

Time: 12:00-1:00 p.m.

Location: HOT- Room 910

Contact: Lydia Diaz - [Training@musc.edu](mailto:Training@musc.edu)

MYQUEST



Changing What's Possible

# You are invited!

Employee Open House  
New Center for Telehealth, MH268  
Friday, June 30, 2017

This new state-of-the-art, multi-functional, Center for Telehealth is the centralization of many areas formerly located around this campus. It is funded by our State Legislature, the Duke Endowment, and private philanthropy. The Center's former space, at 136 Rutledge, is now the Telehealth Annex where many administrative and support staff still work.

There will be Telestroke, School-Based Telehealth, and Pediatric Critical Care demonstrations, and a tour of the Center that includes Tele-ICU and ATC, each hour, on the hour (12 noon, 1:00, 2:00, and 3:00 pm).

# Holy Spokes program wheels onto MUSC's campus



Photos by J. Ryne Danielson

**MUSC Executive Director of Community Health Innovation Anton Gunn is among the first to hop on a bike.**

By J. RYNE DANIELSON

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More than 200 riders took to the streets as Holy Spokes, Charleston's new bike-share program, kicked off at MUSC's Urban Farm. It was made possible by a partnership between Gotcha Bike, a locally based company, the City of Charleston and MUSC Health. Supporters say the program will encourage exercise and alleviate traffic congestion on the peninsula.

MUSC Health CEO Patrick J. Cawley, M.D., said MUSC Health's title partnership shows the organization's commitment to building healthy communities, a key goal of the Imagine MUSC 2020 strategic plan.

"MUSC is thrilled to be a title partner with Gotcha Bike and to introduce a sustainable and eco-friendly form of transportation to our campus and the surrounding community," he said. "Transportation options are key to measuring quality of life in American communities. As the MUSC campus grows, biking becomes increasingly important. We want to help support its growth. Forward-thinking initiatives like this are absolutely necessary for our future."

He explained MUSC has a duty to provide health leadership and support healthy lifestyles. "Promoting health is something we take seriously," he said. "To that end, we're going to challenge the community to set a wellness goal for Charleston bike-Share riders to burn 1 million calories within a year."

Gotcha Group CEO Sean Flood also spoke at the ribbon cutting. "This is a very big day for the city of Charleston," he said. "This is a chance for people to understand that



**Gotcha's smart bikes come equipped with GPS and flashing safety lights.**

biking is not just a toy, but a way to get from point A to point B in a safe, sustainable fashion. Bike sharing is the tipping point that's going to allow that to happen. People can now easily access bikes for use during their lunch break, getting to and from work, or just exploring the beautiful sights the Charleston peninsula offers."

The program includes 250 locally assembled smart bikes that include real-time GPS tracking technology, which not only allows users to locate and reserve bikes through a smartphone or computer, but tracks calories burned, CO2 emission reductions and cost savings versus driving. The same built-in solar panel and dynamo hub that powers the GPS also powers flashing safety lights. Adjustable seats make the bikes one-size-fits-all.

Charleston Mayor John Tecklenburg thanked MUSC and Gotcha Bike for what he called a remarkable partnership. "Gotcha Bike is a local business," he said. "These bikes are assembled on Huger Street right on the peninsula of Charleston."

He stressed the importance of wearing a helmet and following the rules of the road and said he was excited to ride one of the first bikes to City Hall. "I love the goal of burning 1 million calories in a year. I'm going to burn a few of those today."

According to Gotcha Bike, riders in its 22 existing bike-share programs have burned almost 4 million calories, reduced CO2 emissions by 87,000 pounds and saved 3,500 gallons of gas and more than \$57,000 in maintenance costs since 2015.

One-way, hour-long rentals cost \$8. Gotcha Bike also has monthly and annual payment options starting at \$15 and \$69, respectively. Users can make reservations through the Social Bicycles mobile app and use a PIN code to unlock the bike. All MUSC employees will receive a free annual membership with an hour of ride time per day and access to more than 25 bike corrals across the city. Visit <https://charlestonbikeshare.com/musc-plan/> to sign up for the free MUSC membership.



