

Hollings Cancer Center receives NCI-designation renewal

By DAWN BRAZELL

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Hollings Cancer Center of MUSC joins local and state leaders to celebrate the renewal of its designation as a National Cancer Institute (NCI) Cancer Center.

MUSC President David J. Cole, M.D., FACS, hailed the renewal as affirmation of the strength of the work being done at Hollings. "MUSC is proud to have the only NCI-designated cancer center in South Carolina. This renewal validates the significant ongoing and dedicated effort by Hollings Cancer Center scientists toward advances in cancer prevention, diagnoses and treatment, with the ultimate goal of finding cancer cures."

NCI-designated cancer centers represent the top 4% of cancer centers in the United States. With this five-year renewal, Hollings is one of only 70 cancer centers in the U.S. with this prestigious status and the only such institution in South Carolina.

Gov. Henry McMaster underscored the importance for the state. "This is just one more example of the excellence that South Carolina produces. Congratulations are in order for MUSC and the Hollings Cancer Center for this impressive designation and for the important work that we know its scientists, doctors and researchers will continue to do there."

The renewal is accompanied by \$10,781,505 in funding to sustain and grow research efforts at Hollings Cancer Center. The NCI awards designation and renewal are based on leadership, vision, outstanding facilities, commitment to research and community outreach. NCI designation is awarded for a five-year period, after which centers undergo an extensive

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Photo by Sarah Pack

From left: MUSC Health CEO Patrick Cawley; politician, diplomat and activist Andrew Young; MUSC Health chief diversity officer Anton Gunn; and Roper St. Francis Healthcare diversity and inclusion consultant Mary "Toni" Flowers.

50 years later, leaders remember brave hospital workers

By HELEN ADAMS

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Fifty years after the Charleston hospital workers strike, civil rights leader Andrew Young returned to the city to mark the occasion. Thirty-seven years old at the time of the 1969 protest, Young is now not-so-young, and a lifetime of lessons learned through protest and service to his community and country came through in his speech.

"As we have come together in conflict, we've learned from each other," he said at the Charleston Hospital Workers Strike Commemorative Program at the Gaillard Center.

"What we have tried to do in the civil rights movement is to find that common bond of humanity that enables us to go forward together and has little or nothing to do with geography. It has little or nothing to do with skin color. It has little or nothing to do

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MUSC 2019 Commencement

MUSC leadership recognizes six college's honor graduates

Editor's note: MUSC's Class of 2019 first and second honor graduates were recognized for their academic excellence. On May 16, the group was celebrated at a luncheon hosted by the Offices of the President and Provost.

College of Health Professions

Bachelor in Health Administration – First Honor Graduate – Jessica Giblin; Second Honor Graduate – Erica Andreuccetti

Master in Health Administration – Executive

First Honor Graduates – Megan Leigh Bartell and Alexis Economy Frehse; Second Honor Graduate – Mathew Pierson Miller

Master in Health Administration – Residential

First Honor Graduate – Jackson Winton Ingalls; Second Honor Graduate – Elizabeth Baer

Master of Science in Cardiovascular Perfusion

First Honor Graduates – Cory Finley and Justine Graham; Second Honor Graduates – Clarisa Katherine Czekajlo and Ashley Lauren Merkel

Master of Science in Nurse Anesthesia

First Honor Graduates – Kara Channele Edmond and Alisha Tuttle; Second Honor Graduate – Shannon Monteleone

Master of Science in Health Informatics

First Honor Graduates – Trevor Daniel Faith and Lucas James Lancaster Marsh; Second Honor Graduate – Elizabeth Nevins Mulvey

Doctor of Health Administration

First Honor Graduates – Ryan Lee Brainard and David C. Fitzgerald; Second Honor Graduates – Lauren N. Shay and Lynda M. Waterhouse

Doctor of Physical Therapy

First Honor Graduate – Barbara Joy Carsten; Second Honor Graduate – Katelyn Nicole Johnson

College of Dental Medicine

Doctor of Dental Medicine

First Honor Graduate – Chelsie Ava Cassell; Second Honor Graduate – Kacy Danielle Wonder

College of Nursing

Bachelor of Science in Nursing

First Honor Graduates – Wendy Rhodes and Ashleigh Lauren Yost; Second Honor Graduate – Moriah Dawn Adams

Doctor of Nursing Practice

First Honor Graduates – Gina D. Allen and Sally Gallman Robinson; Second Honor Graduate – Katherine Sullivan Kyle and Richard Sigurd Larson III

College of Pharmacy

Doctor of Pharmacy

First Honor Graduates – Hanlon Ignatius Maivelett and Dustin Gregory Rexroad; Second Honor Graduates – Ashley Lynn Tufton

College of Medicine

Master in Public Health

First Honor Graduates – Karina Geronilla Phang and Shannon Sin-Man Leung; Second Honor Graduates – Jarvetta Cacille Heyward and Samuel Forrest Kennedy

Doctor of Medicine

First Honor Graduates – Nida Khaliq Choudry

College of Graduate Studies

Distinguished Graduates of the Year

Ali M. Alawieh, Chase J. Burton and Logan Thorne Dowdle



Photo by Anne Thompson

MUSC President Dr. David Cole joins the MUSC Class of 2019 honor graduates at the May 16 luncheon held at Riley Park Club at the Joe Riley Stadium.



