



photo provided

Father JohnBosco Ikemeh visits with public school children in a village in Nigeria. The children have no school building but instead study standing under a tree. He met with the teacher during his visit, and the students were ecstatic to see him and get a photo with him.

Priest builds future to heal the past

By MIKIE HAYES

hayesmi@musc.edu

Father JohnBosco Ikemeh discovered you can go home again.

In 2010, the MUSC chaplain traveled to his West African homeland. There, he had an epiphany that led him to his true life's mission – building a school for the poorest of the poor.

Upon landing in Nigeria, the most populous country on the continent, Ikemeh headed to Abakaliki, the capital of Ebonyi State. As he made his way through the city, he was swarmed by throngs of young children balancing heavy baskets piled high with oranges, vegetables and nuts atop

their heads. Ikemeh surveyed their earnest faces, heard their pleas for sales.

In that instant, he was transported 50 years in the past to his own childhood in war-torn Nigeria when he was the one selling what he could to support his family – bread, kerosene, gasoline. He was 7, begging others to buy his wares. It was a painful reminder of a distant time in his life.

It was the bloody Biafran Civil War of 1967. Caught in its grips, his family lost everything – their restaurant, their home, their comfortable way of life. They lived in Umuihi, Ihitte, present-day Imo State, the village that served as ground zero during the conflict. The leader of the Biafran

See NIGERIA on page 8

MUSC, Shriners team up for new burn unit in children's hospital

Staff Report

MUSC and Shriners Hospitals for Children are planning to work together to expand pediatric burn services and develop a burn unit in the MUSC Shawn Jenkins Children's Hospital, which is under construction. The current children's hospital, MUSC Children's Health, has a burn center, but the Shriners' contribution will mean even more treatment options.

Scheduled to open in 2019, the new children's hospital will be the most advanced facility of its kind in the area. MUSC's intent to collaborate with Shriners was announced Feb. 7 during the Darius Rucker Big Band Concert at the Charleston Gaillard Center. The event was a fundraiser for the new children's hospital.

MUSC President David Cole, M.D., FACS, said the more time he and other MUSC leaders spent with the Shriners leadership team, the more clearly their compatibility of vision and mission came into focus. "When it comes to marshaling resources to make a positive difference for children in need, the Shriners have an incredible history of impact," Cole said. "As a result, it was natural for MUSC to reach out to Shriners Hospitals for Children to leverage their expertise and experiences in pediatric burn care delivery."

Summerville resident Kenneth Craven serves on the board of directors for Shriners Hospitals for Children. "Shriners Hospitals for Children is honored to have the opportunity to help MUSC in establishing pediatric burn care services at its new Shawn Jenkins Children's Hospital, just as we've done with other health care organizations around the world," Craven said.

The Shriner organization operates pediatric burn care centers in Boston, Cincinnati, Galveston and Sacramento.

Donald Johnson II, M.D., chairman of the MUSC/MUHA Board of Trustees, spoke to the crowd at the Darius Rucker concert.

See SHRINERS on page 15

4

Healthy Community
LEAN for Life helps with life changes.

11

Florida School Shootings
Tragedy underscores need for mass violence center.

2

Vournakis Obituary

3

Meet Lareece Reddy

5

ImagineNation

MUSC researcher, innovator remembered by colleagues

By KATHERINE LAWRENCE

lawrekat@musc.edu

John Nicholas Vournakis, Ph.D., a professor of Medicine and molecular biochemist at MUSC, entered into passed away Jan. 17.

Dr. Vournakis was born in Cambridge, Ohio, and raised in Albion, Michigan, where he attended Albion College and earned his Bachelor of Science degree in chemistry, physics and math. He continued his studies, earning his Ph.D. in biochemistry at Cornell University. He went on to work as a research scientist at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) and then at Harvard University. In addition, he held tenured academic positions at Syracuse University and Dartmouth College before coming to MUSC in 1995.



Vournakis

In addition to his role at as a professor at MUSC, Dr. Vournakis also helped found the Foundation for Research Development (FRD) to facilitate the translation of all MUSC discoveries into products and services for the public's benefit.

Layton McCurdy, M.D., dean emeritus of the College of Medicine and distinguished university professor at MUSC, worked with Dr. Vournakis in the mid-1990s.

"When the FRD was founded, John was very involved with me in the early days. He was always fun and instructive to be with. I will miss him a lot," said McCurdy.

That sentiment was shared by many with whom he worked.

"John Vournakis was brilliant, hilarious, generous and kind," said Harriette Bayse, a former colleague at the FRD. "The world is a better place because of him, and I feel honored to have met and worked with him through the MUSC Foundation for Research Development."

An inventor of more than 25 U.S. and foreign patents, he was published in more than 150 scholarly works and was

the first South Carolina inductee into the National Academy of Inventors in 2015. Dr. Vournakis is credited with a long, industrious and fruitful career, going above and beyond in his pursuit to help improve the human condition.

Colleagues say Dr. Vournakis was a committed scientist, researcher, inventor and family man. He is survived by his wife, Karen, of Charleston, and his son, Christopher, of Huntington Beach, California.

A memorial service for Dr. Vournakis was held Jan. 23 at the Greek Orthodox Church of the Holy Trinity in Charleston. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the Hollings Cancer Center at the MUSC Foundation, 18 Bee Street, MSC450, Charleston, S.C. 29425, or a donation can be made by visiting the HCC website: <http://www.hollingscancercenter.org/development/ways-to-give.html>

Tributes to Dr. Vournakis by colleagues, friends

"John Vournakis, Ph.D. was a great friend and colleague. He truly cared about helping colleagues, particularly with funding research projects through Marine Polymers Technologies. He and I had many conversations surrounding the research project that he helped us get funded. Our conversations were always most enjoyable both from a scientific as well as a collegial aspect. He could always provide some interesting insights. I will miss him dearly."
—Perry V. Halushka, Ph.D., M.D., dean emeritus, College of Graduate Studies and distinguished university professor

"Immediately upon meeting John for the first time and very consistently thereafter it was apparent that John had a keen eye for good science, how to develop good science projects from their infancy onward and how to look at your science through the lens of a shrewd businessman. As such, John was quick to call you out if the science was shy of the mark on any level or if the good science wasn't so good for business. And he was always eager to push forward with "What's Next?" Though, as the years rolled by, I also learned from John that good business is a larger endeavor – one that can encompass humanitarian acts of philanthropy for the common good, as well."
—Demetri D. Spyropoulos, Ph.D.
Department of Pathology & Laboratory Medicine

"John was uniquely qualified and amazingly generous in providing MUSC faculty with scientific and practical advice

in advancing their innovation. From my perspective, John did this better than anyone else involved with MUSC, and his approach was always primarily directed to the benefit of the faculty member and the university."

—Larry Olanoff, M.D., Ph.D.,
MUSC Foundation for Research Development

"John was a founder and contributed to the FRD for over 20 years; his scientific and entrepreneurial expertise was truly valued. His presence, personality and contribution will be missed by all."

—Michael Rusnak
MUSC Foundation for Research Development

"Many thoughts flooded my mind and heart when I heard the unwelcome news of John Vournakis' passing. He was a good friend who left me with memories of a brilliant scientist, one with a warm and cheerful demeanor, one having a humble desire to be of help to others. John's going home is a deep loss to the many of us who knew him and have been shaped by his scientific insights, philosophical thoughts, and reflections on life. His passing marks the end of life on this earth, but we know it as the beginning of a new, much better life. John Vournakis, radiant in all of life... we miss him."

—Hal Chappelle, MUSC Foundation for Research Development

THE CATALYST

Editorial Office

MUSC Office of Public Affairs & Media Relations, 135 Cannon Street, Suite 403C, Charleston, SC 29425.

843-792-4107

Fax: 843-792-6723

Editor: Cindy Abole
catalyst@musc.edu

The Catalyst is published bi-monthly. Paid advertisements, which do not represent an endorsement by MUSC or the state of South Carolina, are handled by Island Publications Inc., Moultrie News, 134 Columbus St., Charleston, S.C., 843-958-7480 or 843-937-7489. E-mail: advertising@moultrienews.com.



RECYCLEMANIA TRIVIA – WEEK 3

Where is the reusable lab supply exchange?



