

## 'Big jump this week,' says MUSC scientist tracking COVID cases

BY HELEN ADAMS

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As anticipated by MUSC's COVID-19 tracking team, case numbers are shooting up as BA.5 spreads. The Charleston Tri-county area saw a 28% increase, Lancaster a 44% increase and the Midlands a 22% increase.

"Big jump this week," said Michael Sweat, Ph.D., leader of MUSC's COVID-19 Epidemiology Intelligence Project. "The whole state is starting to go into the high category."

The latest map from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention backs that up, with most of South Carolina colored orange to signify a high community level of COVID. Yellow represents medium, green means low.

"We're in one of those waves. It would be prudent for people to take a stock of their risk and maybe take a break from things like group gatherings for a while. It's just the reality we're in."

The CDC recommends that people in areas with a high level of COVID wear masks indoors in public and on public transportation, stay up to date with vaccination, get tested if they have COVID symptoms. And people who are at a higher risk of getting seriously sick from COVID, because of an existing health condition, should consider additional precautions, according to the CDC.

BA.5 first showed up in testing at MUSC in early June. The Omicron subvariant spreads so quickly that it now makes up more than 80% of COVID

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Photo by Brennan Wesley

**Dr. Eugene Chang, part of the highly ranked OB-GYN team, examines a patient.**

## U.S. News rankings showcase specialty programs at MUSC Health-Charleston, beyond

BY HELEN ADAMS

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MUSC Health University Medical Center in Charleston maintains its status as the top hospital in South Carolina in newly released rankings from U.S. News & World Report. The hospital's ear, nose and throat and obstetrics and gynecology programs were singled out as high achievers in their specialties. Other programs were named high performers, including some at MUSC Health's new hospitals around the state.

### TOP HOSPITAL IN SOUTH CAROLINA

Of an estimated 108 hospitals in South Carolina,

MUSC Health University Medical Center in Charleston extends its hold on the state's top spot for an eighth year in a row. U.S. News bills its rankings as a way to help patients find the best medical care.

Patrick J. Cawley, M.D., MUSC Health CEO and MUSC executive vice president for Health Affairs, University, congratulated the team. "Across the board, it's been a time of challenge and incredible opportunity for all of our care teams, and their commitment to ensuring that our patients are receiving the right care, in the right place and at the right time hasn't wavered."

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Monkeypox cases rise  
Expert predicts more  
to come.

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Parechovirus  
Newborns particularly  
vulnerable.

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5 Meet Shawn Whitley  
7 Facilities' Jeremiah Wiggins

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ENT

U.S. News & World Report has consistently ranked MUSC Health's ear, nose and throat team among the top such programs in the United States. This year is no exception, with the program earning the No. 15 spot. The rankings use data sources such as Medicare and opinion surveys of specialized physicians.

Robert Labadie, M.D., Ph.D., serves as chairman of the Department of Otolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery at the Medical University of South Carolina. He leads the ENT program. "I am delighted with our continued ranking in the top 15 of U.S. News & World Report, which is a testament to the strength of the department across all subspecialties of otolaryngology, including our research program which ranks No. 13 in terms of funding from the National Institutes of Health," Labadie said.

"Such external validation speaks volumes about our local, regional and national reputation as well as the services we provide to citizens of South Carolina and beyond in alleviating the burden of disease and improving overall health."

OB-GYN

MUSC Health's OB-GYN program earned a No. 16 ranking from U.S. News & World Report. That means it qualifies as offering highly skilled care, a designation that U.S. News says gives patients a clear idea of where to go for surgery or special care that poses technical challenges or a significantly heightened risk of harm.

