



LOMA LINDA UNIVERSITY

School of Pharmacy

2013 | Spring
vol.5~no.4

NEWS CAPSULE



Stepping Up

Nancy Chang, School of Pharmacy
alumnus, to lead new pediatric
residency program



Good News! Accreditation Awarded to School of Pharmacy

—Billy Hughes PhD, Dean

In the life of any University or School there are few events that rival the importance of accreditation. Without it there are no programs, no students, no faculty, no staff, no support services, and parking isn't a problem—the business of education stops. The Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC) and the Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education (ACPE) are accrediting organizations that ensure the academic quality of both Loma Linda University and the School of Pharmacy respectively.

As dean I've been involved at different times and at different levels with WASC. Editing and writing institutional documents such as proposals, response to standards, capacity and preparatory and educational effectiveness reviews—hundreds of hours of meetings, discussions, writing reports, and hosting accrediting team visitors.

Most recently, ACPE has been the focus of my attention and that of my colleagues in the School of Pharmacy. Years of preparation, strategic planning, executing, educating, assessing, informing, and changing—all to make sure that excellence is at the core of our School of Pharmacy.

Our success is due to our talented faculty, staff, students, alums, preceptors, University administration and support services. The Accreditation Oversight Committee, chaired by Dr. Rashid

Mosavin, Associate Dean for Academic Affairs, functioned to make sure all the pieces of the accreditation self-study came together on time.

Ester Boloix-Chapman,

Assistant to the Dean, attended to every detail in the Evidence Room. Years of preparation and planning and thousands of pages of self-study documents were evaluated during the three-day visit by the ACPE site team. And then on Tuesday, January 29, 2013, at 10:28 AM we all learned that: *"The accreditation term granted for the Doctor of Pharmacy program extends until June 30, 2021, which represents the customary eight-year cycle between self-studies. The academic year for the next currently scheduled review of the Doctor of Pharmacy program for purposes of continued accreditation is 2020-2021, likely fall 2020."*



Dean Hughes and Dr. Rashid Mosavin present the Accreditation document

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Success Story

School of Pharmacy alumnus to lead new pediatric residency program

A brand-new pediatric pharmacy residency program, only the third such program in the state of California, will begin July 2013. The new residency program is made possible through a \$20,000 grant from Cardinal Health.

By Stephen Vodhanel, PhD

Leading the new residency program will be Nancy Chang, PharmD, a 2006 graduate of Loma Linda University School of Pharmacy.

The new residency will take place during the second post-graduate year (PGY2) for pharmacy students and will be centered at Loma Linda University Children's Hospital.

Efforts to establish a PGY2 pediatric residency have been the brainchild of the dean of the School of Pharmacy, Billy Hughes, PhD, as well as Paul Norris, PharmD, and Norm Hamada, PharmD, of the LLU Medical Center.

The new pediatric residency program was promoted during the California Society of Health-system Pharmacists seminar, held

in Las Vegas in October 2012, as well as the American Society of Health-system Pharmacists midyear meetings, also in Las Vegas in December 2012.

Adding a PGY2 pediatric residency program was the natural next step for the School of Pharmacy. Drs. Norris and Hamada have been maturing the level of pharmacy services in both the pediatric intensive care unit (PICU) and the neonatal intensive care unit (NICU); and for several years pharmacy students have been completing clinical rotations in these specialties. In addition, Bill Brown, PharmD, has been providing pediatric oncology pharmacy services at LLU Children's Hospital for more than 10 years.

As a member of the inaugural School of Pharmacy class of 2006, Dr. Chang is the ideal director for the PGY2 pediatric residency

Alumni Feature

(“New Pediatric Residency Program” continued from previous page)

“We must explore new areas where pharmacists can be effectively involved in the multi-disciplinary medical team dealing with patient care.”

program for a variety of reasons. First and foremost, she experienced pediatric pharmacy as a resident pharmacist as well as a clinical pharmacist at LLUMC. Dr. Chang has served as a clinical pharmacist at LLU Children’s Hospital, specializing in the PICU. She also has vast experience working together with a large multidisciplinary team, drawing upon the skills and knowledge of a variety of health care professionals throughout LLUMC.

