



# School of Pharmacy NEWS CAPSULE

Summer 2008 · Vol. 2, No. 2

A newsletter for students, faculty, staff, alumni, and friends · West Hall · Loma Linda, California · (909) 558-1300 · Website: [pharmacy.llu.edu](http://pharmacy.llu.edu)

## From the dean...

### Greetings Friends and Alumni,

In the life of a university and school, few things rival the importance of two events scheduled for this fall quarter.

First, during October 8–10, the University will host an accreditation team of seven site visitors from the Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC). The accreditation site visit team, led by Dr. David Kessler (FDA commissioner 1990–97) will be on campus to validate our University's *Capacity and Preparatory Report* (CPR).

Then two weeks later, on October 21 and 22, the Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education (ACPE) is sending two site team members to our School of Pharmacy for a focused visit.

You may be asking, "Why is the dean writing about these events?" The answer is simple: Both are critically important to the continued success of our school. First,



without regional accreditation from WASC, there is no professional accreditation from ACPE, as regional accreditation is required by ACPE. Second, without regional accreditation from WASC, there would be no federal loans available to students at Loma Linda University. And third, without ACPE accreditation there would be no School of Pharmacy.

Many colleagues from the University and School have been working diligently to collect required information, analyze data, and write reports.

This dean is profoundly thankful to the many colleagues—including alumni, students, staff, and faculty—who have contributed to the WASC and ACPE accreditations. We all benefit from the ongoing processes motivated by accreditation.

The University and School of Pharmacy are transformed into learning organizations—a powerful driving force that leads to continuous quality improvement!

*Billy Hughes, dean*

## LLU School of Pharmacy graduates 51 pharmacists with PharmD degrees

On May 25, 2008, the Loma Linda University School of Pharmacy graduated 51 individuals with their PharmD degrees.

Three graduates and one member of the faculty were honored during the commencement ceremony.

Michelle Prideaux, PharmD, received the prestigious Chancellor's Award, a University-wide honor.

Receiving the Dean's Award was Vanessa Gagnani, PharmD, the top award given to a student by the

School of Pharmacy.

Andrea Balog, PharmD, received the Wil Alexander Whole-Person Care Award, given to an individual who exemplifies the philosophy and motto of the University, "to make man whole."

Stan Weisser, associate clinical professor of pharmacotherapy and outcomes science, was presented with an honorary doctorate of humanitarian service, during the ceremony.

*For more photos, see page 3.*



School of Pharmacy graduates march in to the sounds of Elgar's familiar and often heard "Pomp and Circumstance."

## LLUSP student receives Future Leaders Award

Larry Rutebuka was named the national winner of the prestigious Future Leaders Award during the annual meetings of the Student National Pharmaceutical Association, held July 25–28 in Ft. Lauderdale, Florida.

“Please help me congratulate Larry,” says LaDonna Jones, PharmD, assistant professor of pharmacotherapy and outcomes science, and SNPhA advisor.

The SNPhA’s Future Leaders Award, sponsored by Wal-Mart Stores, was established in 1998 as a career development opportunity for pharmacy students and is the most prestigious scholarship award presented during the annual meetings.

“Larry was first acknowledged as recipient of the Region V scholarship award, and subsequently selected as the national winner,” Dr. Jones explains. “This is a great honor for Larry for the LLU School of Pharmacy.”

As the national winner, Mr. Rutebuka will have to opportunity to complete a corporate-level summer internship in Bentonville, Arkansas, headquarters of Wal-Mart Stores, during the summer of 2009.

“Larry’s leadership role as SNPhA president epitomizes the symbol of excellence that can be achieved here at LLU School of Pharmacy,” Dr. Jones continues.

SNPhA is an educational service association of pharmacy students concerned about pharmacy and health-care-related issues, and poor minority representation in pharmacy and other health-related professions.

## Pharmacy students participate in Desert AIDS Project



Students from the LLU School of Pharmacy lectured on the topics of tuberculosis, multi-drug-resistant and extremely drug-resistant forms of the disease, and medication regimens for prophylaxis and treatment. Pictured above are (from left) LLU pharmacy students Jessica Shen and Arvee Espidol; Lance Bachis, RN, nurse manager of the Desert AIDS Project; Jerika Lam, PharmD, assistant professor of pharmacotherapy and outcomes science, LLU School of Pharmacy; and pharmacy students Noela Ndrekaj and Janssen Sacro. Jennifer McCloskey, medical science liaison for Gilead Inc., generously provided lunch during the lecture presentation.