Respond to
recycle@musc.edu
for a chance to win a prize

muscedu/gogreen

Last Week's Answer: Gloves are not recyclable on campus. However, empty aerosol cans and pipet tip boxes are!



MEET LAREECE



Lareece Reddy

Department and how long at MUSC
MUSC Office of Student Programs and Student Diversity; 1.5 years

Hometown

Queens, New York City

How are you changing what's possible at MUSC

By helping MUSC students have the best experience on campus as possible.

What music is in your player right now

Whitney Houston, Isley Brothers and Toni Braxton

A unique talent you have

Interior design

Greatest moment in your life

Being the first person in my family to graduate from a university (Class of 2014, Coastal Carolina University)

Favorite quote

"Everything happens for a reason. God's plan is the best plan."

MUSC
 Medical University of South Carolina

Department of Medicine
GRAND ROUNDS

Inaugural Helen Caldwell Spell Rare Disease Lectureship

Speaker
 Francis X. McCormick, M.D.
 Tyler Professor and Director, Center for Pediatric Critical Care & Sleep Medicine (University of Toronto)

Helen Caldwell Spell Lectureship
 The Helen Caldwell Spell Rare Disease Lectureship Fund was established by Helen and David Spell in honor and in appreciation for the excellent and compassionate care provided for their daughter, Helen, by the MUSC Department of Medicine.

Science, Synergy and Serendipity: Progress in LAM*
 Dr. Francis McCormick is a Senior Professorial Lecturer at the University of Toronto, Canada, and a Senior Lecturer at the University of Toronto, Canada. He is also a Senior Lecturer at the University of Toronto, Canada. He is also a Senior Lecturer at the University of Toronto, Canada.

March 1, 2018
 8:00 - 9:00 a.m.
 Biomedical Auditorium 150

*based on availability

MEDICINE.MUSC.EDU

Faces of Frankenstein: Health, Science, Diversity, and Literature in Film

FRANKENSTEIN TURNS 200

HEALTH • HUMANITIES • INNOVATION

Join MUSC's Office of Humanities, the College of Charleston, and an interdisciplinary panel of experts to view and discuss clips from a selection of Frankenstein films.

This event is part of MUSC's 200th anniversary celebration of Mary Shelley's Frankenstein, a novel that remains relevant in health science research, education, and practice as we seek to promote responsible research and innovation, empathy, teamwork, and diversity.

Where: Basic Science Building Auditorium (Rm 100), MUSC
 (Entrance is off of Ashley Avenue across street from Wicklife House)

When: February 27th, 5:30-7:30pm
 Welcome Reception at 5:30pm
 Program from 6-7:30pm

Free and Open to the Public. Join us!

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MUSC's LEAN for Life helps strengthen resolutions

BY KATHERINE LAWRENCE

lawrekat@musc.edu

Every January offers a fresh start to those eager and willing to tackle a New Year's resolution, confident that this year they will better budget expenditures, exercise more and, of course, eat healthier. But even with the best of intentions, if they're anything like the 80 percent of people whose resolutions failed in February last year, then it's essentially the same old song and dance: Make a resolution and abandon it soon thereafter.

But there is good news. MUSC's LEAN for Life, which stands for lifestyle, education, activity and nutrition, is helping lower-income Charlestonians achieve a healthier weight and combat the odds that may work against even the best laid weight loss plan.

LEAN for Life was developed and is run by the student organization Improved Access to Weight Management. The group evolved from the MUSC Weight Management Center (WMC) in the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences. The curriculum was initiated with a strong desire to reach those in the community and teach them healthy yet simple ways to manage their weight. Now, students from all six colleges at MUSC have the opportunity to be involved.

According to Sarah Hales, Ph.D., who supervises the program, outstanding collaboration between key players was the foundation for the program. "Many MUSC Weight Management Center clinicians were responsible for devising the original video modules to educate the students. They, in turn, are able to lead the classes."

Hales explained that she, along with Tonya Turner, associate director for clinical services, and Emily Young, a College of Medicine student and president of Improved Access to Weight Management, work with students from across campus to guide them through various topics working with patients who are overweight and obese.

Hales detailed their approach. "Aside from a general protocol, students are encouraged



Photo provided

College of Medicine student Emily Young and MUSC Weight Management Center's Dr. Sarah Hales discuss the successes of MUSC's LEAN for Life Program. The lifestyle, education, activity and nutrition program (LEAN) is managed by the student-run Improved Access to Weight Management program to help lower-income Lowcountry residents manage their weight and improve their quality of life.

to tailor our content and add additional content from their research disciplines, as long as WMC staff can ensure it is evidence-based and safe to include in the program. We absolutely encourage students to lead the classes that cover topics that fit their interests."

While program participants look to the students and supervisors for their expertise, it seems they also have a great deal to contribute. Hales explained. "It was very interesting to learn about the common obstacles that community members face when trying to change their diets and activity habits, especially when it comes to the social environment, for example, relationships, interactions and events with family and friends."

In that same vein, Hales shared an experience about a retired woman who lived alone. "She told us she considered other participants in the program to be part of her social network. The program was really great for her. She always showed up to the weekly meetings with sheer accountability for herself and her peers."

"This environment provides a unique opportunity to apply basic science principles learned in class, nutrition guidelines, as well as risk factors for disease and pathology, in very tangible ways for participants."

Shannon Blair

Hales laughed as she recalled a time when the woman got to class just a few minutes late, and as she opened the door, announced to everyone, "Y'all, I didn't think I was going to make it today. But I'm here, and I'm ready. Let's get to it!"

Hales explained they give each patient a binder to help keep track of the information they receive while involved in the program. So when that same participant came to a meeting with additional tips on portion control, the

supervisors and participants were ecstatic. Hales said she began rattling off ways to aid in healthier portion control by using smaller plates, bowls and Tupperware.

"She was a pleasure to work with, and I'm sure others in the class would have emphatically agreed," said Hales.

Shannon Blair, a College of Medicine student involved in LEAN for Life, said she, too, had much to learn from participants.

"The group we had last spring was especially impressive in their commitment to holding one another accountable for coming to class and reinforcing the positive effects of social support for weight management," Blair said. "It was cool to see them all exchanging contact information, even as the program concluded."

The program promotes ways for the participants to live healthier lives so that in addition to losing weight, they can better manage chronic health issues such as diabetes and hypertension. During the classes, they learn effective exercises they can do at home without extra equipment and how to make their favorite recipes healthier.

Blair expressed how grateful she is to be an integral part of such a dynamic program. "This environment provides a unique opportunity to apply basic science principles learned in class, nutrition guidelines, as well as risk factors for disease and pathology, in very tangible ways for participants. It's rewarding to directly see them work to achieve their goals."

She's also been able to utilize techniques and strategies taught in LEAN for Life to make recommendations to family members and friends who have an interest in making healthier choices. She is committed to making a difference in the lives of those who need this resource.

"Access to accurate health information and health care services in general are huge barriers to health that unfortunately plague a lot of the country. Charleston is no exception, but LEAN for Life is trying to help fill some of those gaps."

Hales said that LEAN for Life provides an opportunity for Charleston residents to participate in free transformative classes that run eight to 10 weeks. If clinicians or practitioners have patients who would be interested, Hales hopes they will share the program's information with them or contact her at 843-792-CARE. Participants must be 18 years of age or older, qualify as low income and have a body mass index of 25 or greater.

IMAGINE NATION

During the months of February and March, the MUSC enterprise leadership editorial calendar is focused on our Imagine MUSC 2020 goal to Embrace Diversity and Inclusion. The timing could not be better. Not only are we celebrating black history and women physicians this month, but together we've recently made especially significant progress in this important area.

Be sure to click on the rotating banners on musc.edu and our diversity web pages to learn more about just a few of our colleagues from across the institution who are changing what's possible here at MUSC. Also,

please take a few moments to watch MUSC employees in a new video as they reflect on the importance of D&I on our culture. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VMYAsvrTCao>



RECENT WINS IN DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION

❑ MUSC was recently ranked No. 53 out of 250 organizations on the Forbes 2018 first-ever roster of America's Best Employers for Diversity. In addition, MUSC ranked No. 6 out of 20 institutions in the education industry.

