

Year in Review



Putting people first

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The Catalyst's Annual Year in Review (from page 1)

Changing What's Possible

This past spring, MUSC launched a brand awareness campaign to tell the MUSC story and preserve and extend the integrity of its brand promise — Changing What's Possible. Employees actively participated in this effort. Featured in the page 1 photo is pediatric cardiologist Dr. Andrew Savage and a young patient. *April 28*

To read more about the Year in Review, visit the section on pages 8–9.

WORKPLACE DIVERSITY AWARD



Photo provided

On Dec. 6, the South Carolina Chamber of Commerce named MUSC the recipient of the 2017 Excellence in Workplace Diversity Award in the category for medium and large businesses. The chamber describes the program as an opportunity for community leaders to recognize the accomplishments of South Carolina companies that are leading the way in developing and implementing diversity and inclusion initiatives. The award was presented during the South Carolina Chamber of Commerce's 38th Annual Summit.

THE CATALYST

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College of Nursing Dean Dr. Gail Stuart, center, with American Association of Nursing board chairwoman Juliann Sebastian, left, and AACN CEO and President Deborah Trautman.

Innovative nursing program lands national award

Staff Report

The College of Nursing has received an American Association of Colleges of Nursing Innovations in Professional Nursing Education Award, which recognizes the work of AACN member schools in rethinking traditional models of nursing education and leading changes to those programs.

The College of Nursing was recognized for its innovative approach called virtual interprofessional learning, or VIP, a virtual health care setting that uses avatars to engage learners across disciplines, universities and other locations.

In 2014, with the support of a grant from the Josiah Macy Jr. Foundation, the college created VIP as an online learning experience to increase students' interprofessional engagement, communication and knowledge of patient quality and safety standards. The interprofessional Education Collaborative core competencies, or IPEC, guided the development of the VIP.

MUSC students from nursing, medicine and pharmacy completed the Institute for Healthcare Improvement root cause analysis and communication modules to build baseline knowledge before entering the virtual environment. Via the VIP platform, students conducted a root cause analysis through a complex case in a virtual world scenario. Unique to the evaluation plan is the ability of the VIP platform to assess a number of IPEC competencies through automated scoring, populating at the end of the virtual

student experience. Additional evaluation tools include focus groups, a self-assessment of interprofessional practice in patient care and a user experience tool.

This approach helps advance interprofessional education from limited experiences to accessible, innovative and interactive opportunities that are not bound by time or place. The VIP platform is portable, exportable and generalizable and will promote incorporation of interprofessional education in a wide variety of clinical scenarios and locations.

Gail W. Stuart, Ph.D., RN, serves as dean of the College of Nursing. "We were thrilled to receive this award from the AACN that recognizes our faculty and staff's hard work and dedication to develop and implement an innovative interprofessional program that will educate and engage our future health care professionals."

During the Academic Nursing Leadership Conference, only three schools in the U.S. were honored with the Innovations in Professional Nursing Education Award in the following categories:

- Small school/liberal arts schools – St. Mary's College
- Academic health center – MUSC College of Nursing
- Public school without an academic health center – Mennonite College of Nursing at Illinois State University

The award, including a prize of \$1,000, was presented at the AACN leadership conference in Washington, D.C.

MEET ELIZABETH



Elizabeth Brown

Department and how long at MUSC
St. Luke's Chapel; seven months

How are you changing what's possible at MUSC

By ensuring that everyone knows that the chapel is here, knows some of the history about it, and that they are welcome to stop by. Several people have said they were unaware about St. Luke's Chapel or that it was open to them. The Chapel is open Monday – Friday, 10 a.m. until 2 p.m.

Family

Husband, Robert; daughter and son-in-law, Whitney and Michael; daughter, Hannah; and son, Robbie

Favorite Christmas memory

Going to church with family for the midnight candlelight Christmas Eve service and sitting near the front. When the congregation's candles were lit, seeing the entire place aglow. It's a feeling of peace, contentment and love for my family.

Favorite quote

"The two most important days of your life are the day you were born and the day you find out why." – Mark Twain

MUSC Translational Research Day

Friday, January 26, 2018
8:30am to 12:30pm

Drug Discovery Auditorium & Lobby
A Continental Breakfast will be served

Registration for Posters and Poster Setup opens at 8:00am.

Keynote Address by Dr. Richard M. Silver begins at 9am

Join the MUSC SCTR Institute as we highlight translational research efforts across MUSC. Translational Research Day will provide a forum for trainees, K scholars and translational investigators to display translational-based research to the MUSC community via a judged poster session.

\$500 SCTR vouchers will be awarded to the best poster presentations at the end of the event!

Register or submit an abstract for your poster NOW at sctr.musc.edu (under Quick Links)

Submit an abstract by:
Thursday, December 7, 2017 at 5pm

General Registration ends:
Friday, January 12, 2018 at 5pm

Keynote Speaker



Richard M. Silver, MD
Distinguished University Professor
Medical University of South Carolina

Dr. Richard Silver serves as Director of the Division of Rheumatology & Immunology at the Medical University of South Carolina (MUSC). In 2007, MUSC's Board of Trustees named him a "Master Teacher" and bestowed the University's highest academic recognition, Distinguished University Professor. Also in 2007, the Scleroderma Foundation named him their "Doctor of the Year." Dr. Silver's major research interest is Interstitial Lung Disease associated with Systemic Sclerosis.



South Carolina
Clinical & Translational
Research Institute



MUSC HOLLINGS CANCER CENTER Fellowship Program

Hollings Cancer Center Fellowship Program is an exciting new research program designed to train the next generation of exceptional cancer scientists at the Medical University of South Carolina.

This prestigious program will initially fund up to 5 two-year postdoctoral fellowships and up to 5 two-year graduate student fellowships.

Postdoctoral & Clinical Fellows

Fellowships will be awarded to promising postdoctoral or clinical fellows who are focused on finding ways to prevent and cure cancer.

For clinical fellows, this award is intended to support additional fellowship years for physician-scientists to focus on scientific research.

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IN ALL DISCIPLINES ARE ELIGIBLE

Apps Due: January 26, 2018

Graduate Fellows

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Apps Due: January 31, 2018

For more info, visit: hollingscancercenter.org/research/fellowship

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Self-taught pianist, baby rocker show meaning of giving

Volunteers like them help keep MUSC Health running

BY HELEN ADAMS

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Jakarl Frasier, a composer who taught himself how to play the piano by watching tutorials on YouTube, now plays so beautifully that within a ten-minute window, two strangers stop to videotape him in MUSC's Ashley River Tower.

"It's very rewarding, just to bring peace," he says.

Peace, to people here for appointments or operations or visits. The pianist from North Charleston isn't doing it for the money — he's a volunteer who came up with the idea while visiting a sick family member. "The hospital, to me, is a very stressful place, not only for the patients but the nurses, the doctors. To calm people's minds and take their minds off whatever is bothering them is great."

