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**131<sup>st</sup> Commencement**  
December 8, 2005



# 131<sup>st</sup> Commencement

December 8, 2005

# *The Commencement Ceremony*

The audience is requested to stand during the Academic Procession, the singing of the National Anthem, and the Benediction, and to remain in place until the Recessional has left the Arena.

## The Academic Procession

Chief Marshal.....Michael Levitzky, Ph.D.  
*Professor of Physiology*  
*Director of Basic Sciences Curriculum, School of Medicine*

Music.....The Louisiana Brass

Bearer of the Mace.....Joseph M. Moerschbaecher, III, Ph.D.  
*Vice-Chancellor for Academic Affairs*  
*Dean, School of Graduate Studies*

## Procession of the Platform Party

Faculty Marshals.....Andrew Pellett, Ph.D.  
*Associate Professor of Cardiopulmonary Science*

William P. Newman, III, M.D.  
*Professor of Pathology*

## Procession of the Faculty

Student Marshals.....Stephanie Pierce, MN  
*Assistant Professor of Clinical Nursing*

Patricia L. Lane, Ph.D.  
*Professor of Nursing*

## Procession of the Students

### Procession of the Candidates in Medicine

Gonfalonier..... Brandon Keith Hider  
*Doctor of Medicine Candidate*

### Procession of the Candidates in Allied Health Professions

Gonfalonier.....Allison Claire Bonomolo  
*Master of Communication Disorders Candidate*

### Procession of the Candidates in Nursing

Gonfalonier..... Kari Michelle Brummett  
*Bachelor of Science in Nursing Candidate*



# *The Commencement Ceremony*

Opening Proclamation..... Joseph M. Moerschbaecher, III, Ph.D.  
*Vice-Chancellor for Academic Affairs  
Dean, School of Graduate Studies*

Our National Anthem (*Trumpet Solo*)..... Blaine Stephen Guthrie  
*Bachelor of Science in Nursing Candidate*

Invocation..... Leslie Claire Gros  
*Bachelor of Science in Nursing Candidate*

Welcome and Opening Remarks..... John A. Rock, M.D.  
*Chancellor*

Introduction of Commencement Speaker ..... Elizabeth A. Humphrey, Ed.D.  
*Dean, School of Nursing*

Commencement Address..... Daniel J. Pesut Ph.D. APRN BC FAAN  
*Professor of Nursing and Associate Dean for Graduate Programs at  
Indiana University School of Nursing*

Conferring of Degrees .....Mrs. Dorothy "Dottie" Reese  
*Louisiana State University Board of Supervisors*

Greetings ..... William L. Jenkins, M.Med.Vet., Ph.D.  
*President, Louisiana State University System*

Benediction.....Stephanie Elaine LeLeux  
*Master of Nursing Graduate*

Closing Proclamation..... Joseph M. Moerschbaecher, III, Ph.D.  
*Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs  
Dean, School of Graduate Studies*

The Recessional

Daniel J. Pesut Ph.D. APRN BC FAAN  
Professor of Nursing and Associate Dean for Graduate Programs  
Indiana University School of Nursing

## *Our National Anthem*

O say can you see by the dawn's early light  
What so proudly we hailed at the twilight's last gleaming

Whose broad stripes and bright stars  
Through the perilous fight

O'er the ramparts we watched  
Were so gallantly streaming

And the rocket's red glare  
The bombs bursting in air

Gave proof through the night  
That our flag was still there

O say does that star-spangled banner yet wave  
O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave

*Francis Scott Key*

*The following list of graduates represents the most accurate information available at press time.  
The appearance of a name on this program is presumptive of graduation but not conclusive.*

*Professional photographers will record each graduate as the diploma is presented  
and color portraits will be available for purchase, if desired.*

*Commencement Speaker*

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**Daniel J. Pesut Ph.D. APRN BC FAAN**  
*Professor of Nursing and Associate Dean for  
Graduate Programs  
Indiana University School of Nursing*



## *Commencement Speaker*

### **Daniel J. Pesut Ph.D. APRN BC FAAN**

*Professor of Nursing and Associate Dean for Graduate Programs  
at Indiana University School of Nursing.*

**D**r. Pesut is currently a Professor of Nursing and Associate Dean for Graduate Programs at Indiana University School of Nursing. Dr. Pesut holds a doctorate in Nursing from the University of Michigan. He received his Master of Science degree in psychiatric mental health nursing from the University of Texas Health Science Center, San Antonio, Texas, and his Bachelor of Science degree in nursing from Northern Illinois University. In addition, he holds a certificate in management development from the Harvard Institute for Higher Education.