❑ MUSC Health has been named Best New Program of the Carolinas by Virginia Supplier Diversity Council for working to identify minorities, women and small businesses as vendors for the MUSC Shawn Jenkins Children's Hospital and Pearl Tourville Women's Pavilion construction project.

❑ MUSC will again be the the health and wellness sponsor for Charleston Black Expo in March. We will engage with approximately 5,000 visitors, providing health screenings and sharing information about career and educational paths.

❑ MUSC is launching a veterans resource group to identify and support veterans who are part of the student body.

❑ For the first time, the MUSC Student Government Association has elected a vice president for diversity and inclusion. Congratulations to Keeland Williams, a third-year College of Medicine Student, for taking on this important leadership role.

❑ To learn even more about some of innovative programs and work in diversity happening at MUSC, visit the Imagine MUSC 2020 website D&I pages at <http://academicdepartments.musc.edu/musc2020>

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OUR STRATEGY *for the future*

MUSC Board of
Trustees Meeting

UPDATE

MUSC and Medical University Hospital Authority Board of Trustees held their regular scheduled meeting, Feb. 8 and Feb. 9, focusing on progress reports for the academic, research and patient care areas of the enterprise. With a fiscal year that runs parallel with the state (July 1 through June 30), MUSC is more than halfway through fiscal year 2018.

"As we enter the second half of the fiscal year, we are making positive strides across the enterprise as reflected by our recent activity in the areas of diversity, fundraising and research activities," said David J. Cole, M.D., FACS, president of MUSC.

In the Diversity and Inclusion report, provided by Willette Burnham-Williams, Ph.D., chief diversity officer, university, the board heard about the recent ranking for



Burnham-Williams

MUSC as No. 53 out of 250 organizations on the Forbes 2018 first-ever roster of America's Best Employers for Diversity. In addition, MUSC ranked No. 6 out of 20 institutions in the education industry.

"What's wonderful about this award is that this is not one we applied for," Burnham-Williams said. "Forbes did their own investigation to identify appropriate recipients, and we are proud to be among those who Forbes selected. This important recognition is perfectly aligned with and true to our commitment to the

Imagine MUSC 2020 goal to embrace diversity and inclusion." To read about the methodology used to create the Forbes 2018 list of America's Best Employers for Diversity, see the news release at: http://academicdepartments.musc.edu/pr/pressrelease/2018/forbes_diversity.htm

Additionally, MUSC Health was recently named best new program of the Carolinas by Virginia Supplier Diversity Council. "This speaks to the work that we continue to do to identify minorities, women and small businesses as vendors that are a part of the MUSC Shawn Jenkins Children's Hospital and Pearl Tourville Women's Pavilion construction project," Burnham-Williams said.

In other initiatives, she noted that for the second consecutive year, MUSC is the health and wellness sponsor for Black Expo, which draws some 5,000 participants each spring. MUSC is launching a veterans resource group to identify and support veterans who are part of the student body. Plus, for the first time, the MUSC Student Government Association has elected a vice president for diversity and inclusion.

"We continue to be proud of an organization that is committed to making meaningful cultural change," she said. "These achievements demonstrate we are becoming a national model for what living diversity and inclusion looks like in academic higher education institutions."

Reporting on philanthropy, Jim Fisher, vice president for Development and Alumni Affairs, told the board that from July 1 through mid-January, fund-raising initiatives have garnered \$37.7 million in new gifts and

See **UPDATE** on page 15

FSBO: Mt Pleasant home in a quiet neighborhood located at the base of the Ravenel Bridge, close to all areas of Mount Pleasant, Daniel Island, Sullivan's Island, Downtown Charleston and the area's top medical facilities. 3 bedroom, 2.5 bath, with a private fenced-in stone and deck courtyard. Appliances, carpet, air conditioner, and roof are new. First floor consist of the master bedroom w/ full bath, kitchen, half bath, living room and dining room - both LR & DR having access to back courtyard. Upstairs consist of two bedrooms, one full bath, laundry room, and fold-down stairs to attic. **Sandpiper Pointe** has a beautiful pool/recreation area, and is only footsteps from the Charleston Harbor waterfront park. The monthly dues approx. \$60. This property is an investment property until July 2020, with excellent tenants in place and a profitable income. \$435,000 Please contact Lyn at 843-467-3257. **Serious buyers only - no realtor calls please.**

Operating room of future features less clutter, more technology

MUSC, Clemson collaborate to create safer, more efficient OR

Staff Report

A joint research team, including faculty from Clemson University and MUSC, has unveiled a high-fidelity, mock operating room at the Clemson Design Center in Charleston. The prototype is based on three years' worth of research of past literature on operating room functionality; observation of best practices in updated, modernized operating rooms; and input from nurses, doctors and anesthesiologists on how the new operating room should function.

Lead investigators on the joint MUSC-Clemson project, which is called Realizing Improved Patient Care Through Human-Centered Design in the OR, are Scott Reeves, M.D., the John E. Mahaffey, M.D. Endowed Chair and MUSC Department of Anesthesia and Perioperative Medicine chairman, and Anjali Joseph, Ph.D., the Spartanburg Regional Health System Endowed Chair in Architecture and director of the Center for Health Facilities Design and Testing at Clemson University.

The goal of the project is to analyze every aspect of the

See OR on page 7



Photo by Mic Smith

Department of Anesthesia and Perioperative Medicine's Dr. Scott Reeves and Dr. Anjali Joseph of Clemson University's Center for Health Facilities Design and Testing examine the equipment in the mock OR.



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OR *Continued from Page Six*

current operating room standard and redesign it with efficiency and improved patient care in mind. Leaders from the South Carolina Surgical Quality Collaborative, led by Mary Lockett, M.D., will help vet the group's findings.

"We've taken a comprehensive, evidence-based approach to redesigning operating rooms to create an evidence-based design solution that simultaneously tackles problems related to workflow, equipment design and the built environment — major areas that impact patient safety outcomes," Joseph said.

The new operating room design aims to:

❑ improve staff safety by reducing clutter and trip hazards

❑ reduce surface contamination through material selection and improved ergonomics

❑ support team communication by refining sightlines and visibility

❑ adapt as care delivery and technology change without significant cost or disruptions through use of modular wall panels

The team of researchers, engineers and clinical specialists involved in this project received a four-year, \$4 million research grant from the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality in 2015 to research and develop a safer, more efficient operating room.

"We want to establish a new standard on what should be considered when you build an OR, and the first two years of this project have been dedicated to that end," Reeves said. "Now in our third year, we've designed and constructed a simulation of this future state OR, complete with mannequins and software that will enable comprehensive testing of the design. It's exciting to be at this point in the project, and we are eager to start collecting more data and feedback."

Most operating rooms across the nation consist of a cramped, square white room with a patient bed in the middle of the space. Doctors say they are antiquated, confined spaces that do not accommodate today's high-tech surgical equipment, complex processes and human interactions. Distractions and interruptions are major causes of mistakes during surgery and often lead to patient harm. Additionally, up to five percent of patients who undergo surgery will develop a surgical site infection.

Smarter, evidence-based design has the potential to make operating rooms safer for patients and health care personnel alike, Joseph said. "The standard OR does not support the needs of the patients, nurses or surgeons, so we're excited to have reached the testing point for these new concepts and to

"When institutions of excellence align their interests and work together to achieve a common goal, patients win."

Dr. Scott Reeves

demonstrate what we've learned through this mock OR and simulation experience."

The first-of-its-kind project covers three specific areas of research designed to improve patient care and efficiency in a future operating room design:

❑ unmasking of anesthesia-related alarms and communications

❑ traffic flow and door openings

❑ an integrated operating room suite design

The design and fabrication of the prototype room were developed by a team of graduate students in the Architecture + Health program at Clemson under the direction of Alumni Distinguished Professor David Allison, in collaboration with the research team, MUSC clinicians and industry partners.

Reeves and Joseph agree that this



Photo by Mic Smith

The operating room of the future may look something like this.

groundbreaking project would not have become a reality without people teaming up to improve patient safety and care.

"When institutions of excellence align their interests and work together to achieve a common goal, patients win," Reeves said.