Over at MUSC Children's Hospital, George Pope tries to calm people, too — some of the tiniest people on campus. He holds and rocks babies. "People sometimes say, 'You're a guy. What's a guy doing holding babies?' I say, 'I'll tell you what — it's the only place where miracles happen. So that makes it worth it.'"

He and Frasier are among more than 1,300 volunteers who helped at MUSC over the past year.

So many people have offered to volunteer their time that the only openings right now are at the information desks at MUSC Health downtown and Mount Pleasant. That's impressive in a state that lags behind most of the rest of the country in terms of volunteerism, coming in 42 out of 50 in a Corporation for National and Community Service report.

Pope encourages people to find somewhere to help others, if they can. "I get far more out of it than I put into it."

His volunteer work at MUSC began more than a decade ago, after he retired from the foreign service. "I had a friend, we lived in Mount Pleasant, she kept saying, 'You need to come down with me and hold those babies.' She took me by the ear and brought me down to the hospital, and it turned out she was absolutely right. It was what I was meant to do."

He talks to the babies he holds. "It's a huge sense of accomplishment or happiness when you pick up those babies. They're sick, and they're scared to death. They know they're not supposed to be there. I believe the babies know their names and the difference between being talked to and talked about," Pope says.

"I just start talking to them, and I can see them relaxing. Even the nurses will say, 'Look, their heart rate has gone down.' Usually with me in five or ten minutes, they're sound asleep. Totally zonked out."

He volunteers at least once a week, but sometimes he gets a call asking him for an extra day. "They say, 'Hey can you come in? There's a little baby whose parents simply can't be here, and the baby is really unhappy.'"

"The new phenomenon — these poor little babies who are



Jakarl Frasier has been playing the piano at MUSC since 2014.

Photos by Anne Thompson



Volunteer George Pope rocks babies when their parents can't be there. Here, he comforts Allenna Metts.

the opioid babies? Man, they're totally unhappy. Just holding them and helping to try to calm them down and letting them know that you're there. Nothing you can do but be with them."

Both he and Frasier say religious faith is part of their belief in the value of volunteering. Frasier's faith also guides what he plays on the piano. "I feel led to play certain things. Some of the songs I composed came out of pain. I take a minute and just feel the place out. If I feel like it's an upbeat day, and everyone's around smiling, I play something upbeat."

He grew up in a family that emphasized the importance of helping others. "When I was a kid, my mom always gave to the homeless. I grew up watching her do that. She'd make quilts for homeless people, and we'd bring them downtown. We'd give food out. She'd open the van door when I was younger and yell, 'Jesus loves you.'" Frasier says with a laugh. "Growing up around that made me want to give back."

He tells aspiring volunteers to keep this in mind. "You'll be making more of an impact than you think you are."

A long way from his bomb disposal days

Researcher relishes his role at MUSC

By HELEN ADAMS

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What do you get when you bring a former British aircraft engineer and bomb disposal expert into a research laboratory with potentially dangerous devices? In the case of Stuart Parnham, a perfect fit.

"In the U.K. military, we're trained to do everything. Anything that goes bang or makes anything go bang, that's your job. That kind of goes hand in hand with running a facility like this. I'm always having to fix things," Parnham said.

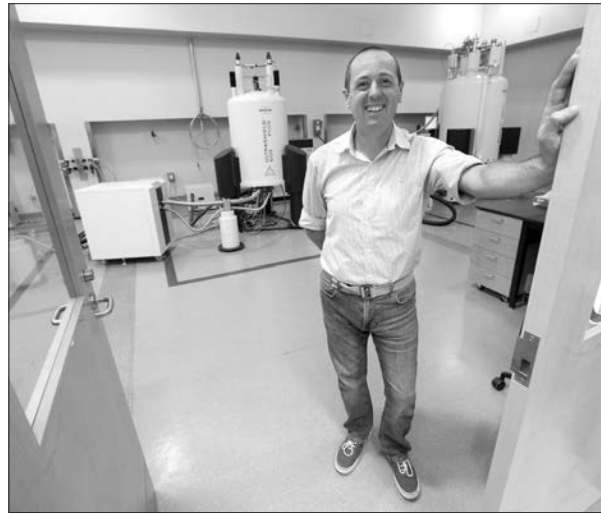
The things he's maintaining these days are three nuclear magnetic resonance spectroscopy devices at MUSC. "They're my babies," he said. "Each one behaves differently."

He's like a proud father — one with a doctorate in biochemistry and structural biology from the University of Leicester in England. And this NMR director never forgets his own father's advice.

"He always said, 'If you don't have the tool for the job, you make one.' That's generally what I do. If somebody comes to me with a problem, it's the problems I love. They'll come to us, and I'll make an experiment and think of what tools I have that I can use."

His job is to care for the giant magnets, conduct complex research and work with other scientists who need the NMR devices to help with their work. The devices can create 3-D images of proteins linked to diseases. That gives researchers a better idea of what it might take to cure them.

"The way I describe it is, the protein is your lock in your



Photos by Sarah Pack

Parnham relaxes in the doorway of the nuclear magnetic resonance imaging area at MUSC, where his only enemies are the disease he researches — and the threat of "quenching."

door, and you want to get behind the door, but you don't have a key," Parnham said. "So you have to build a key that fits only that lock. In this case, the lock is the protein, and the key is the drug."

For the former Royal Air Force officer who had to change careers due to injuries, the NMR work is right in his comfort zone. "I do like doing protein structures," Parnham said. "I have a lot of fun doing that. It's the way my brain's wired."

But he hasn't forgotten the carefully honed instinct for detecting trouble he developed in the military. The NMR devices aren't exactly explosive, but they can cause big problems. "I try not to use the Q word too much, which is quench. I don't use it around my babies. Don't want them quenching."

Quenching, for this kind of baby, is a very bad thing. "Quench means something goes catastrophically wrong inside," Parnham said.

That's never happened on Parnham's watch. He's happy to enjoy a relatively calm life, one geared toward repairing lives, not risking his own as he did during his 16 years in the Royal Air Force.

MUSC Shawn Jenkins Children's Hospital needs votes

Staff Report

Every minute, 62 children enter a Children's Miracle Network Hospital, like the MUSC Shawn Jenkins Children's Hospital, to get the care they need. Kids like 11-year-old Tymia, who lives in Georgetown but receives treatment at MUSC for sickle cell anemia. Or Kamryn, the little girl who wasn't expected to live past age 2, but is now 8 years old and in the third grade, thanks to her MUSC doctors. And little Rhett, who's had MUSC doctors poking and probing his skull since his birth 2-1/2 years ago.

