



### Phase II Academics

- Congrats to 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> years for completing Rotation 2 of 2014! Also to the Class of 2013 on a phenomenal Match Day and starting intern year soon!
- UQ-Ochsner has been approved by the Medical Board of California for students to complete residency training in CA.
- Student-led interest groups have met at least once so far this year: Pediatrics, OBGYN, IM, Surgery, PM&R, LGBT, Emergency Med. Keep an eye out for upcoming meetings!
- Resident/Intern Teaching Award Nominations close at the end of May so get in your nominations! Fill out info here: <http://goo.gl/prwGau>
- 3<sup>rd</sup> year students: if you are interested in doing an optional elective at the end of the year, contact programs now and complete the necessary paperwork from the hosting program/SOM.
- It's important to continue updating your CV with new activities and accomplishments. If you need help, email Sunmi for templates at [OMSAAcademic@ochsner.org](mailto:OMSAAcademic@ochsner.org)

### Community Outreach

- There has been a variety of volunteer opportunities so far this year thanks to our OMSA Outreach Officer Jess Lozier ([OMSAOutreach@ochsner.org](mailto:OMSAOutreach@ochsner.org)) - over half of UQ-Ochsner Phase 2 students has been involved in more than 5 hours of volunteer activities.
- In February, FIFTY-FIVE 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> year med students helped out at the Anti-Tobacco Summit honoring former US Surgeon General Regina Benjamin. Students attended panel conversations led by national leaders in medicine, and danced to Pharrell's "Happy" as part of the day's celebration.
- In March, the Ochsner Sports Training Symposium took place at the Saints Training Grounds for high school students to learn about fitness, orthopedic injuries and fundamentals of sports medicine and physical rehabilitation. Med students performed blood pressure readings and discussed exercise management.
- In April and May, we put on sexual health trainings at the Covenant House Homeless Shelter for NOLA teens. There was a positive response from both participants and hosts.
- This month, students will receive training in Smoking Cessation and be eligible to volunteer at the Smoking Cessation clinic.
- **Upcoming/ongoing projects:**
  - Coalition to Restore Coastal Louisiana on May 24<sup>th</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup>: help plant 50,000 plugs of native marsh grass on the Northshore. AIR BOATS are involved!
  - Luke's House Clinic: monthly free clinic where 1-2 students can volunteer with Dr. Denton. Need more staff physicians to keep this a monthly opportunity so if you're on GP or IM, reach out to the attendings you've worked with to see if they'd be interested!
  - Emergency Tents at local running races and triathlons
  - Camp Challenge July 26<sup>th</sup>-Aug 4<sup>th</sup> WEEKENDS: come help out at a summer camp for kids and teens living with cancer

**OMSA GEAR ON SALE  
AT REDUCED PRICES!**  
HOODIES: \$15  
T-SHIRTS: \$10

S-XL available. Email  
Liaison if interested!



### Published by OMSA

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# OMSA Newsletter

NEW ORLEANS UPDATES

Edition 1; volume 3  
May 2014



3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> years volunteer at the Anti-Tobacco Summit honoring former US Surgeon General Dr. Regina Benjamin at Xavier University in February 2014



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Jess Lozier, Community Outreach Officer, having fun out on the air boat!

Top: 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> years volunteered on May 24<sup>th</sup> at the Big Branch Marsh National Wildlife Refuge and planted over 200 acres of marsh land in partnership with the Coalition to Restore Coastal Louisiana.

Right: Students working hard in the marsh and mud at almost shoulder height!



Left to Right: MS3 John Shaffer, OMSA VP Josh Mauro, and MS4 Neej Patel volunteer at the Saints Youth Training Symposium in March 2014.