Dr. Pesut is currently serving as President (2003-2005) of Sigma Theta Tau International Honor Society of Nursing. In addition he is a trustee (2005-2008) on the Plexus Institute Board of Directors and a member of the Strategic Planning Committee for the Commission on Graduates of Foreign Nursing Schools (CGFNS). He is a Fellow in the American Academy of Nursing, and a board certified advanced practice registered nurse in adult psychiatric mental health nursing. He is the recipient of many awards including an Army Commendation Award while on active duty (1975-1978) in the US Army Nurse Corps. He has received the Sigma Theta Tau International Edith Moore Copeland Founder's Award for Creativity; The American Assembly for Men In Nursing Luther Christman Award; Distinguished Alumni Awards from Northern Illinois University's School of Nursing and College of Health and Human Services; as well as a Distinguished Alumni Award from the School of Nursing and the University of Texas Health Science Center School of Nursing. He has received distinguished teaching Awards from the University of South Carolina School of Nursing, and Excellence in Mentoring Awards from the Alpha Chapter of Sigma Theta Tau International at Indiana University School of Nursing, and numerous distinguished Service Awards from Sigma Theta Tau International.

Dr. Pesut has served on several editorial boards and advisory committees including, Nursing Outlook, Nursing Leadership Forum, Journal of Nursing Scholarship, Journal of Professional Nursing, Journal of Advanced Nursing, Psychiatric Services, Nurse Educator. From 1997-2002 he authored a feature in Nursing Outlook entitled "Future Think", that focused on trends and issues related to nursing and health care futures.

A popular author, speaker and consultant, Dr. Pesut is internationally known for his work in nursing education and research including creative-teaching learning methods related to self-regulation of health, clinical reasoning, futures thinking and leadership development. He has presented at numerous international, national, and regional conferences. He has published several books chapters, articles and editorials, and is principal author of the book *Clinical Reasoning: The Art and Science of Critical and Creative Thinking in Nursing* published by Delmar Publishers.



# Candidates for Degrees

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## School of Medicine

Presented by Joseph Delcarpio, Ph.D., Associate Dean

### DOCTOR OF MEDICINE

Brandon Keith Hider

Curtis Dwayne Prowell, Jr.



\* In Absentia

# Candidates for Degrees

## School of Public Health

Presented by Elizabeth T.H. Fontham, Dr. P.H. Dean

### MASTER OF PUBLIC HEALTH

Cassandra D. Youmans \*



# Candidates for Degrees

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## School of Graduate Studies

Presented by Joseph M. Moershbacher, III, Ph.D., Dean

### DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY

Daniel Pearson Stewart \*

Program; Biochemistry and Molecular Biology

Major Professor: Dr. Jawed Alam

Dissertation Title: Regulation of Heme Oxygenase-1 Gene Activation



\* In Absentia

# *Candidates for Degrees*

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## **School of Allied Health Professions**

Presented by J.M. Cairo, Ph.D., Dean

### **BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN MEDICAL TECHNOLOGY**

Lindsay Ellen Hagan

Medical Technology

### **MASTER OF COMMUNICATION DISORDERS**

Allison Claire Bonomolo

Speech Language Pathology

Michelle Gueringer Bourgeois

Speech Language Pathology

Megan Bree Carlisle

Speech Language Pathology

Tara Francesca DiPietra

Speech Language Pathology

Jennifer Brooke Lacey

Speech Language Pathology

Lauren Nicole Melchiorre

Speech Language Pathology

Mae Fern Schroeder

Speech Language Pathology

Shawn Louise Zonavetch

Speech Language Pathology

### **MASTER OF HEALTH SCIENCES**

Erin Morgan Crisham

Rehabilitation Counseling

Debra Danielle Ditta

Rehabilitation Counseling

Jennifer Waguespack Jubenville

Occupational Therapy

Jimmy Joseph Martin, Jr.