Gotcha Bike CEO Sean Flood, from left, Charleston City Council members Michael Seekings and Rodney Williams, Charleston Mayor John Tecklenburg and MUSC Health CEO Patrick J. Cawley cut the ribbon, officially launching Charleston's new bike share program, Holy Spokes.

## MEET CELESTE



**Celeste Jilich**

### College and Year

*College of Medicine; rising third year*

### You recently received the 2017 Earl B. Higgins Award. What does this award mean to you (Read story on page 8)

*The award allowed me to reflect on the people who supported me and pushed me forward in the pursuit of building new things at MUSC. It has allowed me to see how big this community of support truly is.*

### Last book read

*"The Fifth Season" by N.K. Jemisin*

### Favorite type of food

*Thai food*

### Food that's a must have in the pantry

*Avocados*

### Guilty pleasure

*Watching choreography, especially by Tricia Miranda and Phil Wright*

### Favorite quote

*"It is not our differences that divide us. It is our inability to recognize, accept and celebrate those differences." — Audre Lorde*

## MUSC Hollings Cancer Center Mobile Health Unit FREE SKIN CANCER SCREENINGS



**Folly Beach Town Hall**  
**Saturday June 10<sup>th</sup>, 2017 9:00am – 1:00pm**

**Isle of Palms Front Beach Parking Area**  
**Saturday July 8<sup>th</sup>, 2017 9:00am – 1:00pm**

Open to the Public - No Appointment Required  
For more information call 843-792-0878

Complete your screening form ahead of time at:

<https://mobilehealth.hcc.musc.edu>



# Recognizing diversity excellence with Higgins award

By J. RYNE DANIELSON

*daniejer@musc.edu*

MUSC recognized psychologist Cristina Lopez, Ph.D., second-year medical student Celeste Jilich and senior project manager John Sion with the 2017 Earl B. Higgins Leadership in Diversity Awards, presented at the Wickliffe House May 9.

First presented in 1996 as a tribute to former director of Affirmative Action and Minority Affairs, Earl B. Higgins, the awards recognize exemplary efforts in promoting diversity and inclusion on campus and in the community.

“During his tenure, Dr. Higgins was a warrior for recruitment, retention, and enrichment programs that increased the representation of minority students in all programs at MUSC,” said university chief diversity officer Willette Burnham-Williams. “He worked diligently to recruit minority faculty members and to ensure equal opportunities for all employees. He served as a mediator in race relations and gender issues and seized opportunities to build bridges between the university and the community it serves.”

While the awards originally recognized one university employee, the Earl B. Higgins selection committee added a student category in 2006 and one for MUSC Health this year.

Higgins’ sister Deborah spoke at the ceremony in her brother’s memory. “He believed that everyone has something important to contribute. And in this day and age, we need as many contributors as we can get. The world has so many problems,” she said. “So, to all of you, thank you for contributing. You’re an example to everybody. Just keep being an example. Sometimes people don’t know what they can do. But, when they see what you’ve done, they might say, ‘I can do that too.’”

## Cristina Lopez

Lopez was nominated by Carrie L. Cormack, DNP, an instructor in the College of Nursing, who wrote of her: “Her commitment to promoting diversity and inclusion go above and beyond in all aspects of her professional and personal life.”

Lopez is a founding member of MUSC’s

Society for Advancement of Chicanos/Hispanics and Native Americans in Science (SCANAS) and volunteers with the Area Health Education Center’s Bench to Bedside and Summer Careers Academy programs, helping to build a pipeline of minority students interested in health care careers.

She has chaired the Women’s Scholars Initiative’s Diversity and Ethnic Relations Committee since 2014 and is a collaborator on the Advancement, Recruitment and Retention of Women in Science (ARROWS) grant, which seeks to combat unconscious bias and strengthen equity and transparency through evidence-based practices.

Lopez has also demonstrated her commitment to underserved communities through outreach and telehealth programs, especially in the area of HIV prevention and sexual health.

Burnham-Williams said there was no better example than Lopez of what the work of diversity looks like in action. “I’ve had the opportunity to work with her, and sometimes I don’t know how she manages everything she’s got going on and manages it so well.”

Lopez said she was honored to receive the award after attending the ceremony for many years. “It’s weird to be on the other side of the room. Thank you to the Higgins family, Carrie Cormack, Dean Gail Stuart, Carol Feghali-Bostwick, Willette Burnham, DaNine Fleming and everybody else in the room. No one is a solo worker in diversity and inclusion, so I really appreciate everyone here for their support. Thank you so much.”