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MUSC Annual Hurricane Awareness Day

10 a.m. to 2 p.m., June 5, MUSC Horseshoe

The 19th annual Hurricane Awareness Day at MUSC will take place on Wednesday, June 5 on the MUSC Horseshoe.

Topics include hurricane preparation and sharing of resources. Come see a diverse group of agencies and departments from around the

Tri-county area that will focus on hurricane preparedness. Featured are WCBD-TV meteorologist Rob Fowler, the National Weather Service, Joint Base Charleston, the S.C. Emergency Management Department, Charleston Fire Department and other organizations.

Physician assistants welcome new S.C. law

By LESLIE CANTU

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A trio of MUSC graduates led the successful effort to update South Carolina's law to grant physician assistants more authority to practice as they are trained to do. Supporters say the updated law will make it easier for these licensed medical providers to work in the state, thereby increasing access to health care for more people.

"It's really setting us up for the next step in the modernization of health care," said Megan Fulton, a certified physician assistant and director of PA Practice at MUSC Health.

She and Kevin Harmon, who practices at the Ralph H. Johnson VA Medical Center, are legislative co-chairs for the South Carolina Academy of Physician Assistants. Along with their colleague, MUSC Children's Health's Jennifer Marshall, president of SCAPA, they worked with legislators and the South Carolina Hospital Association to craft an update to the law.

Physician assistants study for more than two years in programs that combine classroom and clinical work to earn a master's level degree. PA programs are highly competitive – Fulton said the MUSC College of Health Professions received 1,600 applications last year for the PA program, of which 900 met the qualifications for about 60 seats. Physician assistants can be found working under the supervision of doctors in every medical specialty. And PAs provide excellent care, Fulton said, with studies showing good outcomes for patients who see physician assistants or nurse practitioners.

Eliminating some of the restrictions on PAs allows physician assistants to work to the highest level that their training and education has prepared them for while freeing up doctors to concentrate on the patients who most need their expertise.

Such is the case for Marshall, who sees pediatric patients at the MUSC Children's Health R. Keith Summey Medical Pavilion under the supervision

of pediatric neurosurgeons Ramin Eskandari and Libby Infinger.

"If there's somebody who doesn't need to see the surgeon, then I can see them so she can spend more time with the patients who do need to see a surgeon," Marshall said.

On a recent Monday, Marshall examined a 7-year-old girl who was in for a surgical consult. She then presented her findings to Infinger, who then met with the patient. Often, for routine follow-ups, the patient can be seen by the physician assistant alone.

Either way, Marshall works under the supervision of a specific doctor with whom she has a scope of practice agreement. Under the old law, if that agreement came to an end – if, for example, her supervising physician took a job out of state – Marshall would have had to immediately stop practicing until she could find a replacement supervisor. That wouldn't be so much of a big deal at a large hospital system like MUSC, with departments that have multiple alternate supervising physicians. But in a small practice in a community setting, if the doctor leaves or dies then not only would a PA find him- or herself out of a job, but the patients would find themselves without a provider, with neither a doctor nor a PA available to see them. The new law allows a PA to work with a temporary alternative supervising physician for 90 days until he or she can secure a new agreement with a new supervising physician.

Other ways the new law should make it easier for patients to see a provider, Marshall explained. The law increases the number of PAs and NPs that a doctor can supervise and collaborate with to six from three. It also does away with restrictions on the geographic distance between the PA and the supervising doctor. Before, the law required that the two could be no farther than 60 miles apart, which made it difficult to place MUSC PAs in outreach clinics in places like Beaufort or Murrells Inlet.

With telemedicine and modern communications, Fulton believes that



Photo by Sarah Pack

Physician assistant Jennifer Marshall examines 7-year-old Nia Campbell as part of a surgery consultation.

there's no reason collaboration-minded PAs and doctors can't work together over long distances.

"It doesn't matter if I'm 60 miles away or across the hall," Fulton said.

The new law also allows PAs to prescribe a five-day supply instead of a three-day supply of Schedule II narcotics. Such drugs include powerful pain relievers typically prescribed after surgery or during cancer treatment. The two-day extension is a small change that could make a big impact on patients.

