

Med School Watercooler

NEWS FROM FREDERICK P. WHIDDON COLLEGE OF MEDICINE
AT THE UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH ALABAMA

Wednesday, November 24, 2010

USA Orthopaedic Department Receives Gift from HJW Foundation

The University of South Alabama department of orthopaedic surgery recently received a \$650,000 gift from the HJW Foundation created by Dr. h.c. mult Hansjörg Wyss.

According to USA orthopaedic traumatologist Dr. Jorge Alonso, this gift supports the mission of the department in providing leading-edge surgical care for all members of the community.

"We are grateful for the generosity of the HJW Foundation and Dr. Wyss," said Dr. Samuel J. Strada, dean of the USA College of Medicine. "This gift recognizes the value our orthopaedic department makes in our region."

A portion of the funds will be used to purchase orthopaedic surgical equipment at the USA Medical Center, and the remainder will be awarded to the USA orthopaedic department to help support surgical care for indigent patients.

"Charitable support for the USA Medical Center trauma center and the USA department of orthopaedics from the nationally recognized HJW Foundation is recognition of the high quality of these programs," said Dr. Joseph Busta, vice president of development and alumni relations at USA. "We are most grateful to the HJW Foundation for this significant gift as it will enable the hospital and our department of orthopaedics to better treat patients from the northern Gulf Coast region."

The USA department of orthopaedics offers skilled and highly trained physicians who provide personalized orthopaedic medical care to patients. In addition to conventional orthopaedic treatment, USA's orthopaedic physicians provide specialty care for athletes and patients who would benefit from joint restoration or arthritis care.

The HJW Foundation is a nonprofit organization dedicated to improving the care of patients with musculoskeletal injuries through research, development, education and quality assurance in the principles, practice, and result of fracture treatment. Dr. Wyss was named to BusinessWeek's 2008 list of the 50 Top American Givers, which recognizes the most generous United States philanthropists.

Posted by Med School Watercooler at [9:09 AM](#) No comments:

Mark your calendars

The 20th annual Continuing Education Conference in Obstetrics and Gynecology will be held August 18-19, 2011, at the Renaissance Riverview Plaza Hotel at 64 South Water St. in Mobile.

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Please note that the conference, which is usually held in April, will now be held in August. Brochures will be sent out at a later date.

For more information, contact Catherine P. Hanks at (251) 415-1491.

Posted by Med School Watercooler at [9:07AM](#) No comments:

Holiday Toy Drive - Donate Today



The Dumas Wesley Community Center is sponsoring their annual Christmas Toy Store, and the University of South Alabama Medical Center is assisting them again this year with donations.

Toys will be collected in each department at the USA Medical Center for transport to the Dumas Wesley Community Center on Dec. 2, 2010.

Donated toys are sold to pre-qualified Crichton residents at greatly reduced prices. The money generated from the toy sales goes to help other distressed community members with emergency needs.

Last year, donations from USA enabled the center to assist over 100 families.

Posted by Med School Watercooler at [9:07AM](#) No comments:

Reminder for USA Health & Dental Plan Members

In order to take advantage of the \$25 wellness incentive (one per family) effective Jan. 1, 2011, members are required to certify that they (and their covered spouses) do not use tobacco products on the Tobacco Declaration Form.

The form must be submitted to human resources no later than 4:30 p.m. on Nov. 30, 2010. Forms are available online at <http://www.southalabama.edu/hr/openenrollment.html>.

USA Health & Dental Plan members that use tobacco products can take advantage of the Quit For Life Tobacco Cessation Program offered through Blue Cross Blue Shield of Alabama. The program is available to covered employees and eligible spouses at no charge.

The telephone-based program has several supportive features including five counseling sessions, 12 months of unlimited "hotline" calls for on-the-spot help, self-help materials, and a free 8-week supply of nicotine replacement therapy, including patches, gum or lozenges. Please call 1-888-768-7848 for more information.

As an additional incentive, the USA Health & Dental Plan will also cover tobacco cessation prescription drugs, to include waiving the copay for a two-month supply of the tobacco cessation drug Chantix.

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