



# THE INNOVATOR

OPTIMIZING COMBAT CASUALTY CARE



APRIL 2014

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE U.S. ARMY INSTITUTE OF SURGICAL RESEARCH



## Burn Flight Team Provides CSH Pre-deployment Training

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# CDR's Corner



Col. (Dr.) Michael A. Weber  
Commander, USAISR

## "Optimizing Combat Casualty Care"

Hello ISR,

We accomplished a great deal over the past month. The ISR's Burn Center dominated the research presented at the American Burn Association National Meeting. One of our contractors Reginald "Reg" Richard won the overall research award, and one of our Army leaders Lt. Col. Elizabeth Mann-Salinas was elected as the Chairperson of the ABA's Burn Science Advisory Panel. On the tactical side, we have our very best medics competing for the EFMB and the MRMC NCO /Soldier of the Year at Ft. Dix.

As I reflect on the great accomplishments by the ISR and the Army, I am convinced that our Army has the right leaders, policies, and esprit de corps to solve the threat of sexual harassment and sexual assault. April is Sexual Assault Awareness Month, which is

designed to raise public awareness about sexual violence and to educate communities and individuals how to prevent sexual violence. On Tuesday, I signed the Sexual Assault Awareness Month Proclamation rededicating our Institute's commitment and enthusiasm in ridding this insider and external threat from our Army and communities.

April is also the Month of the Military Child. The Army recognizes the commitment, contributions, and sacrifices that our children make for our Nation. I want to thank all military sons and daughters for their support as we celebrate this month dedicated to their service.

Locally, it's Fiesta month in San Antonio. This year, Fiesta runs from April 10-27 with parades and daily events for the entire family to enjoy. There are plenty of evening and night events for those of you who can't make it out during the day. Check out the

Fiesta website: [www.fiesta-sa.org](http://www.fiesta-sa.org) for a complete listing of events.

Other significant days in April are: April 1-3: USAMRMC NCO/Soldier of the Year competition at Fort Dix.

April 14-22: Passover (Pesach) Chag Pesach Kasher VeSameach!

April 15: Tax Day

April 16: National Librarian Day

April 20: Resurrection Sunday (Easter)

April 23: Administrative Professional's Day

April 21-25: ISR Army Physical Readiness Test window

April 27: Holocaust Remembrance Day (Yom HaShoah) begins in the evening Sunday 27 APR 14 and ends in the evening Monday 28 APR 14

I want to thank everyone for your continuing efforts to increase the value of your professional, personal and spiritual relationships. Keep up the great work!

Again, thank you for all you do. Hooah!



USAISR staff members attended the American Burn Association 46th Annual Meeting in Boston, Mass. March 25-28. Photo by Lt. Col. Elizabeth Mann-Salinas.



**ARMY MEDICINE**  
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The Innovator is an authorized publication for members of U.S. Army Institute of Surgical Research, published under the authority of AR 360-1. Contents are not necessarily official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. Government, Department of Defense or the Army. Editorial content is prepared by the ISR Public Affairs Officer. 210-539-5470 or DSN 429-5470

### SGM Says



ISR Sergeant Major  
Vincent M. Herrington

### “Protect and Sustain, Lead From the Front”

Congratulations to all the awardees at last month’s awards ceremony. Congratulations to the following Soldiers and their Families on reenlisting in the Army: Sgt. 1st Class Alan Moley, Sgt. Wendy Abel, Sgt. Danielle Miller, and Spc. Ryan Morris. Thanks to the retention team for taking care of

our Soldiers and ensuring we meet our retention goals.

Thanks to all those who have served in the U.S. Army past and present. I would also like to make you aware of the U.S. Army “Soldier for Life” program. The Soldier for Life mission is to enable Army, governmental, and community efforts to facilitate successful reintegration of our Soldiers, Veterans, and their Families in order to keep them Army Strong and instill their values, ethos, and leadership within communities. The following is an example of success provided by the Soldier for Life program:

Christopher Page joined the military in 1993 and left the Army after having served as an artilleryman. After service, he attended Seton Hall University and worked at a series of financial institutions. In 2010, he joined a respected Wall Street investment bank in the Control and Emerging Risk department. During this time, he was given the opportunity to volunteer with the other Veterans working at his bank. The co-working Veterans initi-

ated a veteran outreach and resource effort and participated in the Veterans on Wall Street (VOWS). Due to their successful efforts, the investment bank made a commitment to recruiting and retaining Veterans due to their work ethics, initiative, and drive to better the organization. Today, Chris serves as the Vice President, Program Manager of the bank’s Veteran program.

For more information and access to Soldier for Life programs visit: [www.army.mil/SFL](http://www.army.mil/SFL).