For Dr. Chang, the role of director of the pediatric residency will be both challenging and rewarding. “We need to always work toward being part of a multidisciplinary team that values pharmacists managing the drug treatment for our patients,” she says. “And it is so very rewarding to see the kids transfer out of the PICU and then become well enough to be discharged home.”

Accepting the position as director of the pediatric residency also comes with great responsibilities. “The most challenging aspect of being the director at this time is taking on the big roles of establishing a new program,” she continues. “We must explore

new areas where pharmacists can be effectively involved in the multi-disciplinary medical team dealing with patient care.”

She predicts, “It will be important to provide opportunities for our resident pharmacists to network professionally across the medical center in a manner that emphasizes quality care. We have to do this and much more, while all the time staying focused on the mission of the medical center and the lives of the people we serve.”

The LLU Children’s Hospital has pharmacy specialists in the NICU, PICU, cardiac transplant, and pediatric hematology/oncology areas. Pediatric pharmacy residents can expect to work closely with experienced pharmacists and other health care professionals within these pediatric specialty areas, as well as with a variety of specialties both in the inpatient and outpatient care settings.



School News

School of Pharmacy Hosts Open House

The School of Pharmacy has now happily settled into Shryock Hall.

To celebrate, on January 22, 2013 the LLUSP held an open house with an invitation extended University-wide. Many who remember the original construction of Shryock Hall positively remarked on the new building with attention paid to detail of maintaining the historic structure. Shryock Hall has joined its place among the historic preservation of original campus buildings of the early College of Medical Evangelists, which has grown into Loma Linda University.



School News

Our School of Pharmacy Family Continues to Grow!



Cayleigh Shaina Primero

Camilo and Cylie Lyn Primero have added a beautiful daughter to their family. Cayleigh Shaina Primero was born on Saturday, December 15, 2012. At birth, Cayleigh weighed 7 lbs, 3oz, and measured to be 18 inches in height. Camilo and Cylie are truly enjoying Cayleigh's presence in their lives and feel very blessed.



Campbell Graeme Weldon

Dr. Dave, Abby, and Emily Weldon have welcomed a new baby boy (and future Pharmacy professor) into their family. Campbell Graeme Weldon was born on February 23, 2013 at 2:24 am, weighing in at 7lbs, 15oz, and measuring 21 inches.



Carter Evan West

Finally, we say "hello" to Carter Evan West, and "goodbye" to new mother Kristi West and family. Carter made himself known with zeal as he decided to be a home delivery. Dad Kenny, with help from 911, performed delivery duties, with big brother Dillon observing! Kristi has completed her work in the LLUSP Admissions Office, and will relocate with family to North Carolina in June. We will miss you, Kristi!

University President Thanks Dean Hughes

School of Pharmacy acknowledged for support of new sign

Much construction is taking place on the campus of Loma Linda University and one addition will be a new entrance into the university. As students, staff, faculty, administrators, and guests arrive from Interstate 10, a new monument sign will greet them.

According to University President Dr. Richard Hart, when visitors come to Loma Linda via Anderson Street, they will know that they have arrived at the University.

The School of Pharmacy, along with the Schools of Nursing, Allied Health, and Public Health, provided funding for the construction of the new monument sign. "If it weren't for your School's financial commitment, we would not have this lovely sign. Thank you so very much for having the vision to partner with us in making this dream a reality," said Dr. Hart.

The entire School of Pharmacy honors Dean Hughes' appreciation for the history of Loma Linda University and a strong commitment to LLU's future.



Dean Billy Hughes (center) with Dr. Richard Hart during ribbon-cutting ceremony for the new Loma Linda University Monument Sign

School News

Living Whole: Step It Up...Live It!

School of Pharmacy reaches 8 MILLION steps

At Loma Linda University Health (LLUH), the concept of “Living Whole” is a practice of living healthy lifestyles as a firmly grounded practice of life. Or as LLUH reminds us... Live It!