Pictured above (from left), School of Pharmacy students Midhasso Foge, Anastacia Chetty, Brian Verrett, Larry Rutebuka, Reginald Tayaben, Nony Nwaneri (region V facilitator, UC San Francisco), Theresa Taylor, Oghogho Eguagie, Michael Nguyen, and Dr. Jones (seated) attended the SNPhA regional meetings, held at Ohio State University in April. Mr. Rutebuka was recognized as national winner of the Future Leaders Award during the SNPhA annual meetings, held in July in Ft. Lauderdale, Florida.

# School of Pharmacy 2008 Commencement



Kenneth Schell, vice president for quality assurance and compliance for Prescription Solutions, in Irvine, provides the commencement address.



Stan Weisser, associate clinical professor in the LLU School of Pharmacy department of pharmacotherapy and outcomes science, is presented with an honorary doctorate of humanitarian service by Richard Hart, MD, DrPH (left), chancellor, and William Hughes, PhD, dean of the School, during the May 25 commencement ceremony for the School.



Michelle Prideaux, PharmD, listens as Ron Carter, PhD, vice chancellor for academic affairs, reads the citation naming her recipient of the Chancellor's Award for 2008. Looking on are Chancellor Hart and Dean Hughes.



Vanessa Gragnani, PharmD, listens as Dean Hughes reads the citation recognizing her as recipient of the Dean's Award for 2008, while Chancellor Hart looks on.



Andrea Balog, PharmD, prepares to receive the 2008 Wil Alexander Whole-person Care Award, presented to her in recognition of her caring attitude toward patients. Reading the citation is Dean Hughes, while Chancellor Hart listens.



Class of 2008 president Walanika Lum, PharmD, provides the response for the graduating class to the commencement address, as well as memorable experiences of the previous four years for the class.

## Professors serve on Malawi mission trip

On June 16, Jerika Lam, PharmD, and LaDonna Jones, PharmD, both members of the LLU School of Pharmacy faculty, left on a mission trip to Malawi.

On June 16, they arrived at Blantyre Airport, after stops in New York, Dakar, and Johannesburg.

“At Blantyre Airport, we were greeted by Mindy, an Adventist teacher, and ‘Mr. America,’ our driver,” says Dr. Lam. “We drove to the town of Malamulo, located in the Thyolo District—about two hours from Blantyre.”

Dr. Jones explains, “Malawi is a densely populated country located in southeastern Africa and bordering the countries of Zambia, Tanzania, and Mozambique.” She adds, “According to the *World Fact Book*, Malawi has a total population of just over 13 million.”

One of the individuals who met them was Cristy Shank, MD, currently medical director of Malamulo Seventh-day Adventist Hospital and a graduate of Loma Linda University.

“The purpose for our trip,” Dr. Lam informs, “was to explore avenues for international research, as well as to share ideas for pharmaceutical care and HIV management.”

One of their first activities was to tour Malamulo Hospital. The hospital was established in 1908 and currently has 220 beds. A variety of inpatient and outpatient services are provided for children and adults, including surgery and general medical care, as well as obstetrics and pediatrics. A “5 and Under” clinic provides nutrition care for malnourished children ages 5 and below.

An HIV clinic on the hospital grounds dispenses antiretroviral agents to HIV-positive patients.

In the Thyolo District, an estimated 15 percent of the population is HIV positive.

Malamulo Hospital also operates an on-site pharmacy, a medication and supply distribution store, and two warehouses where donated items such as medications, wheelchairs, toothbrushes, textbooks, and laboratory materials and supplies are stored for distribution.

Drs. Lam and Jones took on the project of helping to evaluate the pharmaceutical needs of the Malamulo Hospital pharmacy. “This project involved two pharmacist faculty from Loma Linda University and four students from La Sierra University,” Dr. Jones describes.

Dr. Lam recalls, “Since there is a strong need for certain medications—such as antibiotics and medications for pain and gastrointestinal problems—and funding for them is limited at the hospital, LaDonna and I volunteered to organize the warehouses and pharmacy.”

Specifically, they separated the medications from other medical supplies. Then they inventoried the medications at the hospital and the supporting clinics, labeling and organizing the pharmaceutical supplies.

