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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### **Dr. Michael Butler of LSU Selected as One of the Top 25 Minority Executives in Health Care**

#### **National Magazine Features Dr. Butler on its Cover**

**Baton Rouge (April 14, 2008)** – *Modern Healthcare* has selected Dr. Michael Butler, acting CEO of LSU Health Care Services Division (HCSD), as one of its top 25 minority executives in health care.

The April 7, 2008, issue of the health care business news weekly features Dr. Butler on the cover and examines minority leadership and inclusion in health care executive management in its cover story “Sustainable Diversity.”

Dr. Butler, 52, still works emergency department shifts “to keep abreast of front-line issues and maintain contact with patients,” according to the *Modern Healthcare* profile of Dr. Butler.

Trained in general and gastrointestinal surgery, he also continues to practice surgery.

As acting CEO, Dr. Butler oversees seven public hospitals, nearly 300 clinics, more than 9,000 employees, and a budget of more than \$800 million. He designs and directs the patient care delivery system, clinical information systems and the continuous improvement of care management programs. He is also responsible for the disease management programs and medical staff training, all directed towards the improvement and measurement of the quality of care of the LSU HCSD.

“A keen eye for detail and for the larger health care landscape make Dr. Butler an invaluable resource for direct health care delivery and for the executive management of the integrated health care system of LSU HCSD,” said Dr. Fred Cerise, LSU System vice president for health affairs and medical education. “He receives a great deal of credit for the improvements in LSU health care delivery for the past decade and for the adroit leadership that has guided staff toward these improvements.”

Dr. Butler has served as chief of surgery and medical director of Leonard J. Chabert Medical Center, where he developed its disease management program.

He also served as chief operating officer and medical director for the Medical Center of Louisiana at New Orleans and as chief executive officer at South Louisiana Medical Associates, where he initiated a successful economic restructuring of the Ochsner education affiliate.

Dr. Butler received his undergraduate degree at Amherst College, his medical degree at Tulane University School of Medicine, and his management degree at Tulane University School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine. He completed his postgraduate training in general and gastrointestinal surgery and trauma in New York. Dr. Butler is a certified physician executive and his board certifications are in surgery, quality assurance, and medical management.

For this second biennial listing of the top 25 minority executives in health care, *Modern Healthcare* issued a call for nominations in December 2007 and received 89 over an eight-week period. It used the minority categories of the U.S. Census Bureau: African-American or black, Alaskan Native, American Indian, Asian, Hispanic or Latino, Native Hawaiian, other Pacific Islander, and multiracial.

An editorial review board of senior editors at *Modern Healthcare* judged nominees on five criteria: successful service as a leader or manager of an organization or company, ability to effect change in the health care industry, a willingness to share expertise with others in the field, service as a role model or mentor to other minority health care executives, and service in a leadership position in the industry outside of the candidate's own organization or company.

For a photo of Dr. Butler visit:

[http://www.lsuhschools.org/media-relations/multimedia/Butler.Michael\\_MD.jpg](http://www.lsuhschools.org/media-relations/multimedia/Butler.Michael_MD.jpg)

The LSU Health Care System is one of the largest public health care delivery systems in the country. It has over 60,000 admissions, 350,000 patient days, 1 million outpatient visits, and over 350,000 emergency department visits. Each year 1700 residents from the LSU and Tulane Schools of Medicine and Ochsner Health System and 4,000 nurses and allied health students from many colleges and universities are trained in LSU facilities.

LSU is the largest single provider of uncompensated inpatient care in Louisiana. LSU hospitals have an economic impact of over \$1.6 billion in asset business activity, \$918 million in personal earnings, and support over 10,000 jobs.

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