In the practice of Live It!, the School of Pharmacy is participating in a University-wide walking contest, called the Step It Up Program, sponsored by LLUH. LLUSP is participating in a big way with a 90% participation rate of staff and faculty members—the highest participation percentage of any school!

In less than a month, the School of Pharmacy has walked over 8 MILLION steps, which equals a whopping 3,374 MILES!

Step It Up is a 3-month program with University teams competing against each other. Each team consists of 4 members, and the School of Pharmacy has 10 teams. 760 Omron HJ-720 pedometers were distributed by LLUH to each team member. The Omron pedometers allow for ‘virtual walking’ with Google Earth maps.

Stay tuned. Winners will be announced in April!



School of Pharmacy Sponsors Believe Walk Team

For the second year, LLUSP sponsored School “family” members to participate in the annual Believe Walk in Redlands. Stater Bros. Charities and Inland Women Fighting Cancer have used proceeds from the walk to support cancer awareness throughout the Inland Empire, which has included the establishment of a patient resource program at the LLUMC Cancer Center. Thank you, Dr. Hughes, for your encouragement and commitment to this important community event.

School News

In Memory of Avis Joyce “Avis Joyce Adams” Ericson *February 20, 1947 - December 15, 2012*

Dr. Avis Ericson, a nationally recognized author, speaker, educator and administrator in the field of pharmacy, passed from this life Dec. 15, 2012, after waging a valiant battle with a nearly indestructible form of cancer. In 2001, Avis was named professor at Loma Linda University with the task of designing and building the academic program for the newly-founded School of Pharmacy. She became its first administrative dean and saw it grow dramatically in both enrollment and quality. She was born in Chicago, Feb. 20, 1947, to Swedish Baptist immigrant parents. She earned a baccalaureate in pharmacy from Ferris State University, then moved on to the University of Kentucky, where she earned the doctorate in pharmacy. She was in high demand as a presenter on women’s health issues and related topics at professional meetings and conferences throughout the country. She moved to North Las Vegas after retiring in 2007. A celebration of Avis’s life was held at First Presbyterian Church in Las Vegas.



Jackie Valcourt Retires

LLUSP thankful for a decade of service

Jackie Valcourt, senior administrative assistant for the department of Pharmacotherapy and Outcomes Science, set the date. Jackie retired at the end of March!

Jackie joined the School of Pharmacy shortly after it began, and soon knew every aspect of the budding school. She has certainly seen many changes and evolution during the past 10 years. To say Jackie filled in wherever needed during LLUSP’s maturation is a great underestimation of her influence. Jackie has truly been a treasured staff member, providing invaluable support to all during the tremendous growth of the school and the major move into Shryock Hall.

For Jackie, the phrase “I’m going to Disneyland,” will have nothing to do with winning a major televised sports championship. Instead, look for her in a short plaid skirt, dark blue weskit, equestrian hat, and riding crop as she leads guided tours around the “Happiest Place on Earth”

The entire School of Pharmacy will miss Jackie’s caring and buoyant spirit. We wish Jackie all the best as she excitedly writes a new chapter in her life.



Faculty News



Scientific Poster Session

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Faculty Poster Presentations at the 2013 Annual Post Graduate Convention (APC – LLU School of Medicine), Scientific Poster Session, March 1-4, 2013.

Dr. Vicki Maskiewicz and her research team won **first place in the Clinical – Basic Sciences section**, with their poster entitled, “Setting Time Comparison of Four Antimicrobial Laden Calcium Sulfate Plasters.” **1**

Chen J, Dashtipour K. “Systematic Literature Review of AbobotulinumtoxinA in Clinical Trials for Therapeutic Uses.” Annual Post Graduate Convention, Loma Linda University, Loma Linda, CA, March 1-4, 2013.

Stewart T. “Comparative Outcome Assessment of Zoledronic Acid versus Pamidronate in an Ambulatory Cancer Center: a Retrospective Review.” Annual Post Graduate Convention, Loma Linda University, Loma Linda, CA, March 1-4, 2013.