"It has been a really wonderful relationship between Clemson and MUSC that has made this all possible," Joseph said. "We have the researchers, expertise and the manpower to do all of this, and MUSC has the leadership and know-how it takes to implement it."

RecycleMania!

February & March 2018

Get prizes for answering weekly recycling trivia questions coming soon!

**Trivia questions also on
[facebook.com/muscgogreen](https://www.facebook.com/muscgogreen)**



RecycleMania is a friendly 8-week competition among Universities around the nation to see who can recycle more! Do your part & recycle as much as possible!

recycle@musc.edu

NIGERIA *Continued from Page One*

secession established a headquarters and his personal bunker at the local Madonna High School.

Ikemeh's village became a military base and subsequently, a target for bloodshed.

Biafra, a former region located in the Christian southeastern part of the country, was fighting for independence from the Nigerian government. Instead of liberation, the people endured unimaginable genocide, starvation and loss. Images of starving Biafran children – naked, ribs showing through their stretched skin, stomachs distended from extreme malnourishment, arms and legs that looked like sticks – were plastered across the Western evening news, shocking the world and bringing attention to the death of 2 million people, half of whom were kids. Those who survived became refugees in their own country – including the Ikemehs.

Before the civil war, Ikemeh's family was doing well. His mother had a restaurant in Port Harcourt, his dad a supply business. But once the war set in, the Nigerian administration instituted a total economic blockade, ensuring the Biafran food supply was crippled.

Soon, his family of 12 had no home, no source of nutritious food or prospects for employment. They were living in between the bush and a refugee camp. For most Biafrans, plants, termites, crickets and grasshoppers were the closest thing to nourishment they could find.

While life was bleak, Ikemeh's greatest joy was attending school. He loved science. But many days, it seemed, an education was just not to be – in Nigeria school isn't free. The cost of elementary school at the time was \$1 per year.

But the price he paid was actually higher than that – just not in money. The headmaster would perform roll call, and kids like him who hadn't paid their tuition were called forward during assembly.

"I really wanted to go to school," Ikemeh said. "Kids who could pay would go to class. Kids who could not were flogged with a tree branch in front of everyone and had to walk home. Looking back, it was as if it was the child's fault that they couldn't pay. I'm one of 10 children. My parents could not afford to pay for all of us to go to school. Seeing those kids, the feeling it brought back, the memories of all the things I had to do, I realized I am a survivor. I had to do what I had to do to raise my tuition."



Father John Bosco prepares communion during Mass locally at St. John's Catholic Church in North Charleston.

"HE LEADETH ME"

Some time back, Ikemeh read a book that made a lasting impression – "He Leadeth Me." Little did he know how very true these words would be in his own life.

"When I arrived in Nigeria and saw kids hawking in the streets and mothers with shovels and headpans waiting to be hired at construction places, something touched me. To be honest, I never had the experience I had that day. It came to me completely different."

He said he knew God was leading him to do something transformational. Those street kids were putting themselves at risk for rape, kidnapping and abuse to earn money, when they needed to be in school. He knew education would be the only way they could possibly have any chance at a future. He also believed he was being led to make it happen.

"Seeing those kids on a school day, I wondered how many of them were doing what I was doing when I was a kid. Knowing what education did for me, I was determined to give them a school as a way of giving back."

He remembered the kindness of those who helped him go to school and shape his love of God and those who treated him and his family in the refugee camp. They inspired him and provided hope.

"At first I wanted to be a physician," he said. "Thanks to the influence of the doctors



Photos provided

Before they can build a school, there needed to be a road to the village. Abakaliki women provided the labor to build the access road and covered bridge. Today that road and bridge have been completed.

who took care of us in the refugee camp, I wanted to be like one of them. I would visualize where I would build my clinic. I would visualize myself taking care of the poor for free – just like they were taking care of us. That was my dream."

But at other times, he saw himself as a man of the cloth.

"Sunday was a good day for us; we would play soccer and play on the fields, until one day, I saw kids serving Mass in one of the processions."

He was taken by the beauty of the crisp white surplices and long flowing red cassocks the altar boys wore. At the age of 12, he joined their ranks.

He said God brought a priest into his life – one who would become his champion and change his future forever. When Father Kevin Ikpah visited their church and saw him serving Mass, he invited Ikemeh to live in the church quarters that housed orphans and other poor children.

"Oh, my goodness! What a gift! Little did Father Kevin know, he was giving me an opportunity to continue at school. I was at a point where my dad said we can't do it. He was offering me an opportunity for free food and free school," he said, his face beaming.

That one gesture set him on a course for success. He joined the Dominican Order. He graduated from the University of Ibadan,

Nigeria, with degrees in philosophy and theology and a master's in clinical psychology. He then earned another graduate degree in systematic theology and his Doctor of Sacred Theology from the Jesuit School of Theology at Berkeley, California.

In 2005, Ikemeh relocated to South Carolina to serve the men and women in uniform at Joint Base Charleston. He also accepted a chaplain position at MUSC where he provides comfort and support to patients, students and staff.

HIS DREAM – THE KARIS SCHOOL

Architects said the school would require 10 acres of land. For the next several years, he bought little parcels of land, as he was able to afford them. By 2014, he had the property.

Then his contract with the military ended. "That's what was giving me the extra money. I only had MUSC and couldn't even pay my mortgage. Talk about depression," he said. "I have all these dreams and now where is the money going to come from? What am I going to do next?"

One morning he woke up at 2 o'clock, knowing he should start a nonprofit. He shared his idea with Father Gabe Smith at St. Joseph's in West Ashley. "Why not," his friend asked, encouragingly.

Ikemeh shared his dream with the

See NIGERIA on page 9



Father Ikemeh, second left, visits with Abakaliki children before villagers began to clear the bush. The children should have been in school, but their families are too poor. His mission is to build a school so that the children have an opportunity to learn and succeed in life.

Photos provided

Ikemeh has a different vision. He wants these kids to finally have a real shot, a real school – not just classrooms, but laboratories; not simply blackboards on which titrations and computations are explained, but real chemistry and biology equipment they can experiment with; not just paper and pencils, but laptop computers they can learn on.

The school will also have good teachers, nourishment that doesn't include rodents, purified water, safe and comfortable dormitories, a playground, a soccer field and other exercise areas, he said. And in the wake of the 2014 kidnapping of 276 school girls by the terrorist group Boko Haram and the recent Feb. 21 attack on a Nigerian girls' school where 90 girls are still missing, there will be a security fence.

"This school would be better than what I had. If it is not, it will not bring out the best in them. I want a school that whatever be their talents, they can develop them."

Kids like him fuel his mission. The poor will receive free tuition. Funds will be generated from families around Nigeria who want safe, high-quality schools for their children.

"Boarding schools beyond the standards of their communities attract people from other parts of Nigeria. Think about the girls taken by Boko Haram. As long as the school is good and safe, parents who can afford it will send their kids to study there. They can pay the tuition and that will offset tuition for the locals who can't afford it."

Ikemeh said this will be transformational for them.

"It literally means opening the world to them – giving them opportunity to compete in the world, because right now they

See NIGERIA on page 15

NIGERIA *Continued from Page Eight*

parishioners, who rallied around the project. The church commits two special collections a year to support the Karis School project. Additionally, the African Education Outreach was created to raise awareness and money for the school.

GOD'S NEEDIEST CHILDREN

He calls them the poor of Yahweh – the local children who have nothing, whose families can't afford tuition. According to the World Bank, the average yearly income in Abakaliki is

\$2,450.

To try to get ahead is an uphill task, Ikemeh said.

It's not that these children don't have the latest clothes, he said. "They have nothing. Often times I'm going with suitcases of shoes and clothing. When we were clearing and bulldozing, the rats started running, and the kids were chasing them. That's a big meal for them. They were barefoot and completely naked chasing rats. That is their world, unfortunately."

Today, the one-classroom schools once constructed by missionaries before the war are now dilapidated and roofless. Children study under the shade of nearby trees.



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Campuses turn to reading, discussion celebrating *Frankenstein*

BY CINDY ABOLE

aboleca@musc.edu

In a grotesque experiment gone both right and wrong, a scientist reanimates living body parts to produce a monstrous creation that can think and feel. Throughout the murder, chaos and passion, much is learned about humanity. This year the “*Frankenstein*” monster turns 200.