Program leader David Soper, M.D.,

**For a full list of 2022  
MUSC Health-U.S.  
News & World Report  
high-performing  
specialties, visit <https://tinyurl.com/2nyjz6rf>.**

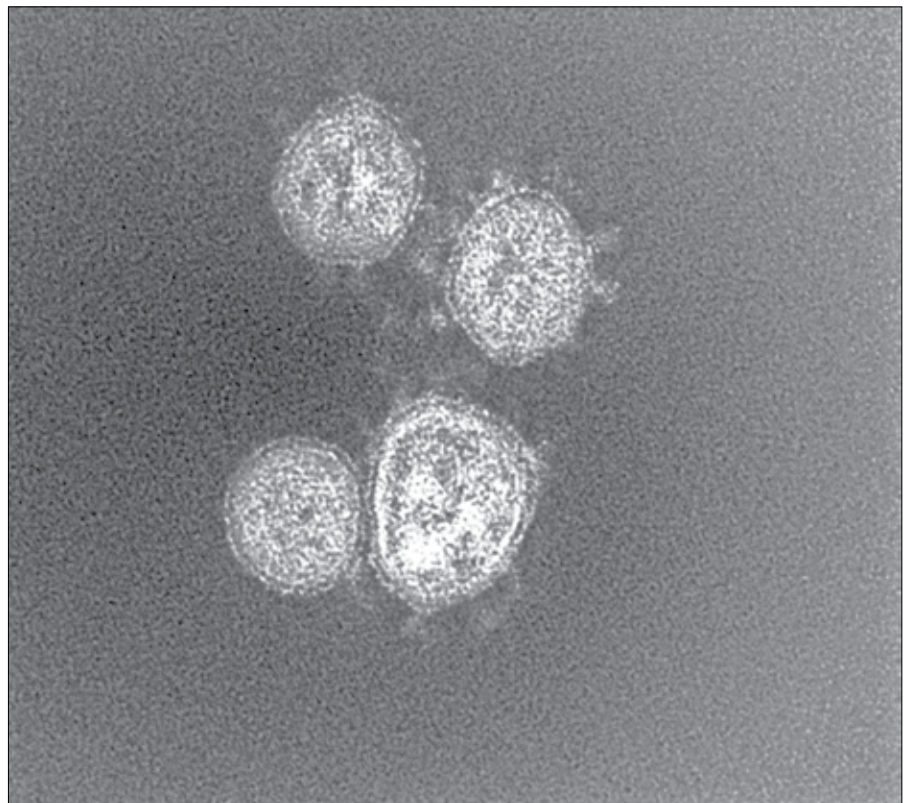
called the work a team sport. "Each physician works hard to develop a focused area of expertise that then can be used to not only provide the very best care to our patients but also educate their colleagues regarding best practice. This translates into expert care and an optimal patient experience."

HIGH PERFORMERS

U.S. News named multiple MUSC Health programs as "high performing" specialties. The high performers include programs in three of MUSC Health's newer locations: Florence, Lancaster and Midlands. All scored mentions for their chronic obstructive pulmonary disease programs.

MUSC Health Florence Medical Center had three other high performing specialties as well: heart failure, kidney failure and stroke. Florence CEO Jay Hinesley called their successes a validation of a lot of hard work.

"It's nice to be recognized by such a prestigious organization. The rankings are evidence that we have recruited top talent to our team and have hardwired best practices in our facilities," Hinesley said.



*Credit: National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases*  
**Transmission electron microscope image shows the virus that causes COVID-19. Virus particles are emerging from the surface of a cell cultured in the lab.**

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variants in the U.S.

Sweat said it has a pattern of coming in as infections from an earlier subvariant, BA.2, are going down. "So they overlap."

Sweat's team, which posts weekly updates on the four parts of South Carolina where MUSC Health has hospitals, did find one site where BA.5 may



**Sweat**

not be doing its worst yet. "Florence is at 38 cases per day per 100,000 people and just saw a minor decline. That happens. But it's generally going up." He said that in most areas, COVID case numbers will probably keep going up quickly for the next few weeks, then plunge. For now, their rise is pretty stunning. For example, Sweat

estimated that between one in 30 and one in 50 people in the Charleston Tri-county area got infected last week. "If it continues identically for two weeks in a row like that, that means one out of every 15 to 25 people over a two-week span are getting infected."

But we're in a better position to deal with COVID these days, thanks to vaccinations, booster shots and other factors. While MUSC Health has seen a recent increase in people hospitalized with COVID, it's nothing like the earlier days of the pandemic. And the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control reports that deaths are trending down.