You can help. America's Credit Unions will donate \$100,000 to Children's Miracle Network Hospitals. So try to "Imagine What's Possible" to help these kids, and vote every day through Tuesday, Dec. 19. It's possible that MUSC could win these much-needed funds to help our most vulnerable patients.

MUSC is currently in 20th place. #VoteForMiracles. Your vote could make this gift a reality. Be the difference. <http://voteformiracles.org/>



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The three NMR spectrosopes at MUSC and others at Hollings Marine Lab help fight cancer, HIV and more.



These heroes are no longer unsung

BY MIKIE HAYES

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A doctor who saved twins and saved the day. Nurses who gave far beyond what the job required. Cold-nosed volunteers who snuggled in bed with patients.

It was a night of emotional and heartfelt stories – real-life accounts that shared a common thread of dedication, humility and gratitude at the 13th annual Health Care Heroes event sponsored by the Charleston Regional Business Journal.

A total of seven Health Care Heroes honorees represented MUSC in four categories, three of whom were named a Health Care Hero of the Year in their respective categories. Special personal tributes were paid to all who were honored at the Nov. 30 event at the Francis Marion Hotel.

Andy Owens, the business journal's managing editor, welcomed guests and explained why the Charleston Regional Business Journal hosts an event that honors those who stand out in the health care community for their passion and compassion. It surprises him how often he is asked what is it about health care that fits into the journal's mission of delivering business news.

He shared an experience he had as a young reporter in Marion County, where essentially he covered everything that was considered news, including police and fire calls.

The local fire chief had given him a pager that alerted him of emergencies at the same time as the first responders. Once, he explained, when responding to a fire, he watched as a family witnessed their two-story house go up in ashes. Well past the point of the house being in any way salvageable, a brave fireman ran into the all-consuming

flames to collect two gas tanks – which had they ignited, Owens said, the explosion would have leveled two blocks. The thought of the bravery of people who do the unthinkable on a day-to-day basis has never left him.

So, why the business journal? As a public thank you to the doctors, nurses, health care and outreach professionals, first responders, volunteers, health care engineers and service and therapy dogs who don't turn their backs on danger or need, he said.

"You go toward danger, as we go to safety. You put yourself between us and the danger. And we appreciate it and want to thank you. This year's nominations took our breath away when we saw all the good being done in our community," he declared emotionally.

WCIV-TV news anchor Dean Stephens served as the evening's emcee, bringing his signature humor to the event.

"Weren't those the good old days of being a reporter?" he asked Owens. "When people liked us. Now, not so much," he said to laughter and applause.

Stephens is no stranger to medical emergencies or health care professionals who go above and beyond. Twelve years ago, his then 11-month-old son Sam was run over by a car in their driveway, crushing his head, cheeks and skull. He was rushed by ambulance to the MUSC Children's Hospital. Sedated, restrained and on life support, Sam's life hung in the balance. Stephens described how the hour-by-hour waiting game affected him, his wife and family. He shared how the first responders and MUSC doctors, nurses and caregivers are his personal heroes, and to this day, he continues to thank them for his now healthy son.

See **HEROES** on page 7

**Anna Claire Abbas
accepts her Nurse Hero
of the Year Award from
MUSC Health CEO Dr.
Patrick Cawley.**



Photo by Anne Thompson

Seven MUSC employees and volunteers were named as Health Care Heroes at an event sponsored by the Charleston Regional Business Journal.

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Photos by Anne Thompson

Left: Volunteer Hero of the Year Mia McCullough gets a hug from Children's Hospital's Pat Votava.

Above: Pete, a Health Care Hero, loves to snuggle in bed with patients.

the way. A State Department official who had observed Cahill's warmth and familiarity with everyone involved, told him he had the wrong nickname: "You're not a Jersey boy," she said. You're a Southern boy."

"We never hope to meet any of you," Cahill told the audience, "and Lord knows this one family never hoped to meet us on vacation. But if you should meet us, it doesn't matter where you're from or where you live. It doesn't matter who your insurance company is. It doesn't matter if you're worth \$100, or you have a maxed-out Mastercard, or you're worth \$100 million, every child who comes to us, everyone who calls us. . . . When you call the Medical University of South Carolina, or any of the perinatal regional centers in the state, all of our resources are at the disposal of your child. At that point in time, your child is our most important asset. Your child is our most important responsibility."

Perhaps the audience's favorite category of the evening was the "Service and Therapy Animals." And MUSC's two four-legged honorees were both newly coiffed and smelling particularly sweet after their baths. Macy, an affectionate 62-pound golden doodle with dreamy brown eyes, and Pete, a charming Portuguese water dog with a fuzzy black patch around one eye, were excited to be at the center of attention, as their handlers shared stories of their love of snuggling with patients.

Stephens said that Susan Hall, Macy's handler, visits children's rehab clinics and lets the sweet hound do her work. "Sometimes I think my heart is going to burst," Hall said. "Children in pain, exasperated by the uphill fight, sometime struggle with the rehab. But when Macy arrives, they work twice as hard."

Hall takes none of the credit for her pup's

See HEROES on page 15

HEROES *Continued from Page Six*

MUSC Health CEO Patrick Cawley, M.D., one of the evening's presenters, congratulated the honorees for all they do. Nothing you do, he told them, is simply a one-time thing. "You're being awarded for something you've done year after year."

Cawley shared why he loves coming to this event every year. "As a leader of a health care organization, I see phenomenal people do phenomenal things every single day. I am always amazed, and I get to hand out all kinds of awards. But even amongst that phenomenal group — there is a group that stands out. That's the best of the best. The people who really get it done. Those are our health care heroes. I'm awed by what you do. And you get up every day and do it again."

MUSC's Jessica Shaw of ART 5West and Anna Claire Abbas, who works in the MUSC Children's Hospital, were honored in the "Nurse" category. Cawley presented the awards to both.

Shaw, an oncology nurse, was described by Stephens as the kind of nurse who faithfully devoted her time and expertise to her patients on the job, but who then spends her off hours still on the job, researching new medical techniques, applying for medical grants, buying presents for her patients and celebrating their milestones. Shaw received a grant to create a complimentary medicine cart that includes aroma therapy, art projects, exercise therapy and distraction techniques

to help her patients control pain, nausea and anxiety while receiving chemo, and that was just one of the special ways she delivers compassionate care to her patients.

"We're helping patients and their families at the worst times of their lives. I go home always feeling like I made a difference," she said, expressing how much her work and patients mean to her.

Abbas' nomination came from the mother of a 19-month-old who was rushed to the MUSC Pediatric Intensive Care Unit after drowning. She recalled how Anna Claire Abbas cared for her son and their entire family. All the tender things Abbas did for them touched their hearts and created special memories they would have forever. She gave the parents a baby book with hand and foot prints of their child. When the decision was made to remove him from life support, she handed him to them so they could hold him as he passed away. "I can't put into words again how grateful my family and I were to have angels right there before our eyes," the grieving mother said in her letter.

