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General Assembly – July 8, 2016 – Destin, FL

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## **LSUHSC - New Orleans at Lake Charles**

### **Family Medicine Residency Program**

Program Director: Alan LeBato, MD

It has been a very successful year in Lake Charles as we prepare to graduate 8 PGY3's. All have taken their boards and passed. As is part of the national direction of a lot of our graduates: 1 will enter a sports medicine fellowship, 1 will enter a geriatric fellowship, 1 will enter an ER fellowship, 3 are becoming hospitalists and the final 2 will enter a traditional FM practice, one in New Iberia and the other in Lake Charles. We are fortunate to have strong ER, strong inpatient service (we are the hospitalist group for Memorial) and a strong sports medicine faculty so I can understand why some of my residents are attracted into these "lines" of FM. It is somewhat concerning though, as I look around at many of my peers who are at 30 years of private practice in rural areas, as to who is going to answer the call for rural and small town Louisiana. I, along with many of you, have fought the NP scope of practice Bill all session and I worry at some point that we won't be available to answer the call of our patients without physician extender help.

We have attracted 8 excellent interns for the 2016-2017 year. 1 LSU-New Orleans graduate, 2 DO graduates, and 5 Canadian International Medical graduates that have rotated through Chaubert in Houma and are well trained and familiar with the system of hands on education. It appears from the match results that many of our Louisiana medical school graduates have chosen to do residencies outside of Louisiana. You have to wonder how much the "turmoil" in the Legislature with funding of healthcare and education has to do with them "choosing" spots with their feet.

I have also added another full time faculty this year as Dr. Brian Gamborg (Sulphur) has joined our other 5 full timers and now sees his private patients in our residency practice. He has been a welcome addition for his specific interest in Information Technology and is helping us design more efficient and functional templates for our day to day encounters. He also serves on the LSMS and Calcasieu Parish Medical Society boards and along with Dr. Barootes, our CPMS president this year, they are keeping the residents involved in the "politics" of medicine.

Fishing has been marginal this spring in Big Lake as we have had more rain in the past few months than we had all last year. The fresh water has pushed most self respecting salt water fish out into the Gulf of Mexico. Never the less I have continued to sneak out in the kayak or big boat just to sit on the water and hear the wind blow through my ears. It is cheaper than a visit to the psychiatrists in town. Laissez les bon temps rouler!!

**Respectfully Submitted,**  
**Alan LeBato, MD**  
**Program Director**