"A three-day supply doesn't get a patient very far," Marshall said of those who are being discharged after surgery. "With a five-day supply, they may make it until their follow-up appointment."

The new law also authorizes PAs to certify patients as handicapped so they can apply for a handicapped parking permit, to refer patients to physical therapy and to certify that a student is unable to attend school.

Legislators who sponsored the bill said the new law will help improve medical care throughout the state and particularly in rural areas. State Sen. Tom Davis, R-Beaufort, said South Carolina ranks 40th among states for the number of doctors per capita; many of the doctors who do practice in the state are concentrated in urban and suburban areas, he said.

"It is clear that the future of South Carolina's health care can only be met with an increased number of highly qualified physician assistants being an integral part of the process, particularly in rural South Carolina. This bill was needed to ensure that South Carolina residents' health care needs can be met," said state Sen. Brad Hutto, D-Orangeburg.

There are more than 1,600 physician assistants currently practicing in South Carolina, 95 of whom work at MUSC.

The new law takes effect Aug. 11.

Save the date!



WORLD ELDER ABUSE AWARENESS DAY

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(843) 792-0796 for more information.

Swimming with the sharks

MUSC employees showcase some of their best innovative ideas during second annual event

By **BRYCE DONOVAN**

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Somewhere between the woman playing guitar, a discussion about feminine hygiene products and a talking iguana, you realize this isn't your typical MUSC event. The guy standing in the corner wearing a shark costume and penny loafers would definitely agree.

Earlier this month, hundreds of people gathered in the Storm Eye Institute auditorium to listen to nine groups as they pitched ideas to the university's top brass for the next big thing. If this sounds familiar, then you've probably seen ABC's "Shark Tank."

For the uninitiated, the concept for the show is incredibly simple and appealing: Someone with an idea gets up in front of people with means (read: money) and pitches them their invention or idea. If the folks with the money buy into the vision, they usually buy in with their cash as well. If they don't, well, it's not often pretty.

MUSC's version is no different, only these "wannabe" entrepreneurs also have full-time jobs as MUSC physicians, professors and public safety employees. And instead of judges like Mark Cuban, Lori Greiner and Kevin O'Leary (You know, the mean bald guy) there was a nicer, albeit equally intimidating, group comprised of Kathleen Brady, M.D., Ph.D., MUSC vice president for Research; Patrick J. Cawley, M.D., CEO of MUSC Health and vice president for Health Affairs, University; David J. Cole, M.D., FACS, MUSC president; and Terry Howell, Ed.D., CEO Skye Solutions, LCC.

Stephanie McGowan, PT, tells the judges about her team's idea to bring a complete sports rehab center to MUSC.

Thanks to the overwhelming success and positive feedback from last year's inaugural MUSC Shark Tank, 2019 Innovation Week organizers felt it was a no-brainer to bring it back. And this time they upped the ante from one \$15,000

prize winner to three.

Earlier in the week, all would-be contestants presented their innovative concepts at MUSC's Drug Discovery Building. Nearly 60 posters and well in excess of 300 digital presentations were on display. Attendees voted for their favorites in three categories – care delivery, research and education – and the top vote getters (863 votes were cast in all) made it to the final pitch in front of the big shots. And the guy in the shark costume.

One by one, contestants ranging from solo presenters to groups 12 strong assembled at the front of the auditorium and were given 5 minutes to make their pitches, which included:

Once each group was finished with its pitch, the judges had five minutes to ask them questions. Some presentations were very serious, others lighthearted. The judges' questions were tough, but always fair. Things like:

- "How would \$15,000 allow you to make this idea a reality?"
- "What's the difference between what you're proposing and what's already in place?"
- "Why hasn't anybody tried to do this before?"
- "Could we make the cartoon iguana's boots blue instead of yellow?"

After nearly two hours – including 15 minutes of deliberations by the judges – Brady stood at the front of the auditorium, notes in hand, and announced their choices.

Shrieks and cries filled the auditorium as she delivered the news. The winners:

- ❑ Care delivery: The sports rehab center.
- ❑ Research: The novel perturbation device.
- ❑ Education: The app that utilizes video to understand manual muscle testing.

Each team will receive \$15,000, which will go toward helping make its vision a reality. The winners shared several things in common: confidence in their pitches, solid answers to sharks' questions, and,



Photos by Sarah Pack

Literal and figurative sharks listen intently as one of nine finalists makes a pitch during the MUSC Innovation Week Shark Tank.

2019 MUSC Shark Tank Finalists

❑ **Idea:** Implementation of a new technology (combining apps and hardware) to further reduce patient falls in the hospital.

