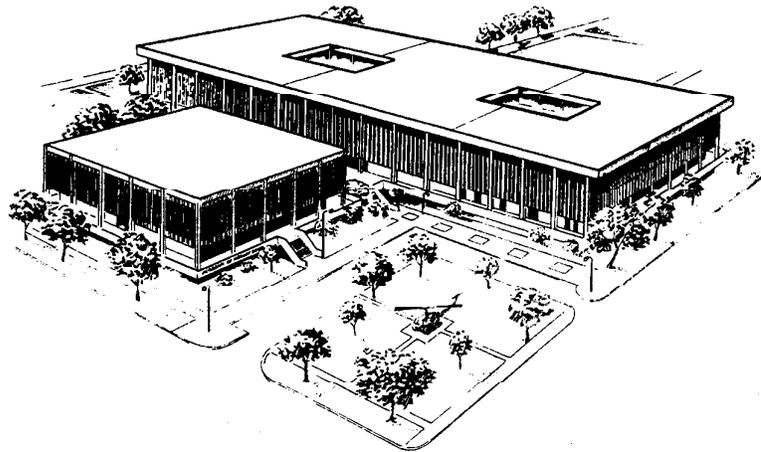




AMEDDC&S OBSERVER

October-December 1999



STUDENTS SEE SCIENCE '99 MILITARY MEDICAL CAREERS

The sixth consecutive version of the SCIENCE '99 "Military Connections" presentation was hosted by the Academy of Health Sciences (AHS) on 25 October as part of an annual week-long celebration of science and technology in the San Antonio area. The presentation is a popular part of the U.S. Army Medical Command's Minority College Relations Program.

The SCIENCE '99 event was started in the 1990s as a collaborative effort among local universities, businesses, and military activities to advance a wide range of science programs that would be of interest to high school students, teachers, and school counselors. The University of Texas Health Science Center, San Antonio, is the celebration's permanent coordinating agency; attending schools were selected by the AHS in conjunction with recruiters from the San Antonio Recruiting Battalion.

Students and teachers from seven local and out-of-town high schools spent several hours rotating among exhibits set up by AHS departments in Blesse Auditorium

and classrooms/laboratories in Willis Hall. For the second year, morning and afternoon sessions were presented, due to the increased number of students scheduled to attend. Colonel Richard Shipley, Dean, AHS, welcomed the morning session, and COL Richard Brown, Chief, Department of Clinical Support Services, presented opening remarks to the afternoon group.

Students had the opportunity to explore the benefits and challenges offered by a variety of military medical training programs. In addition to the Department of Nursing Science's high-technology anesthesia simulator and the Department of Veterinary Sciences unique "Resusi-Pup" CPR manikin, the Department of Preventive Health Services once again showed its comprehensive collection of reptiles and arachnids. Preventive dentistry was the focus of the demonstration presented in the Schock Dental Laboratory by the Department of Dental Science. Staff and faculty from the Occupational and Physical Therapy, Nutrition Care, and Physician Extender

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AMEDD READINESS STARTS HERE!

COMMANDER'S CORNER

MG James B. Peake



While at the Association of the United States Army national convention recently, I had the occasion to reflect on the events of the last fiscal year. In the October-December 1998 Observer, I noted that the year was starting out with a bang as the Training and Doctrine Command was starting to work on the Echelon Above Division Corps for Force XXI. Many long hours have been invested in developing this concept for the Army and developing the Army Medical Department (AMEDD) After Next to support it.

The beginning of this fiscal year is starting out the same way. General Shinseki, the new Army Chief of Staff, announced that the Army would develop two medium weight brigades at Fort Lewis, Washington. Much of the work of the Corps Redesign will be used as a basis for this new force. This medium weight force is a major shift from the emphasis on light and heavy forces and will require a great deal of work in a short amount of time.

Obviously, there are many unanswered questions. How many vehicles in the brigade? Will they be wheeled or tracked? What about combat service support? What will the medical support look like? While these are hard questions yet to be answered, the Chief of Staff's intent is fairly clear. The medium weight brigade must be able to deploy into a theater in 96 hours. Equipment should be designed to fit on a C-130 aircraft.

Even though this announcement caught many by surprise, I would submit that this is truly a historic opportunity for the Army and the AMEDD. Change in the Army can be slow – a fundamental shift like the medium weight brigade offers a unique challenge – to shape the structure of the Army for the future instead of for the last conflict.

One of the greatest strengths of the AMEDD is the ability of its people to think strategically, develop concepts, and use new technologies to implement change. We must be prepared to look at new concepts such as the use of wheeled armored vehicles as ambulances or developing all equipment so that it can be deployed on a C-130 aircraft, decreasing the footprint through reachback capability. Given the talent and dedication of the AMEDD family, both military and civilian, I know we will lead the way developing medical support for this exciting new concept.

While the Army and AMEDD plan the force of the future, I'd move the focus to the next several months. As we enter the upcoming holiday season, let's not forget that today, over 25,000 soldiers are deployed around the world. These soldiers, some from right here at Fort Sam Houston, are separated from family and friends and are defending our country in such far-away places as Kuwait, Bosnia, and Kosovo. They do this day after day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year. I, like you, am truly proud to serve with such superb soldiers – they genuinely represent all that is great with our country.

I deeply appreciate all you do every day for our Army and our nation. May you all enjoy a joyous and safe holiday season with family and friends.

