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Dr. Haldeman Presents Inaugural Lecture in USF International Series

By John Mayer, D.C., Ph.D., Lincoln College Endowed Chair, University of South Florida

On January 9, 2012, Scott Haldeman, D.C., M.D., Ph.D., presented the inaugural lecture of the University of South Florida (USF) Health International Distinguished Lecture Series titled, "Spinal Disorders, the Neglected International Crisis: New Initiatives to Relieve the Problem." Dr. Haldeman was invited to give this important lecture for his leadership in the field and dedication to advance spine care internationally. The USF Health International Distinguished Lecture Series was initiated to provide a thoughtful and thought-provoking look at some of the innovative work being done by USF Health and partner organizations around the world.

The inaugural distinguished lecture was hosted by the USF School of Physical Therapy and Rehabilitation Sciences, College of Medicine, including the Lincoln College Endowed Chair in Chiropractic & Biomechanical Research, and was sponsored by the USF Health Office of International Programs. The event was held on the USF Tampa campus at the state-of-the-art Patel Center for Global Solutions. The event was well-attended by USF faculty, staff, students and leadership, including Dr. Karen Holbrook, Senior Vice President for Research, Innovation & Global Affairs, Dr. Ann DeBaldo, Associate Vice President for USF Health International Programs, and Dr. Sandy Quillen, Associate Dean and Director, College of Medicine and School of Physical Therapy and Rehabilitation Sciences. The chiropractic

profession was also well-represented at this event by FCA leadership, a past president of the ACA and several community-based chiropractic physicians.

Dr. Haldeman is widely recognized as the single most influential scientist in the chiropractic profession. He serves as a model for interdisciplinary research and clinical care related to the management of neuro-musculoskeletal disorders, and his work is transforming the field. He recently was the lead scientist on two renowned international research initiatives: The 2000-2010 Bone and Joint Decade Task Force on Neck Pain and Its Associated Disorders and "The Special Focus Issue on the Management of Chronic Low Back Pain" published in *The Spine Journal*, the official journal of the North American Spine Society. He maintains an active practice of

neurology and also currently holds positions as Clinical Professor, Department of Neurology, University of California at Irvine and Adjunct Professor, Department of Epidemiology, School of Public Health, University of California at Los Angeles.

In 2011, Dr. Haldeman was awarded the Inaugural Lincoln Research Prize in Chiropractic and Biomechanics, the largest monetary research prize in the chiropractic profession. The Lincoln Research Prize is sponsored by the FCA, the Florida Chiropractic Education and Research Foundation and the Lincoln College Education and Research Fund. The 2012 Call for Nominations—for the second Lincoln Research Prize—is posted on the adjacent page.

Since 2008, Dr. Haldeman has been working to change the dynamics of managing spinal disorders in developing countries through World Spine Care, the nonprofit organization that he founded and currently serves as its president. USF recently entered into a collaborative agreement with World Spine Care and is one of only a few collaborating institutions in the United States.

During his lecture, Dr. Haldeman discussed his experiences and observations working in the field of international spine care. He spent considerable time highlighting the evidence related to the burden of spinal pain disorders in developing countries, especially in rural communities with limited access to health care. He also discussed initial experiences with World Spine Care's first project in Shoshong, a remote village in Botswana, Africa. The lead clinician for the Shoshong project is a chiropractic physician who recently moved himself and his family to Africa to volunteer for this effort. Throughout the presentation Dr. Haldeman described an innovative health care delivery model for the evidence-based management of spinal disorders. His new model emphasizes the role of an interdisciplinary team—including chiropractic physicians—in providing high quality, effective and low cost care in an environment with few available re-



sources and many confounding health issues. Given the magnitude of this health problem, Dr. Haldeman's message appeared to resonate with the diverse audience.

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Overall, Dr. Haldeman proved to be an excellent choice to kick off the USF Health International Distinguished Lecture Series. We are fortunate that Dr. Haldeman accepted the invitation

to speak at USF and that he continues to be a very strong advocate for the chiropractic profession in important events such as this. <FCA

Dr. Mayer is the Lincoln College Endowed Chair in Biomechanical and Chiropractic Research, and a tenured faculty member in the College of Medicine of University of South Florida. Dr. Mayer is the principal investigator and co-principal investigator on federally-funded, injury prevention research projects. He is instructor for the Health Promotion and Wellness, Critical Inquiry 3, and Primary Care Clerkship-Low Back Pain graduate courses at the USF College of Medicine. He serves as a manuscript reviewer for several scientific journals and advisory board member for various health and research organization. He is also an honorary member of the Florida Chiropractic Association."