Drs. Jones and Lam enjoyed staying in one of the houses built by LLU’s Students for International Mission Service. “We received hot vegetarian meals prepared by a magnificent cook,” she reports. “The fresh fruits and vegetables were just an added bonus to our healthy diets.”

Near the end of their stay, Dr. Lam met up with Ron Mataya, MD, chair of the department of global health, LLU School of Public Health, to attend an HIV scientific information meeting, held at Lake Malawi.



**LaDonna Jones, PharmD (left), and Jerika Lam, PharmD, traveled to Malawi in June of 2008.**

“I met up with Dr. Mataya at Blantyre Airport on June 29,” Dr. Lam describes. “We drove to Lake Malawi for the Scientific Dissemination Meeting, organized by the Malawi Clinical Trials Unit—made up of researchers from the University of Malawi, Johns Hopkins University, and the University of North Carolina.”

She continues, “Discussions and research studies were presented on HIV vaccine research, HIV prevention and treatment, prevention of mother-to-child HIV transmission, microbicides, and community education programs.”

Dr. Lam was able to meet leading HIV researchers.

On July 2, Drs. Jones and Lam began their return to the United States.

“Saying final ‘good-byes’ to the Malamulo group at the airport was heartfelt,” Dr. Lam remembers. “The friendships that developed over the past three weeks were memorable and wonderful.” She adds, “I will not forget them and their warm, beautiful smiles. It is true that Malawi is the ‘heart of Africa.’”

Dr. Jones reveals, “This was my second mission trip to Africa, and it was very different from the first—yet equally rewarding. There is a great need in Africa, and no matter what talents or skills you have, they can be



**The 220-bed Malamulo Mission Hospital, their final destination, is located in Malamulo, Malawi.**



**Dr. Jones spent time in the pharmacy at Malamulo, evaluating and sorting the pharmaceutical supplies.**

utilized for the betterment of our global community and international health care facilities.”

Dr. Lam concurs, “This has been an amazing experience and a great opportunity for research collaboration. HIV/AIDS continues to be a growing epidemic globally, especially in Africa. More effort and research are needed to help us stave off this rising tide and move toward prevention and a better quality of life for the people of Malawi, as well as the rest of the world community.”

However, Dr. Lam also attests that she was happy to return home.

“As our plane touched the runway, the familiar words of Dorothy from the ‘Wizard of Oz’ kept ringing in my ears, ‘there’s no place like home.’ I felt happy and relieved to be back in our City of Angels. The traffic congestion—and even the brown haze—did not upset or sadden me. I was glad to hear the cars honking and the other bustling noises of Los Angeles.”

Drs. Lam and Jones wish to thank LLUSP dean Billy Hugues, PhD, and their department chair, Reza Tehari, PharmD, for mentoring them and supporting their participation in the Malawi project.



**Dr. Lam (center) poses with two pharmacy staff at the mission hospital.**



**Dr. Lam takes some time to visit with women in Malawi. One of the goals of the trip was to explore international research opportunities for LLU School of Pharmacy faculty and students.**

# Kool Kactus Café PickUp/Delivery Menu

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## FULL MEALS **\$9.50 Per Person** (Includes beans, rice, chips & salsa for 4 servings or more)

	Serves 4	Serves 8	Serves 12
<b>ENCHILADAS</b> Cheese, Chicken, Shredded Beef, Mushroom/Spinach, Zucchini or Tofu	\$38.00	\$76.00	\$114.00
<b>CHIMICHANGAS</b> Chicken, Shredded Beef, Vegetarian, Bean & Cheese or Tofu	\$38.00	\$76.00	\$114.00
<b>WET BURRITOS</b> Chicken, Shredded Beef, Bean & Cheese, Zucchini Mushroom/Spinach, or Tofu	\$38.00	\$76.00	\$114.00
<b>QUESADILLAS</b> Cheese, Chicken, Shredded Beef, Mushroom/Spinach	\$38.00	\$76.00	\$114.00
<b>TACOS</b> Chicken, Shredded Beef, Mushroom/Spinach Beans & Rice, Zucchini or Tofu	\$38.00	\$76.00	\$114.00
<b>CHILI RELLENOS</b>	\$38.00	\$76.00	\$114.00
<b>FAJITAS</b> (Minimum of 20 / 24 hour notice) Beef, Chicken, Tofu or Sautéed Vegetables	\$10.00 per person 20 Person Minimum Order 24 Hour Advance Notice Required		
<b>TOSTADA BAR</b> Shredded Beef, Chicken, Tofu, Zucchini, Vegetarian or Fish	\$10.00 per person		

