



LOMA LINDA
UNIVERSITY

School of Pharmacy NEWS CAPSULE

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From the Dean...

It was a busy weekend that culminated in the May 30 Commencement. Friday night was the Hooding Ceremony, and early the next morning all in attendance donned academic regalia for Baccalaureate Services—an uplifting and memorable event. And then the big occasion—Commencement—and in less than two hours the School of Pharmacy gained 58 new alumni.

This Class of 2010 represents the largest group to receive their diplomas since our first graduating Class of 2006. How exciting to look down the hallway in West Hall and see five, yes count them, five-framed panel pictures.

It was only last week that I, along with help from Duane Tan, hung the fifth, and most recent Class of 2010 panel picture. In those five frames are the faces of 237 alumni.

As I looked at the faces staring back from each graduating class, many thoughts came to mind.

The hopes and dreams now being realized after years of education; the major shift in financial responsibility, with moms and dads, spouses, significant others, or relatives no longer paying tuition and monthly living expenses; colleagues, no longer students, moving on with their lives in pursuit of their personal and professional aspirations; and the contributions that all are now making to professional pharmacy practice.

What bonds these 237 faces is that they have all graduated from Loma Linda University. As we anticipate the faces on the 9th frame—the incoming Class of 2014—it is my hope that our stakeholders that include alumni, students, faculty, employers, and preceptors will continue to transform the lives of our students—thereby fulfilling the vision of LLU.

Oh, by the way, we're already making plans to celebrate the 10th Anniversary of the School of Pharmacy in 2012!



School of Pharmacy loses a dear colleague in automobile accident

School of Pharmacy alumni, faculty, staff, and students celebrated the life of one of their own at memorial and funeral services held July 23 and 25.

Ken Arrogante, administrative assistant for the division of experiential education, was killed along with his wife, Jocelyn, in a car accident on July 1. The accident occurred on I-40, east of Flagstaff, Arizona. Ken's step-daughter and nephew survived. They were travelling to the 2010 General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists Session in Atlanta, Georgia.

Ken worked for School of Pharmacy since November 2007. He will be remembered for his infectious sense of humor, dedication to his family, and service to the Loma Linda Filipino Seventh-day Adventist Church.



Pictured during Loma Linda Academy graduation ceremonies this year are Ken Arrogante, Jocelyn Arrogante, and Ken's step-daughter Jannel Lamangan.

School of Pharmacy students practice whole-person care to reaffirm mission

Here at Loma Linda University, employees believe that whole-person care is very important to patients and vital to optimal health.

The entire university's framework for education centers upon the central mission statement, "to make man whole." The university's mission affirms the Christian view of wholeness, recognizing that the needs of patients go beyond the healing of the body, and that the development of students involves more than the training of the mind.

At the School of Pharmacy, students, staff, and faculty strive to make their daily activities into personal ministries by extending pharmaceutical care and expertise, in keeping with the university's mission, into the local communities.

For the past eight months, several School of Pharmacy students, under the direction of Jerika Lam, PharmD, have volunteered for the Riverside County HIV clinics in Perris and Riverside and brought a little wholeness into their work.

Several students decided to do extra service for the HIV patients by taking the time to hand-craft 15 blankets, bringing some extra care and consideration for those suffering from a physical ailment. Students Emily Garispe, Erica Lee, and



From left, Anna Lee, Dr. Jerika Lam, Zoey the therapy dog, Emily Garispe, and Daniel Brown, staff member at the Perris/Riverside HIV clinics, display handcrafted blankets for the clinic patients.

Anna Lee organized the outreach and hosted a blanket party during February where several more students spent hours cutting, sewing, and stitching together yards of decorative cloth into beautiful handcrafted blankets.

Dr. Lam has also experimented outside the normal framework of medical care with the use of a trained patient therapy dog.

"Zoey's role in the healing process is her simple acceptance of our patients' diversity, irrespec-

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SP faculty elected president of State Board of Pharmacy

A School of Pharmacy faculty member has been elected by the California State Board of Pharmacy as President of the Board.

Associate Clinical Professor Stanley Weisser, R.Ph, was elected to the Board on April 22 in Loma Linda, California. Mr. Weisser was elected to serve a one-year term. The Board held its regularly-scheduled meeting in Centennial Complex on April 21 and 22.

Mr. Weisser was appointed to the State Board of Pharmacy in November 2007, appointed by Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger. He opened his first pharmacy in 1969 and grew the business to 30 pharmacies. Retired since 2000, Mr. Weisser is very active with several non-profit organizations in addition to his service to the State Board of Pharmacy.



Stan Weisser, R.Ph, associate clinical professor in the School of Pharmacy, has been elected president of the State Board of Pharmacy. He is pictured being presented with an honorary doctorate of humanitarian service by Richard H. Hart, MD, DrPH (left) president, and Billy Hughes, PhD, dean of the School, during the 2008 commencement ceremony.