Abbas was emotional as she accepted her "Nurse Hero of the Year" award. "This particular case was really hard for me, because the mother was a nurse. It happened to one of our own, she shared with a trembling voice and tears. "I just looked at it as if it were my child lying there, what kind of care would I want them to receive? That's what makes me love this job so much is that I am able to love on these families during these difficult times,

and whether they run back through the door six months later and give me a hug or they don't, I am just able to provide what they need at the time. But I wouldn't be able to do it without my team."

The "Physician Hero of the Year" went to MUSC's Jersey Cahill, M.D. When he learned of his award, the neonatologist said, "The opportunity to care for and support our most fragile members of society and see them thrive and develop is the ultimate reward one can receive for their skill and effort."

Stephens explained that Cahill had recently arranged for tiny twins from Canada, who were born at 24 weeks, to be transported to MUSC for care. Once healthy enough to travel, their return home became an international incident, with Cahill smoothing

Looking to retire early? Let's talk.



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2017 CATALYST NEWS

— YEAR IN REVIEW

JANUARY

New school-based telehealth



MUSC Health opened a first-of-its-kind clinic at Meeting Street Elementary at Brentwood in North Charleston. The program sponsors a full-time nurse practitioner and pediatrician who see patients once a week. *Jan. 6*

Leone is cancer center director

Gustavo Leone, Ph.D., was named the new director of the Hollings Cancer Center on Jan. 12. Leone is a preeminent cancer researcher with a keen record of pursuing innovative and interdisciplinary approaches to research. *Jan. 20*

New ways to treat ocular cancer

Greenville High School teacher Cara Mathis found out she had a detached retina. It led to a larger discovery about her health and a treatment that had been only used on three other MUSC Health patients. *Jan. 24*

FEBRUARY

Foster Care Support Clinic

Prior to being adopted, Abigail Esme Mills suffered from serious pain that no one in her group home could help her with. Abigail was introduced to the Foster Care Support Clinic at MUSC for support. The clinic is a partnership between the S.C. Department of Social Services and MUSC Children's Health. *Feb. 3*

Group honors Cole, students

The Black History Intercollegiate Consortium honored MUSC President Dr. David Cole with the Martin Luther King Jr. Award. The group also recognized students April Favela and Emily Franko-Tobin of MUSC's Alliance for Hispanic Health with the Student Leadership Award. *Feb. 3*

Newest NAI inductees

The MUSC Chapter of the National Academy of Inventors welcomed 12 new members at its ceremony in early 2017. Election as an NAI fellow is among the highest professional distinctions. Only official U.S. patent holders can be nominated for this

New procedure eases pain

A new pre-pectoral breast reconstruction procedure helps women who undergo mastectomies. It is less painful and can provide more natural looking results. *Feb. 3*

MARCH

MUSC wins reaccreditation

MUSC received reaffirmation of its accreditation from the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges. MUSC successfully met 103 standards and was successful on its on-site visit. The reaffirmation by SACSCOC occurs every 10 years. *March 17*

Women's History Month

In honor of Women's History Month in March, the Catalyst staff featured stories about trailblazing women at the workplace. Featured were Vera Brown (Phlebotomy), Gail Mungen (Environmental Services), Wanda Connor Blake (Transportation) and Cpl. Rachel Miller (Public Safety). *March 17*



photo by Sarah Pack

Henry Cooper and fiancée Carolyn Lowery didn't need to postpone plans to get married before Cooper's surgery at MUSC to treat his advanced heart failure. With the help of Cooper's cardiologist and a team of health care members, the couple were married March 11 at ART. *April 14*

APRIL

March for Science



More than 60 people gathered at MUSC's Drug Discovery Building on Saturday, April 22 to join the Charleston March for Science. Participants celebrated the sciences and advocated for evidence-based policies. *April 28*

Surgeon, students innovation

Oncology surgeon Dr. Nancy DeMore has proved that great ideas can become reality. DeMore collaborated with a faculty member at Clemson University's Multiscale Bioelectromechanics Lab Science to design a hand-held detector to help surgeons accurately locate tumors. *April 25*

MAY

Innovation Station opens

The new Apple-approved campus technology store opened for business May 1 to MUSC students, faculty, staff and visitors. The space was designed to be a place where customers can interact with technology-focused products and apps and purchase products. *May 5*

MUSC, Gibbes Museum

College of Health Professions faculty member Dr. Cynthia Dodds has collaborated with the Gibbes Art Museum to explore how art and visual thinking strategies in art education can teach students to be observant and compassionate practitioners. *May 5*

Study on brain development

MUSC is involved in an ambitious long-term study of brain development and child health in the nation. Researchers want to find out more about these subjects through the NIH Adolescent Brain Cognitive Development or ABCD study, which is the largest study of its type in the nation. *May 18*

See YIR on page 9



photo by Dawn Brazell

People prepared for the moment when a total solar eclipse temporarily darkened the afternoon sky at MUSC. It wasn't dark for long — "totality," the period when the moon completely obscured the sun, was brief. But the crowd on the lawn outside the Drug Discovery Building seemed to love it. *Aug. 25*

JUNE/JULY

Children's Hospital No. 1

MUSC Children's Hospital is again the only institution in South Carolina to be ranked among U.S. News & World Report's 2017-18 edition of "America's Best Children's Hospitals." *June 27*

New provost breaks glass ceiling

Dr. Lisa Saladin was named to the No. 2 university position — executive vice president for academic affairs and provost. *July 14*

Building new children's hospital



A bustling crew of more than 200 workers is flowing through the construction site of the new \$385

million MUSC Shawn Jenkins Children's Hospital and Pearl Tourville Women's Pavilion. Everyone's working hard toward its completion, slated for 2019. *July 28*

AUGUST/SEPTEMBER

MUSC ranked No. 1 in SC

For the third consecutive year, MUSC Health was named by U.S. News & World report as the No. 1 hospital in South Carolina. *Aug. 11*

Battling the opioid epidemic

South Carolina's rate of opioid abuse or dependence falls in the second highest category in the nation, yet its ability to treat people falls into the lowest range. Dr. Kathleen Brady and her team are spearheading outreach to physicians' efforts through a \$2M grant. *Sept. 6*

MUSC part of \$20M NSF grant

MUSC will join 10 universities from across the state to develop advanced biomaterials and manufacturing

through a \$20 million, five year NSF-EPSCoR grant. *Sept. 20*

Student advocates for disabilities



First year medical student Julia Rodes is living her dream, studying to become a doctor while serving a larger role as an advocate for people living with spinal cord injuries. *Sept. 22*