Zough F, Dominguez C, Cheng G. “Retrospective study to assess the impact of pharmacist driven interventions in improving patients’ perception of pain management.” Annual Post Graduate Convention, Loma Linda University, Loma Linda, CA, March 1-4, 2013.

Residencies

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Acclamation for two PGY1 residents who matched through the **Early Commitment Process** of the ASHP Resident Program. **Dr. Thomas Bushell**, current PGY1 resident, will be our **PGY2 Cardiology Pharmacy Resident** next year. LLUSP graduate **Emily Garispe** (Class of 2012), currently a PGY1 Pharmacy Practice resident, has matched to the **PGY2 Oncology residency**.

Certifications

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LaDonna Oelschlaeger, PharmD, successfully completed all program requirements and graduated from the **AACP Academy Teaching and Learning Certificate** Program in October 2012. **2**

Dr. Joycelyn Yamzon has passed the **National Asthma Educator Certification (AE-C) exam as well as the Board Certification for Ambulatory Care Pharmacists (BCACP)**. **3**

The School of Pharmacy acknowledges these specialization achievements of Drs. Oelschlaeger and Yamzon!

New POS Department Chair

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We are pleased to announce that **Dr. Javad Tafreshi** has assumed the role of permanent **Chair of the Department of Pharmacotherapy & Outcomes Science**. We look forward to Dr. Tafreshi’s continued leadership for the Department, and thank him for his service as Acting Chair for the past year and a half. **4**

Publication

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Congratulations to **Dr. Jack Chen** on his article, “**Abo-, Inco-, Ona-, and Rima-Botulinum Toxins in Clinical Therapy: A Primer**”, *Reviews of Therapeutics. Pharmacotherapy* Volume 33, Number 3, 2013. **5**

Experiential Education

Division of Experiential Education Expands Networking Programs to Increase Professional Opportunities

by Naomi R. Florea, PharmD, Director
Division of Experiential Education

The Division of Experiential Education at Loma Linda University School of Pharmacy is implementing a number of strategies aimed at increasing the professional opportunities that are available to PY4 students. Among these strategies are Professional Development Seminars, as well as networking receptions intended to expose the PY4 students to thought leaders in the profession of pharmacy.

On Thursday, December 20, 2012, a Professional Development Seminar and evening reception focused around the School of Pharmacy Alumni. The intent of this program was to allow PY4 students to interact with and gain valuable insight from the many successful alumni of LLUSP. Over a dozen alumni participated in this Seminar held at Centennial Complex of the LLU campus. The alumni spoke on the various paths that they took to achieving their professional success and encouraged current students to contact them for various employment and professional opportunities. Later that evening, over 70 alumni joined students and faculty at the

Mission Inn for a holiday reception designed to increase networking opportunities among alumni and students.

On February 7, 2013, an evening networking reception at the Hollywood Roosevelt Hotel was aimed at providing PY4 students employment opportunities. To that end, over two dozen district and regional retail managers, hospital pharmacy directors, independent pharmacy owners, and pharmaceutical industry contacts joined Loma Linda University School of Pharmacy students in an evening of networking and interviewing. Numerous students received employment offers, while others gained valuable insight into the profession of pharmacy. The guests in attendance noted repeatedly the high caliber of Loma Linda University School of Pharmacy students and were impressed by their demeanor and professional attitudes.

Both evenings were a great success and accomplished the strategic goals of the LLUSP program. We look forward to the remaining seminars and networking receptions and the many opportunities that these programs will afford our students.

Mission Inn Holiday Reception



Experiential Education

Roosevelt Hotel Event



Mission Inn Reception



Student News

Answering a Call to Serve Local Communities

Partners-in-D Program assists local underserved senior citizens

by Stephen Vodhanel, PhD

The Loma Linda University School of Pharmacy continues to send students, faculty, and staff to local Telacu senior housing communities for assistance with helping underserved seniors choose wisely among the many Medicare Part D prescription drug plans.

Titled the Partners-in-D program, the community service originally began in 2007 with a three year grant from the Amgen Foundation. Through the outreach, the School of Pharmacy was able to guide hundreds of seniors through the complicated Medicare Part D drug prescription plans, at times saving seniors over \$2,000 a year in drug costs.