Still, Sweat said, people need to take COVID seriously. "The death rate is 400 per day in the United States. Four hundred a day is 146,000 people a year. That puts it up there. You know, that's more people than the deaths from diabetes or from kidney disease. This is here and it's going to keep going on. We just need to adapt to that and not pretend it's not real or it's not happening."



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In the past, it primarily spread from animals, such as rodents, to humans. "It is now clear that this infection can spread between people by direct contact, and thus we're concerned that there's the potential for this virus to continue to spread and that there are more cases to



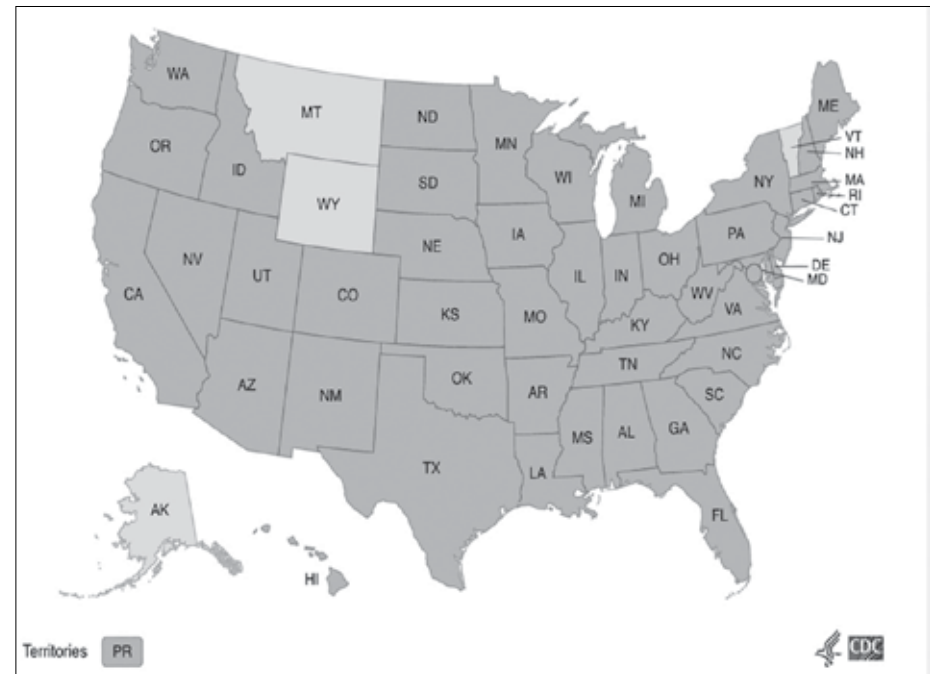
Meissner

(Source: CDC)

While monkeypox is in the same



**A magnifying glass focuses on a rash created by monkeypox.**



Public awareness may also help slow the spread of monkeypox. “Health authorities are fully engaged in mitigation measures and education

efforts to try to limit the extent of this outbreak. It's not a particularly easy virus to catch. It does require direct contact or prolonged close exposure to someone with it. And so I think there's hope that with these efforts and with heightened awareness in the public, the outbreak can be held in check."

# Instructional technology pioneer, educator, mentor retires July 31

By CINDY ABOLE  
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When it comes to excellence in supporting MUSC's missions, no one is more dedicated than Mary P. Mauldin, Ed.D. For almost three decades, Mauldin has been a pioneer in bringing MUSC forward in the areas of instructional technology, innovation, interprofessional education and mentorship to students, staff and faculty. And many on campus agree that it's through her work, energy and commitment that her legacy will have an indelible impact on generations to come.

Mauldin, a professor and executive director of the Office of Instructional Technology and Faculty Resources, retires after 29 years of service to MUSC on July 31. She was celebrated for her many contributions in a public celebration given by her peers, faculty and staff members and students on July 13 at the Drug Discovery Building.