Team: David Habib, M.D.; Kristine Harper, R.N.; Kelly Howard; Dave Dolan, R.N.; Rhonda Flynn, R.N.; Jenny Nguyen, R.N.; Marilyn James, R.N.; Breezy Bernheisel, R.N.; Kapri Kreps; Eric Smathers; Elizabeth Glover, R.N.; and Charlie Sander.

❑ **Idea:** Launch a sports rehabilitation center to assist athletes with all types of care – prevention, treatment, rehab – so they can return to their sports.

Team: Stephanie K. McGowan, PT; Jodie Rush, PT; Shane Woolf, M.D.; and Harris Slone, M.D.

❑ **Idea:** Provide dispensers with free menstrual hygiene products in 11 female and gender-neutral bathrooms for a 6-month pilot program.

Team: Jessica Giblin, Julie Ham, Sylvia Jang, Kevin Smuniewski and Daniela Harris.

❑ **Idea:** Conduct research on the effects of music therapy on pediatric cardiac patients.

Team: Meredith Horwatt and Tammy Flovin.

❑ **Idea:** Market a wearable device that provides stimulation to help increase hand function in patients with neurologic movement disorders.

Team: Na Jin Seo, Ph.D.

❑ **Idea:** Create a novel perturbation device to help improve post-stroke balance.

Team: Preston Walker, Christian Finetto, Ph.D., and Jesse Dean, Ph.D.

❑ **Idea:** To further develop and market a new MUSC mascot (Iggy the Iguana) who would help raise awareness of emergency preparedness.

Team: Kimberly Bailey and Lt. Bryan Wood.

❑ **Idea:** Develop and implement an educational app that utilizes video to help PTs and OTs better understand and learn about manual muscle testing.

Team: Amanda K. Giles, OT.

❑ **Idea:** Provide in-person diversity and inclusion training for MUSC Health employees statewide.

Team: DaNine J. Fleming, Ed.D.; Willette Burnham-Williams, Ph.D.; Paula Sutton; and Ronnie Chatterjee.

See **SHARK TANK** on page 11

MEET WEI



Wei Ding

Department; How long at MUSC
Department of Biomedical Informatics
Center; 9 years

How are you changing what's possible at MUSC

I'm getting and staying motivated year by year to learn and be able to adapt to the changing needs of the clinical research environment. MUSC provides a sense of security, offers a purpose behind the work I do and gives me a very clear and concise mission where I can be motivated.

Family and Pets

Wife, Jiexiang Li (College of Charleston), son, Harry, and daughter, Olivia

What music is in your player right now

"Nocturnes" performed by Arthur Rubinstein

Who in history would you most like to meet and why

Jesus Christ. He said, "And you will seek Me and find Me, when you search for Me with all your heart." — Jeremiah 29:13

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Presented by Susan R. Johnson, MD, MS

Dr. Johnson received all her education and training at the University of Iowa, where she is currently retired as Professor Emerita of Obstetrics and Gynecology in the Carver College of Medicine. She served for 20 years in administrative positions, including associate dean and associate provost for faculty, and as University Ombudsman. She continues her work in women's health research as Chair of the NIH-funded multi-center longitudinal cohort study of menopause, the Study of Women's Health Across the Nation (SWAN). Dr. Johnson has a long-standing interest in time management and productivity and has made close to 600 presentations locally and around the country to audiences at universities, nonprofit and professional organizations, and small businesses. She has a small business, Thriving Amidst Chaos, offering workshops and coaching to individuals and small teams, and her website www.thrivingamidstchaos.com includes her series of articles on a variety of time management topics.



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Bioengineering Building 110

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MUSC educators honored with Teaching Excellence awards

Three faculty members will be honored for teaching excellence at MUSC's annual faculty convocation held at the beginning of the 2019-20 academic year on Aug. 20 at 4:30 p.m. in the Drug Discovery Building auditorium. A reception will follow the program.

The faculty members are:

- ❑ Gilbert A. Boissonneault, Ph.D., PA, professor, College of Health Professions: Educator-Lecturer.
- ❑ David Fitzgerald, DHA, instructor and clinical coordinator, Division of Cardiovascular Perfusion, Department of Health Professions: Developing Teacher.
- ❑ Yuri Peterson, Ph.D., research associate professor, Department of Drug Discovery and Biomedical Sciences, College of Pharmacy: Scholarship/Academic: Educator-Mentor.

Established in 1994, these teaching awards were proposed as part of MUSC's educational strategic plan. Below are summaries of the honorees.