Pharmacy professors establish clinic for tobacco independence at LLUMC

Two Loma Linda University School of Pharmacy (LLUSP) professors have an exciting new mission on their hands: to help patients of the Transplantation Institute at Loma Linda University Medical Center (LLUMC) prepare for organ transplantation by kicking their smoking habit.

The duo—Linda Davis, PharmD, and Hyma Gogineni, PharmD—completed requirements for the tobacco treatment specialist certificate from the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minnesota. “We worked very closely with expert physicians here at Loma Linda including Dr. David Sachs, Dr. John Hodgkins, and Dr. Linda Ferry,” Dr. Gogineni explains, “to gain more insight into the field of tobacco dependence treatment.”

“Our job is to motivate patients to stop smoking, give them the tools to counteract withdrawal symptoms and cravings, and help them understand that they are equipped to stay smoke-free for the rest of their lives,” Dr. Davis asserts. “We discuss the medication choices and prescribe the medications best-suited for their individual needs. Part of the intake session also includes educating them about the science of addiction. People tend to think of smoking as just a bad habit, but nicotine is actually as addictive as heroin.”

“That seems extreme,” Dr. Gogineni adds, “but it’s true. Nicotine is as addictive as heroin. I think it’s very important for people to realize that it is like other addictions, and that using just one over-the-counter drug nicotine replacement therapy medication—patch, gum, or lozenge—is usually not enough.”

Dr. Davis strongly agrees. “Combination treatment—including a nicotine patch and a fast-acting nicotine replacement product for withdrawal symptoms—is the treatment of choice for most of our patients.”

Dr. Davis points out that the new Clinic for Tobacco Independence at the Transplantation Institute offers patients in need of organ transplants three significant benefits.

“First,” she says, “stopping this addictive behavior decreases the likelihood of cardiovascular events including heart attack and stroke. Second, it improves their eligibility for organ transplantation. Finally, it speeds the recovery process by fostering post-surgical wound healing. It’s a win-win situation.” The story of how the program came into existence spotlights the cooperation of several individuals and departments eager to help Inland Empire residents attain maximum health.

“Zeid Kayali, MD, MBA, internist, hepatologist, and liver transplant medical director at the LLUMC Transplantation Institute, approached us about starting a program like this for patients awaiting liver transplant,” Dr. Gogineni recalls. “He felt that having this program would improve patient outcomes after surgery, and decrease the incidence of morbidity and mortality. We thought it was an outstanding idea.”

So did Reza Taheri, PharmD, chair of the department of pharmacotherapy and outcomes science at LLUSP.

“When we were first approached by the Transplantation Institute,” Dr. Taheri shares, “we saw this as a great collaborative opportunity. First was the opportunity to provide high-quality patient care through an inter-professional approach. Collaborations with other programs and disciplines across campus align complementary skill sets and expertise, which ultimately leads to enhanced patient care.”

“The second opportunity provided by this collaborative partnership is the rich educational environment created for students and residents. Along with Dr. Elvin Hernandez, Dr. Davis, and Dr. Gogineni are involved in teaching a didactic curriculum for tobacco dependence treatment to educate future pharmacists about how to help their patients stop smoking.”

Dr. Taheri notes that another feature of the cooperative program also appealed to members of the LLUSP team as they considered Dr. Kayali’s request.

“In the forming stages, we also saw the research potential of working in the area of tobacco dependence treatment down the road,” Dr. Taheri adds. “Because of the significant impact of smoking—both on the individual’s health as well as society’s burden—there are tremendous opportunities for

research into the impact of such a focused clinic on outcomes.”

Although the Clinic for Tobacco Independence just opened in August 2009, Drs. Davis and Gogineni report they already have a group of 15 to 20 potential patients in the liver transplant program.

One of them, a patient by the name of Dean Kinoshita, is optimistic about the progress he’s making under Dr. Gogineni’s tutelage.

“My wife is very excited that I’m quitting cigarettes,” Mr. Kinoshita notes. “She says she can already see the improvement.”

Dr. Gogineni is optimistic about Mr. Kinoshita’s prognosis for recovery. “He’s only tried to quit once before,” she says.

“His motivation is really high; he’s feeling bad that his bad habit, as he calls it, has brought on his illness.”

Dr. Davis points out that Dr. Gogineni will follow-up with Mr. Kinoshita on a weekly basis for the first eight weeks of his treatment regimen, then every three months for up to a year after that.

Although the Clinic for Tobacco Independence is currently only treating pre-liver transplant patients, Drs. Davis and Gogineni are optimistic about expanding to wider horizons once the program gains momentum. “Hepatology patients aren’t the only ones who need this,” Dr. Gogineni exclaims. “We’ll expand it to meet the needs of other patients later on.”

“We’re very excited about this new opportunity,” Dr. Taheri concludes. “When we think about the long-term affects of smoking, helping our patients go off tobacco is a very substantial way that we can significantly and positively impact their lives.”