Always open to exploring new ideas, incorporating new tools and supporting the evolution of technology in the clinical, educational and research environment, Mauldin has been responsible for the continued evolution of technology and teaching methods on campus. She's successfully collaborated with others to establish an interprofessional environment for learning,



*Photo by Jonathan Coultas*

**Dr. Mary Mauldin gave the 2021 lecture at the second James W. Colbert Lecture and Faculty Awards and Recognition Ceremony where she spoke about digital transformation and its impact on faculty.**

discovery and healing through the education of health care professionals and health science researchers

MUSC President David J. Cole praised Mauldin for

her many years of service to MUSC and reflected on her impact at MUSC, explaining that it's rare today for

*See EDUCATOR on page 8*

## Thank you, Mary!

"Mary has been the amazing, energetic and talented executive director of Instructional Technology and Faculty Resources since 2012. She has supported the colleges in moving forward in teaching technology and incorporating face-to-face and online education interventions that facilitate the success of our students. Her flexibility and creativity have allowed her to pivot as needed throughout the years as new education challenges have occurred. Her ability to mentor staff and faculty has led to so many successes in teaching in the classroom and online. She has worked to ensure our students are provided excellent teaching and education resources at MUSC. Her impact at MUSC has been vast and will not be forgotten."

*Georgette "Gigi" Smith, Ph.D., R.N.*

*Associate Provost for Education Innovation & Student Life*

"Mary Mauldin's contributions to MUSC have been innumerable. When we think about the characteristics of Mary's achievements, we think about the significance of innovation and calculated risk-taking, along with the power of personal connection and really effective teams. For this reason, Interprofessional Day is hereafter renamed to the

Mary P. Mauldin Interprofessional Day, to represent the influence of Mary's enduring vision and values on MUSC faculty, staff and students."

*Jeffrey J. Borckardt, Ph.D.*

*Assistant Provost, Interprofessional Initiatives  
Education Innovation & Student Life*

"I have had the privilege of working with Dr. Mary Mauldin closely over the past few years in the Office of Instructional Technology and Faculty Resources. Beyond her many professional accomplishments, one of the greatest legacies that Mary leaves behind is the impact that she has had on the lives of those around her. Mary is one of the most compassionate, kind, and thoughtful people that I have ever met. Personally, I have learned so much from her about what it means to be a caring, gracious and effective leader. Her mentorship and guidance over these past years have helped me grow in innumerable ways, and I feel truly honored to have worked with her."

*Mary McGraw Smith*

*Office of Instructional Technology & Faculty Resources  
Education Innovation & Student Life*

"Mary is one of those special people at an organization that seems to have been here since its inception. While she's not THAT old (!), she's absolutely shaped what

MUSC has become. She has many remarkable talents, but the one that I think sets her apart is her ability to recognize opportunities for collaboration that have the potential to produce something new and innovative and then makes those introductions happen. She's at heart a person who loves people, and her appreciation of others' gifts and abilities has always drawn people to her. She sees the unique talents of others and sees how with the right partner or resource, something special is possible. Mary has made a tremendous impact at MUSC with this precious gift, to the benefit of us all, and especially our students."

*Suzanne Thomas, Ph.D.*

*Associate Provost for Educational Planning & Effectiveness  
Office of the Provost*

"Mary is an irreplaceable gem who has changed lives at MUSC through her humble mentorship, open collaboration and support for innovation at all levels. She has been a tremendous example for me and inspires me to pay it forward. Thank you for these valuable lessons, Mary!"

*Amanda K. Giles, OTD*

*Division of Occupational Therapy,  
College of Health Professions*

*See MARY on page 10*



## MEET SHAWN



Shawnda "Shawn" Whitley

**Department; Years at MUSC** *Revenue Cycle/CRC, MUSC-P; 22 years (September)*

**How are you changing what's possible at MUSC**

*I help with procedure code designations for billing and creation of new procedural codes for new and emerging technologies that MUSC surgeons provide to their patients. I also work on the coding side to help transition emerging procedures into mainstream procedures.*