Medical Technology



# Candidates for Degrees

## School of Nursing

Presented by Elizabeth A. Humphrey, Ed.D., Dean

### BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN NURSING

Allison Elise Adams	Emily Ann Hodes
Erin Callaghan Alvarado	Christina Frances Johnson
Jaime Lynn Amato	Jenelle Marie Johnson
Billy Ray Anderson	Kianna Montrelle Joseph
Jennifer Lynn Aymond	Mandy Marie Kernion
Philip Arthur Baracco, Jr.	Michelle M. Kraus
Toussaint Battley III	Brant Christopher Langlinais
Brooke Beasley	Yvette Picot Luster, RN
Anthony Louis Benoit	Shannon Leigh Kaminski Mayberry
Monique Breaux Bienvenu, RN	Erin F. McConnell
Beth Ann Billiot	Christopher Michael Neyrey
Michelle Begault Blanke	Van T. Nguyen
Margaret Blythe Boudreaux	Michelle Lynn Parks
Meagan Anne Boyne	Kelly A. Perrier
Natalie Ellen Brown	Leah H. Peters
Kari Michelle Brummett	Cassie Amelia Pittman
Damian Heath Campbell	Tracy Ann Radosti
Rene' Arlette Carter	Ashlie Michelle Rasch
Kristy Lynn Castille	Kimberly Claire Robertson
Jayne E. Champagne	Brandi Sheree Rodriguez
Zulma Lotti Chatman, RN *	Jessica Elaine Rongey
Jamie Lynn Cox	Dana Marie Schiffman
Laura Elizabeth Cox	Heather Rose Schultz
Caterina Nicole Dispenza	Brandi Rae Smith
Emily Haden Erwin	Jill Elizabeth Smith
Sean Robert Fitzsimmons	Nichole C. Staab
Kody Todd Fontenot	Aleisha Rose Sylvester
Kelly Marisa Garin	Ashley Marie Terrell
Carol F. Graci	Emily Marie Touns
Leslie Claire Gros	LaTasha Danielle Turner
Kevin Rory Guillory	Allison Lynn Vallee
Blaine Stephen Guthrie	Amanda Janel Zahn

\* In Absentia

## *Candidates for Degrees*

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### MASTER OF NURSING

Courtney Rene' Gary

Shane Leslie Pierre Glass

Nicole Tina Judice

Eugenie G. Killian

Stephanie Elaine LeLeux

Whitney B. Millet

Erron David Pujol

Ivy Ann Rouzan

Rhonda Renee' Smith

Neonatal Nurse Practitioner

Neonatal Nurse Practitioner

Adult Health Nursing

Neonatal Nurse Practitioner

Neonatal Nurse Practitioner

Neonatal Nurse Practitioner

Primary Care Nurse Practitioner

Parent Child Health Nursing

Neonatal Nurse Practitioner

### DOCTOR OF NURSING SCIENCE

Anna Leah Cazes

Major Professor: Dr. Don Arthur Johnson

Dissertation Title: *Readiness for Change of Heart Failure Patients on Behaviors of*

*Medication Adherence, Sodium Restriction, Regular Physical Activity, Weight Monitoring, Smoking Cessation, Alcohol Cessation*

## *Academic Traditions*

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The celebration of commencement is a rich tapestry of tradition. Each tradition adds to the pageantry and the majesty of one of the Health Sciences Center's most solemn, yet joyous occasions. The conferring of degrees is formal recognition that our graduates have attained mastery of the healing arts and sciences and are fully prepared to accept the sacred trust which will soon be bestowed upon them by their patients and clients. This is a very special day for the entire LSU Health Sciences Center family, and so that the meaning of this ceremony will be deepened and the celebration more fitting the magnitude of accomplishment of our faculty and students, the Health Sciences Center has woven a number of time-honored traditions into our commencement tapestry.

### **Academic Regalia**

The origins of academic regalia date back to the 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> centuries. The long robe and hood were borrowed from clerical dress with a nod toward practicality for the warmth the costume provided in unheated and drafty halls. While proper academic dress was defined for the first time during the reign of Henry VIII at Oxford and Cambridge, it was not until the 19<sup>th</sup> century and, then only in the United States, that it was standardized. Colors were assigned to signify the various areas of scholarly pursuit. Green, the color of medieval herbs, was chosen for medicine, and golden yellow, representing the wealth produced by scientific research, was selected for the sciences. In 1932, the American Council on Education approved an academic costume code which, with few changes, is still used today. The principle features of academic dress are three: The gown, the cap and the hood.