“Tell your good news stories. We cannot rely on the media to tell the good news stories, so we must do it ourselves. For those of you who have deployed, take pride in talking to family and friends about your accomplishments: they are commendable and noteworthy. We are the greatest Army the world has ever known. We should be proud to speak positively of all we do.”

**SMA Kenneth O. Preston,**  
“U.S. Soldiers-Ambassadors  
of Democracy,”  
**ARMY, October 2005, p.38**



Sgt. Major Vince Herrington, right, congratulates Master Sgt. Craig Anderson during his promotion ceremony at the AMEDD Museum March 4.

### On the Cover



Maj. Michael Meissel, right, demonstrates the features of the Burn Navigator to Pfc. Christopher Larsen of the 21st CSH during an FTX March 19-21 at Fort Hood, Texas.

## Company Notes



Company Commander  
Capt. LaShawna N. Ray

Welcome to the ISR family: Sgt. David Shelley and wife welcomed a daughter, Pyper on March 9. All are doing well.

Congratulations to Staff Sgt. Michael Cavallo and Spc. Nguvan Uhaa for their selection as the NCO and Soldier of the Month, respectively for the month of March. Their photographs will be on display in the company area.

Also, congratulations to the following Soldiers on their promotion effective April 1: Staff Sgt. Olarewaju Magreola and Staff Sgt. Pablo Sierra.

Upcoming events: On April 19 the organization will host our annual Easter Egg-stravaganza. The event will be held from 1300-1500 at the Warrior and Family Support Center. We will have several family oriented events to include: egg hunting, cookie decorating, arts and crafts, photos with the Easter Bunny, and much more. We hope to see you and your loved ones there as we celebrate the season and continue to bond as an organization.

The semi-annual Army Physical Fitness Test will be conducted April 21-25. Times will be at 0530 Monday thru Friday with two afternoon sessions on the 22nd and 24th at 1500. The bike event will be offered on Tuesday and Thursday mornings. See you there!

Congress established the “Days of Remembrance” as the Nation’s annual commemoration of the Holocaust and created the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum as a permanent living memorial to the victims. Holocaust remembrance week is April 27–May 4. The theme designated by the Museum for the 2014 observance is “*Confronting the Holocaust: American Responses.*” Holocaust Remembrance Day is April 28.

April is also designated as Sexual Assault Awareness Month (SAAM). The Department of Defense approved the following theme for SAAM 2014: “*Live Our Values: Step Up To Stop Sexual Assault.*” It is every single Department of the Army Soldier’s and Civilian’s responsibility and duty to step up and intervene to assist with the battle against sexual assault.

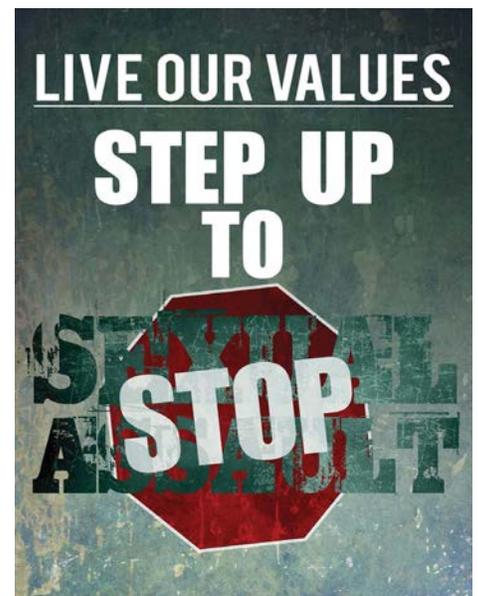
Last year we faced the issue and talked about it. This year as we move forward and continue to address the issue, take it a step further and intervene. I challenge each and every one of you to step up and contribute to the fight against this deplorable crime within our organization and communities. We are Army Strong! Intervene

Act and Motivate!

We should “Live Our Values” every day, all year long. “Step Up” by intervening when appropriate, reporting crimes, and supporting victims. If we do, we can help “Stop Sexual Assault.”

Sexual assault is a crime and can only be stopped when everyone understands that we all have a role in combating it.

Thank you all for everything that you do each day to help us be the best organization in the MRMC!



NCO of the Month  
Staff Sgt. Michael J. Cavallo



Soldier of the Month  
Spc. Nguvan Uhaa

# Burn Flight Team provides training for CSH



make us experts in burn care, but can provide us the insight that can help us care for a burn patient effectively.”

The three-day training commenced with classroom presentations on emergency care of burn patients, burn resuscitation and the use of the Burn Navigator, management of a patient with inhalation injury, and preparing a burn patient for transport. Team members also served as subject matter experts and provided guidance during the hands-on portion of the field training exercise (FTX).

“Burn patients have specific needs that if not addressed appropriately can cause detrimental results,” said Maj. Michael P. Meissel, Burn Intensive Care Unit (BICU) critical care registered nurse and BFT chief nurse. “We want to emphasize these needs and highlight the resources available to units to provide the right care at the right time.”