According to Joycelyn Yamzon, PharmD, principle investigator of the Amgen Foundation Grant since 2008, LLUSP had such a good relationship with the staff and seniors at the centers that Telacu administrators asked for the School of Pharmacy to return even after the grant dollars ended.

“The experience provides great teachable moments for our pharmacy students by taking the school into the local community. More importantly, the outreach assists many seniors with important cost-saving Medicare Part D drug plans, and we are also able to provide valuable drug information to seniors who often have many questions. It

actually never occurred to us that this community service would end. The Telacu Partners-in-D service will remain as a teaching activity for our pharmacy students and as a service to the underserved senior community,” said Dr. Yamzon.

Telacu Lead Social Services Coordinator Elizabeth Flores is emphatic with the value of the School of Pharmacy’s Partners-in-D community service for local seniors. “Overall, the Partners-in-D workshops have been very beneficial to our residents for many reasons. Seniors get opportunities each year to meet with students and professors from the LLU School of Pharmacy to update this very important enrollment process. Seniors get their medications reviewed, explained, and other questions are answered. Also, many seniors get additional health information and are often referred back to their family practitioner on the advice of the pharmacists,” said Ms. Flores.

“Speaking on behalf of the seniors, they always state that without the help of the School of Pharmacy students and teachers they would be lost with the Medicare Part D enrollment process. The seniors also love the attention and the visits by the young students, and the Partners-in-D community service has become something we all look forward to every November,” said Ms. Flores.



Student News

Class of 2016 White Coat Ceremony

LLUSP welcomes 78 new students into the pharmacy profession

Loma Linda University School of Pharmacy welcomed 78 new students on November 1, 2012 with the meaningful tradition of the White Coat Ceremony. The White Coat Ceremony recognizes the professionalism required in the field of pharmacy. Additionally, the LLUSP also uniquely emphasizes that appreciation of the symbol include a representation of whole person clinical care.

The ceremony, which presents all first-year professional pharmacy students with a white lab coat embroidered with their name, is similar to that of medical students and other health professionals. The pharmacy custom began in 1995 at the University of Kentucky; and has been a tradition at Loma Linda University since the first class in 2002.

As a student of pharmacy, professionalism means to practice with excellence and accountability, and to always act with respect, honor, and integrity. During the ceremony, students recite the Pharmacy Professionalism Pledge in which they commit to the covenant between health professionals and a society that entrusts those professionals with their care.



Selected to represent the LLUSP at the **NACDS RxIMPACT Program** on Capitol Hill were **Sameerah Reed** (PY4) and **Nathan Daramola** (PY1). They traveled to Washington, DC, March 13-14, 2013 to meet with legislators regarding the **roles pharmacists should have in the National Healthcare Reform**. Congratulations, Sameerah and Nathan.

Well done, **Sarah Prates** (PY4), on receiving the **Student Leadership in Health-System Practice Award** announced in the *California Journal of Health-System Pharmacy*, November/December 2012.

The **2013 CAPSLEAD Team** along with their advisor Dr. Kawahara spent a few days in beautiful San Diego. CAPSLEAD students participated in leadership training workshop during which they selected a research topic. Following the weekend workshop, the group will continue to work together as a team for the next 12 months to develop a poster presentation around the topic they have chosen. **The 2013 team will be looking at the issue of whether student pharmacists in California are practice-ready at the point of graduation.**

A film video by **Abraam Mikhael** (PY4) was selected for presentation at the **2013 American Academy of Neurology /American Brain Foundation NeuroFilm Festival**. The video was part of Abraam's neurology independent study elective with Dr. Jack Chen. His entry is entitled **"Jamais Vu – Reality is only relative to the eyes of the beholder"**.

Congratulations to **Katelyn Horne** (PY3) for her contribution to an article entitled **"Cardiac Asthma: Not Your Typical Asthma"**. The article was published in the February 2013 Health Systems edition of *U.S. Pharmacist*. Way to go Katelyn!