## BURRITO BOXES **Minimum of 10**

All Burritos come with Beans, Rice or Both Inside with Chips & Salsa and Sweet Treat

Chili Relleno Chili Verde Fish Zucchini Mushroom/Spinach	Shredded Beef Chicken Bean & Cheese Bean, Rice & Cheese Tofu	\$8.95	\$8.50
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## A LA CARTE

	4 Pieces	8 Pieces	12 Pieces
<b>ENCHILADAS</b> Cheese, Chicken, Shredded Beef, Mushroom/Spinach, Zucchini or Tofu	\$10.20	\$20.40	\$30.60
<b>CHIMICHANGAS</b> Chicken, Shredded Beef, Vegetarian, Bean & Cheese or Tofu	\$19.45	\$38.90	\$58.35
<b>WET BURRITOS</b> Chicken, Shredded Beef, Bean & Cheese, Mushroom/Spinach, Zucchini or Tofu	\$19.45	\$38.90	\$58.35
<b>MINI SPINAS</b> Chicken or Shredded Beef Flour Taquitos, served with choice of 2: Guacamole, Salsa, Sour Cream. (48 per order)			\$44.00
<b>MINI CHIMICHANGAS</b> Chicken, Shredded Beef, Bean & Cheese, or Tofu Served with choice of 2: Guacamole, Salsa, Sour Cream (25 per order)			\$44.00
<b>APPLE OR CHOCOLATE CHIMICHANGAS</b> (25 per order)			\$32.00

## BREAKFAST ITEMS

\$5.75 each (Minimum of 10)

- Machaca Burritos
- Bean, Egg & Cheese Burritos
- Chili Verde, Egg, Bean & Cheese Burritos
- Chorizo & Egg Burritos
- Potato, Bean & Cheese Burritos

## SIDE DISHES

Fresh Fruit (seasonal).....	\$ 3.50	Fresh Chips - box.....	\$ 5.95
Beans or Rice - 1 quart.....	\$ 7.00	Hot Carrots - 1 quart.....	\$ 8.50
Sour Cream - 20 oz.....	\$ 8.00	Fresh Guacamole - 1 quart.....	\$ 17.00
Sour Cream - 1 quart.....	\$15.00	Cinnamon Strips box.....	\$ 15.00
Salsa - 1 quart.....	\$ 5.95	Fresh Grapefruitade - Gallon....	\$18.00
Hot Sauce - 20 oz.....	\$ 3.50	Sodas.....	\$ 1.55

## SALADS Per Person, Minimum of 15

Caesar Salad.....\$3.50

Fresh Garden Salad or

Fresh Spinach Salad.....\$3.25

Mixed Fresh Vegetables, with

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- Fresh Basil
- Spicy Citrus
- Poppy Seed
- Spicy Tomato



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## Faculty join LLU School of Pharmacy

Two individuals recently became part of the LLU School of Pharmacy faculty.

Mary A. Gutierrez, PharmD, professor of clinical pharmacy and psychiatry, recently joined the department of pharmacotherapy and outcomes science.

Javad Tafreshi, PharmD, BCPS, AQC Cardiology, professor of pharmacy practice, joined the department of pharmacotherapy and outcomes science in July.

Dr. Gutierrez received her bachelor's degree at Pepperdine University, in Malibu, in 1983 and her PharmD degree from the University of Southern California, Los Angeles, in 1987.

She pursued residency in psychiatric pharmacy practice at the University of Southern California School of Pharmacy 1987–88. In addition, she completed a fellowship in psychiatric pharmacy practice at USC in 1989.

She joined the faculty at the USC School of Pharmacy after her fellowship training and has received several teaching awards at USC.

Dr. Gutierrez is board certified by the Board of Pharmaceutical

Specialties in Psychiatric Pharmacy Practice.

She has written several textbook chapters and journal articles on topics including mood disorders, antidepressants, and sexual dysfunction.

Dr. Gutierrez anticipates her practice site will be at the Loma Linda University Dover Clinic.