MUSC’s bicentennial celebration of Mary Shelley’s gothic novel “*Frankenstein*” will feature an evening of discussion with an interdisciplinary panel of experts.

The program, Faces of *Frankenstein*: Health, Science, Diversity and Literature in Film, will take place Tuesday, Feb. 27 at 5:30 p.m. at Basic Science Building Auditorium (Room 100). The event is sponsored collaboratively by the new Office of Humanities (within MUSC’s Center for Academic Excellence) and the College of Charleston. Its purpose is to provide a retrospective of the 200-year-old novel, which has been used to explore biomedical ethics, technology and social media relate to the book and how it influences today’s innovations and discoveries especially in such areas as stem cell research, organ donation and harvesting, cloning, genetic testing and animal to human transplants.

Office of Humanities director and professor Lisa Kerr, Ph.D., turned to MUSC Imagine 2020 administrative fellow Jo Sullivan to initiate the planning. Kerr also wanted to involve long-time University Humanities Committee colleague and College of Charleston associate professor Kathy Béres Rogers, Ph.D., in the collaboration. Rogers, who teaches British Romanticism in the Department of English at the college, was able to recruit history department colleague Scott Poole, Ph.D. an expert on monsters in American history to share his expertise in film.

“Shelly’s novel, like most great literature, is both a product of its time and a timeless text with themes that remain relevant in the 21st century,” said Kerr. “At its heart, it’s a novel about how our desire to understand and improve the world must be approached not only with knowledge and innovation but with empathy, compassion, reflection and a sense of civic responsibility.”

The program’s panel was carefully selected according to Rogers. The five panel participants include experts in humanities,

film, diversity and inclusion and women’s health.

“One of my interests in reading this text is the issue of post-partum depression. In the novel, Dr. Victor Frankenstein’s rejection of the creature immediately after his ‘birth’ is very reminiscent of how author Mary Shelley, a young mother, may have felt. That’s why we invited Dr. Angela Dempsey, a specialist in the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology,” said Beres.

To coincide with the Feb. 27 event, the Office of Humanities sponsored a *Frankenstein* “Monster Read” event, distributing books and challenging students and other participants to read Shelley’s book and form small reading groups across campus to discuss it. According to Kerr, the Monster Read event has already surpassed expectations with at least one group formed in each of MUSC’s six colleges, as well as several other groups representing MUSC Health.

“This has been especially exciting because our goal in the Office of Humanities is to build bridges between the university and MUSC Health to help remind us that we are one place,” Kerr said.

Both Kerr and Rogers hope the *Frankenstein* initiative sparks conversations



Frankenstein 200 Initiative

Tuesday, Feb. 27

5:30 to 7:30 p.m.

BSB Auditorium, Rm. 100

about compassionate care, effective communication and responsible innovation – factors that do affect patient care and outcomes among the MUSC faculty, staff

and students and the greater Charleston community. Kerr also hopes programs like this help the campus community understand that the arts and humanities provide methods for investigating issues related to the health sciences.

“It’s through the humanities that we learn, for example, how various individuals experience an illness and what barriers they may face in seeking care. The humanities also help us develop, communication, observation and analytical skills. If we teach students these things, we better prepare them to deliver high-quality, patient-and family-centered care,” Kerr said.

As for the new Office of Humanities, Kerr hopes to continue hosting more common reading experiences each year. Following the *Frankenstein* Monster Read, her team will survey participants and make improvements. The group will also launch a new Scholars of Humanities and Arts in Research and Education (SHARE) grants program to help with scholarship and research in the arts, humanities and health.

For information, visit <http://academicdepartments.musc.edu/humanities>.

CONVERSATION CAFE
3.7.18

**RESIDENTIAL SOLAR
INFO SESSION**

**Wednesday
March 7th**

1-2 pm

MUSC Library Rm. 119

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**MUSC Foundation for
Research Development (MUSC FRD)
Lunch and Learn**

**Ximbio - How to Commercialize
Research Tool Reagents**

Register at: <https://is.gd/ximbio>
Lunch provided if you register

Wednesday, February 28, 2018
MUSC Bioengineering Building 112
12:00pm to 1:00pm

Do you have a bioscience reagent or material to share?
Would you like to help make MUSC reagents available to other scientists around the world to advance their research in a paid internship?

Ximbio has teamed up with the technology transfer office at the Medical University of South Carolina (the MUSC Foundation for Research Development) in a joint mission to make research tools, such as cell lines, antibodies and mouse models from laboratories here on campus widely available to accelerate research globally. As part of the program, Ximbio is looking for a graduate student or post-doc to become a Ximbio ambassador in a part-time paid internship to coordinate activities on campus. Come to this presentation to learn how you can make money for you and your lab by commercializing research tool reagents, or if you are interested in the paid internship program!

Featured Presenter


Robert Bondaryk, PhD
Global Head
Ximbio

Ximbio is passionate about making it easier for scientists to find the right reagents for their experiments. Ximbio is the world's largest non-profit dedicated exclusively to life science research reagents of all kinds, a part of Cancer Research UK, the world's largest cancer research charitable foundation, based in London. Ximbio works with more than 50 universities and research institutions around the world, making their reagents available on www.ximbio.com, and helping to commercialize their reagents to provide additional funding for these institutions.

**MUSC
Foundation for Research Development**

For questions contact Scott Davis, Senior Licensing Manager at FRD (sdavisco@musc.edu)

Experts working on Mass Violence Center discuss Fla. shooting

They see yet again how important the center will be

BY HELEN ADAMS

adamshel@musc.edu

When news broke about the school shooting in Parkland, Florida, a lot of people shook their heads and watched in horror. Rochelle Hanson, Ph.D., got on the phone. “I reached out to several folks I worked with when I was there.”

The MUSC psychologist recently trained mental health experts in Broward County, Florida, where the shooting happened, in how to work with children and families who have experienced traumatic events. So yesterday, she reached out to the people she worked with. “I said, ‘What can we do? We can give you information, handouts, put you in touch with people as needed.’”

It was exactly the type of situation the new national center at MUSC is being developed to deal with. Hanson is part of the team working on the Mass Violence and Victimization Resource Center. So is Connie Best, Ph.D., another clinical psychologist and professor in the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Science.

“At some point my sadness has an edge of being very frustrated as a nation,” Best said. “It’s very frustrating to say we as a nation don’t have a plan to prevent this.”

There may not be an agreed-upon plan to prevent mass shootings, but there is an effort to make sure people affected by such violence get the best treatment possible. That’s where the MUSC-based center, funded by an \$18 million grant from the federal Office for Victims of Crime, will come in.

“We need to look at it from a scientist’s viewpoint,” Best said.

Two months into a three-year effort to create the national resource center, some pieces are already beginning to fall into place. The government grant pays for 20 full-time employees for the center, which will take a data-driven approach to determining what works and what does not when it comes to helping people in the aftermath of mass violence. It will also become a central site for resources for communities that find themselves dealing with large, deadly incidents.

Hanson said research will play an important role. “We’ll do surveys, interviews, focus groups. We want to fine-tune as a nation the way we respond, developing protocols that can be used.”

There will also be a Mass Violence Victimization and Resource Center website, with resources for everyone from survivors to first responders to doctors and nurses who care for victims, and the MUSC team is developing training and self-help apps.

But MUSC isn’t going it alone. It’s working with other schools to develop the center, including the Boston University School of Public Health and the University of California-Los Angeles, along with mayors, attorneys general and non-governmental organizations.