## Celeste Jilich

Jilich has served in a variety of leadership roles since enrolling at MUSC, including co-president of the Alliance for Equality and a volunteer with the student-run CARES clinic, which serves uninsured and underserved adults in the Charleston community. She is also the co-founder of Break the Cycle, End the Culture, a student organization that strives to provide awareness and education on domestic violence and sexual assault.

She was nominated by Mitchell Hammonds, coordinator for student communications in the Office of Student Programs and Student Diversity. “I have



*Photos by Sarah Pack*

**Celeste Jilich, from left, Cristina Lopez and John Sion were awarded the 2017 Earl B. Higgins Leadership in Diversity Awards.**



**Deborah Higgins speaks at the May 9 awards event named after her brother, Earl B. Higgins, MUSC’s former director of Affirmative Action and Minority Affairs.**

witnessed Celeste’s incredible passion for improving the quality of life for LGBTQ students, faculty, staff and patients across campus and the Charleston community,” he said.

As co-president of the Alliance for Equality, Jilich is responsible for providing the organization with professional opportunities to expand their education and outreach. Through her leadership, she has advocated for changes in the admission process and lobbied for coursework to be more inclusive of sexual orientation and gender identity.

“The work she is doing could provide the foundation for the expansion of LGBTQ – inclusive admission and coursework for all six colleges,” Hammonds said.

Burnham-Williams said she was impressed with Jilich’s passion and drive from the first moment she met her. “In addition to being

excellent scholars, students are so engaged in service. Celeste Jilich epitomizes that by managing to be engaged in so many different things in so many different ways and to do them all well.”

Jilich thanked Burnham-Williams and others in the audience. “It means a lot to me to be here,” she said. “When I got here, I had some preconceived notions about MUSC and its diversity and inclusion. My mom had said some things that made me a little nervous. But, one of my first experiences here was doing diversity training that all of the College of Medicine is required to do with Dr. DaNine Fleming.

“And, afterward, I came up to her and said, ‘I had heard some things, and I was honestly nervous. I didn’t know if I’d be safe here.’ And, she said, ‘We’re all your warriors. We’ll

**See HIGGINS on page 14**

# Employees enjoy, celebrated during Appreciation Week event

## Staff Report

The campus celebrated MUSC Employee Appreciation Week, May 9-13, featuring many activities celebrating Nurses Week and Hospital Week throughout this period. It culminated with an Employee Appreciation Day celebration held at the Horseshoe and at off-site locations on May 11, which featured a beach-inspired theme with music, games, activities and refreshments. The activities were planned

to allow senior leadership to thank and recognize MUSC and MUSC Health employees for their dedication and important contributions.

Employees took selfies; competed in the annual bake-off, photo contest and ice cream social; and visited food trucks at various campus locations.

For a complete list of the 2017 MUSC Health Care team winners visit <https://musc.us.newsweaver.com/WeeklyMessage/dpb7cknm3zc?a=1&p=932849&t=83790>



Pulmonary, Critical Care, Allergy and Sleep Medicine's Amanda Walker, from left, Katherine Houle, Kate Taylor, Michael Balassone and John Richey enjoyed the food, the festivities and chance to mingle with other employees.

MUSC President Dr. David Cole welcomed employees to the midday celebration and thanked both hospital and university employees for their dedication.



photos by J. Ryne Danielson

Information Services' Dion Franklin, left, and others moved to the music during the May 11 Employee Appreciation Day celebration at the Horseshoe.



Left photo: The event had a special feeling of celebration and fun complete with human butterflies on stilts who greeted the crowds. Above photo: Participants of all ages enjoyed the variety of outdoor games, carnival-like food and other activities.

# MUSC parking director receives lifetime achievement award

## Staff Report

The International Parking Institute honored Melinda S. Anderson with the 2017 Lifetime Achievement Award. Anderson, who is CAPP certified with the IPI, is the director of the Office of Parking Management at MUSC. She is one of three recipients to receive this award, which was created in 2015 to recognize individuals for career-long service and leadership in the parking and transportation industry.