Gilbert A. Boissonneault, Ph.D.
College of Health Professions

Educator-Lecturer

Boissonneault joined MUSC and the College of Health Professions' Division of Physician Assistant Studies program in 1986 and was named a full-time professor in 2011. He was named division director for the program from 2012 to 2016. He received his doctorate in nutritional sciences from

the University of Illinois and received his B.H.S in Physician Assistant Studies and an M.S.L.S. in Library Science and Information Sciences from the University of Kentucky. He previously earned earlier a Bachelors of Science in Nutritional Sciences from Michigan State University and worked more than two decades in nutrition in private practice and community hospitals prior to MUSC. Boissonneault teaches physiology in the PA program.

Physician assistant students Michael Haven and Reilly Kilpatrick speak for themselves and members of the PA Class of 2020 regarding their professor in a letter of nomination. "Dr. Boissonneault is so dedicated, compassionate and mindful when it comes to supporting students. He emphasizes understanding over memorization, often going in depth to provide real-world examples of complex physiologic processes. With his background in nutrition, he equips us with the tools to deconstruct difficult concepts into palatable and applicable clinical knowledge."

Boissonneault has been recognized with several awards for his teaching and contributions in leadership management and faculty development.



David Fitzgerald, DHA
College of Health Professions-Division of Cardiovascular Perfusion

Developing Teacher

Fitzgerald received his Doctor of Health Administration degree from the College of Health Professions earlier in May. He previously earned a Masters of Public Health from the University of Alaska at Anchorage in 2016 and his

Bachelor of Science in Cardiovascular Perfusion Sciences from Drexel University

(formerly Allegheny University) in 1997. A perfusionist at MUSC, Fitzgerald is a clinical education coordinator in the Master of Science in Cardiovascular Perfusion program at CHP. Fitzgerald works placing students for their clinical rotations and collaborating with preceptors in student clinical rotations.

Karen Wager, DHA, the associate dean for student affairs within the college, praised Fitzgerald for his enthusiasm for the material, the ability to translatedifficult concepts to understandable material and having a good rapport with students. "With everything he does, Dave gives 110% and always with a gracious smile and 'can-do' attitude. CHP and MUSC are lucky to have him," said Wager. In addition to his clinical research, mentoring awards and achievements and memberships in several professional organizations, the college recognized Fitzgerald for his teaching excellence with the CHP Teacher of the Year award.

Fitzgerald also received accolades from his students who praise him for his commitment and energy. "Dave Fitzgerald was a difference maker to me. He was incredibly consistent and professional in his interaction with our class and without a doubt made my experience at MUSC better. I truly believe that Dave is going to be instrumental in taking his program to another level," said one student.



Yuri Peterson, Ph.D.
College of Pharmacy, Department of Drug Discovery and Biomedical Sciences

Educator-Mentor

Peterson received his Masters in Science in Cell and Molecular Pharmacology and Experimental Therapeutics in 2001. He went on to earn his doctorate from Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center in 2004 and conducted postdoctoral research in the Department of Pharmacology and Cancer

Biology/Center for Chemical Biology at Duke University before returning in 2008 to MUSC as a research associate professor and director of screening and informatics in the Drug Discovery Core for the Department of Drug Discovery and Biomedical Sciences in the College of Pharmacy. According to his students, he has a passion for drug discovery, chemoinformatics, pharmacology and translation science.

A central tenet in Peterson's teaching philosophy is to create an environment where students can learn and thrive. He sees each mentoring opportunity as a fresh start to making a positive impact on his students. He is also committed to mentorship and has worked to support professionalism, entrepreneurship and educational advancement among pharmacy students. "Dr. Peterson mentors with the aim of each mentee being a success as a student and as a person," wrote a pharmacy student in Peterson's Teaching Excellence Awards Educator-Mentor nomination.

His honors include many patents and discoveries, publications in peer reviewed journals, research success and awards. Petersen was inducted to the National Academy of Inventors in 2016.

Nurse of Year devotes her time to smallest patients

Veteran nurse among dozens honored for Nurses Week

BY LESLIE CANTU

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Paulette Headden has spent 32 years in the neonatal intensive care unit and wouldn't work anywhere else. Her colleagues feel the same way about her – she was peer nominated and selected as the MUSC Nurse of the Year.

Headden was surprised May 6 during the annual Nursing Excellence Awards ceremony to learn that she, out of all the unit honorees, had been selected to represent MUSC nurses.

"It's very humbling. I am very much honored," she said. But, she was quick to add, "I'm just one of many."

Headden nearly didn't go to the ceremony. She thought it seemed like bragging about herself to attend the

event, which honored more than 70 nurses from MUSC Health and MUSC Children's Health. Her supervisor, MaryLaura Smithwick, and her sister, Traci Ellis, who also works in the NICU, had to conspire to get her to St. Luke's Chapel for the event.