BFTs are composed of five vital team members who are assigned to the BICU: a general surgeon trained in burn and surgical critical care ser-

***BFT continues on page 7***

Top: Sgt. Alfredo G. Villarreal, Burn Intensive Care Unit respiratory therapist, explains some of the harm caused by smoke inhalation in burn patients. Bottom: Maj. Michael P. Meissel, Burn Intensive Care Unit critical care registered nurse and Burn Flight Team chief nurse, center, describes the proper way to mount the Special Medical Emergency Evacuation Device.

Story and photos by Steven Galvan  
USAISR Public Affairs Officer

The Burn Flight Team (BFT) from the U.S. Army Institute of Surgical Research (USAISR) Burn Center at Joint Base San Antonio-Fort Sam Houston, Texas, has a reputation of living up to its motto: “Anytime, Anywhere.” That’s because the team has been deployed throughout the world since 1951 to provide their expertise burn care and transport burn casualties to the Burn Center which has been crucial in saving hundreds of lives of on and off the battlefield.

The team’s burn care and transport know-how was requested March 19-20 at Fort Hood, Texas by members of the 21st Combat Support Hospital (CSH) who are training to deploy later this year in support of Overseas Contingency Operations. Maj. Michael Plueger, a critical care nurse with the CSH stressed that the training provid-

ed by the FST is necessary in providing combat wounded the best care.

“There’s always the possibility of us having to care for a burn patient,” said Plueger. “This training will not



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9-YEAR ARMY CONTRACTOR  
OPTIMIZES COMBAT CASUALTY CARE  
AS RESEARCH MICROBIOLOGIST



MSROSANN  
BERG

25-YEAR ARMY CIVILIAN  
OPTIMIZES COMBAT CASUALTY CARE  
AS EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT



SSG JAMES  
McALISTER

11-YEAR ARMY VETERAN  
OPTIMIZES COMBAT CASUALTY CARE  
AS DENTAL TECHNICIAN

**BFT continued from page 5**

VICES; a critical care registered nurse; a licensed vocational nurse; a certified

respiratory therapist, and an operations noncommissioned officer. All except for the operations NCO were providing training to the CSH. On

hand was the Burn Center Chief of Nurses, Lt. Col. Paul Mittelsteadt who said that this type of training serves the USAISR mission of advancing combat casualty care.

“In a hands-on and direct fashion,” he said. “It’s not all research. Sometimes its assessing practical applications derived from combat casualty care research.”

Meissel added that the BFT involvement in the FTX is essential because the lessons learned in recent conflicts have led to improved outcomes for burn patients.

“In order to maximize the use of these lessons, I hope the CSH knows they have the Burn Center and the ISR Clinical Practice Guidelines as resources available 24/7.”

Burn Team members who attended the training were: Burn Surgeon, Maj. (Dr.) Wylan Peterson; Maj. Meissel; BICU Licensed Vocational Nurse, Sgt. John M. Newton; and Sgt. Alfredo G. Villarreal, BICU respiratory therapist.



Sgt. John Newton demonstrates the proper method for preparing a burn patient for transport to members of the 21st Combat Support Hospital March 19.

## Army Diversity, Cultural Awareness

By Staff Sgt. Jan M. Holland

Cultural awareness is the ability to understand the differences between one’s own culture and the cultural background of people from other countries. The Army defines diversity as the different attributes, experiences, and backgrounds of our Soldiers, Civilians and Family members that further enhance our global capabilities and contribute to an adaptive, culturally astute Army.

The Army’s diversity mission is to develop and implement a strategy that contributes to mission readiness while transforming and sustaining the Army as a national leader in diversity.

The Army’s diversity vision is to be the national leader in embracing

**DIVERSITY continues on page 16**



Kirsten Gardner, Associate Professor of History and Undergraduate Coordinator of the History Department at the University of Texas at San Antonio, was the guest speaker at the Brooke Army Medical Center and U.S. Army Institute of Surgical Research Women’s History Month Celebration at the San Antonio Military Medical Center Medical Mall March 26. Photo by Rick Anzaldúa

# Burn Center Rehab ADL put to full use

Story and photos by Steven Galvan  
USAISR Public Affairs Officer

Ask any injured service member who is a patient at the U.S. Army Institute of Surgical Research Burn Center what they want to achieve while rehabilitating and chances are that they'll say "to get back to living a normal life." While some injuries require more rehabilitation than others, the staff members at the Burn Center Rehabilitation Clinic are there to provide the injured warriors with the best therapy to help them realize their goals.

An addition to the rehab center which recently became available is now being taken full advantage of. The Activities of Daily Living (ADL) skills room, a mock-up of a one bedroom apartment, gives patients the opportunity to experience living independently before being discharged from the Burn Center.