**Family** *Son, Juston, and my "cat-dog," Kue (Kupid)*

**Hobbies or talents** *I love to swim, read, dance, draw and write.*

**Something people don't know about me** *I've had some of my poetry published.*

**Someone you admire and why** *Author and speaker Tony Robbins – he had a very hard childhood and worked very hard to learn, grow and prosper to help others do the same in life.*

**Best thing about working at MUSC** *Knowing that I work for an employer that saves so many lives and provides many new approaches to medical treatments to save those lives. It's about the physicians and health care teams who treat people and save lives.*

**Favorite quote** *"Whether you think you can or think you can't, you're right." – Henry Ford*



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# Parechovirus advisory a reminder of importance of babies' vulnerability during early months

By **HELEN ADAMS**  
adamshel@musc.edu

Doctors at MUSC Children's Health are keeping an eye out for a virus that was the subject of a recent health advisory from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. The agency warned that parechovirus is circulating, making some babies seriously ill.

"If babies have fever or are not eating or are excessively sleepy, they need to be seen," said Elizabeth Mack, M.D., division chief of Pediatric Critical Care Medicine.

Parechovirus, also known as PeV, can cause a range of symptoms. It's so common that almost everyone has had it before they start kindergarten. Some will get such a mild case that they won't even

know they were infected. But others have moderate symptoms, and some get really sick.

Babies can be especially vulnerable, Mack said, because the immunity they get from their mothers wanes before they develop their own robust immune systems. "I typically tell my friends and my patients that during the first three months they need extra protection. If grandparents are coming to help with baby, that's totally understandable. But the whole neighborhood doesn't need to come. You might wait until three or four months of age before bringing a baby around a lot of people."

While parechovirus in children 6 months and up may cause an upper respiratory tract infection, fever and/or a rash, younger babies run the risk of a sepsis-like illness, seizures and



Photo Courtesy iStock

**Babies 3 months and under can be especially vulnerable to illness because the immunity they got from their mothers is waning and their own immune systems aren't robust yet.**

meningitis, according to the CDC.

But a parechovirus infection isn't always that obvious, Mack said. "Oftentimes, babies don't really exhibit much in the way of classic symptoms of a particular illness. A toddler may have

a rash or a runny nose, or what have you. But a baby just may look bad, and may have trouble breathing. We'll look at the blood; we'll look at the urine and

See **BABIES** on page 11

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# MUSC facilities electrician is remembered

BY CINDY ABOLE

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The MUSC community was saddened by the loss of Jeremiah Lee Wiggins, 41, who died Friday, July 8, at MUSC. Wiggins was an electrician and trade specialist in facilities management in the Department of Engineering and Facilities. He began his career at MUSC in March 2011.

Wiggins was born June 14, 1981 in Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, and was the son of Bruce Wiggins and Regina Wiggins. He was a member of Round Lodge No. 270, Ancient Free Masons in Cottageville, where he was a past master.

Known for his friendly smile, love of the outdoors and kind heart, Wiggins enjoyed four-wheeling, fishing and hunting, cooking and gathering with family and friends.

Wiggins' funeral service was held July 13 at Brice Herndon Funeral Chapel in Walterboro. He is survived by his wife, Amy Stanfield Wiggins of Walterboro; mother, Regina Wiggins of Cottageville; father and step-mother, Bruce and Cindy Wiggins of Carrollton, Georgia; and other family.



Jeremiah L. Wiggins

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EDUCATOR *Continued from Page Four*

someone to believe in and stay with an organization for the number of years that she has.

“I think it says a lot about Mary’s passion for our mission, and in particular, for enabling a high-quality education for our students. Over the decades she spent here, Mary played a major role in helping MUSC embrace the educational and technological revolutions of our time, as well as playing an integral role in developing, deploying, and evolving our interprofessional curriculum. That curriculum is now a national model for other institutions seeking to have their students gain more experience working in multidisciplinary teams.