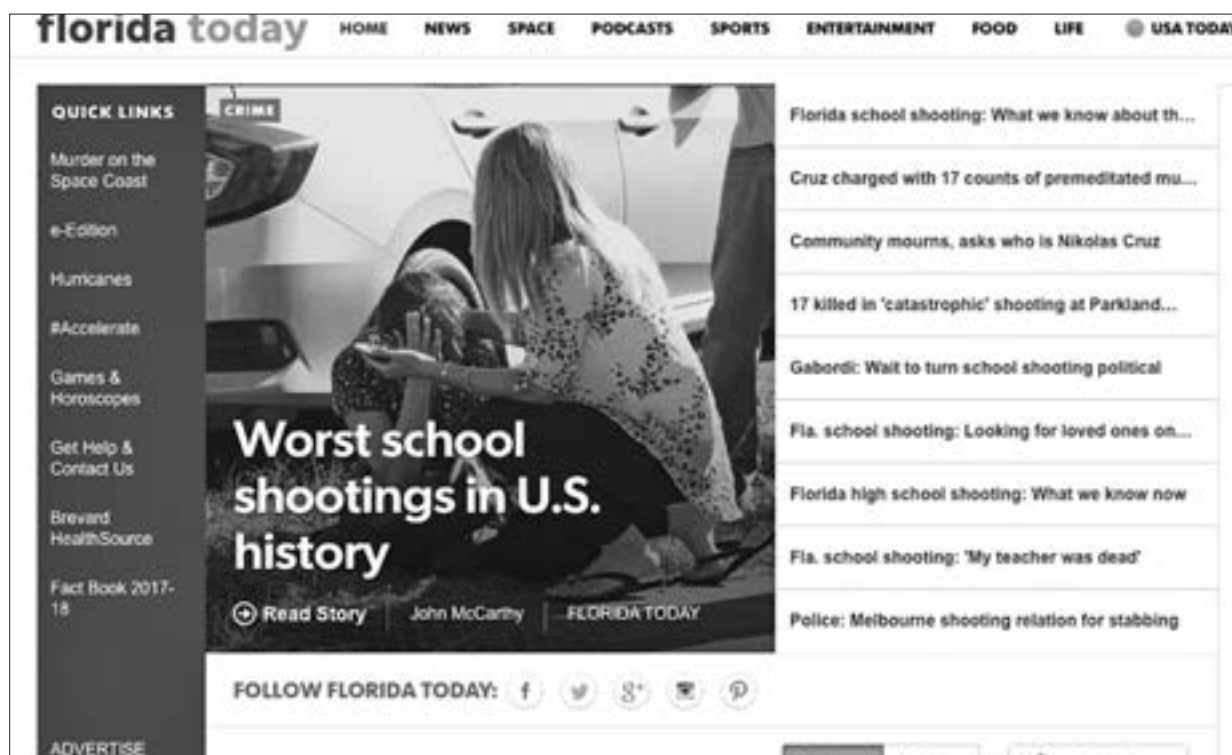


Image provided

This image from the website floridatoday.com shows some of the coverage of a school shooting that killed 17 people.

“Research will play an important role. We’ll do surveys, interviews, focus groups. We want to fine-tune as a nation the way we respond, developing protocols that can be used.”

Dr. Rochelle Hanson

Best, who has been involved in caring for survivors of church shootings in Charleston, South Carolina, and Sutherland Springs, Texas, and helped colleagues in the aftermath of the Las Vegas concert shootings, said mass violence has effects that go far beyond the people who were threatened or hurt. It impacts the rescuers on the scene, loved ones of the victims and survivors, and even strangers who weren’t anywhere near the incident but were emotionally affected by seeing news reports about it.

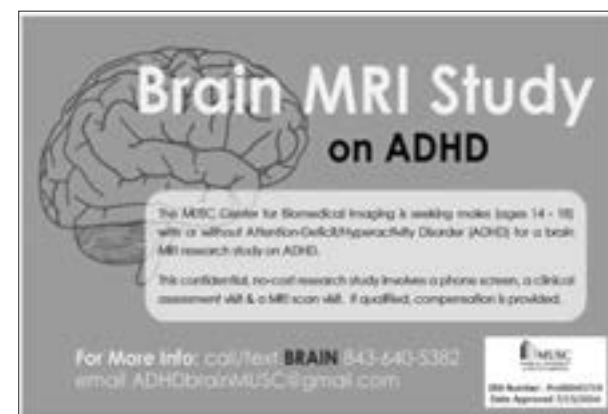
“It really is a violation of feelings of safety that all of us have as human beings,” Best said. “We’re a community of people.”

“With that in mind, Hanson offered some advice for families in the wake of the Florida shooting. “A lot of it will depend on the age of the child. Adolescents, in general, are going through a tumultuous time trying to figure out who they are and tend to pull away from adults. Adults need to

let these kids know they’re there, but kids also need to have permission to be by themselves. Their peers are extremely important to them. Have an open door. Be there when they reach out.”

She also suggested encouraging them to take breaks from social media. When it comes to younger kids, Hanson said parents should limit their exposure to information about traumatic events.

“The good news is most kids are going to be OK,” she said. “The way kids respond is so directly connected to how their parents are doing. And parents can remind their children of all the positives — the way the community comes together and of all the adults available to help keep them safe.”



‘What ifs’ show importance of inclusion

MUSC Summit speakers say embracing diversity is the right thing to do

BY HELEN ADAMS

adamshel@musc.edu

What if Matilda Evans, the first African-American woman licensed to practice medicine in South Carolina, had been able to go to medical school in her home state?

Jerrell Moore, a strategic adviser and diversity expert who spoke at the recent Inclusion to Innovation Summit at MUSC said it would have given the state powerful bragging rights. “Let’s talk about credit and why does that matter. We need industry here. When people come here to set up companies, they want to know what its rich history is,” Moore said.

South Carolina’s history could have included Evans as a breakthrough medical student. But since the state’s schools were segregated at the time, in-state medical school wasn’t an option for her. Instead, the Aiken woman went to medical school in Pennsylvania, graduating in 1897 and returning to South Carolina to practice medicine.

Evans was an important innovator in her field. She set up a medical practice in an era when that was unusual for a woman and almost unheard-of for a black woman. She also established a hospital, convinced schools to offer regular health exams to kids and became an advocate for preventive care for people of all ages.

Her story perfectly illustrates the idea behind the Inclusion to Innovation Summit at MUSC. When companies and schools are inclusive, it can benefit them, lead to innovation and link them to important developments. When they aren’t, they miss out.

MUSC President David Cole said that’s an important message for the United States, the Charleston community and MUSC. “We have to get beyond the noise and embrace the realities of who we are and what we are doing,” Cole said. “We cannot be fully our best unless we have a diversity of ideas,

“When we come together, and we have great diversity, and we have great talent, and we have an inclusive context, we get bonus factors in our group ability to innovate.”

Damon Williams

thoughts, presence, background, viewpoint, all of the above. It’s the right thing to do. It’s who we need to be.”

Damon Williams, a nationally known diversity and inclusion scholar, agreed. He said innovation is all about shaking things up. “You’re asking, ‘Why not?’ You’re asking, ‘What if?’ You’re saying why don’t we have more individuals of X background in this environment?” You’re asking, ‘Why can’t we seem to expand this pipeline?’”

Innovators seek solutions wherever they can find them, Williams said. “Innovation is not about staying in your box.”

It’s not about homogeneity, either, he said. “Research shows that diversity and great talent are a better combination than homogeneity and great talent. When we come together, and we have great diversity, and we have great talent, and we have an inclusive context, we get bonus factors in our group ability to innovate.”

Another speaker at the MUSC summit gave examples showing the value of variety. Michelle Espino, an assistant professor at the University of Maryland, focused on the assets of people from Spanish-speaking families.

“With any person we are interacting with, we need to be thinking about the type of capital that they have. The first one is aspirational capital. It’s basically the ability to maintain hopes and dreams. Another one is linguistic capital. Being bilingual actually



Photos provided

Anton Gunn, chief diversity officer for MUSC Health, speaks at the Inclusion to Innovation Summit.



MUSC President Dr. David Cole says diversity and inclusion are among MUSC’s core values.

is an asset,” she said. “But Spanish is not as valued.”

It should be, she said. Espino also cited what she called navigational capital. “Knowing how to maneuver through bureaucracy. There are a lot of students who work as brokers through their families and institutions. This is an asset. But we don’t think about that.”

Latinos have social and familial capital as well, she said, with strong networks. “Your whole life experience helps put you where you are in your life.”