In her long-serving career, Anderson helped guide MUSC's parking system through significant growth, dramatic changes and shifts in technology.

Anderson credits MUSC and the Department of Finance and Administration with providing her with the education, experiences, opportunities and colleagues who serve as resources today.

In 1978, she joined as manager of a small parking operation, when the parking system consisted of 2,000 parking spaces and one multi-story parking garage. Today, she oversees a large self-managed parking system, which will soon encompass 9,300 spaces and seven multi-story garages. MUSC's Parking Management conducts more than 1 million annual patient-visitor transactions, along with managing the



parking needs for nearly 13,000 employees and 3,000 students and residents. Valet services are central to the operation.

Professional, regularly. In 1996, she was elected to IPI's board of directors and also served as the organization's chair from 2003 to 2005. Additionally, Anderson helped found the Carolinas Parking Association and later served on its board and was elected president.

She credits IPI with providing the educational and training ground for her career, citing its educational courses and exposure to developing technology, new systems and parking practices.

An active member of IPI since 1983, Anderson was among the first graduates in the CAPP certification graduating class in 1994. She also served on numerous IPI committees and task forces, presented at conferences and contributed to the group's publication, *The Parking*



*Photo provided*

**Office of Parking Management's Melinda Anderson, center, receives the 2017 IPI Lifetime Achievement Award from Shawn Conrad, left, IPI Chief Executive Officer and Kim Jackson, IPI's Chair of the Board.**

## MUSC Health offers 'talking circles' starting June 28

MUSC Health officials want to hear about health issues from local residents through a series of Lowcountry forums scheduled to begin later this month.

The 90-minute forums, or talking circles, will include eight to 12 participants with the goal of helping MUSC Health representatives better meet community health concerns, according to Phil Smeltzer, Ph.D., assistant professor in the Department of Public Health Sciences. These forums will provide a health consumer's perspective and enable MUSC Health providers to improve programs based on the input they receive.

The initial talking circles will be formed with volunteers age 65 and older. Individuals of any background or health status are welcome to attend. Meetings are planned to be held several times each year.

"We have found that asking our consumers of health care what they need and how to remove barriers to health is a critical first step," Smeltzer said. The insights provided by talking circle participants typically yield discoveries that program leaders would have overlooked without the firsthand input of consumers, according to Smeltzer.

The first meeting will be held at Kiawah Island on June 28 at 2 p.m. in the Kiawah Council Chambers. On the following day, June 29, Seabrook residents will meet at 2 p.m. in the Osprey Room at the Lake House.

Other meetings are being planned for West Ashley, Mount Pleasant, peninsular Charleston and James Island.

Volunteers may contact MUSC Health Population Health at (843)792-6637 or PopulationHealth@musc.edu.

## CHEMICALS *Continued from Page One*

### CONCERNS ABOUT TRICLOSAN AND TRICLOCARBAN

Fair, a research professor in the Department of Public Health Sciences at MUSC, cited several concerns about triclosan and triclocarban.

❑ The chemicals may interfere with estrogen and androgen systems, even at relatively low levels.

❑ Rodent studies show they reduce testosterone, follicle stimulating hormones, sperm production and can lead to implantation failure.

❑ A couple of human studies showed decreased gestation age at birth and lower head circumference at birth in boys.

❑ They appear to disrupt thyroid function in lab research and may cause increased sensitivity to allergens.

Fair's own research shows the chemicals have a broad impact. "One of our studies was the first to report the detection of these compounds in dolphins in Charleston and Florida in blood samples," she said.

"It's so widespread, and over a million pounds is just flushed down the wastewater

Obviously, whatever we're using in consumer products, all of that goes down the drain and out in the environment, and it's highly toxic to aquatic life. It's been detected in 58 percent of American rivers and detected in 75 percent of Americans. It's pretty pervasive."

She said the issue is exposure over time. "One of the first uses was in toothpaste. Since then it's just besieged every consumer product. It's used so much 24/7. You're just getting multiple exposures, and it never ceases."

Fair has long had an interest in the impact of the environment on health, including the immune system. Her most recent published study, appearing in the scientific journal PLOS ONE, found that the immune systems of dolphins in the wild were activated more chronically than those of dolphins in captivity. She said the wild dolphins are probably coming across more pathogens, parasites and pollutants, including triclosan.