**The Gown.** The flowing black gown comes from the twelfth century. It has become symbolic of the democracy of scholarship, for it completely covers dress of rank or social standing beneath. Gowns with pointed sleeves designate the Associate and Bachelor's degree; long, closed sleeves are used for the Master's degree, with a slit for the arm; and round, open sleeves indicate the Doctor's degree. The gown worn for Associate, Bachelor's or Master's degree has no trimmings. The gown for the Doctor's degree is faced down the front with velvet and has three bars of velvet across the sleeves, in the color distinctive of the faculty or discipline to which the degree pertains. For certain institutions, the official colors of the college or university may appear on the gown or its decorations.

**The Cap.** The freed slave in Ancient Rome won the privilege of wearing a cap, and so the academic cap is a sign of the freedom of scholarship and the responsibility and dignity with which scholarship endows the wearer. Old poetry records the cap of scholarship as a square to symbolize the book, although some authorities claim the mortar board is a symbol of the masons, a privileged guild. The color of the tassel on the cap denotes the discipline, although a gold tassel may be worn with any Doctor's gown. The tassel is traditionally worn on the right front side of the cap before degrees are conferred and is shifted to the left at the moment the diploma is awarded.

**The Hood.** Heraldically, the hood is an inverted shield with one or more chevrons of a secondary color on the ground of the primary color of the college or university. The color of the face of the hood denotes the discipline represented by the degree; the color of the lining of the hood designates the university or college from which the degree was granted.

The academic colors used in LSU Health Sciences Center's commencement ceremony are green for medicine, lilac for dentistry, apricot for nursing, gold for allied health professions, dark blue for graduate studies, and salmon for public health.



## *Academic Traditions*

### **The University Mace**

**T**he academic mace comes from a heritage imbued with tradition and symbolism. Long held as a symbol of strength and authority, there are a number of theories about its origin. Although some say the word mace is derived from the French word *masse*, meaning club, one of the earliest references to a mace was an ebony-black effigy discovered in King Tut's tomb of "a King, gold-sandalled, bearing staff and mace". During medieval times, the mace of arms was cast as a weapon—a heavy staff or club often made of iron with a spiked end used by knights to penetrate and break armor. Bodyguards carried maces to protect their royals in processions.

But by the 14<sup>th</sup> century, the use of maces was becoming more ceremonial, sometimes carried in processions of civil ceremonies with mayors and other dignitaries. The mace began to lose its warlike appearance, instead being adorned with jewels and precious metals. Maces were not used as weapons after the 16<sup>th</sup> century. The first dated record of the mace's transition to academics was in 1385 when a mace was carried at the University of Vienna.

Today, the British Parliament, the Congress of the United States, and many other governmental bodies use stationary ceremonial maces. Increasingly more universities are embracing the enduring tradition of heralding their academic processions with a ceremonial mace, carried before the university leadership as an ensign of authority, dignity, succession, and the rich symbolism unique to each university.

The mace of the LSU Health Sciences Center in New Orleans was designed to define the Center and to reflect its missions and its heritage. The mace is topped with the mother pelican feeding her young taken from the Louisiana State Seal. The nest rests atop a custom-made purple glass globe, engraved with the names of the six professional schools of LSU Health Sciences Center in New Orleans. The neck of the solid mahogany staff is finished in gold, adorned with the symbols depicting the four missions of the health sciences center—education, patient care, research, and outreach, as well as a representation of Hygieia, the daughter of Aesculapius and the Goddess of Health. The base is finished with the founding year, 1931, and decorated with a fleur-de-lis, to recognize the founding of the Health Sciences Center in New Orleans.



## *Academic Traditions*

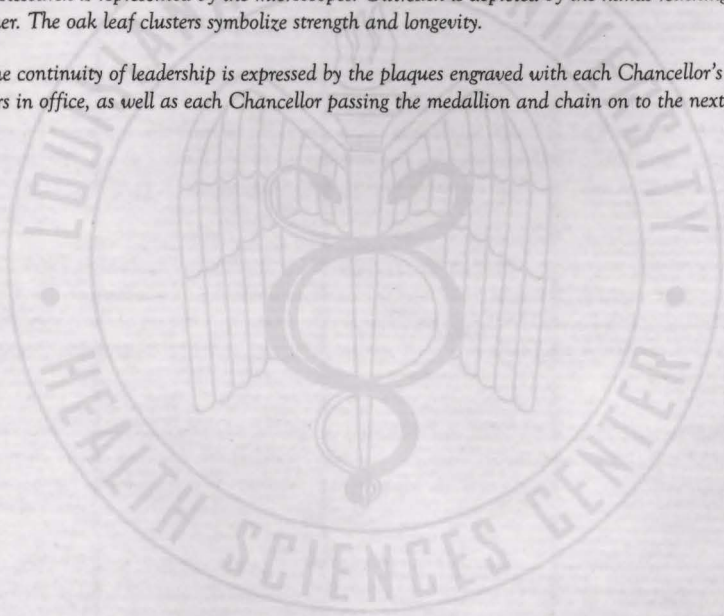
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### **The Chain of Office**

**A** symbol of authority whose origins may lie in chains bearing portraits of monarchs given to scholars as signs of honor and favor, or in the badge of office said to date back to the age of chivalry when officials were more readily identifiable by their badges of rank, the chain of office is steeped in ceremonial significance.

