

## **Interim LSU Public Hospital Receives Multiple Awards at LSU Forum**

### **HIV/AIDS Clinic Program Director Receives the CMO Award and Director of Facilities Planning the CEO Award**

**Baton Rouge (February 18, 2008)** – The LSU Health Care Services Division (HCSD) awarded staff of Interim LSU Public Hospital multiple awards at the 11<sup>th</sup> annual LSU HCSD Health Care Effectiveness Forum, entitled “Eliminating Disparities and Improving Access to Relationship-Centered Care,” in Baton Rouge, La.

Dr. Michael Kaiser, acting HCSD chief medical officer, presented the Chief Medical Officer Award to Kathleen Lincoln, program director of the HIV/AIDS Outpatient (HOP) Clinic in New Orleans.

“HOP funding is one of the most complex in the system,” he said of her responsibility, and success, in obtaining clinic funding. “Following Katrina, juggling grant funding became even more difficult.”

He praised Lincoln’s work ethic, compassion, and contribution to the HOP clinic as the clinic followed patients after Katrina and staff established a clinic at Earl K. Long for displaced New Orleans patients with HIV. Two weeks after the storm, the clinic was in operation.

“Later, Kathleen had staff working from her home in order to get HIV services restarted quickly in New Orleans,” he said. The award recognizes superior performance and dedication to the provision of quality health care.

Dr. Michael Butler, HCSD acting chief executive officer, presented the 2008 Chief Executive Officer Award to Robert Arnold, director of facility planning for Interim LSU Public Hospital.

Without a better venue for systemwide awards presentation, HCSD chose the annual forum to present the CEO awards, which is given to one who has contributed to a great degree to the mission and vision of LSU hospitals.

“He literally kept buildings up and running,” Dr. Butler said of Arnold’s efforts and dedication since Hurricane Katrina to revive health-care facilities in New Orleans.

He noted that the strides the hospital and clinics have made in New Orleans would have been impossible without Arnold’s tireless efforts.

Though charged with this responsibility in the wake of the worst disaster in the nation’s history, Arnold offered assistance for facilities management to hospitals systemwide, Dr. Butler said.

Interim LSU Public Hospital also received first place for most improved in diabetic care.

The seven hospitals of LSU HCSD were eligible for the awards.

Photos of Kathleen Lincoln and Robert Arnold are attached.

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.

For more information, contact Marvin McGraw, Director of Communications and Media Relations, LSU Health Care Services Division, 225.922.1424 or [mmcgra@lsuhsc.edu](mailto:mmcgra@lsuhsc.edu).