"It's a way for patients who have been here for months to transition back into a routine without leaving the hospital," said USAISR Burn Rehabilitation Occupational Therapist, Emily Welsh. "They get to spend the night

**ADL continues on page 9**



First Sgt. Matthew Deller places the items that he bought at the post commissary to cook his first meal in months at the Burn Center Activities of Daily Living Skills room.



First Sgt. Matthew Deller shops at the post commissary to cook his first meal in months at the Burn Center Activities of Daily Living Skills room--the first burn patient to fully utilize that room.

"The purpose of the trip to the commissary is to acclimate the patient back into the community. It gets them to interact with people and to see how they react to their injuries."

**Maj. Erik J. Johnson, Chief of Burn Rehab**

**ADL continued from page 9**

and do things for themselves like what they'll have to do when they are discharged."

The first patient to experience full use of the ADL was 1st Sgt. Matthew Deller, a member of the 232nd Medical Battalion at Joint Base San Antonio-Fort Sam Houston, Texas. Prior to spending the night in the ADL, Deller was taken to the post commissary to shop for items to cook supper that evening.

"The purpose of the trip to the commissary is to acclimate the patient back into the community," said Maj. Erik J. Johnson, Chief of Burn Rehab. "It gets them to interact with people and to see how they react to their injuries."

Deller said that it felt good to be out shopping at the commissary.

"I needed to see how it was going to

be and how much my body can tolerate," he said.

The oldest boy of 10, Deller had always been independent. He said that he was looking forward to cooking his first meal in the ADL, something he had not been able to do in months.

"It was a good experience for him," said Welsh. "One of the biggest fears that some wounded warriors have is learning how to get back into a routine. Going to the commissary and spending the night in the ADL eases that tension."

Welsh also said that she feels good about Deller getting back into a routine.

"He is a special Soldier," she said. "He has had a remarkable recovery and is always pushing himself to get back to where he was before."

Deller recently attended an end of

cycle critique session with his former company where he was charged with training and graduating top-notch medics.

"Out of nowhere he goes up to the stage and delivers a speech to the students for 15 minutes," said Welsh. "It was inspiring and motivating. That's just the type of Soldier that he is."

Deller was discharged from the Burn Center March 27 after spending 109 days being treated to a burn that covers 77 percent of his body. He was burned at home when a cracked gas line ignited while starting a fire in his fireplace. He will spend at least another year at the Burn Center rehab gym working on getting his "normal" life back.

"I know that he will," said Welsh. "That's how he is. He's always looking at what's next. He's remarkable."

## Convertino receives 2014 TACSM Honor Award

Story and photo by Steven Galvan  
USAISR Public Affairs Officer

The highest recognition that can be awarded by the Texas Regional Chapter of the American College of Sports Medicine (TACSM) was given to Victor A. Convertino, Ph.D., a physiologist/researcher and the tactical combat casualty care research (TC-CCR) task area program manager at the U.S. Army Institute of Surgical Research (USAISR) at Joint Base San Antonio-Fort Sam Houston, Texas. The 2014 TACSM Honor Award for his "Outstanding Contributions to Exercise and Sports Medicine in the State of Texas" was presented Feb. 28 during the TACSM Annual Conference held at Texas Christian University in Fort Worth.

As part of the recognition, Convertino was invited to be the speaker at the Raven Lecture, a keynote address given each year during the Texas Chapter annual meeting and named in honor of one of the chapter's



Victor Convertino, Ph.D, the tactical combat casualty care research task area program manager was awarded the 2014 TACSM Honor Award for his outstanding contributions to exercise and sports medicine in Texas.

founders Dr. Peter Raven. His lecture, which was presented to more than 400 researchers and students from academic and government institutions, was entitled "Career Paths with Training in Exercise Science: 40 Years of Lessons Learned," which focused on research

from when he was a graduate student to his current studies at the USAISR.

"The primary focus of my lecture was to present to the audience, which were mostly graduate students, a perspective that their training in exercise

**TACSM continues on page 12**

# Safety Notes

By Stephanie L. Truss  
Health, Safety and Environmental Specialist



The return of warmer temperatures brings the opportunity for freedom, relaxation, exploration, and being closer to nature. Whether you're relaxing in the backyard, turning up your garden, hitting the pool, or exploring the great outdoors, here are some ways to help keep you and your family healthy this spring and summer.

### Beware of Bugs

Mosquitoes can transmit West Nile virus, St. Louis encephalitis virus, eastern equine encephalitis virus, and even dengue. Ticks can also transmit Lyme disease and other serious infections; and fleas can transmit plague.

To prevent these illnesses, use an appropriate insect and tick repellent and apply it properly. Prime mosquito-biting hours are usually from dusk to dawn, but ticks are out at all times. Young ticks are so small that they can be difficult to see, but both young and adult ticks hungrily look to animals and sometimes people to bite.