The Chain of Office of LSU Health Sciences Center in New Orleans, fashioned in bronze, represents the authority and great responsibility of the Chancellor as head of the university. A medallion encircling the seal of the Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center engraved with the year of its founding is suspended by a chain incorporating symbols of the Center's fourfold mission. Education is represented by the books upon which the names of the six schools of the center are engraved. Patient care is represented by the stethoscopes, used in clinical disciplines spanning our schools. Research is represented by the microscopes. Outreach is depicted by the hands reaching out to each other. The oak leaf clusters symbolize strength and longevity.

The continuity of leadership is expressed by the plaques engraved with each Chancellor's name and years in office, as well as each Chancellor passing the medallion and chain on to the next.



# Academic Traditions

## The University Gonfalons

A gonfalon is a flag that hangs from a crosspiece or frame. The first gonfalons were displayed in medieval Italy as an ensign of state or office as well as in ecclesiastical processions. From the Germanic compound *gund-fanon* (battle flag), gonfalons were also used as flags of battle. They are frequently seen at the heads of religious or military processions, always accompanied by "valets" or "honor guards". Many universities around the world have adopted them to lead academic processions as they comprise a unique and colorful ceremonial display. The gonfalons are made in the appropriate academic color for each school, and contain a visual element representing the academic discipline of the school, as well as the university seal.

Da Vinci's *Vitruvian Man* is the symbol on allied health's golden gonfalon. Vitruvius, a Roman engineer of the first century B.C. influenced da Vinci's drawings of the human body. The drawing is based upon a model of ideal proportions which Vitruvius established and is the symbol most frequently representative of the specialties of the allied health professions.

The nursing gonfalon is apricot and its symbol is the burning lamp of Florence Nightingale. Florence Nightingale was called "the lady with the lamp" because she used a lamp in her selfless duty in the Crimean War, although hers was a collapsible paper cylinder which protected the flame and diffused more light. The lamp has come to symbolize nursing to honor Florence Nightingale's enormous dedication and contributions to the nursing profession, as well as to represent the lamp of knowledge.

The dentistry gonfalon is lilac with the official emblem for dentistry adopted in 1965. The design uses as its central figure a serpent entwined about an ancient Arabian cautery. The Greek letter (delta), for dentistry, and (omicron) for odont (tooth) form the periphery of the design. In the background of the design are 32 leaves and 20 berries, representing the permanent and temporary teeth.

The graduate studies gonfalon is dark blue and its symbol is DNA, the building blocks of life. These building blocks are essential in the research done in the doctoral programs of Cell Biology and Anatomy, Biochemistry, Human Genetics, Microbiology, Neuroscience, Pathology, Pharmacology, and Physiology.

The medicine gonfalon is green, and its symbol is the caduceus, the staff with winding serpents topped by a pair of wings from Greek mythology that has come to represent the medical profession in the United States. In Greek and Roman mythology, the caduceus, like the staff of Aesculapius, was associated with healing and immortality. Both were used as printer's marks from the 16<sup>th</sup> century on, especially as frontispieces to pharmacopoeias in the 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> centuries. One theory postulates that as printers saw themselves as messengers of the printed word and thus disseminators of knowledge, they chose the symbol of the messenger of the ancient gods, Hermes. The United States Army adopted the caduceus as the official emblem of its medical department in 1902, cementing its use as such in this country.

Hygieia, the Greek goddess of health, adorns the public health gonfalon. The granddaughter of Apollo and the most important of Asclepius' five daughters, Hygieia personifies physical and psychic health. She was said to relieve illness in humans as well as animals through diet and medication. Often depicted feeding a snake wrapped around her body, Hygieia was sometimes called "The Health". Derived from the Greek word, *hygieinos*, meaning healthful, Hygieia survives today in the word *hygiene*—a basic preventive discipline in public health.