Child a 'one in a million' case

When Bianca Campos raced her newborn son to MUSC for care, she had no idea he had a rare congenital condition that resulted in him receiving an organ transplant. His challenging road to care connected him with experts and hope. *Sept. 22*



photo by Sarah Pack

After the June 30 open house for the MUSC Health Center for Telehealth, which expanded MUSC's telemedicine program, telehealth researchers Drs. Katie Cristaldi and Dee Ford were awarded a HRSA grant establishing MUSC as one of only two Telehealth Centers of Excellence in the nation. *July 14, Oct. 6 and Oct. 20*

OCTOBER/NOVEMBER

Zucker Family gives \$5M

Charleston businesswoman Anita Zucker and her family made a \$5 million contribution to help build the 3,200-square-foot child life atrium (play area) in the new MUSC Shawn Jenkins Children's Hospital. *Oct. 20*

Team travels to Puerto Rico

Psychologists from MUSC's National Crime Victims Research and Treatment Center traveled to Puerto Rico to support the children and community devastated by Hurricane Maria. *Oct. 20*

Partnership tackles disparities

Dr. Marvella Ford teamed up with researchers at South Carolina State University to establish the South Carolina Cancer Disparities Research Center. Ford, who is the SmartState endowed chair in prostate cancer disparities at SCSU, will conduct cutting-edge cancer disparities research. *Nov. 3*

See YIR on page 15

PUBLIC SAFETY CONTINUES THEIR SUPPORT OF NEW CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL



Members of MUSC's Office of Public Safety set aside their razors throughout November to help raise \$6,325 with their annual Beards for Babies fundraiser to support the MUSC Shawn Jenkins Children's Hospital. Participants recruited sponsors to pledge a dollar per day for 30 days to raise money. According to Public Safety Officer Sam Padgett, this year, the group reached out to Tri-county businesses to sponsor them, including George Sink Injury Lawyers, South State Bank, Heritage Trust Federal Credit Union, Post Net-West Ashley, the Fraternal Order of Police-Tri-County Lodge 3, Halo and the Ashley River Road Post Office.

Photo by Cindy Abole

Warning: 'Tis the season to be mindful, thefts from vehicles

Staff Report

Recently there has been an increase in the number of thefts of personal property from vehicles in parking garages on campus, specifically the Jonathan Lucas Garage. MUSC has experienced four separate incidents reported within the past two weeks, so please take the time to protect yourself from theft!

MUSC Department of Public Safety recommends that community members ALWAYS:

- Lock your vehicles and close your vehicle windows.
- Protect/safeguard personal property such as purses, briefcases, backpacks, cell phones, laptop computers or any other electronic devices. These items should never be left unattended in vehicles. Secure your personal property out of sight, including any mounting

hardware for GPS and electronic equipment, if possible.

- Record the serial numbers of your valuables.
- Engrave valuables with your license number.
- If you see any suspicious activity around campus, you are asked to contact the MUSC Department of Public Safety immediately at 843-792-4196, through the MUSC LiveSafe® App, or via one of the many emergency call boxes on campus.
- Provide the dispatcher with a description of the individual(s) to include clothing, what you observed them doing, the location where you saw them and the direction they were going.

The MUSC LiveSafe® App is an effective method for Android and iOS users to call MUSC Public Safety immediately. The app can be downloaded on your mobile device from Google Play or the Apple App Store. Contact the Crime Prevention Office at 843-792-1070 or 843-792-2261.

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Bioptic telescope paves 'avenue of independence' for patient

Freedom enables patient to pursue new restricted license

BY SYDNI EDWARDS

edwardsy@musc.edu

People often recall many of the significant milestones they reached while on the road to becoming an adult. Whether it was paying their first bill or casting their first ballot, those experiences, in many cases, will forever be etched in their memories.

Christopher Depace, a focused and determined freshman at Trident Technical College, recently experienced one such milestone – one that will change his life and that of many others.

Depace has ocular albinism and congenital nystagmus, a genetic condition that primarily affects the eyes. It results from the inability of the pigment cells in the eyes to produce normal amounts of pigment and a constant ocular movement. This disease has the power to restrict his ability to live like an average young adult, but Depace is determined that won't happen, said James Hill, OD, assistant professor and director of Low Vision Services at MUSC's Storm Eye Institute.

"Chris is being fitted with a new bioptic telescope, so that he will have the opportunity to obtain his restrictive drivers license."

That is a very big deal. In fact, Depace will be the SEI's first bioptic telescope patient to attain his driver's license in South Carolina.

The bioptic system combines prescription eyeglasses with a miniature telescope that is mounted toward the top of the eyeglass lens. It operates in much the same way as binoculars, enlarging images. However, the greatest value the bioptic telescope offers the visually impaired when driving is the ability to see things farther away. The carrier, or prescription eyewear lens portion, provides general vision, while the telescope aids in the quick spotting of detail for the visually impaired patient.

Patients, Hill explained, rely on their own vision approximately 95 percent of the time. When using the bioptic telescope, the patient quickly glances through it so they are able to see things like traffic lights, street signs and objects at a distance in finer detail. Think of it like a quick glance in the rear view mirror.

"Chris is not dependent on the telescope while driving. He would only look through it slightly, unless his vision should significantly change," Hill said.

"It would correct my vision," Depace added, "helping me to see the road signs and lights - things that are in the distance."

The South Carolina acuity standard for a normal seeing individual requires that an individual must have a best corrected Snellen acuity of 20/70, or if one eye is blind, the other must score 20/40 best corrected. With a bioptic, a patient can have a visual acuity of 20/120 but must be able to read 20/40 or better through the telescope and have a normal



photo by Sarah Pack

Chris Depace tests out his new bioptic equipment with Dr. James Hill with MUSC's Storm Eye Institute's Low Vision Services clinic.



Storm Eye patient Chris Depace, right, tries out his bioptic telescope glasses with a team occupational therapist during a recent visit.

visual field.

With Depace being the first SEI bioptic telescope patient to attempt to obtain his driver's license in the state, Hill was able to shed light on the unpaved path for many patients who would like to have availed themselves of this opportunity in the past.

"A person with a vision impairment could use a bioptic telescope while driving but would have to have the same visual acuity as someone with normal vision. Most of the Southeastern states, including North Carolina, Georgia, and Florida already had a driving law allowing someone visually impaired to get a restrictive license. However, there was no pathway in South Carolina for someone looking to obtain a bioptic license."

It took three consecutive legislative sessions to reach success. Thanks to the efforts of a few motivated individuals who worked with state legislators to craft appropriate language for South Carolina, it finally was passed in June of 2016, retroactive to the beginning of 2016.

According to the South Carolina Department of Motor Vehicles, when one is attempting to obtain a typical restricted driver's license, they must have held their beginner's permit for more than 180 days, have completed a driver's education course, be enrolled in school and have practiced driving with their licensed parent or guardian for 40 hours. The maximum cost is \$13.50.

