

## SCHOOL OF ALLIED HEALTH PROFESSIONS

November 11, 2013

*Keeping In Touch . . . Impacting Lives*

### Faculty Accomplishments



Maria T. Blanco, an Assistant Professor in the School of Allied Health Professions, was recently selected as a Top Female Achiever in the July 2013 issue of the New Orleans magazine. In addition to her faculty role, Maria is a community liaison and early childhood specialist in the Human Development Center (HDC) at LSUHSC. Minh Dang from the New Orleans magazine highlights the learning experiences Maria has had raising a daughter with autism.

With Maria's continued dedication to learning, fostering and empowering, Maria's daughter is a successful college student, living in a college dorm and has a part-time job. Maria earned her master's degree in early childhood special education and is pursuing her doctorate in early intervention. The SAHP congratulates Maria on her personal and professional accomplishments.

*"Blanco faced an uphill battle not only with her daughter's disability but also with the lack of understanding from educators, medical professionals and the community. She was determined to help her daughter become as independent as possible and live a full, self-determined life."*

*The HDC was established in 1974 as an LSUHSC approved program that focuses on issues related to people with disabilities and their families across the life span. The HDC works to disseminate information to strengthen and increase the capacity of local communities to include individuals with developmental disabilities and support these individuals and their families in all aspects of life in the community.*

#### Early Hearing Detection and Intervention



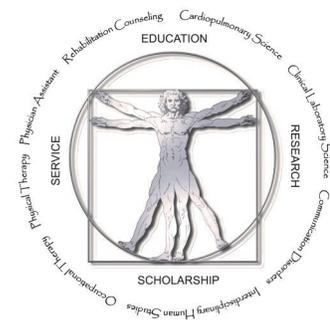
Dr. Gordon-Wendt was recently appointed by the Governor's office to the State of Louisiana Advisory Council for the Early Identification of Hearing Impaired Infants. Council members include audiologists, Department of Health and Hospital employees, Early Hearing Detection and Intervention employees, statisticians and physicians. The

Council is responsible for determining how well the State is following the regulations and guidelines for the identification and follow-up of children with hearing loss. Barbara L. Gordon-Wendt, PhD, CCC-A, F-AAA is the program director for the Audiology program at LSUHSC in New Orleans.



Dr. Debra Munsell was recently recognized by the American Academy of Physician Assistants (AAPA) as a representative to the American Academy of Otolaryngology—Head and Neck Surgery panel on clinical practice guidelines for Bell's Palsy. The clinical practice guideline will help health care providers with the diagnosis, treatment and follow-up with Bell's Palsy. The recommendations "encourage accurate and efficient diagnosis and treatment and, when applicable, facilitating patient follow-up to address the management of long-term sequelae, or evaluation of new or worsening symptoms not indicative of Bell's palsy."

For more information, please visit [www.otojournal.org](http://www.otojournal.org) or [www.entnet.org](http://www.entnet.org). Dr. Munsell is the program director of the Physician Assistant program at LSUHSC in New Orleans.



Promoting Leadership & Collaboration  
within an Interdisciplinary Network