To keep ticks at a distance, avoid tick-infested areas (especially places with leaf-litter and high grasses) and use repellent containing 20 percent DEET. If it's primarily mosquitoes that are the problem, CDC recommends repelling them with products that contain DEET, picaridin, IR3535 or oil of lemon eucalyptus. You can also treat clothing with permethrin (which protects through several washings) or purchase clothing that is pre-treated

## In the Spotlight

**Rose Marie Bolenbaucher**

**Job title:** Chief Performance Improvement Branch

**How long have you worked at the ISR?** 6 years and 9 months

**What or who has been an inspiration to you in your work?**

I have to say it started with my parents – they started out as immigrant workers and then became business entrepreneurs.

They took pride in their work and they wanted the best for their children. I then have to say that at each phase of my nursing journey I had mentors that inspired me to what and where I am presently.

**What is your favorite part of your work?** Teaching and disseminating the "Good" of performance/process improvement concepts.

**Your proudest achievement?** Witnessing nurses (civilian or military) having the passion for improving the care of our wounded warriors by embracing process and performance improvement concepts. Professionally would be Maj Compton – NATO partner from Canada. She embraced PI while deployed and now she is pursuing her Masters and affecting the outcomes of her Canadian wounded warriors. Personally – seeing my daughter pursue her NP in nursing. Great to see others are carrying the "PI Torch" forth.

**Short- and long-term goals:** Short term goals – Continue to reassess and identify areas of improvement in disseminating PI concepts for overall JTS mission. Long term goals – Be a better wife, mom, grandmother and bless others with quilts that I make.

**Hobbies:** Quilting

**Favorite Book:** *The Bible*

**Favorite movie/TV show:** *The Closer, Major Crimes and Shark Tank*

**Favorite quote:** "Do unto others as you would like for them to do unto you." "This ain't my first rodeo." "When you stumble, make it part of the dance."



with permethrin. Always follow the directions on repellent packaging.

After coming indoors, shower as soon as possible and check your body for ticks. Make sure that your children also bathe or shower and get checked for ticks. Wash and tumble dry your clothing and check your pets for ticks. If you find an attached tick, don't panic, ticks are easy to remove with a pair of fine-tipped tweezers. Consult your healthcare provider if you develop a rash, fever, body aches, fatigue or headache, stiff neck, disorientation in the 1-3 weeks following a bite. It could be any number of illnesses.

### In the Great Outdoors

When you're out on the trail, whether hiking, camping, or hunting, protect yourself from mosquitoes and other bugs by using insect/tick repellent. Wear permethrin-treated clothing when practical. Check your clothes and body for ticks daily. If you find any ticks, carefully remove them with tweezers. The ticks that transmit Lyme disease are most active in May, June, and July, but check for ticks in all warm months to protect yourself against other tick-borne diseases.

Enjoy the great outdoors. Have a safe and healthy spring and summer!

April Health News

By Maria G. Dominguez, R.N. COHN-S/CM Occupational Health



We all have heard the expression “an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure.” National Public Health Week (NPHW) reminds us exactly of this! This year, NPHW will take place from April 7-13 and focus on guiding communities through the ever changing public health system with the theme “Public Health: Start Here.”

The public health system keeps our communities healthy and safe and is changing as technology changes. Public attitudes toward health shift and more health and safety options are becoming available through health care policy changes, such as the Affordable Care Act (ACA). Public health professionals are the guiding forces helping our communities navigate along the health care path.

In our Army community, The U.S. Army Public Health Command (USAPHC) promotes health and prevents disease, injury and disability in Soldiers and retirees, their Families, and Army civilians, and provides veterinary services for the Army and Department of Defense. USAPHC provides consulting services to senior military leaders, commanders both deployed and in garrison, and military medical and health professionals. USAPHC is a subordinate command of the U.S. Army Medical Command. Through its unique mission and capabilities, USAPHC is helping Army Medicine transform to a prevention-focused system for health.

In addition to promoting health,

Public Health also responds as the Public Health Emergency Management within the Department of Defense to potential Public Health Emergency concerns as well as International Health Regulations.

Public Health Major Program areas include:

- Communicable Disease Surveillance and Reporting, i.e. tuberculosis, sexually transmitted diseases.
- Health Promotions - provides programs/services such as in Tobacco Use Cessation,
- Child and Youth Services (CYS) - APHN serves as the Health Consultant and Staff Trainer. Member of Special Needs Accommodation Process (SNAP).

Public health professionals and organizations are the key to empowering people to participate in this exciting evolution of the public health system to improve the health and wellness of the whole community.

As you see a major topic within Public Health is Sexual Responsibility and Sexually Transmitted Diseases (STDs). April is also set aside to highlight education, support, and awareness of Sexually Transmitted Infections Awareness Month <http://www.cdc.gov/std/prevention/default.htm>

The CDC's new estimates show that there are about 20 million new sexually transmitted infections in the United States each year.