Please join the School of Pharmacy in congratulating Jonathan Nguyen (PY4) for receiving an award of a Pharmaceutical Industry Two-year Fellowship with Bristol-Myers Squibb Corporation and the School of Pharmacy at Rutgers University.

Student News

School of Pharmacy students serve in LLU Student Association

Four PY3 PharmD students assume leadership roles in LLUSA

by Stephen Vodhanel, PhD

A major goal of the Loma Linda University Student Association (LLUSA) is to plan events and activities that involve students across the campus, regardless of their professional programs or school affiliations.

“The LLU Student Association is about the interdisciplinary approach infused into each event,” says LLUSA president and PharmD student Bishoy Tannious, “and continues well into the future with friendships and networking opportunities that last a lifetime.”

LLUSA secretary and PharmD student Mayrim Torres sees a busy schedule ahead for the student association. “We are continuing to expand events with the goal of getting students excited about meeting fellow students from the many professional career paths across the university.” She continues, “The student association is all about getting students together.”

Public relations officer and PharmD student Vanessa Ardon appreciates the outreach aspect of LLUSA. “The LLU Student Association also reaches into the community with social, spiritual, and career activities.”



PharmD student Shari McClendon is LLUSA co-social vice president. “Serving with LLUSA is a great opportunity for students to experience leadership and volunteer service opportunities,” she points out.

The LLU School of Pharmacy currently has four students in LLUSA leadership roles out of a total eleven. During the coming school year, PharmD students will serve in six of the eleven LLUSA positions.



Student News

LLUSP Students Hold Spelling Bee

Mastery of brand and generic drug spelling demonstrated

By Kyung Park (PY3), PLS President

Recently, Phi Lambda Sigma and Rho Chi hosted the first LLUSP Spelling Bee competition. Most of the seven contestants clearly demonstrated that they had mastery over the competition as they spelled brand and generic drug names with ease. Placing first, and receiving a generous Amazon gift card, was Ariani Waworuntu (PY2). Second was Joseph Han (PY2); and Ruben Kim (PY1) fearlessly represented the Class of 2016 soaring to third place. It was a night filled with entertainment and laughter thanks to faculty judge Dr. Nancy Kawahara, and special guest judge Dr. Dave Weldon, who allowed contestants to use his Southern accent to pronounce drug names. If there was just one word to describe this event, it would be F-U-N!



LLUSA beach trips are a welcome getaway for LLU students.

Alumni Update

Combining Great Professions

Best jobs in America: pharmacist and college professor

by Stephen Vodhanel, PhD

Based on a recent Money magazine story, "The 50 Best Jobs in America," college professor ranks number 3, while pharmacist ranks number 13. According to the U. S. Department of Labor Bureau of Labor Statistics, employment of pharmacists is expected to increase by twenty-five percent from 2010 to 2020, faster than the average for all occupations.

perks for college professors are flexible schedules, research time, ample time off during holiday breaks, and the personal rewards of teaching others in a field one is passionate about.

Considering many of the facts of both professions, a career choice of pharmacy professor just might be a wise decision or just might offer the best of both worlds.



Dr. Javad Tafreshi with LLUSP PY3 students

Several factors for the expected increase for pharmacists are scientific advances leading to new drugs and drug delivery, expanding insurance coverage for medications, the aging of the population, and an increase in the complexity of healthcare management.

While employment statistics for college professors are slightly lower than for pharmacists, the profession has long been known as a highly rewarding career. Some of the job

According to the American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy (AACP), the shortage of pharmacy faculty around the nation has remained high for several years, and the future growth of pharmacy education is expected to create even more demand.

"The shortage of pharmacy faculty, now and in the future, represents a serious public health threat in the face of the rapidly growing consumer demand for prescription drugs," said Lucinda Maine, executive vice president of AACP.

"Every day I learn something new, and for me, to teach is to learn ten times over. I also think it is a pharmacist's obligation to teach pharmacy students and to prepare them for the profession ahead."

Alumni Update

("Combining Great Professions" continued from previous page)

In a 2009 report prepared by the American Pharmacists Association and the American Society of Health-system Pharmacists, faculty recruitment and retention has been identified as one of the top issues and challenges of colleges and schools of pharmacy. According to this report, in the 2008-2009 academic year, only 52% of open faculty positions were filled.

