

Physician honored for lifetime devoted to children

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The [Tulane Medical Alumni Association](#) honored alumnus Dr. John T. Wilson with the 2013 Lifetime Achievement Award for his contributions to the field of pediatrics and child public health. Wilson is a professor of pediatrics, section chief and director of the Children's Clinical Research Center at Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center in Shreveport.



“Dr. [John T.] Wilson has made a remarkable contribution to the field of pediatrics and child public health not only in our country but worldwide,” said Dr. Benjamin Sachs, right, dean of the Tulane School of Medicine. “He is truly a pioneer of pediatric therapeutics.” (Photo by Pat Garin)

Early in his career, Wilson's research findings showed that 78 percent of drugs lacked sufficient information for use in children. This prompted Wilson to ask a fundamental question: “How do we know what medications are safe for our children?”

As a result of this questioning and 40 years of research and effort by Wilson, products and drugs are studied now to determine safety and efficacy in children.

The congressional passage of the 2012 FDA Safety and Innovation Act signifies Wilson's lasting impact on children's safety. This act secures enhanced drug labeling for children, making sure that drugs used for children have the same safety standards as those found in studies with adults.

Upon receiving the Lifetime Achievement Award at the Tulane Class of 1963 50th reunion celebration on May 16, Wilson credited his medical education with giving him the basis to achieve such success in his career. Fellow classmate Dr. Paul Winder, a Shreveport, La., physician, sponsored Wilson for the award.

Wilson complimented his fellow classmates as a strong group of achievers that pushed him to better himself and strive further in his academic studies. Giving a nod to *Alice in Wonderland*, Wilson told his classmates, "I had to run twice as fast just to stay in the same place with you."