

October 4, 2017

Health Sciences Center

Department of Neurosurgery

1501 Kings Highway
P.O. Box 33932
Shreveport, LA 71130-3932

O 318-675-6404
F 318-675-6867
www.universityneurosurgery.com

Board of Supervisors:

This is a letter of full support and loyalty for our chairman, Dr. Anil Nanda. This afternoon our department was notified by Chancellor Ghali that Dr. Nanda has been removed as the Chairman of the department of Neurosurgery at LSU Health Sciences Center. The faculty and staff were told that this removal comes with no specific cause or wrongdoing by Dr. Nanda, but only that the LSU Health Sciences Center wants to move in a different direction. Everyone in our department was shocked, disappointed, and heartbroken by the unilateral decision made by Chancellor Ghali.

Dr. Nanda was recruited to Shreveport and LSUMC by Dr. John McDonald in 1990 as the Chief of the Division of Neurosurgery. In 1995, Dr. Nanda started the Department of Neurosurgery at the Health Sciences Center. In his 27 years as the Chairman of the department of Neurosurgery, Dr. Nanda has built an internationally renowned department and residency training program. The department of Neurosurgery under his direction has served all of Louisiana, east Texas, and south Arkansas. Our department is the only neurosurgical service to provide full care to unfunded, Medicaid, Medicare, and commercial patients in the state. Dr. Nanda's vision has allowed our department to grow and thrive. Dr. Nanda built our Gamma Knife Radiosurgery program and our Neuroendovascular program, both of which would fail without his leadership and support. Our department currently has over 70 employees, the majority of whom have worked with the department over 8 years, despite the continued troubles of the Health Sciences Center, University Health, and Willis Knighton. Our department believes in our leader, Dr. Nanda, which is why the majority of us have remained at this institution.

Under his leadership, the department of Neurosurgery has risen to be one of the most productive and profitable departments in the Health Sciences Center. He has built a solid clinical team with the lowest number of free care and Medicaid patients waiting for appointments at LSUHSC-Shreveport, with a wait list of less than 2 months for any physician in our group.

In 2003, Dr. Nanda successfully began a neurosurgical training program in Shreveport. In the following 15 years, the program has continued to grow exponentially under his leadership and direction. Dr. Nanda has single-handedly put Shreveport on the map in the neurosurgical community. His surgical expertise, research prowess, academic advancements, and departmental and community leadership, have been recognized at the state, regional, national, and international level. Our resident applicant pool has more than doubled, with many of our applicants telling us they applied to our program because of Dr. Nanda. All over this country, resident applicants recognize him as not only an excellent neurosurgeon but a leader in the field. He has put our community of Shreveport on the map for Neurosurgery. Across the country, other chairmen and academic leaders have recognized and praised his success in building this department and residency program.

Dr. Nanda has consistently contributed to the local medical community. He has two annual visiting professor fellowships, which have brought national and international

neurosurgical leaders to Shreveport and the Health Sciences Center. These are not only amazing educational opportunities for the students, residents, and other physicians at LSUHSC, but it also serves to spread the name of our Health Sciences Center across the globe. Furthermore, Dr. Nanda and his wife, Laura, have supported numerous philanthropic efforts in the Shreveport-Bossier community, such as the Shreveport Symphony, Shreveport Regional Arts Council, and ThinkFirst.

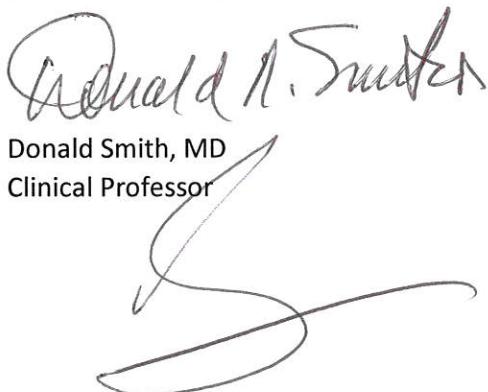
Dr. Nanda is an academic leader in Neurosurgery, locally, nationally, and internationally. He is a Director on the Board of American Neurological Surgeons, a Board Member of the American Association of Neurological Surgeons, and serves on numerous other national neurosurgical organizations. He serves as a reviewer on over 20 peer-reviewed journals. He has over 440 peer-reviewed publications, 25 book chapters, and has personally authored 2 Neurosurgical textbooks. His H-Index is 52. He remains dedicated to research and education, which are two of the three pillars the Health Sciences Center touts as their mission of the institution.