"I think we were able to show that the environment is a real driver of immune responses. You want a normal immune system. The question is, how do you define normal? At what point is the tipping point to be overstimulated? Do we want a chronic



## 2017 YES Campaign



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stimulation of our immune system that isn't in our best interest? That can lead to inflammatory responses, autoimmune diseases," she said.

### MESSAGE FOR CONSUMERS

"I always try to bring a balanced message that we live in a modern world with microbes, and you want your immune system to function and to ward off these pathogens. At the same time, if it becomes overstimulated, that can also have a negative effect on an animal or human."

That balanced message applies to the use of consumer products as well, she said. "A lot of people think, 'Oh, antimicrobial, that's great. I want to kill germs.' But you can't kill them all. Not all of them are bad. And you know the hygiene theory that children need to be exposed to some bacteria to strengthen their immune systems."

When it comes to antimicrobials, she said it's important to make sure the public knows what scientists have found. "We want to make consumers very aware. I think that's an important message to get out. People need to take individual responsibility. A lot of confidence is given to the idea that the

government must have OK'd these chemicals, so that means they won't cause any harm, and it's safe to use them. That's a misconception," she said.

"So many chemicals and so little data. These chemicals in the products simply aren't necessary, and the risks far outweigh any potential benefits. I think that's the take home message."

### Kids Eat Free @ MUSC

Sodexo and MUSC are proud to participate in the USDA's summer feeding program

**Who can participate?**  
ALL CHILDREN ages 18 and younger, no matter where they live nor what brings them to MUSC.

**How does it work?**

- 1) 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 lunch: Children must choose from at least 3 different food groups & no more than 5 different items total. Food groups offered are entrée, veggies, grains and milk.
  - For breakfast: Children must choose at least 3 different food items & no more than 4 different items total. Foods offered are grains (hot cereal, cold cereal, toast or muffins), fresh fruit (apple, orange or banana), egg (scrambled or hard-boiled) 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 in the dining room and cannot take the food to go.

**When and where does it happen?**  
Kids Eat Free in the cafeterias in Main, ART and Rutledge during summer vacation, Monday – Sunday, June 5 – Aug 22, 2017. Breakfast: 7 – 10 AM & Lunch 11 AM – 2 PM (Rutledge is closed on weekends and July 4<sup>th</sup>).

**How can I learn more?**  
If you need assistance in the cafeteria, please ask one of our Sodexo employees. For questions about our program, contact Sodexo Wellness Dietitian Debbie Pettipain, RDN at pettipa@musc.edu or (843) 792-9644.



sodexo\*

## June-July schedule for Public Radio's Health Focus with host Bobbi Conner

Visit [www.southcarolinapublicradio.org/programs/health-focus](http://www.southcarolinapublicradio.org/programs/health-focus)

### June 26 — Segment #1

**Topic: Knee Injuries from Sports and Exercise in the Adult Years**

**Guest: Dr. Shane Woolf,** associate professor and chief of sports medicine, MUSC Department of Orthopaedics

### June 26 — Segment #2

**Topic: Speech Disfluency (or Stuttering) in Childhood**

**Guest: Melissa Montiel,** speech-language pathologist, MUSC Children's Health

### July 3 — Segment #1

**Topic: Multiple Sclerosis**

**Guest: Dr. Aljoesen Walker,** a neurologist and director of the Multiple Sclerosis Program at MUSC

### July 3 — Segment #2

**Topic: When Your Child is Hospitalized**

**Guest: Dr. Elizabeeth Mack,** a pediatrician who specializes in critical care at MUSC Children's Health. Discussion on parents providing support and serving as their child's patient advocate when their child is hospitalized

### July 10 — Segment #1

**Topic: Research about Teen Brain Development**

**Guest: Dr. Lindsay Squeglia,** a clinical neuropsychologist and assistant professor, Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences; Talk will focus on her work with the largest-ever national research study related to adolescent brain development

### July 10 — Segment #2

**Topic: Training for a Race or Walk in Your Community**

**Guest: Dr. Christopher Gross,** assistant professor and a foot and ankle orthopaedic surgeon; Talk will focus on training and preparing for a run or walk in the community