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## Social

- **First Fridays** have been a huge success so we hope to see you on the 1<sup>st</sup> Friday of each rotation to catch up with your classmates!
- **Monthly Dean's Ride:** For cycling and networking enthusiasts alike, keep the first Saturday of each month free for the Monthly Dean's Ride with Dr. Richard Deichmann. Rides usually last about an hour and a half and are a great opportunity to get some exercise and also get to know our Dean.
- **Crawfish Boil** was on May 11<sup>th</sup> thanks to OCS, Drs. Matrana and Deichmann. It was a great turnout by students and faculty on the first day of break with loads of crawfish!



3<sup>rd</sup> years enjoying the Crawfish Boil

## Research Updates

- **Ochsner's 11<sup>h</sup> Annual Research Day on May 20<sup>th</sup> was a huge success!** 210 abstracts were submitted this year and 76 were accepted for print. Out of these abstracts, 12 UQ-OCS alumni/students (4 recent grads, 4 MS3, 4 MS4) were co-authors and also had poster presentations. 4 of these abstracts were also selected to be given as podium presentations (see below).
- **RESEARCH LOG:** If you're doing research and haven't logged your project yet, please head to the [OMSAUQ.ORG](http://OMSAUQ.ORG) website and click on the Google Doc link under "Research" and tell us what you're up to!
- Dr. Alam and Sarah Donnell (Phase 2 Research Rep) are working on putting together a database of available research projects. Thanks for your patience!



UQ-OCS students selected for podium presentations were recognized at Research Day (from left to right):

1<sup>st</sup> place winner Asia Downing, MBBS for Missed Opportunities for HIV Diagnosis in a New Orleans Area Health System

2<sup>nd</sup> place winner Brian Reuter for Combination Therapy for Colorectal Cancer Metastasis Using an Orthotopic Xenograft Model

3<sup>rd</sup> place winner Matthew Clark for Exclusion Criteria in Prehospital Stroke Screens Contribute to Their Insensitivity

Also pictured (from left) are Jawed Alam, PhD; William Pinsky, MD; Sohail Rao, MD, MA, DPhil; and Murray Mitchell, DPhil, DSc (far left).

and honorable mention for John Patrick Sisney for Enhanced Nanoparticle Delivery to in vivo Pig Skin



- Greetings from Australia! The year thus far has been a good one. USMLE prep is well underway for both first and, especially, second years, with both enjoying well-run tutes and a bounty of shared resources. We're working on organizing more research opportunities between Brisbane and NOLA and are excited about this undertaking.
- MedEdPath student Ambassadors: MedEdPath reaches out to current students to correspond with potential UQ-OCS students. We highly encourage anyone who is interested to communicate with our prospects. Please remember to conduct yourselves in a professional and timely manner. If you are over-committed, no worries! Just let MedEdPath know so they can assign someone else.
- We are always revising the Brisbane Guide and "Life in Brisbane" section of the OMSA website. If you have any suggestions or comments, please send them our way at [OMSALiaison@ochsner.org](mailto:OMSALiaison@ochsner.org)

### Ipswich

As the year is progressing, the Ipswich Cohort has been settling in quite well. In between school work and USMLE prep, our cohort has some leadership roles in Ipswich's Health Student Social Society, which has organized barbeques, social and sporting events. VISTA is a new volunteer program, specifically for the Ipswich area, started this year by a board primarily comprised of UQ-OCS students. The program works to match students with outreach opportunities, including meals on wheels and volunteering at the hospital.

### Community Outreach

We are creating a database of past and current outreach opportunities and organizations in and near Brisbane, including projects involved with indigenous health, intellectual disabilities and the Red Cross.

A small outreach committee has formed to organize an Ochsner-led community project at the end of 2014.

### Social

Earlier this March, the 1st & 2nd years enjoyed a BBQ along the Brisbane River in South Bank.

Great numbers from each class came out to contribute to the potluck while getting to know each other for the first time.

On May 24<sup>th</sup>, the Brisbane gang spent the evening playing lawn bowls at the Toowong Bowls Club. While the sport may represent an Australian pastime, there was sure to be some American spirit on the field.



Phase 1 UQ-OCS students at Toowong Bowls Club

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