"I look forward to working with the LLU psychiatric staff to help optimize pharmacotherapy for our patients," she says. "I believe in sharing our expertise and experiences to better serve our patients and teach our students to work as a team among many health professionals."

She continues, "Respect and appreciation for the different disciplines of the health care team will only help to move our profession forward."

Dr. Gutierrez concludes, "Loma Linda University's motto, 'to make man whole,' strongly echoes the fundamental spirit of my personal and professional beliefs. I look forward to teaching and continuing to serve with the LLU community."

Dr. Tafreshi received his doctor of pharmacy degree from the University of Southern California, Los Angeles,

in 1992. He pursued a one-year residency in pharmacy practice at Tucson Medical Center in Tucson in 1995.

He completed an additional year of a specialized residency in cardiovascular pharmacotherapy at the University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics in 1997.

In 1997, he joined the University of Louisiana at Monroe School of Pharmacy faculty following his cardiology training. He has been working for Midwestern University College of Pharmacy-Glendale, in Glendale, Arizona, since 1999, where he has received several teaching awards.

Dr. Tafreshi is board certified by the Board of Pharmaceutical Specialties in Pharmacotherapy with added qualification in cardiology.

He has published several journal articles and abstracts on topics related to cardiology.

Dr. Tafreshi anticipates his practice site to be at the Loma Linda University Medical Center. He says, "I am extremely excited and look forward to working with LLU faculty, staff, and students."



Mary Gutierrez, PharmD



Javad Tafreshi, PharmD

The image shows the cover of the USC Pharmacy Magazine, Summer 2008 issue. The cover features the title "Pharmacy Residents Medication Experts" in a large, bold font. Below the title, there is a small photograph of two men in white lab coats, one of whom is identified as Teddy Nguyen. The cover also includes a small text box that reads: "A few decades ago, residency programs for pharmacists were few and far between. No more. Times have changed and the demand for residency positions in pharmacy is trending upward on an accelerated course—from 435 spots nationwide in 1980 to 1,751 spots in 2008... and growing."

Teddy Nguyen, LLUSP'07 (right), now a resident pharmacist at USC University Hospital, was featured in the USC Pharmacy Magazine Summer 2008 issue.

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# Pharmacy faculty member helps write AADE position statement

A member of the LLU School of Pharmacy faculty was asked to serve on the writing team charged with preparing the official position statement of the American Association of Diabetes Educators (AADE).

Nathan A. Painter, PharmD, assis-

tant professor of pharmacotherapy and outcomes science, as part of a 9-member team, researched and wrote the AADE document.

“More than 176,000 children and adolescents under the age of 20 in the United States have type 1 or type 2

diabetes,” the statement begins. “One of every 400–600 (0.22 percent) children and adolescents has type 1 diabetes.”

The AADE is a multidisciplinary professional membership organization made up of health care professionals who are dedicated to the integration of successful self-management as a key outcome in caring for individuals with diabetes and related conditions.

Dr. Painter is a certified diabetes educator (CDE) by the National Certification Board for Diabetes Educators. He is the first faculty member in the School of Pharmacy to receive this certification, which augments his clinical practice and teaching role with an emphasis in the area of diabetes care.

## Faculty member runs San Diego marathon with her father



Joycelyn Mallari, PharmD, assistant professor, pharmacotherapy and outcomes science, and her father, Jose Mallari, recently retired from Western Nonwovens, Inc., successfully completed the San Diego Rock’n Roll Marathon, held on Sunday, June 1. Next time you see her, ask her what her time was. She trained four months for the event.



Nathan A. Painter, PharmD, CDE

## Alumni notes...

- ♦ **Jenny Park, PharmD, SP’06:** I am currently living in Seattle. I work for Virginia Mason Medical Center. I’m the sole anticoagulation pharmacist at their Kirkland Clinic and manage about 200 patients. In August I will start lipid management at our clinic.
- ♦ **Teri Diem Chau Nguyen, PharmD, SP’06:** I completed pharmacy practice residency at Long Beach VA and was hired on after the residency as inpatient clinical pharmacist. So far, I’ve very much enjoyed the pharmacy profession and advocating for patients. Also, I have the opportunity to precept pharmacy students and residents. I hope to see LLU graduates at Long Beach VA as residents in the future.



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