Cole explained that most recently, Mauldin teamed up with individuals in Emergency and Risk Management to create a new curriculum around emergency preparedness related to MUSC learnings and innovations achieved during the pandemic. “She’s is revered and adored by her students and fellow faculty, and has been a known and trusted voice on numerous academic committees. I often hear words like “team player,” “respectful,” “integrity,” and “innovator” when Mary is described, and I think all who have worked with her would agree that she’s those things and more.”

Originally from Anderson, South Carolina, Mauldin joined MUSC in November of 1993 as an instructor and director of the Education Technology Lab in the Department of Educational Services. Throughout the next 16 years, she rose through the ranks as an associate professor and director of the Center for Academic and Research Computing in the Department of Library Science and informatics. In that time, she built up the center by creating DVD/CD-ROM instructional-based programs with faculty and staff, created informational websites and other projects to expand her team’s expertise and to incorporate new technology and teaching methods for users on campus.

In 2006, she was instrumental in creating and launching MUSC’s Interprofessional Day – a unique interactive program that focused on

collaboration and teamwork among students from all six colleges and health disciplines. Mauldin has been responsible for leading this annual daylong program and curriculum with the help of a supportive team of faculty and staff members from across campus. Today, the program reaches more than 1,800 MUSC students and faculty and staff members and is a nationally recognized model among academic health science centers for interprofessional collaboration and excellence.

In 2013, then-MUSC President Raymond Greenberg, M.D., Ph.D., recognized Mauldin for her success in bringing the newest technologies, products, tools and methodologies to campus. Greenberg presented Mauldin with a Presidential Merit Award and medallion. Mauldin was the 16th individual to receive this award during Greenberg’s tenure at MUSC.

“Mary is and remains one of my favorite people at MUSC,” said Greenberg upon learning of her retirement. “I couldn’t think of another person on campus who had benefited MUSC – all six colleges and students – in the manner that Mary has. When I think about her many contributions to campus, one that stands out is her role with the Presidential Scholars program – a program created to bring students from all six colleges together. Everyone seemed to have an amazing experience. Part of that was because of the mentorship and support of people like Mary who made it work,” he said.

Greenberg also took a moment to recognize her warmth, caring and compassion as a human being. “She’s a remarkable person – beloved by everyone who’s ever interacted with her. That’s a special and unique trait.”

From 2012 to present, Mauldin was named executive director of the Office of Instructional Technology and Faculty Resources and associate director of education for the Office of Interprofessional Initiatives in the Division of Education and Student Life, where she and her team leads instructional technology and instructional systems support, maintains



*Photo Courtesy iStock*  
**Dr. Mary Mauldin thanks guests and shares a few words at a July 13 campus celebration honoring her retirement and 29-year career at MUSC.**

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~ David P. Kent

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# Hollings researcher awarded prestigious grant for medulloblastoma research

BY LESLIE CANTU

cantul@musc.edu

When MUSC Hollings Cancer Center researcher Jezabel R. Blanco, Ph.D., began studying neurosciences, first as a graduate student and later as a postdoctoral fellow, her research was focused on understanding the mechanisms underlying brain disease, both in the context of neurodegeneration and cancer, but mostly from a basic research angle.

However, after she arrived at MUSC Darby Children's Research Institute and Hollings Cancer Center as an assistant professor in 2020, she began working with the doctors who treat pediatric brain cancer patients and interacting with the families of some of these kids. She heard their stories of children with medulloblastoma, the cancer that she studies, and their firsthand accounts changed the way she thought about things.

"The toxicity that is linked to the

treatment that they receive is terrible," she said.

Further, because there is less research into pediatric cancers than adult cancers, most of the drugs used to treat medulloblastoma are decades old – the newest was developed in the late 1990s. Some of the others were approved back in the '60s and '70s, she said. And when patients relapse, doctors don't have any further options for them. While the five-year survival rate for medulloblastoma is about 70%, for those kids who relapse, this number is close to zero. Unfortunately, she said, 30% of these children will relapse.

This has made Blanco determined



Blanco

to understand the biological mechanisms that cause relapse so that new drugs can be developed.

"We need to have better treatments for these kids. We need treatments to be more targeted so they will be less toxic and more effective," she said

She is already making progress.