On the nomination form, a colleague said that Headden is "a clinical expert and a diplomat" who is always willing to lend a hand and share her expertise. She is particularly skilled, the nomination read, at inserting PICC lines, tubes that are inserted into a vein to deliver antibiotics, nutrition or medication.

"While Paulette coordinates a team of nurses with this skill, she seems to always be successful and so is called upon frequently for this procedure. Paulette willingly goes to other units and places



Photo by Sarah Pack

Paulette Headden was selected as the 2019 Nurse of the Year. She is a positive role model and works tirelessly at everything she takes on, according to the nominating form.

lines without hesitation. She comes in frequently on days off, holidays included, so that an infant or child will not have to go without proper IV nutrition," the nomination stated.

That level of care and compassion can be seen in nurses across the entire

enterprise. Executive Chief Nursing Officer Jerry Mansfield, speaking during the awards ceremony, said that when people ask him why he took this job in Charleston after 30 years in Ohio, they

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Health care champion shares personal experience with graduates

MUSC celebrated its 190th graduation on Saturday, May 18. Students graduated from six MUSC colleges: Dental Medicine, Graduate Studies, Health Professions, Medicine, Nursing and Pharmacy.

On Saturday, 634 students attended the ceremony, walking across the stage, while a total of 1,013 degrees were awarded between June 2018 and May 2019.

Caroline DeLongchamps, manager of Patient- and Family-Centered Care for MUSC Health, delivered the commencement address and shared what she learned about partnership, teamwork and communication as the mother of a pediatric patient when her then 11-month-old son Sam was involved in a near-fatal trauma. She introduced herself

as Bed 10's mom – or just simply “mom,” which is how Sam's care team referred to her when he first was admitted as a patient at MUSC. Many wiped away tears as she explained how important caring and listening are in addition to expert medical skills.

“You need to listen to what is important to them to reach a common goal. You don't have to be a hero every day – you just have to be human,” she implored them.

DeLongchamps was awarded the day's only honorary degree. Read DeLongchamps' full text of her May 18 commencement address at <https://web.musc.edu/about/news-center/2019/05/29/caroline-delongchamps-commencement-speech>.



Top left photo: Members of MUSC's Golden Grads process to their seats as part of the 190th Commencement Ceremony. Center photo: Students find a way to stay cool in the 85-plus degree weather at the May 18 graduation.

Bottom center photo: Keeping with tradition, the six M.D.-Ph.D. graduates celebrate with a champagne toast after receiving their degrees.



Top photo: MUSC Health's Caroline DeLongchamps, center, is joined by her son Sam DeLongchamps, left, as she receives a Doctor of Humane Letters from MUSC President Dr. David Cole.



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STRIKE *Continued from Page One*

with any of our human differences. Our diversity is a blessing.”

Diversity was not seen as a blessing by some back in 1969, when African American employees at Medical College Hospital (now MUSC Health) and the Charleston County Hospital were paid less than whites for doing the same work and treated disrespectfully in ways that affected their ability to take care of patients. They also wanted official recognition of their labor union.

They began a strike that would last for months. Young, Coretta Scott King and other nationally known civil rights leaders came to Charleston to show their support. The workers’ complaints resonated with people across the city and country.

That included Thaddeus Bell, who also spoke at the commemorative program. “In 1969, I was 22 years old. I had just been hired to teach school at the high school of Charleston, which was right across the street from the Medical University,” he said.

“I did not have any idea that I was going to be a physician at some point, because I had already been turned down by the Medical University at least twice by that time,” Bell said.

“When the hospital strike came about, I was very familiar with the issues that the nurses were enduring. And I felt compelled to participate in the march.”



Bell was later accepted into MUSC’s medical school and went on to become a faculty member and director of the MUSC Office of Diversity. “I’m about to turn 75,” he said. “I’m happy to be here to be a part of history.”

Former state representative and Charleston Mayor Joe Riley was also on hand at the 50th anniversary program to honor that history. “The arc of the moral universe is long but it bends towards justice. Thus said Dr. Martin Luther King Junior,” Riley said.

“That it does bend toward justice is because very

courageous people through their work, persistence, the sacrifices, and determination bend that arc away from injustice towards righteousness. That is what those brave hospital workers did 50 years ago.”

Current MUSC Health CEO Patrick Cawley, who is also vice president of Health Affairs for the university, said it’s important to recognize that bravery — and keep the conversation going. “This is a conversation where the more we talk, the more we understand and more able we are to move into the future in a positive way to recognize the things we need to fix.”

Julia Davis, Mary Moultrie, Coretta Scott King and Rosetta Simmons protest on March 20, 1969.