He is our leader and the reason for the recruitment of our entire faculty, residents, academic and clinical staff, and research fellows. Dr. Nanda is the ultimate modern-day academician. In academic medicine today, it is no longer just about teaching and research. It is also about being able to combine being a successful businessman, compassionate physician and dedicated teacher. Dr. Nanda is one of the few people at LSUHSC who embodies all these traits. He has always maintained an open-door policy in the department with transparency and honesty, which is why as a department we cannot support the removal of him as our Chairman.

Our entire department feels that Dr. Ghali's decision to remove Dr. Nanda as the Chairman of our department is a personal attack on a man who has dedicated his career to LSUHSC-Shreveport and the education of students and residents.

We whole-heartedly stand behind Dr. Nanda as our Chairman, our leader, and our mentor.

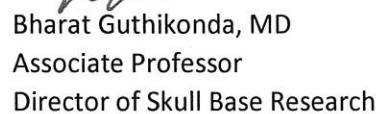
Respectfully,



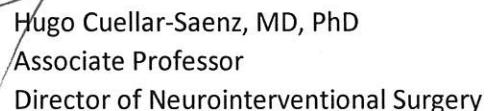
Donald Smith, MD
Clinical Professor



Anthony Sin, MD
Associate Professor
Director of Complex Spine Disorders



Bharat Guthikonda, MD
Associate Professor
Director of Skull Base Research



Hugo Cuellar-Saenz, MD, PhD
Associate Professor
Director of Neurointerventional Surgery

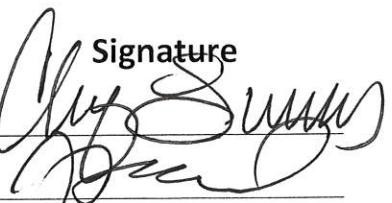
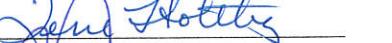
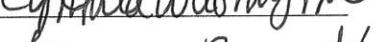
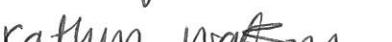
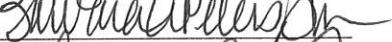
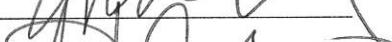


Christina Notarianni, MD
Associate Professor
Residency Program Director
Chief of Pediatric Neurosurgery



Hai Sun, MD, PhD
Assistant Professor
Director of Epilepsy Surgery

Department of Neurosurgery employees in agreement with letter

Printed Name	Signature	Printed Name	Signature
Christy Lummus		CODY HANNA	
Tabitha Ward		James Barry	
Brian M. Rigidon		Christopher Stoeck	
Terri Holtby		Frank Faroshi	
Christina Dominique		Rachael Wolfsen	
Deann Jewell		Edward Burkhardt	
LaToya Henghill		Richard Menger	
Jessica Cote		Devon LeFever	
Susan Steen		Jared Drayton	
Corrie Date		Rimal Darsani	
Cynthia Washington		JAI DEEP THAKUR	
Simone Barrett		PAPIREDDY BOLLA	
Heather Ray		AMEY R. SAVARDEKAR	
Ashley Keene		NASSER MOHAMMED	
Kathlyn Watson		VINAYAK NARAYAN	
Tucker Kifer		Deborah Cash	
Bennie Hanson		Brigette Rose	
Barbara Peter		Annette Granville	
JOSI LOWY		Jacquilla Moton	
Jane Maxwell		Shirley Diggs	
Terri Harris		Alice Edwards	
Catie Griffith		Kees Edelash	
Christy Benney			
Debra Graham			
Kristie O'Gee			
Melissa Gunn			
Jenelle Wells			
Amy Arvidson			