### July 17 — Segment #1

**Topic: Pre-Hypertension**

**Guest: Dr. Daniel Lackland,** professor in the College of Medicine and co-director of the Storke Research and Education Center at MUSC

### July 17 — Segment #2

**Topic: Research Related to Spinal Cord Injuries**

**Guest: Dr. Susan Newman,** associate professor in the College of Nursing and a certified rehabilitation nurse; Talk will focus on research and explore ways to help people with spinal cord injuries

### July 24 — Segment #1

**Topic: Osteoporosis**

**Guest: Dr. Beatrice Hull,** an endocrinologist and director of MUSC's Center for Osteoporosis; Discussion on screening and treatment of osteoporosis

### July 24 — Segment #2

**Topic: Arrhythmia**

**Guest: Dr. Jeffrey Winterfield,** a cardiac electrophysiologist and director of MUSC's Ventricular Arrhythmia Program

### July 31 — Segment #1

**Topic: Back Pain/Injury and Physical Therapy**

**Guest: Dr. Jodie Rush,** an orthopaedic clinical specialist and physical therapist at MUSC; Discussion on back pain and common back injuries and physical therapy

### July 31 — Segment #2

**Topic: Alzheimer's Disease**

**Guest: Dr. Nicholas Milano,** a cognitive and behavioral neurologist and assistant professor of neurology at MUSC

## Office of the PROVOST

Dear Colleagues,

As many of you know, Dr. Jack Sanders, Dean of the James B. Edwards College of Dental Medicine for 11 years, retired in June 2016. The Provost Office announced the appointment of Dr. Patricia Blanton, an accomplished academic and clinician, as interim dean, and immediately initiated a national search for a permanent replacement.

It is my pleasure to announce the appointment of Sarandeep S. Huja, DDS, Ph.D., as the next dean of the College of Dental Medicine, pending board of trustees approval. Dr. Huja will assume his new role effective October 1 and will have an academic appointment as professor in the



Saladin

College. The selection of Dr. Huja follows an extensive search which resulted in a highly competitive candidate pool. I personally have confidence in Dr. Huja's leadership skills and qualities and believe that he has the potential to elevate the already exceptional national reputation of the MUSC James B. Edwards College of Dental Medicine.

Dr. Huja has an impressive record of academic achievement, demonstrated leadership success, and the collaborative team building skills needed to lead the College of Dental Medicine forward. He joins us from his current role as associate dean for faculty and student development and graduate studies at the University of Kentucky College of Dentistry. In this role, he focuses on faculty and student development and expanding their research. Prior to his tenure at Kentucky, Dr. Huja held several leadership positions in the College of Dentistry, Orthodontics Program at The Ohio State University.

I would also like to take this opportunity to express my sincere appreciation to Dr. Patricia Blanton, who has led the College so competently and graciously during this transition. Dr. Blanton took on many significant challenges during this last year, including preparing the college for an accreditation review later this year. The university owes her a debt of gratitude for her leadership.

As well, I thank Dean Raymond DuBois, chair of the search committee, and all the search committee members, for their deliberative process in vetting the candidates. They were enthusiastically engaged and deeply committed to this process.

Please join me in thanking Dr. Blanton for her impressive contributions during her tenure as interim dean, and welcoming Dr. Huja as our next dean of the College of Dental Medicine.

Sincerely,

Lisa K. Saladin, Ph.D., P.T.,  
Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost



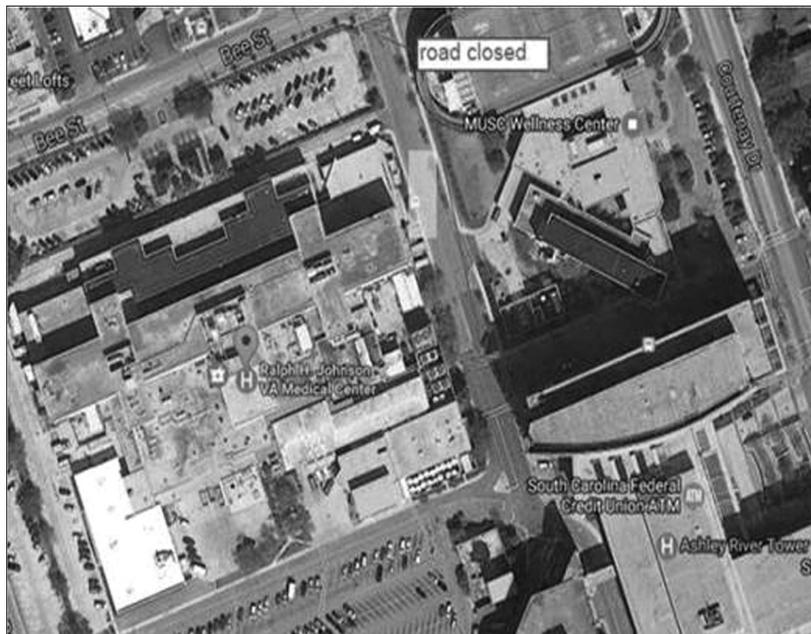
Huja

*Construction Update***Bravo Street closed, Courtenay garage affected through July**

Starting June 24 and throughout July (July 3 through July 28), all traffic going to the MUSC Courtenay garage and the Ralph H. Johnson VA Medical Center back parking lot (from Bee Street crosswalk to the stop sign crosswalk) will be channeled down one roadway: Ralph Johnson Boulevard. Relief for westbound traffic from Calhoun Street will be minimal.

Traffic flow in this area has been significantly hampered for many months by the closure of Charleston Center Drive due to construction of the MUSC Shawn Jenkins Children's Hospital. With Bravo Street closed, there will be more significant traffic flow issues.

MUSC Transportation is mapping a temporary change to MUSC/CARTA transit routes and bus stops serving ART and other buildings in the west campus zone. Parking Management will work with valet services and ramp management at ART and will notify MUSC employees who park in each of the three major MUSC parking locations in the west zone. MUSC's Office of Public Safety will handle traffic management issues that may arise during the road closure. More details about transportation, parking and traffic management responses will be provided as they develop.

**FIRST QUARTER DENTAL STAFF AWARDS***Photo provided*

**James B. Edwards College of Dental Medicine Interim Dean Dr. Patricia Blanton, center, congratulates Angela Stevens, left, (non-clinical) and Celeste Moultrie (clinical) as recipients of the CDM's Staff Recognition Awards for the first quarter of 2017. CDM staff honored the recipients on May 16 at the college's staff meeting, where Dr. Blanton delivered a speech and lunch was served.**

# New project request process, portal unveiled

Information Solutions is piloting a new process and tool for all IT/Analytics/Informatics requests – except if something is broken or routine. Ideas and requests should be submitted through this portal. Other areas within MUSC Health will also follow suit to include planning, quality and facilities, though there are not yet timelines for these changes.

## WHY NOW?

A standard and formalized process ensures better integration, transparency and strategic alignment. All requests will be coming in through the same channel and receive proper assessment. Once a request moves past the assessment phase, Information Solutions can more efficiently manage its own resources. Having an ability to track requests and knowing current project commitments and

strategic initiatives in the pipeline allows Information Solutions to prioritize and set realistic expectations for all involved. Ultimately, this streamlined process will improve customer service.

Prior to submission, a discussion with IT governance is recommended, this ensures it is a priority for the appropriate Integrated Centers of Clinical Excellence (ICCE) chief or dean. During this transition time, Information Solutions can help with the project request submission. Once submitted, a triage team with Information Solutions gathers the key information needed to determine the right solution(s).



## Making IT Great

Megan Fink

## SOLUTIONS ARCHITECTS

In addition to the portal, a new term and role we're calling "solutions architect" will be used to refer to the liaison between Information Solutions and local governance to oversee project requests. The assigned solutions architect will be the point person who can manage and drive overall request expectations, ensuring satisfaction in delivering complete end-to-end, and well-designed solutions. Other responsibilities include:

- ❑ Managing the overall customer request expectations
- ❑ Focusing on helping executives, clinicians, researchers and leaders align and implement solutions that achieve quality care and safety initiatives,

increase operational improvements and enhance both patient and staff experiences and engagement

- ❑ Driving better patient outcomes, improve physician and nursing workflow efficiencies and streamline collaboration
- ❑ Aligning solutions to organizational strategy
- ❑ Advising leaders on innovative strategies to drive value and adoption and produce results
- ❑ Sustaining open communication pathways

Each area will have a solutions architect who will shepherd project requests to local governance committees where needed. The solutions architect also will facilitate local governance discussion, assess feasibility, complete project scoring, develop a business case and ensure project readiness for next

See **PORTAL** on page 16

## HIGGINS *Continued from Page Eight*

be here for you no matter what.' So, thank you to everyone who has supported me and made me feel like I was part of this family. This means a lot to me."