Photo by Cecil Williams



Strategic Networking and Self Branding

Visiting speaker from Boeing – Alicia Floyd MSPM, MBA



Visiting speaker, Alicia Lopez Floyd, MSPM, MBA, serves Boeing in a global role as a Senior Learning Program Manager, working for Boeing Leaders at All Levels team in Leadership Learning & Organization Capability (LLOC), a HR Community of excellence (CoE).

Monday, June 17, 12:00 - 1:00 pm
Registration: <https://is.gd/afloyd>

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Turning trauma into hope

Shine a light on those affected by trauma

By Bryce Donovan

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The thing Charlie Hanna remembers most is the quiet right before it happened.

It was a Monday morning, long before the sun had come up, and it was cold. Februaries in the Upstate of South Carolina were usually cold, he thought, but not like this. He had just dropped off the kids at daycare when he crossed a bridge – the same one he had driven over not 15 minutes before – and that’s when he hit the ice.

Instinct told him to take both feet off the pedals, but the tension of the situation caused him to torque the steering wheel to the left. The ice ignored his input, friction a mere memory now. The truck glided silently for what felt like seconds to Hanna. He was nearly all the way across the bridge when the slick patch ended – the wheels pointed almost sideways now – and the tires gripped hard.

A passing motorist would later tell Hanna he saw his truck barrel roll at least five times before finally coming to rest on its side. Hanna came to seconds – or was it minutes – later. Hard to be sure with all the smoke in the cab, the passenger window pointing toward the now-cobalt blue sky, his brain scrambled and confused.

“I thought the truck was on fire,” he recalls, the powder from his airbag swirling inside the vehicle, mimicking smoke. “Adrenaline just took over, and I remember climbing out the window and running as hard as I could.”

Eyewitnesses said he made it about 300 yards before collapsing. In minutes, EMTs were on the scene and rushed Hanna to a local ER. Somehow, he had avoided major injury, and all his scans were normal. He was lucky, the doctors said.

Recently, Hanna shared his story with a large group gathered along the Charleston Medical District Greenway as a part of MUSC’s Trauma Survivors Day.

“As awful as that experience was... If that was my only brush with trauma, I probably wouldn’t have dwelled on it too much,” Hanna said of his 2012 car wreck. But then a colleague and longtime friend had a similar experience affect his family.

On October 27 of 2017, while stargazing on a clear moonlit night, Tia and Nathan Fry were run over by a truck illegally on the beach at Sullivan’s Island. In the aftermath, Tia had several broken ribs and a ruptured



A crowd of onlookers, survivors and surgeons listens as Charlie Hanna speaks about his experience with trauma and how it shaped his life during MUSC’s annual Trauma Survivors Day.



Charlie Hanna, who was involved in a life-changing car accident in 2012, speaks to the gathered crowd during MUSC’s annual Trauma Survivors Day.

Photos by Sarah Pack

the entire trauma surgery team at MUSC– flocked to the community event, which also offered booths manned by survivor groups, educational materials, food trucks and live music..

May is National Trauma Awareness Month, and the purpose of Trauma Survivors Day, and the newly created fund, is to draw inspiration from and provide support to survivors and their caregivers, encouraging recovery from injury. MUSC is a member of the Trauma Survivors Network, a program of the American Trauma Society, which assists individuals and families recovering from trauma.

“It takes a lot of strength to face the worst day of your life all over again,” MUSC trauma surgeon Heather Evans, M.D., said of the survivors who came to the event, willing to share their stories.

“I can’t even imagine. They are very brave. Not only are they an inspiration to others going through the same thing but to us as surgeons, too. We see them in the ER and do our best to put them back together, but to get to see their smiling faces on the other side, it is just good for the soul.”

Hollings Cancer Center researchers Dr. Besim Ogretmen, left, and Dr. Shanmugam Selvam discuss their work. Hollings Cancer Center has over 70 research labs and employs more than 400 researchers.

Photo by Sarah Pack



DESIGNATION *Continued from Page One*

renewal application submission and examination. Hollings, which has held this designation since 2009, submitted its Cancer Center Support Grant renewal to NCI in 2018 and underwent a site visit in October.

Hollings Cancer Center Director Gustavo Leone, Ph.D., said he's grateful for the teamwork it took to land the highest score the center has ever received in a rigorous, competitive process. "This took an enormous effort from a large group of team members to be able to present and highlight the excellence at Hollings to the NCI leadership."

NCI-designated cancer centers are characterized by scientific excellence and the capability to integrate diverse research approaches. They play a vital role in advancing the goal of reducing morbidity and mortality from cancer through innovative clinical trials that offer patients new drugs and treatment protocols that would be unavailable to them otherwise.