Blanco recently learned that she was awarded a grant by the V Foundation for Cancer Research, only the second Hollings researcher to receive a grant from this organization. The V Foundation invites select cancer research institutions to apply for its annual grants, and each institution may nominate only one of its researchers each year.

The V Foundation funding will allow her to continue her research into the mechanisms behind medulloblastoma relapse – research that is featured this month in the journal Science Advances.

In her paper, Blanco focuses on patients in the Sonic hedgehog subgroup of medulloblastoma.

Medulloblastomas have been subdivided

into four major subgroups based on transcriptional profile, and copy number aberrations, and the Sonic hedgehog subgroup represents about 30% of all medulloblastoma cases.

Efforts have been made to block the Sonic hedgehog signaling pathway by targeting the transmembrane protein smoothed, or SMO, which occurs upstream in the pathway. Many of the patients treated with compounds inhibiting SMO, however, have relapsed. Instead, Blanco's research indicates that proteins farther along in the pathway, called GLI, or glioma-associated oncogene homolog, should be the ones targeted.

"If you use a GLI inhibitor instead of a SMO inhibitor, you will target a population of GLI dependent SOX2 cells that we have seen facilitates tumor relapse," she said.

Research showed that using a GLI inhibitor didn't just make the tumor

See **RESEARCH** on page 11



## Fun By The Numbers

Like puzzles? Then you'll love sudoku. This mind-bending puzzle will have you hooked from the moment you square off, so sharpen your pencil and put your sudoku savvy to the test!

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Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

Level: Beginner

|   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
|   |   | 4 |   |   |   | 2 |   | 7 |
|   | 6 |   | 9 |   |   | 3 |   | 1 |
| 9 | 2 |   |   | 7 |   | 5 |   |   |
|   | 7 | 9 | 2 | 6 | 4 |   | 1 |   |
| 1 | 3 |   | 7 | 8 |   |   | 2 |   |
|   | 4 | 8 | 1 | 9 |   |   |   |   |
| 3 |   |   | 6 |   |   |   | 8 |   |
|   | 8 | 7 |   | 1 |   | 6 |   |   |
| 6 |   |   | 8 |   | 2 | 9 |   | 4 |

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EDUCATOR *Continued from Page Eight*

classroom technology and provides technical support for distance education classes (WebCT) and video conferencing, plus organized innovative faculty groups and led the campus in digital transformation efforts.

In spring of 2020 and during the early stages of the COVID-19 pandemic, she and her team quickly pivoted to provide integrative remote learning strategies, instructional technology tools and course delivery models to assist faculty members and students in teaching and learning effectively under the confines of pandemic restrictions.

At her July 13 retirement celebration, leadership and colleagues presented Mauldin and her husband, Steve Mauldin, with a signed campus photograph. MUSC Provost Lisa Saladin, P.T., Ph.D., also presented her with a certificate of special recognition for her dedication and commitment to providing cutting-edge

*“It’s hard to capture Mary’s diverse and outstanding contributions in words that do her justice. She is an outstanding leader, an innovator, a mentor, a facilitator, a team builder and a champion for excellence in education.”*

**Lisa Saladin, P.T., Ph.D.**

and innovative education on campus.

“It is hard to capture Mary’s diverse and outstanding contributions in words that do her justice,” Saladin said. “She is an outstanding leader, an innovator, a mentor, a facilitator, a team builder and a champion

for excellence in education. Mary always brings creative solutions to any conversations about challenges ahead, and I love her “can-do” attitude. Her positivity is infectious, and she has earned the respect and admiration of all who know her. Maya Angelou once said ‘If you’re going to live, leave a legacy. Make a mark on the world that can’t be erased.’ Mary, your mark on MUSC will not be erased, and you will be missed more than words can express.”

It was announced at the celebration that the annual MUSC Interprofessional Day will be known as “Mary Mauldin Interprofessional Day.”

Finally, to mark the occasion of her retirement and contributions to the MUSC community, it was also announced that fund in Mauldin’s honor was established to support the MUSC Foundation – Student Services Fund #8898. Visit the MUSC Foundation link at <https://fundraise.musc.edu/give/379296/#!/donation/checkout>.