## JOHN SION

Sion is the senior project manager for the Shawn Jenkins Children's Hospital and Pearl Tourville Women's Pavilion. He was nominated by Anton Gunn, chief diversity officer and director of Community Health Innovation for MUSC Health.

"It's been a pleasure to work at MUSC because you meet so many unexpected leaders like John Sion," Gunn said. "Three words come to mind when I think about John Sion: service, empowerment and legacy. Dr. King said, 'Anyone can be great because anyone can serve,'" and John is the definition of service.

"Second, our sixth president John Quincy Adams said, 'If your actions inspire you to be more, do more, become more, then you are a leader.' John's actions have inspired so many others, particularly in the building and construction trades in our community, to want to be a part of what we're doing. And that's empowerment.

"The last word is legacy. When you build buildings, you know you have a legacy because the buildings will be around for a while. But, the biggest legacy for me is summed up by a quote from Pastor Miles Munroe that says, 'Success without a successor is a failure.' To build this hospital and have large numbers of local community members of diverse backgrounds – women-owned businesses, veteran-owned businesses, minority-owned businesses – share in our success and be a part of what this children's hospital and women's pavilion will mean for the community for generations to come is the definition of success."

Gunn said many of those constituents would not have been



**John Sion, left, became the first recipient of the Earl B. Higgins Diversity Award for MUSC Health.**

at the table if not for Sion, who championed the inclusion of small, women and minority-owned businesses in the construction of the new hospital.

Eight percent minority participation is the industry standard. Sion's goal was 30 percent, which Gunn called incredibly significant. "To have a leader outside the office of Diversity and Inclusion advocate for this goal is unprecedented," he said. "No project in the history of MUSC has had this level of diversity in construction."

Sion thanked Gunn and the selection committee. "Thank you all. There are so many folks who could be receiving this. A lot of people worked very hard to change the perceptions of how we're building this hospital. Our providers and families have designed it, and our community has built it. We've done a lot of work to include folks who didn't even think they'd have a chance, so they didn't bother to turn in a bid. We told them, 'It's different now, so come to the table and bid. We want you to build our hospital.'

"These contractors who are right in our backyard are very proud to be working on his hospital. This is for their children and grandchildren."



## The President's Values in Action Award

Honoring five employees each year who help fulfill MUSC's vision statement, Leading Health Innovation for the Lives We Touch, by demonstrating the five MUSC values:

- **Compassion**
- **Respect**
- **Innovation**
- **Collaboration**
- **Integrity**

Visit [musc.edu/values-in-action](http://musc.edu/values-in-action) to learn more.



CONVERSATION CAFE  
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# MICROPLASTICS

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## COLLEGE OF HEALTH PROFESSIONS



Photo provided

College of Health Professions' occupational therapy and physical therapy program participants visited students at Burke High School in May as part of a program to help students explore careers through talks and interactive activities. The event was coordinated by the Department of Public Health with MUSC's College of Medicine. Dr. Aaron Embry, left, research associate, Division of Physical Therapy, joined Erica Martino, Department of Public Health Sciences and Dr. Cristina Reyes Smith, assistant professor, Division of Occupational Therapy, for the event.

## PORTAL *Continued from Page Fourteen*

levels of governance, including handoff. Other activities include identifying people, processes and technology required to support a solution.

During this transition, Information Solutions is committed to providing the same high level of service it always has; however, please be patient as the new process and tool are incorporated. If you have any questions,

contact Ann Spicher at [bellea@musc.edu](mailto:bellea@musc.edu).

The Project Request Portal is located at <http://horseshoe.musc.edu/everyone/information-solutions/is-support/is-request-intake-portal>. This is found on the MUSC Horseshoe webpage under "For Everyone" – MUSC Information Solutions. There are intake forms for clinical systems, analytics and financial systems.

## THE CATALYST

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