The key aspect of this is ensuring that Soldiers are educated about personal sexual responsibility and provided with resources to help protect their health and prevent unintended pregnancy/paternity.

Sexual health is about much more than just infections. It's an essential part of our overall health. It affects our minds, bodies, families and communities, even our spirits. Sexual health touches on everything from the quality of our relationships to what goes on when we visit the medical clinic. It

involves talking to our children about safer sex, giving and getting respect from our partner, and recognizing we have a right to the sheer joy of pleasure.

People with STDs are more likely to get or spread HIV compared to people who do not. So while there are numerous advantages to preventing STDs, the reduced risk of HIV infection is also a reason to encourage testing and treatment for all STDs.

Under the Public Health umbrella during the month of April there is also: World Health Day—April 7; World Immunization Week—April 24-30; National Infant Immunization Week—April 26- May 3; Medical Fitness Week—April 15-21; National Minority Cancer Awareness Week—April 15-21; Responsible alcohol consumption week and Alcohol-Free Weekend—April 4-6; Hepatitis Awareness Month; Noise Awareness Day (International); and Foot Health Awareness Month.

Kick-Off Event for National Public Health Week on April 1 in the BAMC Medical Mall from 0900-1500. There will be music by the Air Force band “Warhawk” and information tables on a variety of Public Health topics.

We can't forget to thank our Health Care volunteers April 6-12, National Volunteer Week, our librarian National Library Week observed April 13-19, and Administrative Professionals Day celebrated on the Wednesday of the last full week of April.

Laugh: - all of April. A great way to enjoy National Humor Month, it's still the best medicine!



TACSM continued from page 9

science, particularly physiology, lays a firm foundation for a career path with unique opportunities for developing solutions that can translate to real-world operational problems," said Convertino. "I described that the approach for developing technologies for diagnostic and therapeutic applications in the care of prehospital patients with life-threatening hemorrhage could be used to assess and manage healthy individuals during the stress of exercise or as life-saving interventions in athletes who are severely dehydrated or develop shock due to heat exposure or heat exhaustion."

Convertino was also invited to serve as a judge during the "Student Bowl," the conference kick-off event which had 30 teams from 18 universities from Texas as competitors.

"During my lecture, I told the students that I was impressed with their

mastery of knowledge displayed during the 'Student Bowl.' But I reminded them that Albert Einstein challenged us with the notion that 'imagination is more important than knowledge," he said. "It is our imagination that allows us to take our knowledge and develop new concepts and technologies that can be used to improve human quality of life. So I challenged the audience to imagine the use of new computer-based technologies that can measure the ability of the body to compensate for the demands of physical work or exercise and ultimately predict or enhance physical performance."

It is that imagination that Convertino has relied on while conducting his studies during the last four decades which has earned him recognition from within the combat casualty care arena.

"Perhaps the most gratifying aspect

of this award is that it was presented by a professional organization that is outside of combat casualty care," Convertino said. "This award recognizes the impact of the research being conducted by the TCCCR task area which has broad implications for advancing the understanding of mechanisms and relationships fundamental to physiology."

Convertino also stated that such implications were evident by two new collaborations that evolved from investigators who attended the lecture and are interested in the applications of diagnostic algorithms developed by the TCCCR task area, one for management of exercise performance and the other for monitoring women who undergo epidurals and hemorrhage during childbirth.

"I believe we will change the physiology textbooks" Convertino said.

# Killinger selected as 2013 BAMC American Red Cross Volunteer of the Year

Story and photo by Steven Galvan  
USAISR Public Affairs Officer

"She represents the model traits of what we should all strive for—selflessness, empathy, loyalty and a strong sense of duty to serve others." That's how the 2013 Brooke Army Medical Center (BAMC) American Red Cross Volunteer of the Year Catherine "Cathy" Killinger is described. Since 2006, Killinger has been a volunteer at U.S. Army Institute of Surgical Research Burn Center (USAISR) collocated at the San Antonio Military Medical Center at Joint Base San Antonio-Fort Sam Houston, Texas. Lt. Col. Paul Mittelsteadt, the USAISR Burn Center Chief of Nurses nominated Killinger because, "she has the knack for understanding people and a genuine desire to assist others in their

VOY continues on page 13



Catherine "Cathy" Killinger, the 2013 Brooke Army Medical Center American Red Cross Volunteer of the Year talks to Thessalonia McClure at the Burn Intensive Care Unit waiting room.

# WANTED



## YOUR PHOTOS OF YOU WITH YOUR MOTHER.

MAY'S EDITION OF THIS NEWSLETTER WILL FEATURE A SPECIAL SECTION TO HONOR MOTHER'S DAY.