At pharmacy conferences and professional events throughout the nation, faculty shortages is often a topic of discussion.

"I personally know this to be true," says Rashid Mosavin, PhD, MBA, associate dean of the School of Pharmacy. "At pharmacy conferences around the nation, it is quite common when meeting a dean or associate dean from another school for the discussion to turn to various open faculty positions that remain empty. It seems at any given time there are three or more open faculty positions at any of the 125 or so schools of pharmacy across the nation."

For many pharmacists, the lure of a college professorship has to do with sharing a wealth of knowledge to the next generation of pharmacists, while giving back to the profession that has given so much to them. For a pharmacist, returning to school often leads to a great and rewarding career.

Recently, two LLUSP alumni have moved their careers into academia: Tania Stewart, PharmD, and Huyentran Tran, PharmD. Drs. Stewart and Tran started their academia careers

by joining LLUSP in the Department of Pharmacotherapy and Outcome Science in 2013.

For Dr. Tran, teaching is learning. "Every day I learn something new, and for me, to teach is to learn ten times over. I also think it is a pharmacist's obligation to teach pharmacy students and to prepare them for the profession ahead. Also, the academic environment, such as LLUH, gives me the opportunity to work directly with other healthcare professionals in a multi-disciplinary effort to optimize therapeutic care as well as build professional relationships," said Dr. Tran.

"A typical faculty is attracted to academia for several reasons, but passion to teach others and contribution to the body of knowledge hold most weight. Combination of meeting the advanced requirements for the job, having a strong passion to teach and the enthusiasm to be involved in scholarly activities, and in many cases the lack of a formal training process to be an effective teacher and scholar, are some of the factors that have contributed to the national shortage of faculty," adds Javad Tafreshi, PharmD, BCPS (AQ Cardiology), FAHA, Chair, Department of Pharmacotherapy and Outcomes Science.

The profession of pharmacy indeed has many professional paths in which to explore, but perhaps the academic path is one that is paved with a very rewarding career.

Pharmacy Alumnus Delivers Important Message on KCAL 9 News Arin Arakelian speaks about driving under the influence of medication

In a message timely for the holidays but pertinent year-round, Arin Arakelian, PharmD, LLUSP class of 2012, was featured in a recent KCAL 9 News story, airing December 5, 2012.

"There's just no point in risking your life, or risking the lives of others simply by not knowing. You've got to read the labels," said Dr. Arakelian.

In the KCAL 9 News story, titled "High on the Highways," a new California report finds that a frightening 1 out of every 5 weekend drivers are driving under the influence. But it is not just alcohol that is the contributing factor – it is often prescription drugs. This past weekend, the Office of Traffic Safety tested 1,300 drivers at checkpoints across the state and 14% tested positive for some sort of impairing drug.

"They're just a little bit off...they just realize that something's just different about them and a lot of times it's the medication that's having the effect," said Dr. Arakelian.



Television Report: 1 in 5 Weekend Drivers In California Are Under The Influence

Dr. Arakelian's advice of reading the labels and knowing your medicines certainly is a pertinent message any time of the year.

The entire School of Pharmacy is honored to have Dr. Arin Arakelian as an alumnus.

Alumni Update

Alumni Attend Second Dinner Sponsored by LLUSP Office of Alumni

Mario's Place in Riverside was the location for a second dinner sponsored by the Office of Alumni. Dean Hughes, Dr. Rashid Mosavin and Dr. Naomi Florea joined the alumni for this opportunity to renew relationships and make new connections. Dr. Florea provided a special update on the summer 2012 mission trip to Romania. The Office of Alumni will continue to plan opportunities for alumni gatherings over the next year. Details will be released via email. We look forward to meeting with alumni at our future events.



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NEWS CAPSULE



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School of Pharmacy

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Executive editor: Billy Hughes, PhD | **Associate editors:** Shastin Rains, MA,
Steve Vodhanel, PhD, and Jana Neilsen
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