For those like Depace trying to obtain their bioptic

See TELESCOPE on page 15

Children's hospital among 'shining stars' of patient safety

BY HELEN ADAMS

adamshel@musc.edu

MUSC Children's Health pediatrician Elizabeth Mack knows what it's like to be a patient and see medical mistakes in action. A few years ago, she went to another hospital for a procedure to help figure out why she'd been feeling sick and losing weight.

That procedure? It never happened.

"They forgot the procedure I was consented for," she said.

Mack was ultimately diagnosed, treated and recovered. But "other little mistakes were made along the way" while she was in the hospital, she said. She came away thinking, "It's got to be better."

MAKING IT BETTER

The mistakes Mack saw are part of a larger, national issue. A study by Johns Hopkins Medicine reached the stunning conclusion that medical errors are the third leading cause of death in the U.S.

"It's hard to imagine that these issues will be completely resolved in my lifetime, but I also can't imagine not contributing to improvement," Mack said.

She did her fellowship in pediatric critical care at Cincinnati Children's Hospital, a leader in children's patient safety work. Mack then worked at Palmetto Health Children's Hospital, where she was the director of quality. These days, Mack is the medical director of graduate medical education quality and safety at MUSC, working with doctors in training who have already earned their medical degrees.

She's also trying to make sure patients at MUSC Children's Hospital, where she takes care of kids in the intensive care unit, get the safest care possible. Mack has helped lead MUSC Children's Health to participation in two national collaboratives:

❑ The Child Health Patient Safety Organization (PSO), which is part of the Children's Hospital Association

❑ Solutions for Patient Safety (SPS)

A national children's hospital leader

applauds the dual membership. "Hospitals that participate in both are truly deeply invested in safety. I think they are our shining stars," said Kate Conrad, vice president of the Children's Hospital Association.

But what do those collaboratives do, and how does belonging to them help keep children safe?

CHILD HEALTH PATIENT SAFETY

MUSC joined the Child Health Patient Safety Organization in 2017. It's a network of about 60 children's hospitals that lets them share confidential information, Mack said. "We can listen to each other's very worst dirty laundry and learn from it."

The hospitals are able to do that under federal privilege protections through the Patient Safety Act. Mack described how a possible scenario might play out. "Say a child in another city dies in the catheterization lab, and it was a preventable death due to equipment failure."

Before the PSO, "The hospital discussed their harm, dealt with it, talked to the family, did their thing in their little silo, and it would never hopefully happen there again," Mack said. "But what about the rest of us who use that piece of equipment? Too bad, unless there was a recall or something."

With the PSO, the hospital spreads the word within the network. "They tell us, 'Hey, we had a preventable harm. We've done a root cause analysis. These are the issues we found. Please take it back to your hospital and discover where your issues are.' Most of the times, we have similar holes in our systems. We can learn from their mistake without inflicting the same mistake here."

In its 2017 annual report, the PSO said 49 of its member hospitals had recently submitted data about "serious safety events," situations where patients' health was affected by factors such as equipment failure, poorly coordinated care or a missed diagnosis.

MUSC Children's Health was not among the 49 since it's a new addition to the PSO, Mack said. "We're just getting started. It's a very rigorous process because of the privacy and legal issues, but what a rich opportunity."



Photos by Sarah Pack

Dr. Elizabeth Mack, left, goes over patient safety data with nurse Kelly Carbone, center, and pharmacist Jennifer Santamaria.

SOLUTIONS FOR PATIENT SAFETY

MUSC Children's Hospital has belonged to another related safety collaborative, the Children's Hospitals' Solutions for Patient Safety National Children's Network, for almost two years. MUSC hosted two SPS conferences this past summer.

The SPS has more than 130 member hospitals in the U.S. and Canada. It develops bundles, or sets of steps, to get the best outcomes for patients by preventing a variety of things that can go wrong.

Hospitals submit data on how well they're complying with the bundles and how well

their patients are doing as a result. They also share ideas, processes, successes and failures.

The goals of the SPS are specific. By the end of 2018, it aims to achieve:

- ❑ Forty percent fewer hospital-acquired conditions, including those from medication errors, falls and surgical site infections
- ❑ Twenty percent fewer patients readmitted to the hospital within seven days of being sent home
- ❑ Fifty percent fewer serious safety events
- ❑ Twenty-five percent fewer days that

See SAFETY on page 13



Tony Pope, Agent

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SAFETY *Continued from Page Twelve*

employees are affected by workplace illnesses or injuries.

Each hospital-acquired condition has a team made up of people from all over the hospital that meets monthly. "Really, this work relies on a grassroots approach, so the front line feels empowered to speak up if they see something about to happen," Mack said.

"We have committed to SPS that we will train every person in our children's hospital in culture change and error prevention and leadership methods." Mack, working with other quality team members, has trained safety coaches from every affected unit in MUSC Children's Health and MUSC Health Women's Care to become harm prevention and safety experts.

Membership in SPS also means the hospital works to get patients and families involved. That was on display on a recent morning at MUSC Children's Health, where a safety discussion at a nurse's station included the mothers of two former patients.

One of them, Kelly Loyd, chairs the MUSC Children's Health Patient and Family Advisory Council. "It's sharing best practices," she said, "to keep kids safe."

**"WHY CAN'T WE BE LIKE AVIATION?"**

Mack said she understands why some people think medicine should be as relatively foolproof as other life-or-death industries.

"You say, 'Why can't we be like aviation? Why can't we be like some of these highly reliable industries - and have a hospital that operates like a nuclear reactor?' I hope that we can at some point, but the variables are so much greater."

Kelly Loyd and Caroline DeLongchamps both have children who were treated at MUSC Children's Health. They serve as advisers in discussions about patient safety.

Photo by Helen Adams

Anybody can walk in off the street, Mack said. "You can't completely automate, especially in an emergency, what medicine somebody gets or how much they get. Much of our work depends on humans. I hope that we deliver care both more systematically and empathetically over the course of my lifetime.

"There's nothing more important than keeping our kids healthy," Mack said. "It always trumps any other priority."

Applications for Chas. Auxiliary scholarship due Jan. 8

The Auxiliary to the Charleston County Medical, Dental and Pharmaceutical Association (ACCMDPA) will award a \$1,000 scholarship to an African-American MUSC student in good standing enrolled in the College of Medicine, College of Dental Medicine, College of Pharmacy or College of Nursing. Completed applications must be postmarked by Monday, Jan. 8.

Contact Sshune Rhodes at 843-475-1332 or sshune@aol.com for applications and more information.