PLEASE SUBMIT YOUR FAVORITE PHOTO WITH YOUR MOM TO RECOGNIZE AND CELEBRATE MOTHER'S DAY.

PHOTO ON LEFT: MICHELLE FOSTER

PHOTO ON RIGHT: M&J ROBERT CARTER

volunteer when her son enlisted in the Army knowing that he would eventually deploy. In early 2013 she took some time to care for him when he was injured while deployed in support of Operation Enduring Freedom.

"I now know firsthand what our families go through as they wait and visit their loved ones," she said.

After deciding to volunteer for the American Red Cross, she asked to be a volunteer at the Burn Center since she understands firsthand of what a family goes through when a loved one suffers from a trauma and ends up there. Her brother was electrocuted and spent time in a burn center.

"I remember how my parents were so appreciative of the doctors, nurses and staff were there to help them during their difficult time," she said.

In the volunteer of the year nomination package, Mittelsteadt wrote that Killinger is a shining example that one person can make a positive difference.

"She is able to communicate the stories of those patients who have come before and persevered," wrote Mittelsteadt. "This vital information gives hope and comfort to the families and patients. Most importantly, she does this in a non-judgmental and warm manner."

Killinger was selected from more than 40 American Red Cross volunteers at the Burn Center and will now compete for the JBSA-Fort Sam Houston individual Volunteer of the Year award as well as the San Antonio United Way individual volunteer award. She said she was honored to be recognized for this award.

"There are so many wonderful people who volunteer here at the hospital. Some people give money, some give time," said Killinger. "It's such a wonderful experience knowing that you have made a difference, even if it's small, a hug, smile or simple touch. It's priceless."

VOY continued from page 12

time of need."

"I was very surprised [about being selected Volunteer of the Year]," said

Killinger. "I have missed some time this year since my son was injured in Afghanistan."

Killinger became a Burn Center

USAISR Stats Class

April 29

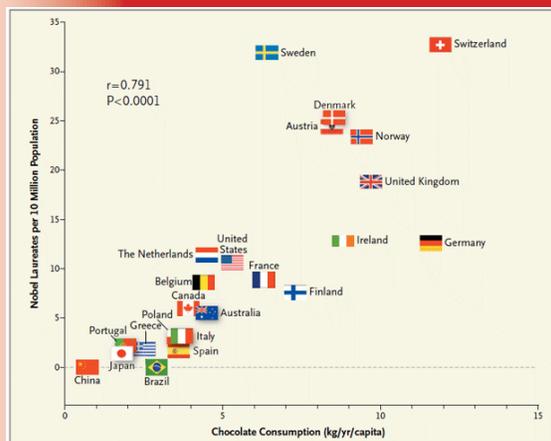
## Correlation and Regression

Learn:

Basic definitions

How to read a correlation matrix

About simple linear regression



Correlation between Countries' Annual Per Capita Chocolate Consumption and The Number of Nobel Laureates  
- New England Journal of Medicine

1500 to 1600 hours BHT-2 1st Floor Conf Rm

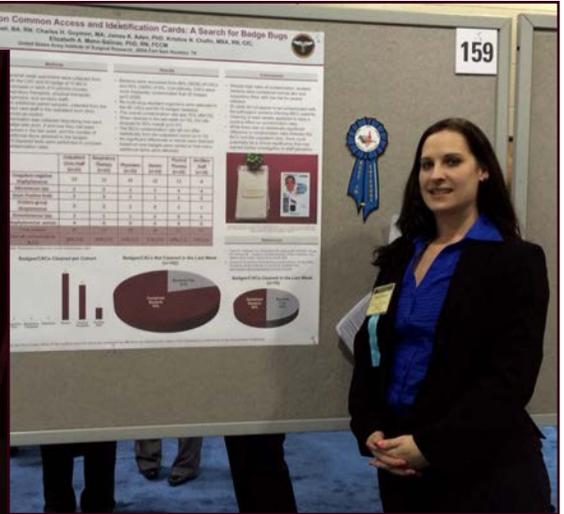
# Around the ISR



Top left: JTS Deputy Director, Mary Ann Spott, left, poses with members of the Trauma Nurse Coordinator Course Feb. 3. Top right: Donaya Ashoka, left, supports the Special Events Committee during a Bake Sale March 17. Center right: Lt. Col. Paul Mittelsteadt gives a tour of the Burn Center to International Military Medical Officers March 26. Bottom right: Col. (Dr.) Robert Hale, Col. (Dr.) Michael Weber, and Lt. Col. (Dr.) Michael Davis, center, pose with attendees of the Restoration of the Functional and Aesthetic Craniofacial Envelope meeting held at the ISR March 31. Bottom right: Members of the Joint Trauma System pose with Nancy Molter, Ph.D., during her retirement celebration March 26. Left center: Marissa Rodriguez at her Baby Shower March 28.



