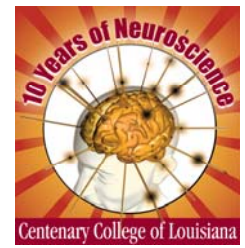




# Spring 2011 Neuroscience Newsletter



## Congratulations 2011 Graduates!



Photos courtesy of Centenary News Service

Three students from the Centenary Neuroscience Program were awarded degrees at the spring commencement ceremony. Congratulations to **John Cefalu**, **Renée Do** (Magna Cum Laude) and **Amanda Krentzel** (Magna Cum Laude). Additionally, **Amanda** and **John** graduated with Honors in Neuroscience in recognition of their academic performance and independent research. **Renée** plans to enter medical school, while **Amanda** and **John** will start graduate school at the University of Massachusetts at Amherst and LSUHSC- New Orleans (respectively).

## 10+ Years of Neuroscience at Centenary!

The 2010-2011 academic year marked the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Centenary Neuroscience Program. To celebrate this event, the program hosted a series of lunch seminars including a visit by professional magician and former Dean of the Frost School of Business, Dr. Barry Richardson (at right).

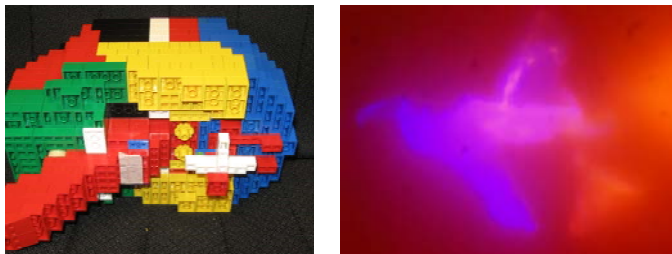


Our student group was also quite active this year. The Centenary Neuroscience Society (CNS) was officially established as a recognized student organization.



The group held several events including an Ipad raffle, faculty auction, burger-eating contest and multiple after-hours games of sardines in Mickle Hall.

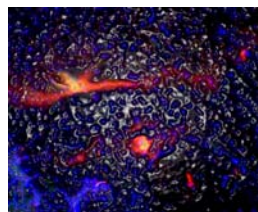
## Creative Brain Contest



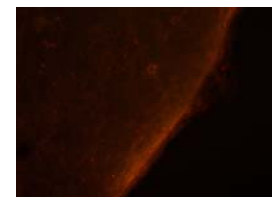
**Adam Littleton's** model, made entirely of Lego's, took first prize and **David Burch's** image "The Phoenix of the Brain" was selected as the audience favorite during the 5<sup>th</sup> annual Brain Awareness Week Creative Brain's show. **David** captured the image as part of an *Introduction to Neuroscience* lab. This image and others are available as thank-you gifts for donations made to the Neuroscience program. Additional information is available at [www.centenary.edu/neuroscience/support](http://www.centenary.edu/neuroscience/support).

## Thank-you Gifts for Donors

The donor thank-you program was so successful in raising funds to support student travel to the Society for Neuroscience meeting, that it will be continued this year. All donors to the Neuroscience Program can select prints of student



artwork produced for our annual Creative Brain Competition. These prints represent real tissue, cells, or anatomical structures that were studied by neuroscience students as part of their lab coursework. A complete listing of all available prints and a link for online donations can be found on our website ([www.centenary.edu/neuroscience/support](http://www.centenary.edu/neuroscience/support)). Any contribution to this campaign is completely tax deductible and much appreciated.



## Student Research

Centenary students **Samarra Kinchen, Justine Kemp, Renée Do, Heather Wensler, Gaurav Shah** and **Amanda Krentzel** (right to left, images below) presented their research at the Faculty for Undergraduate Neuroscience poster session held during the 40<sup>th</sup> annual meeting of the Society for Neuroscience (SfN) in San Diego, CA.



The 2010 meeting drew over 31,500 neuroscientists from around the globe. The students' presentations were among the 15,000 posters and 2,000 talks given during the week-long meeting. Additionally, alumni **Jennifer and Martin Watts (2007)** and **Brad Kraemer (2008)** also



presented their research at the meeting. **Deana Apple (2009)** and **Mark Moehle (2010)** were able to join the group for a reunion dinner. Support for the current students

was provided by travel awards from the Provosts Office, the Centenary Student Government Association (SGA), the Centenary Neuroscience Society (CNS) and generous donations from

**Penny Dupre    Billie Leach    Elvir Cehajic**  
**Heinze Runge    Garret Kent    Neil Johnson**  
**Nicki Escott    Garrett Whipple    Sharon Adley**  
**William Bruchhaus    Rita Hummingbird**  
**Michael Salvatore**  
**Louisiana Neurologic Specialties, Inc**  
**Texas Industries Inc. on behalf of Clint Cheaney**

Without this financial support it would be difficult for any Centenary student to attend such meetings. Thank you!

## Washington, DC



This year's annual Society for Neuroscience meeting will be held in Washington, DC from November 12-16<sup>th</sup>. If you plan to attend the meeting or are just in the area and would like to meet a few of our current students, please contact Dr. Greg Butcher ([gbutcher@centenary.edu](mailto:gbutcher@centenary.edu)).

## Neuroscience Student Honors & Awards



1<sup>st</sup> year student and swimmer, **Fortunato Padua** received the CRC Award in General Chemistry.

In what's becoming an annual tradition, the First Year Experience Outstanding Paper Award was given to a neuroscience major for the second year in a row. Congrats to **Garrett Whipple**.



The Vroonland Psychology Award went to recent graduate and founding co-president of the CNS, **Renée Do (2011)**.

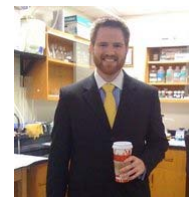
## Keeping in Touch



**Brad Kraemer (2008)** successfully passed his Ph.D. qualifying exams. He is currently studying signaling mechanisms regulating neuronal survival at Vanderbilt University.

Image source: <https://medschool.mc.vanderbilt.edu/labcmn/node/277>

After completing a Masters at LA Tech, **Richard Davis (2008)** will begin medical school at the LSUHSC-S this summer.



**Abby Moffett Piazza (2008)** successfully completed the Step 1 board exam last summer.



**Travis Reece (2008)** will marry Vinh Nguyen in September and is currently completing medical school at the University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio.

Image source: Eric Hegwer Photography

**Chase Lambert (2009)** was selected for the Summer Program in Neuroscience, Ethics, and Survival (SPINES) at the Marine Biological Laboratory at Woods Hole. He is currently in graduate school at the University of South Florida.

**Jacob Jones (2010)** has decided to become a high-school science teacher.

**Lauren Cheaney (2010)** will marry Thomas Thoma this summer and will start medical school a few weeks later.

Image source: Brandi Smyth photography