MUSC has to keep working to recognize the assets of people from a wide range of backgrounds, Cole said. It has a diversity

and inclusion strategic plan, diversity officers and a series of honors related to its efforts, including:

- being included on Forbes’ list of best employers for diversity
- having a faculty member become the first woman and first African-American from South Carolina elected to the National Academy of Medicine
- receiving the 2017 Health Professions Higher Education Excellence in Diversity Award from INSIGHT Into Diversity magazine

Being included in Becker’s Hospital

See **SUMMIT** on page 14

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 Dental Medicine

Mark E. Ludlow

Zimmer Biomet Educational Grant Agreement - Mark Ludlow & Oral Rehabilitation, \$128,000, from Zimmer Biomet CMF & Thoracic (Product Donation), October 27, 2017 - June 30, 201

Michelle E Ziegler

James B. Edwards College of Dental Medicine Special Care Dental Clinic, \$100,000, from MUSC Foundation for Research Development (FRD) (20439), October 13, 2017 - October 12, 2018

College of Nursing

Gigi Smith

Enhanced Screening, Brief Intervention, & Referral (SBIRT) Training through Multi-Modal Medication Assisted Treatment Instruction, \$465,000, from Duke Endowment (6709-SP), January 1, 2018 - December 31, 2020

Melba Hernandez Tejada

Elder Abuse Assessment Training and Mental Health Services Program, \$267,723, from SC Dept. of Public Safety (1V17026), October 1, 2017 - September 30, 2018

Terri O. Fowler

Building the Healthcare Workforce to Serve the Underserved, \$325,000, from MUSC Foundation (6622-SP), December 1, 2016 - November 30, 2018

College of Medicine

Dermatology & Dermatologic Surgery

Lara W. Lee

A Multicenter, Randomized, Double-Blind, Placebo-Controlled, Phase 3 Study to Evaluate the Efficacy and Safety of Baricitinib in Adult Patients with Moderate to Severe Atopic Dermatitis, \$175,136, from Eli Lilly (I4V-MC-JAHL), November 7, 2017 - November 30, 2020

Medicine

Brian A. Houston

A Prospective, Multi-Center, Double-Blind, Randomized, Placebo-Controlled, Parallel-Group Study to Assess the Efficacy and Safety of Macitentan in Patients with Pulmonary Hypertension after Left Ventr, \$184,740,

from Pharmaceutical Research Associates (AC-055-205 - Soprano), October 30, 2017 - October 30, 2020

Carolyn D. Britten

A Phase 1 Dose Escalation and Cohort Expansion Study of TSR-022, an Anti-TIM-3 Monoclonal Antibody, in Patients With Advanced Solid Tumors, \$470,072, from Tesaro, Inc. (PR-4020-01-001), October 23, 2017 - October 22, 2022

Carolyn D. Britten

A Phase 1b, Randomized, Open-Label Study of PEGylated Recombinant Human Hyaluronidase (PEGPH20) in Combination With Cisplatin Plus Gemcitabine and PEGPH20 in Combination With Atezolizumab and Cisplati, \$361,201, from Halozyme, Inc (HALO-110-101), November 10, 2017 - November 9, 2022

Federica Del Monte

Mechanisms of Exposure-Induced Tissue Functional and Pathological Changes in a Mouse Model of Alzheimer's Disease, \$214,401, from Ohio State Univ./NIH (R01AG057046/60061308), July 15, 2017 - March 31, 2022

Frank Cuoco

The DIAMOND-AF Study: A Randomized Controlled Clinical Evaluation of the DiamondTemp(TM) System for the Treatment of Paroxysmal Atrial Fibrillation, \$313,150, from Advanced Cardiac Therapeutics (TP0599), December 7, 2017 - December 6, 2019

Holly G. Mitchell

A Phase 2, Multi-Center, Randomized, Double-Blind, Placebo-Controlled Study to Evaluate the Efficacy and Safety of CC-220 in Subjects with Active Systemic Lupus Erythematosus, \$170,474, from Celgene Corporation (CC-220-SLE-002), October 30, 2017 - October 29, 2020

Michael G. Janech

Angiotensin Peptide Metabolism and Dynamic Modeling in Renal Cells, \$258,496, from Dialysis Clinics, Inc. (#C-4005 (013 - West Ashley), July 1, 2017 - June 30, 2018

Nilesh I Lodhia

A 5-year Longitudinal Observational Study of Patients Undergoing Therapy for Inflammatory Bowel Disease, \$511,750, from Target Pharmsolutions, Inc. (TARGET-IBD), December 21, 2017 - December 31, 2022

Patrick A. Flume

A Phase 3, Open-Label Study to Evaluate the

Pharmacokinetics, Safety, and Tolerability of VX-661 in Combination with Ivacaftor in Subjects 6 through 11 Years of Age with Cystic Fibrosis, Homozygous or, \$164,040, from Quintiles Pacific, Inc. (VX15-661-113), September 26, 2016 - September 30, 2018

Theodore Gourdin

A Phase 1b Dose-escalation and Dose-expansion Study of Enfortumab Vedotin (ASG-22CE) in Combination with Immune Checkpoint Inhibitor (CPI) Therapy for Treatment of Patients with Locally Advanced Or, \$364,399, from Seattle Genetics, Inc. (SGN22E-002), December 6, 2017 - December 5, 2022

Theodore Gourdin

A Phase III, Open Label, Randomized Study to Assess the Efficacy and Safety of Olaparib (Lynparza) versus Enzalutamide or Abiraterone Acetate in Men with Metastatic Castration-Resistant Prostate Canc, \$161,389, from Astrazeneca (D081DC00007), November 9, 2017 - November 8, 2022

Theodore Gourdin

A Phase III, Randomized, Double-Blind, Placebo-Controlled Clinical Trial of Pembrolizumab (MK-3475) as Monotherapy in the Adjuvant Treatment of Renal Cell Carcinoma Post Nephrectomy (KEYNOTE-564), \$403,827, from Merck (MK-3475-564-0033), November 17, 2017 - November 16, 2022

Thomas M. Todoran

A Prospective, Randomized, Adaptive, Double-Blind, Sham-Controlled, Multicenter Study to Evaluate the ROX Coupler in Subjects with Hypertension, \$288,611, from Rox Medical Inc. (ROX US HTN-01), December 7, 2017 - December 6, 2020

Vinaya Rao, M.D.

A Multi-Center, Prospective, Double-Blind, Randomized, Placebo-Controlled, Phase 3 Study of BB3 to Reduce the Severity of Delayed Graft Function in Recipients of a Deceased Donor Kidney, \$438,506, from Angion Biomedica Corporation (001-15), November 22, 2017 - November 30, 2019

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/>.

SUMMIT *Continued from Page Twelve*

Dr. Michelle Espino says in 2060, about 28 percent of all Americans will be Latino.



Review's list of 100 hospital and health systems with great women's health programs.

"People say, 'When are we done with this journey? When are we through with this [diversity and inclusion] initiative?'" Cole said. "When it's not needed. When it's who we are."

Willette Burnham-Williams, chief diversity officer for the university, said plans are underway for a second Inclusion to Innovation Summit in Charleston. It's

scheduled for Nov. 9 and Nov. 10.

"We're bringing together organizational strategists responsible for diversity and inclusion in higher education, health care and large organizations in order to strengthen our networks, share best practices, explore challenges and begin to develop and implement innovative approaches and sustaining goals that create inclusive and engaged organizations," Burnham-Williams said.

Call for Peggy Schachte Research Mentor awards March 15

A call for nominations is underway to all MUSC faculty for the 2018 Peggy Schachte Research Mentor Award. The purpose of this award is to encourage and support the advancement and achievements of others as successful investigators and for whom research mentorship has been a major commitment over a significant period of time.

It will be presented at the annual

MUSC Faculty Convocation in August and will include a monetary award.

MUSC faculty, fellows, students and staff may submit nominations. The nominating package must include a letter from the nominator highlighting the nominee's background and other criteria.

Deadline to submit applications (pdf file) is March 15, 2018.

Developing Scholars nominations open until March 15

A call for nominations is underway for the Developing Scholars Award. This award recognizes and rewards MUSC junior faculty who have made outstanding contributions to the research mission through work in their individual research program or are part of an interdisciplinary research team and promotes the continued development of these

creative scholars.

This award is aimed at individuals who have successfully demonstrated the capacity to compete for extramural funding but are still in the formative stages of their career. Candidates should be faculty (assistant professor) with two years to six years of service. Visit <http://academicdepartments.musc.edu/provost/>.