Around the ISR continued



Top left: Staff Sgt. Hector Cortez with a quilt sent to him by members of the Joint Trauma System while he was deployed. Top center: Lt. Col. Kimberlie Bieber cuts a "welcome home/farewell cake March 21. Top right: Nicole Caldwell won "Best Poster" at the poster presentation of the annual ABA meeting. Photo by Lt. Col. Elizabeth Mann-Salinas. Bottom right: David Baer, Ph.D., left presents David Lund with a Commander's Award for Public Service Medal March 26, photo by Andre Akers. Bottom left: Alexandra Miller and Lt. Col. Paul Mittelsteadt won 2nd and 3rd place, respectively, in the Salad Cookoff March 28. First place was taken by Lori Bruce. Center left: Maj. (Dr.) Wylan Peterson, Acting Burn Center Director, welcomes Gen. Robin Rand, Commander, Air Education and Training Command to the Burn Center March 24.



# Promotions/Reenlistments/Farewells



Top left: Col. (Dr.) Michael Weber, left, presents Master Sgt. Jon Gran with a Meritorious Service Medal as part of his retirement presentation at the Command Awards Ceremony March 27. Top right: Staff Sgt. Jaime Torres-Mendoza presents Sgt. Eunjoo Kim her cover with her new rank during a promotion ceremony March 3. Center right: Master Sgt. Alan Moloy is pinned with his new rank by his wife Christina during his promotion ceremony March 11. Bottom right: Maj. Christopher VanFosson, left, presents Sgt. Danielle Miller with her Certificate of Reenlistment March 19. Center right: Col. (Dr.) Anthony Johnson, left, administers the Oath of Reenlistment to Spc. Ryan Morris March 18.



Promotions/Reenlistments/Farewells continued



Top left: First Sgt. Bradley Proud presents Master Sgt. Craig Anderson with his Certificate of Promotoin March 4. Top right: Sgt. Danilo Mendoza is pinned with his new rank by his wife Latisha March 3. Bottom right: Lt. Col. (Dr.) Andrew Cap presents Capt. Jessica Slack with a going away plaque March 27. Bottom left: Sgt. Mylah Joy Freeman is pinned with her new rank by her husband Spc. Joshua Freeman March 3. Center left: Col. (Dr.) Tarnjit Saini is blessed by the Elder Sikh of his Temple during his promotion ceremony March 24.



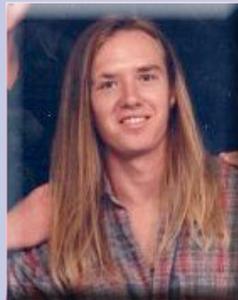
Back When...



Can you guess who this ISR staff member is? This photo was taken in 2003 when she was a Pvt. attending combat medic school at Fort Sam Houston.

Submit your "Back When" photo to the PAO for publication in the upcoming issues of *The Innovator*.

Last Month's Answer:



James K. Aden, Ph.D.  
Research Dir. Statistician

Library News



By Gerri Trumbo  
Library Manager

We are happy to announce that there will be a Defense Connect Online (DCO) training course available to ISR staff in April. The course will cover the database ISI Web of Science: Introduction to the Web of Science (1 hour) April 21 1300-1400.

- The Thomson Reuters publication selection process
- Searching by topic, author, funding agency and organization
- Using analytic tools: Citation Report & Analyze Results
- E-mailing, saving, printing, or exporting your results to EndNote online
- Saving a search history and creating search and citation alerts

The ISR Library has printouts of the Overview for the EndNote class. Please stop in if you wish a class outline.

**Important:** In order to participate in this DCO Session you must first register. **Hint:** If you conduct DoD Research get registered on DCO.

This resource is the DoD answer to Netmeeting, WebEx, and GoToMeeting, etc.

We have basic information for the site on the Intranet. The DCO site is at: <https://www.dco.dod.mil>

Once you are registered, you will be able to attend the training from your desktop computer. You will receive a password to enter the session as soon as the Library is given the information prior to the training session.

Date: April 21 1300-1400 CST

Thank you for using the ISR Library.

March Awards Ceremony

Meritorious Service Medal

Master Sgt. Jon Gran

Army Commendation Medal

Capt. Jessica Slack  
Staff Sgt. Leonardo Aviles  
Staff Sgt. Joel McVay

Army Achievement Medal

Spc. Danilo Mendoza

Certificate of Achievement

Staff Sgt. Michael Cavallo  
Spc. Micah Korff (2)

**DIVERSITY continued from page 7**

the strengths of diverse people in an inclusive environment. This includes investing in and managing talent, valuing individuals and developing culturally astute Soldiers and Civilians who enhance our communities and are prepared for the human dimension of leadership and global engagements.

Cultural awareness and diversity help build a stronger work force and enhance our ability to operate as a unit. Stronger together!