The goal is to reduce the burden of cancer in the state. This year, the American Cancer Society estimates that 29,830 South Carolina residents will be diagnosed with cancer and 10,720 will die from their disease.

Leone said the renewal affirms the cancer center's strong research base and supports its mission to deliver cutting-edge treatments based on that research to patients in South Carolina and beyond. Cancer centers serve in areas with special demographics and needs as far as the incidence and mortality rates of cancer in their regions. As such, the centers serve as an important pipeline both to educate their communities

about evidence-based findings, as well as to shape the development of national research and treatment priorities based on those needs.

"This is an important goal for Hollings. We want to reach the medically underserved all through the state," Leone said. "While there is much work still to be done, this has been a major accomplishment over the past several years that has led to the appreciation of the NCI of what we are doing in our communities, and the value we bring."

Key accomplishments since Hollings' last renewal include:

- ❑ Opening 392 cancer-related research studies and enrolled 3,522 adults and children in clinical trials (2014-2017)
- ❑ Expanding mobile health van cancer screening and education to 27 counties throughout the state, serving more than 7,000 women in the past five years
- ❑ Launching 42 clinical trials emanating from Hollings Cancer Center science (2013-2017)
- ❑ Securing 138 peer-reviewed, extramural research project awards totaling over \$40M (excluding training and career development grants), with more than \$20M from the NCI in 2018.
- ❑ Publishing 572 studies (2013-2017), including 93 in high impact journals.

Leone said it's been exciting to see the overall progress of the center over the past five years and the exponential growth in its scientific discoveries. Of note, as well, is that Hollings Cancer Center celebrated being named among the nation's top cancer centers for its clinical care last year, with U.S. News & World Report ranking MUSC Health 24th for cancer care.

"For all these reasons, I am proud to lead Hollings Cancer Center and plan to

NURSE *Continued from Page Seven*

generally assume he'll say it was the sun and the palm trees that lured him here.

In fact, he said, "during my interview process, I saw a level of caring and compassion that I thought was extraordinary."

Headden said much has changed in the NICU since she first began working there. When she started, the fate of a baby born at 28 weeks was doubtful. Now, she said, these babies have very good prognoses. She was in the NICU when medical staff conducted a study giving babies surfactant, a substance that prevents the lungs' airways from collapsing with each breath but that premature babies don't produce adequately. Now surfactant therapy is standard, she said.

The NICU has also changed in its physical environment. It used to have bright lights and music playing, she said, but now they dim the lights. And while

people talk in normal voices, the overall noise level is hushed.

Headden's family was at St. Luke's Chapel for the event to see her accept the award, and though they wouldn't have missed it, they didn't have to go far to get there. Her husband, Gary Headden, is an emergency department doctor, and their three daughters are also at MUSC. Morgan Khawaja is pediatric chief resident, Kendall Headden is a first-year anesthesiology resident and Merritt Headden is a second-year College of Medicine student.

Besides her work in the NICU, Headden walks in the March of Dimes' March for Babies, volunteers on the event planning committee of the Charleston County Medical Society Alliance, is an MUSC NICU safety coach and serves on the NICU's committees for shared governance, infection prevention, tender lung care, evidence and values, and the stabilization team.

sustain our positive trajectory," he said. "Work at Hollings will lead to important advances in cancer research and clinical care. This designation will accelerate

the speed by which we bring scientific and clinical discoveries to prevent and eradicate cancer in the state."

SHARK TANK *Continued from Page Four*

they all happen to work in MUSC's College of Health Professions (CHP).

Christina Smith, OT, assistant professor at CHP, in between taking tons of photos of her winning colleagues, took a moment to sum up the event.

"I'm just in awe. A clean sweep? I mean ... come on. That is just unreal. I am so proud to work with all these super

smart people."

Stephanie McGowen, PT, who championed the sports rehab center, was equally thrilled. "I still can't believe we won. Just to be here today was cool...but this? Amazing!" Judge Brady brought the event to a close. "We were so impressed with everything. These were tough decisions we had to make, but in the end, we really think the winners were the most deserving. Congratulations to you all."

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FIVE MUSC EMPLOYEES RECEIVE DOCTORATES IN HEALTH ADMINISTRATION



Five of this year’s 29 Doctor of Health Administration graduates in the College of Health Professions are MUSC employees. They are, from left, Dave Fitzgerald, College of Health Professions–Cardiovascular Perfusion Program; Dr. Antonio Quiros, MUSC Children’s Health; Shawn Gathers, Information Solutions; Jessica Winkler, MUSC Health Department of Social Work; and Albany Cromer, MUSC Health Chief Learning Office. The group received their degrees at the 190th Commencement Ceremony on May 18 on the MUSC Horseshoe.

Photo by Anne Herford

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