Community Hospital Open Forums

Want to learn more about the future MUSC Health Community Hospital that's being planned at Nexton (Summerville)? Find out more about what's being planned and join an open forum meeting to learn more about this exciting MUSC project.

□ **Friday, Feb. 23**
12 to 12:30 p.m.
MUSC Health East Cooper —

Garden Room
Presented by Sarah Bacik, chief strategy and business development officer, MUSC Health

□ **Thursday, March 1**
12 to 12:30 p.m.
2 West Amp.
Presented by Dr. Patrick Cawley, CEO, MUSC Health and vice president for health affairs, university



Dear MUSC Physicians,

Service Learners International invites you to join medical and pharmacy students for our seventh medical service trip to Thomonde, Haiti, scheduled for June 17-23.

The trip focuses on primary care, and thus we are seeking clinicians in pediatrics, internal or family medicine, emergency medicine and OB/GYN, as well as a PharmD.

We partner with the organization Project Medishare, which has been working in Haiti since 1994. Last year, we provided care to over 300 Haitians within five days via "mobile clinics," traveling to rural areas within the Central Plateau of Haiti and providing health care to Haitians who have very little access otherwise.

SLI takes pride in not only expanding health care to patients with limited access, but also cultivating skill sets and experience for future healthcare professionals who have an interest in global health. We work hard each year to allow pre-clinical and clinical students to gain direct patient

experience with unique independence while also giving clinical students the opportunity to teach their younger peers. Our physicians each year play a key role in supervising these students in the clinics and in forming important one-on-one relationships to teach and mentor students as they grow into professionals.

The cost of the trip will average \$1,600-\$1,800. This cost includes in-country needs such as transportation, housing, food, as well as pharmacy supplies, interpreters and Medishare overhead, compromising between \$800 and \$1,000, of the total. The total cost also includes plane tickets, averaging \$800.

For information about SLI, you can check us out on Facebook (www.facebook.com/MUSCSLI). Please contact Faith Middleton (middlefa@musc.edu), to go over details of the trip with you.

*Faith Middleton, continuity committee
Taylor Harris, junior director
Emily Nyers and Ali Sherpe, co-directors*

UPDATE *Continued from Page Five*

pledges. Additionally, MUSC has received some \$18 million in verbal commitments that are expected to be fulfilled prior to the end of the fiscal year. A good deal of the philanthropy is being directed to support the new MUSC Shawn Jenkins Children's Hospital. Scheduled to open in 2019, the more than \$385 million pediatric facility will be the most advanced of its kind in the area, transforming care for children and families throughout the region.

Kathleen Brady, Ph.D., vice president for Research, advised that research numbers were also "looking very good" for the year to date, comparing the data to the previous fiscal years at the same half-year mark. "We are about \$12 million ahead in NIH funding compared to where we were at this same time in fiscal 2017, and we're up in the non-NIH funding as well, including corporate and private funding," she reported. MUSC receives more funds for scientific discovery than any other higher education institution in the state, setting a record in fiscal year 2016 by bringing in more than \$260 million.

The board also recognized octogenarian Paul B. Underwood, Jr., M.D., an MUSC alumnus (1959) and longtime faculty member (1999), for his five decades of contributions to

**Brady**

the organization as a professor, administrator and clinician in the College of Medicine. MUSC/MUHA Board Chairman Donald R. Johnson II, M.D., read a resolution that, in part, said: "Whereas he is renowned worldwide, a founding member and former president of the Society of Gynecologic Oncology, an international organization, and a leader in several national, regional and local organizations as well; whereas Dr. Underwood has devoted his entire career to academic medicine, not only providing his patients with compassion and the ultimate degree of care, but also training generations of physicians to follow in his footsteps, establishing a legacy that will impact health care far into the future; ...therefore, let it be resolved by unanimous vote that the Board of Trustees of the Medical University of South Carolina commends Paul B. Underwood, Jr., M.D., for his service to this institution and the citizens of South Carolina for his countless contributions to the healing arts, for his vision in that he has enriched the lives of citizens of South Carolina and beyond."

The MUSC/MUHA Board of Trustees serves as separate bodies to govern the university and hospital, holding two days of committee and board meetings six times a year.

**Underwood**

College of Pharmacy

Black History Month Seminar

Dr. Erica Hanesworth '18, M.D., MUSC College of Pharmacy Clinical Assistant Professor and clinical pharmacy specialist in primary care at Ralph H. Johnson VA Medical Center, serves as the president of the National Pharmaceutical Association. The mission of NPhA includes representing the views and ideals of minority pharmacists on critical issues affecting health care and pharmacy. Join us on February 28 as Dr. Hanesworth shares her experiences in her career and as a national leader.

Date: February 28, 2018
Time: 12:00-1:00 p.m.
Location: Baruch Auditorium

Lunch provided to the first 100 registered; please register at <http://bit.ly/ColPharmBlackHistoryMonth2018> or call 843-793-0340 by February 26.

*This event has been approved for 1 Diversity and Inclusion credit

Changing What's Possible

SHRINERS *Continued from Page One*

"Serious burns are terrible at any age, but when they happen to a child, they can be devastating on every level — physical and emotional. The effects can be both life-threatening and lifelong. This collaboration will allow us to provide these children with a whole new spectrum of skilled, compassionate care, with highly specialized caregivers and new services not available anywhere else in the region."

Gary Bergenske, who serves as chairman of the Board of Directors for Shriners Hospitals for Children, echoed that enthusiasm. "The future potential for developing a close working relationship with MUSC provides an exciting

opportunity for Shriners Hospitals for Children to perpetuate our mission and reach by treating more children in need of Shriners' specialized burn care in locations more readily accessible to those patients and their families," Bergenske said.

Patrick Cawley, CEO for MUSC Health and vice president for Health Affairs, University, said the MUSC burn unit's clinical staff will have the chance to train at a Shriners Hospitals for Children burn unit. "To establish that level of synergy and ease of operation so early in our relationship reflects the natural alignment of our values and a shared approach to delivering the highest quality care to every patient."

Dr. Don Johnson takes the stage at the Darius Rucker Big Band Concert to share news about a partnership with Shriners that will mean expanded services for children recovering from serious burns.

*Photo by Brennan Wesley***NIGERIA** *Continued from Page Nine*

It is common to see Nigerian children hawking local food in the streets to help earn money for their families when they should be attending school.

Photo provided

have no chance at all."

The land is cleared. Some roads have been constructed, the privacy fence is in progress and he hopes that soon the classroom and dormitory blocks will begin to be laid. The community had no running water, so that had to be resolved. Water is flowing he said, but the underground water is still contaminated. The people drink it anyway. Water Missions International is constructing equipment for them and will install it. The people will finally have pure water.

There is a very long and costly way to go.

Ikemeh pays for his own trips. Flights are almost \$1,600 – tough on a chaplain's salary, but important, he said.

"I see God leading us, even when we don't realize what is ahead of us. If we pay attention, if we let God, he will lead us to where he wants us to be."

For information or to help Ikemeh and the children with donations visit www.africaneducationoutreach.org or mail correspondence to P.O. Box 1066, Ladson, S.C., 29456.

WOFFORD STUDENTS VISIT DENTAL SCHOOL



Students from Wofford College visited the James B. Edwards College of Dental Medicine on Jan. 18 as part of a pre-dental advising and dental interim program. Eight students, Eliza Taylor, back from from left, Amber Lust, Nico Farrar, Edward McMillan, Wilson Strausbaugh, Will Clary, Robert Davidson and Sam Verdino, toured the labs and classroom facilities and met with faculty, staff and current dental students during their multi-day visit.

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Brain MRI Study on ADHD

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

This confidential, no-cost research study involves a phone screen, a clinical assessment visit & a MRI scan visit. **Compensation is provided if qualified & for successful referrals.**

For More Info: call/text **BRAIN** 843-640-5382
email ADHDbrainMUSC@gmail.com

Are you/do you know someone who is:

- Male?
- 14 - 18 years old?
- Right-handed?
- Diagnosed with ADHD?

Info: call/text **BRAIN**
843-640-5382

IRB Number: Pro00043719
Date Approved 2/15/2017