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Road, Fort Sam Houston, TX 78234-6150; DSN 471-6916, FAX 471-8720; Comm 210/221-6916, FAX 210/221-8720. Timely articles of interest are always welcome. Contributions will be edited, if necessary, to meet format and space requirements, and are subject to approval by the "Observer" editorial staff.

Students See Science '99 Military Medical Careers

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Branches of the Department of Medical Science were on hand at their respective exhibits to talk with students and explain how their career paths led from the high school classroom to their current duty assignments in the Army Medical Department (AMEDD).

AHS Accreditation Reaffirmed

The Academy of Health Sciences (AHS) accreditation has been reaffirmed by the Council on Occupational Education (COE), a national institutional accrediting agency. The reaffirmation was achieved without a recommendation or negative finding.

Following a week-long September on-site visit by a COE evaluation team, the AHS was commended for operating an exceptionally well-run facility and for demonstrating a high standard of excellence and commitment to its students. The team was comprised of occupational educators with acknowledged expertise in vocational-technical concepts, educational programs and administration, learning resources, and student personnel services.

Veterinary Science Dedicates New Building

For the first time since the 1970s, veterinary food inspection training at Fort Sam Houston has been consolidated in one location. The department's Food Protection and Mission Sustainment Branches, previously located in four different buildings on the installation, have relocated to the newly-renovated building 325, soon to be known as Lytle Hall.

The building, formerly a Troop Issue Support Activity cold storage facility, now houses veterinary-unique classrooms, laboratories, and administrative offices. The new learning environment allows instruction on a wide variety of food products, to include red meats, poultry, water foods, canned products, fresh fruits and vegetables, and operational rations. Students are now able to conduct their inspections and report their finding electronically via classroom computers, as they would at their duty stations.

On 30 Nov, the new facility will be dedicated as Lytle

Hall, in honor of MAJ George A. Lytle. Major Lytle was appointed the Army's first subsistence veterinarian at the inception of the U.S. Army Veterinary Corps in 1916. Major General James B. Peake, AMEDDC&S Commander, will officiate at the building's ribbon-cutting ceremony, starting at 1400.

1999 Medical Service Corps Award of Excellence Winners

The Office of the Chief, Medical Service Corps (MSC), has announced the five junior officers selected to receive the MSC Award of Excellence. This annual award recognizes the professional excellence of officers in five separate categories. They will be presented at the Award of Excellence and Retiree Luncheon during Junior Officer Week activities at the Fort Myer, VA, Officers' Club. The 1999 winners are:

Health Services: CPT Gabriella M. Pasek, S-3, Medical Center Brigade, Walter Reed Army Medical Center, Washington DC.

Health Sciences: 1LT John J. McPherson, Environmental Science Officer, 3d Infantry Division (Mech), Fort Stewart, GA.

Health Services Maintenance Technician: CW2 Donald J. McNeil, Utility Operations and Maintenance Technician, 115th Field Hospital, Fort Polk, LA.

U.S. Army Reserve: 1LT Alberto Romero, Commander, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 3d Medical Command, Decatur, GA.

Army National Guard: CPT Christopher E. Krug, Commander, Company A, 109th Medical Battalion, Iowa Army National Guard, Iowa City, IA.

AHS Instructor Wins State Award

Lieutenant Colonel Stephen C. Allison, Chief, Physical Therapy Branch, Department of Medical Science, Academy of Health Sciences, was recently presented with the Outstanding Physical Therapy Faculty Award by the Texas Physical Therapy Association. Lieutenant Colonel Allison has been on the faculty of the U.S. Army-Baylor University Graduate Program in Physical Therapy since completing his doctorate in 1994. His primary teaching responsibilities include research design, statistics, and neuroscience.

SCIENCE '99



High school students get a close look at reptiles and arachnids exhibited by the Medical Zoology Branch, Department of Preventive Health Services, during the SCIENCE '99 morning session.



Students from Edison High School Health Professions class are shown with the "Uncle Sam" patient simulator following demonstration of the manikin by the Nursing Anesthesia Branch, Department of Nursing Science.

New USASAM Assistant Dean Welcomed

Lieutenant Colonel Wayne W. Clark, Medical Service Corps, assumed duties as Assistant Dean, U.S. Army School of Aviation Medicine (USASAM), Fort Rucker, AL, on 1 Oct. A Senior Army Aviator, LTC Clark recently completed a 3-year tour with 18th Medical Command, Yong San, Korea. A veteran of Operations "Desert Shield" and "Desert Storm," LTC Clark was assigned to the 236th Medical Company (Air Ambulance). His awards include the Soldiers Medal, Meritorious Service Medal, Air Medal, and Army Commendation Medal.

Flight Medic Course Graduates are Heroes

Three graduates of USASAM's Flight Medical

Course Class 99-04 became heroes during their off-duty time. While returning to Fort Rucker from a football game in Montgomery, AL, in early September, SGM Rob Bakker, SFC Leo van den Boomgaard (both of the Royal Netherlands Air Force), and SPC Christopher Rowley came upon a single-car automobile accident on the northern part of the installation. After identifying themselves as medics to the military policeman at the site, they immediately assessed injuries to the two girls in the car, stabilized them, and monitored their conditions until paramedics arrived. Due to the flight medics' quick thinking, one of the passengers only sustained a concussion while the other had minor injuries.

A ceremony honoring the three soldiers was held at USASAM on 23 Sep. Certificates of Achievement and Commander's Coins were presented by Mr. Michael L. Moran, USASAM Acting Assistant Dean.