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RESEARCH GRANT HIGHLIGHTS

*College of Health Professions***James S. Krause**

Understanding, Predicting, and Preventing Life-Changing and Life-Threatening Health Changes Among Aging Veterans and Civilians with Spinal Cord Injury, \$747,210, from DOD (W81XWH-16-1-0629), September 30, 2016 to September 29, 2019

*College of Nursing***Catherine O'connor Durham**

Behavioral Health Workforce Education and Training (BHWET) Program, \$1,234,960, from HRSA (M01HP31312-01-01), September 30, 2017 to August 31, 2021

Susan D. Newman

PHOENIX: Development of a Spinal Cord Injury Peer-Supported Self-Management Intervention, \$199,783, from DHHS/Admin. for Community Living (90IFRE0012-01-00), September 30, 2017 to September 29, 2020

*Cell and Molecular Pharmacology and Experimental Therapeutics***Richard R. Drake**

A Novel Serum and Tissue Immunoglycomic Biomarker Panel to Distinguish Progressive PCa, \$738,588, from DOD (W81XWH-17-1-0643), September 30, 2017 to September 29, 2020

*Emergency Medicine***Gary F. Headden**

Evaluation of ACCU-CHEK Inform II System for Testing Arterial, Venous and Neonatal Heelstick Samples in Critically Ill Patients, \$120,033, from Roche Diagnostics (CIM RD003141), October 3, 2017 to October 2, 2018

*Medicine***Brian Hess**

Randomized, Open-label, Phase 3 Trial of Nivolumab plus Brentuximab Vedotin Versus Brentuximab Vedotin alone in Participants with Relapsed Refractory or Ineligible for Autologous Stem Cell Transplant, \$166,874, from Bristol Myers Squibb (CA209-812), September 26, 2017 to September 25, 2022

Brian Hess

A Phase 3, Randomized, Double-blind, Placebo-controlled, Multicenter Study of Bendamustine and Rituximab (BR) Alone Versus in Combination with Acalabrutinib (ACP-196) in Subjects with Previously Untreated, \$239,550, from Acerta Pharma, LLC (ACE-

LY-308), August 30, 2017 to August 29, 2022

Daniel H. Steinberg

Cardiovascular Outcomes Assessment of the MitraClip Percutaneous Therapy for Heart Failure Patients with Functional Mitral Regurgitation, \$195,000, from Novella Clinical, Inc. (COAPT – Protocol 11-512), September 5, 2014 to September 30, 2020

Daniel Reuben

A Phase III Study, Open-label, Multicenter, Two Arm, Randomized Study to Investigate the Efficacy and Safety of Cobimetinib Plus Atezolizumab vs. Pembrolizumab in Patients With Previously Untreated Ad, \$608,891, from INC Research, Inc. (CO39722), September 15, 2017 to September 14, 2022

Don C. Rockey

A Molecular Approach to the Pathogenesis of Portal Hypertension, \$1,358,854, from NIH/NIDDK (1R01DK113159-01A1), September 20, 2017 to August 31, 2021

Eric Meissner

A Phase 3, Randomized, Double-Blind Study to Evaluate the Safety and Efficacy of Switching from a Regimen of Dolutegravir and Either Emtricitabine/Tenofovir Alafenamide or Emtricitabine/Tenofovir Diso, \$198,129, from Gilead Sciences, Inc. (GS-US-380-4030), September 15, 2017 to September 14, 2021

John Lacy Sturdivant

Strategic Management to Optimize Response to Cardiac Resynchronization Therapy (SMART CRT), \$442,597, from Boston Scientific Corp. (SMART CRT), October 2, 2017 to July 31, 2020

Melissa A. Cunningham

A Randomized, Controlled, Double-blind Study Comparing the Efficacy and Safety of Orelvo (voclosporin) (23.7 mg Twice Daily) with Placebo in Achieving Renal Response in Subjects with Active Lupus Nephri, \$100,960, from Worldwide Clinical Trials (AUR-VCS-2016-01), October 26, 2017 to October 25, 2020

Nichole T. Tanner

Blood Sample Collection in Subjects Participating in a Lung Cancer Screening Program, \$198,000, from Charleston Research Institute (2016-11), August 30, 2017 to August 31, 2018

Patrick A. Flume

A Multi-Center, Randomized, Placebo-Controlled, Phase 1, Two-Part Study Designed to Assess the Safety, Tolerability, Pharmacokinetics, Food Effect, and Drug-Drug Interactions of PTL-801 in Healthy Vol, \$212,423, from Rho, Inc. (PTI-801-01), September 19, 2017 to August 31, 2019

Patrick D. Mauldin

South Carolina Surgical Quality Collaborative, \$101,956, from Health Sciences SC, April 1, 2017 to March 31, 2018

Robert K. Stuart

A Phase 1, Open-label, Dose-escalation Study of SGN-CD19B in Patients With Relapsed Or Refractory Aggressive B-cell Non-Hodgkin Lymphoma, \$100,427, from Seattle Genetics, Inc. (SGN19B-001), June 1, 2016 to May 31, 2020

Sara Giordano

A Phase I, First-in-Human, Dose Escalation Trial of MSC2363318A, a Dual p70S6K/Akt Inhibitor, in Subjects With Advanced Malignancies, \$156,850, from Quintiles Pacific, Inc. (EMR 100018-001), December 27, 2016 to December 26, 2021

Timothy Whelan

A Phase 2, 24-week, Randomized, Double-Blind, Placebo-Controlled, Multicenter Study, Followed By A 28-week Treatment Extension, To Evaluate the Efficacy and Safety of CC-90001 in Subjects with IPF, \$301,808, from Quintiles Pacific, Inc. (CC-90001-IPF-001), September 28, 2017 to September 30, 2022

*Public Health Sciences***Gregory Cote, Peter B. Cotton & Lydia D. Foster**

Results of Ercp in Sphincter of Oddi Dysfunction, \$1,446,169, from NIH/NIDDK (1R01DK115495-01), September 20, 2017 to August 31, 2022

The Catalyst's Research Grant Highlights column showcases the MUSC research community's grant activities.

For more information about campuswide research awards, visit the Office of Research & Sponsored Programs at <http://academicdepartments.musc.edu/research/orsp/reporting/>.

HEROES *Continued from Page Seven*

loving personality and connection with patients. “She’s really the hero, not me. She’s the one they ask for, not me. She’s the one they want to hug and love on, not me. She’s the one they want to play with, not me. Trust me, if she could talk, she’d be the one up here, not me.”

Pete sniffed the floor for fallen morsels, as he made his way to the podium. He works double the usual pet therapy load and makes everyone feel better, no matter how bad their days have been, said Stephens. He particularly loves to fall asleep in bed with the kids.

His handler, Penny Hallman, said these four-legged friends are heroes in their own specialties. “All I do is hold the leash.”

“Pete sleeps with the patients, she explained. “Sometimes there are children who have had difficult nights. He gets up in bed with them, and they both fall asleep. He’s not allowed on the bed at home, but he sure takes advantage of it at the hospital.”