MARY *Continued from Page Four*

“Dedicated, focused, loyal, professional, driven are all words we use to describe Mary. But behind all those hard working attributes there is also the caring and compassionate side to Mary. She is one of the kindest and most honest people you are ever likely to meet. I have been fortunate to call Mary my boss for my entire 25-year-long career here at MUSC. She has not only taught me how to be a professional, she has also made me a better person. I owe so much to Mary and a few words on paper can never be enough to express my gratitude. MUSC will miss Mary, but I don’t think anyone will miss her as much as me.”

*Jonathan Coultas*

*Office of Instructional Technology and Faculty Resources, Education Innovation & Student Life*

“Mary has worked with the College of Dental Medicine since the very inception of educational technology and has been an invaluable resource to both me as an educator and to the college. She helped with our early ventures into digital coursework in the late 90s. She and her team have always supported educational technology, throughout the University’s accreditation initiatives (anyone remember C3?) and also have supported faculty education in technology through

the Apple Tree society and many other programs. Mary was ALWAYS working. ALWAYS working! She will be greatly missed but leaves a legacy of trained educators thanks to her tireless efforts. We wish her the best in her retirement.”

*Elizabeth S. Pilcher, D.M.D.*

*Department of Oral Rehabilitation, James B. Edwards College of Dental Medicine*

“My words could not possibly do justice to what an exceptional person Mary is. I can say that she was a mentor and friend for the last 18 years as we worked together in the area of instructional technology, and what a tremendous benefit that was to me, personally and professionally. What great luck it was for me to have had the opportunity to get to know her and watch her work. While I’ll miss working with Mary, in my mind, she won’t be far, and I hope she’s proud and satisfied with the indelible impressions she’s made. Very best wishes to Mary!”

*Dusti Annan-Coultas, Ed.D.*

*Office of Interprofessional Initiatives, Education Innovation & Student Life*

“When I initially met Mary, I had an instant feeling of trust! She steered me in the right direction, and I felt an instant connection. I think maybe this could have been due to having educational experiences in public education in common before MUSC. She was on

point in direction, and the advice she has shared with me since has only furthered my professional advancement. Mary taught me the true act of reflection, and I often think to myself, “What would Mary say?” before sharing or my communicating my thoughts. Be kind and care — people need to know you care! It makes work fun and feels so good to see smiles!”

*Kimberly LW Kascak*

*Office of Interprofessional Initiatives, Education Innovation & Student Life*

“On behalf of the Office of Innovation, I’d like to express our gratitude that we’ve had the opportunity to work with Mary for the past several years. Mary is a staunch supporter of our faculty and students, a champion for the role of education in our tripartite mission and an absolute pleasure to have as a partner. Mary has led the education track during Innovation Week for the last four years, and each year she pulls together programming that is second to none and has the largest audience as well. Mary is always ready to roll up her sleeves to help with anything that needs to get done, and despite being incredibly busy, she always takes the time to write personal thank you letters to ensure that everyone with whom she works understands their value. Mary is an icon on campus and will be missed.”

*Jesse Goodwin, Ph.D.*

*MUSC Chief Innovation Officer*

“As a junior faculty member, I was named as faculty for the Presidential Scholars Program. Through this unique and innovative interprofessional training program, I was able to work with Mary and her team on a variety of projects. Mary was an influential role model to me as a young faculty member and taught me many valuable lessons about interprofessional teams and health care education. Her legacy will continue to shine through all of those with whom she has influenced.”

*Terrence E. Steyer, M.D.*

*Interim Dean, College of Medicine*

“Dr. Mary Mauldin’s leadership and mentorship have been an ongoing blessing to me throughout my career at MUSC. She has been a consistent resource to the faculty of the James B. Edwards College of Dental Medicine. I am very grateful for her patient help and support. Mary is a tireless advocate for learners and educators. As a relatively junior faculty member, she invited me to join her to provide the keynote address for a national health education conference. This was a significant opportunity for



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