In the volunteer category, MUSC had two honorees: Celeste Jilich and Mia McCullough.

Jilich, a third-year medical student who works extremely long hours in her clinical rotations, also manages to serve in numerous volunteer leadership roles with several local nonprofit efforts. She is director of operations for the CARES Clinic, a student-run clinic for uninsured adults; volunteers for People Against Rape, a sexual assault advocacy program that offers support and services for survivors of sexual assault in the Tri-county area; serves as co-president of the Alliance

for Equality, an organization promoting equality for LGBTQ individuals; and 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.

Her greatest goal, Stephens said, is to work with people of all backgrounds and incorporate a social justice lens in her work in the medical field.

“The hours are long and grueling, as many of you know and some of you remember,” Jilich said. “And, it’s hard to find time. But sometimes when you’re alone in the library studying, you lose sight of why you went to medical school, why you want to be a doctor. And it’s volunteering and being with people that reminds you why,” she said.

Miss South Carolina Preteen Tymia McCullough, an 11-year-old from Georgetown, suffers with sickle cell anemia, a genetic blood disorder that causes debilitating episodes of intense pain. Still, she’s a trooper. Stephens said that after her 49th hospitalization, she recorded a public service announcement for the Red Cross, encouraging blood donations. She’s not only lobbied South Carolina congressional members, but over the summer, she spoke on the floor of the U.S. House of Representatives and met individually with the entire South Carolina delegation, personally pleading with each to save Medicaid. Mia (pronounced Maya), as she is called, also inaugurated a new bloodmobile and was featured in a National Public Radio story. She represents 6 million children nationally who depend on Medicaid for health insurance. She said it’s the reason she’s alive today, despite debilitating sickle cell disease.

When presented with her “Volunteer Hero of the Year” award, she said, “OMG – I am just lost! Well, first, I would like to thank God for this special award. I would like to thank Doctor (Sherron) Jackson, Miss Mary (Johnson), Miss Pat (Votava) and MUSC for always supporting me in whatever we do. And last but not least, my mom, because she pushes me to do my best, reach for the stars, and never give up.”

She told the audience this award means so much to her because of her sickle cell anemia. “I will always be involved with health care, she said stumbling a bit over her words and pausing to collect herself. She looked at the audience and said, “I have a cold,” and then looked at Stephens and said, “I got this!” to huge laughter and applause.

“I am able to show the world you can do anything or be anything, as long as you work hard with a lasting smile. I will always be involved with my community.”

Holiday Break

The Catalyst will not be published Dec. 29 and will resume its bi-monthly publication schedule on January 12, 2018.

For information, call Cindy Abole, editor, at 792-4107 or email catalyst@muscedu.

For advertising information, call the Moultrie News at 843 958-7480 or email sales@moultrienews.com.

TELESCOPE *Continued from Page Eleven*

restrictive licenses in South Carolina, there are ten times the number of steps, and the maximum cost is roughly \$7,000. The onerous requirements rely more on intense training, which may or may not be covered by medical insurance.

Hill explained. “Currently, for those without insurance, we try to get them into the South Carolina Commission for the Blind vocational rehab program. When they are then a client, then they’re financially helped with some of the cost for the device and training. We have two patients who have gone this route, including Depace. Also, if the patient is experiencing insurmountable financial hardship, Ocutech, the vendor, has the ability to help with the retail price.”

Depace and his doctor agree that his ability to obtain his license will radically change his life.

“I’ll be able to get from point A to point B without relying on my parents or public transportation. The freedom to be able to go to job interviews and getting to hang out with my friends makes it all worth it,” Depace said.

Hill nodded in agreement. “This will create an avenue for independence; it opens doors for individuals with low vision. Not everyone with visual loss will be a candidate to drive with a

bioptic telescope, but for those who do qualify this is truly life changing.”

Low vision affects almost 135 billion people globally and results from common eye diseases such as cataracts, macular degeneration, diabetic retinopathy and retinitis pigmentation.

Depace is aware of the many obstacles he may face in his lifetime, but he’s determined to live his life without fear of the unknown. He’s grateful that his experience may pave the way for others as well.

“I see a good future for the people who want to try after me. I didn’t just do it for myself, I did it for other people as well. This was meant to help me and other people who want to move on in their lives in a responsible manner.”

While Chris has already faced and surmounted many challenges in his young life, he sums-up his personal philosophy optimistically.

“Don’t let anything stop you from what you want to do in life, regardless of your disability. There’s always a loophole around it. There’s always a way.”

YIR *Continued from Page Nine***NOVEMBER****NASA study focuses on brain**

Neuroradiologist Dr. Donna Roberts and her team unveiled groundbreaking science on brain changes in weightlessness. Her work was featured in the Nov. 2 issue of the *New England Journal of Medicine*. Nov. 3

Work-family balance studied

Psychiatrist Dr. Connie Guille is studying the conflict between work and family responsibilities and mental health among intern physicians. Nov. 3

DECEMBER**Medical District Greenway**

The “greening” of Charleston took place at the Nov. 20 kickoff celebration of the Charleston Medical District Greenway. MUSC joins Roper Hospital, the Ralph

H. Johnson VA Medical Center and the City of Charleston in establishing the greenway as a pedestrian area permanently closed to cars and trucks on Doughty Street.

OBITUARIES

George C. McTeer Sr., DMD, a 1974 alumnus of the College of Dental Medicine and the college’s first African-American dental graduate, died Dec. 27. He was 78 years old. Feb. 17

George Chajewski, of MUSC Catering, passed away March 4. “Chef George” was known for his warmth, skills and talent. He was 69 years old. March 31

E. Conyers O’Bryan Jr., M.D., a longtime MUSC Board of Trustees member and College of Medicine alumnus, passed away May 21. He was 92 years old. June 2

Holiday fun around MUSC



Pulmonary, Critical Care, Allergy & Sleep Medicine employees blow bubbles and enjoy a festive time at the Dec. 1 annual MUSC Angel Tree Parade.



MUSC Physicians Revenue Cycle employees at Parkshore Office in West Ashley gather around the Christmas tree to show off the toys, clothes and other items they collected to support this year's MUSC Angel Tree program. The team was able to pack up and deliver their gifts at the Angel Tree parade on Dec. 1.

Photos provided



Hollings Cancer Center's Angela Raney, Courtney McNeil and Jennifer Wood display their sweaters during HCC's Ugly Holiday Sweater contest on Dec. 12.



Above: Vera Campbell was among employees at ART's GI Surgery/Bariatrics and Heart Center who decorated their doors for a contest. Winners were Amanda Peterson and Molly Jones.



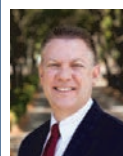
Health Information Services at South Park Office collected toys and donations supporting Tricounty Family Ministries this holiday season.

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