Dean Kinoshita takes a puff on the carbon monoxide monitor during a recent visit to the Clinic for Tobacco Independence. The clinic, a service of the LLUMC Transplantation Institute, helps transplant patients prepare for surgery through enabling them to break the cycle of tobacco addiction. Drs. Hyma Gogineni (center) and Linda Davis were trained as tobacco treatment specialists at the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minnesota.

Flurry of activities surround LLU School of Pharmacy

Ever wonder what goes on at the Loma Linda University School of Pharmacy (LLUSP) when nobody's looking? More than meets the eye. Here's a recap of recent events in which the faculty, staff, and students of the school show just how far they're willing to extend the organization's community outreach and involvement.

Setting a high bar for cross-cultural interaction,, Billy Hughes, PhD, dean of LLUSP, donned a classical Indian jacket called a shervani during his address to members of the Indian Pharmacists Association (IPA) at their 20th annual conference and trade expo in September. Dr. Hughes, who accepted a check for \$5,000 in support of the IPA Endowed Scholarship to benefit pharmaceutical education at LLUSP, evoked laughter from the audience by asking all the LLUSP graduates in attendance to stand. When exactly one person did, the dean pointed out that Southern California's newest pharmacy school does not yet enjoy the financial support of a large alumni base, and is therefore extremely grateful for the largesse of far-sighted organizations like IPA.

Another round of laughter rippled through the room when side-by-side photos of Mahatma Gandhi and himself flashed on the screen during his introduction. Similarities between the father of non-violent political resistance in India and the LLUSP leader were obvious: in the pictures, both men are bald, and wear wire-rim glasses, but there the similarities end. In addition, LLUSP was represented at the event by Jim Pinder, JD, MBA, and Hyma Gogineni, PharmD, both of whom are assistant professors at the school. Dr. Gogineni not only bought Dr. Hughes' shervani in India, but also helped him don it properly for his speech.

For their part, LLUSP students have been diligently cracking the books of late. How else can you explain the second-place showing two LLUSP scholars attained in a state-level competition designed to weed-out the geniuses from the wannabes? Cham Nguyen and Stacy Pak did their school proud during the clinical skills competition at the 34th annual California Society of Health-System Pharmacists seminar held in San Diego in October of this year. The contest is a team-based competition among pharmacy schools in California; it is designed to encourage and recognize excellence in the development of clinical skills, and facilitate an interactive, team-based analysis of clinical scenarios to enable health-system pharmacists to optimize patient

utilization of medications.

What's in store for Ms. Nguyen and Ms. Pak? A trip to Las Vegas where they will compete in the 2009 National Clinical Skills Competition held in conjunction with the 44th annual American Society of Health-System Pharmacists Midyear Clinical Meeting on December 6-10, 2009. In addition to the high-scoring students, Dr. Hughes credits Mary Gutierrez, PharmD; Jerika Lam, PharmD; and Javad Tafreshi, PharmD, with mentoring the team to a very high level of performance.

Twelve deserving youngsters from San Bernardino County can thank LLUSP and its



One of 12 happy recipients of a new bicycle takes hers for a cruise around the parking lot at the Loma Linda University School of Pharmacy. The bicycle distribution program—which featured bikes donated by Inland Empire Walmart stores—was part of a team-building exercise which found faculty and staff members of the School of Nursing joining their School of Pharmacy counterparts in assembling bicycles.

“older” sister institution, the Loma Linda University School of Nursing, for not only providing, but also assembling the new bicycles they received on September 15, 2009. The bicycles, which were donated by six area Walmart stores, were given to the children at the conclusion of a special, assemble-a-bike team-building exercise involving faculty and staff members from both schools. The joint-school faculty retreat featured vigorous intramural competition as members of 12 teams of hitherto-inexperienced bike builders wielded wrenches, screwdrivers, and determination to beat their colleagues to the finish line.

“Just watching the expressions on the faces of the kids made it all worthwhile,” Dr. Hughes notes. “They may have gotten a new bicycle out of the event, but I think we got a lot more. It truly is better to give than it is to receive.”

Speaking of community outreach, the new

Loma Linda University Meridian Pharmacy held not one, but two, grand openings to make sure that LLU employees and members of the local community had a chance to come by and get acquainted with the staff and enjoy snacks and desserts to commemorate the occasion.

According to Sheree Heidari, PharmD, MPH, clinical pharmacist, and Loan To, PharmD, pharmacy supervisor, Meridian Pharmacy is a joint venture between LLUSP and the LLU Medical Center. “We invite people to stop in and experience the difference for themselves,” Dr. Heidari notes. “Not only do we provide private consultations, personalized care with trusted clinicians, patient-focused educational classes, E-prescribing, and medication therapy management, we also offer our customers the convenience of extended evening hours by remaining open until 7:00 p.m. five days a week.”

Sometimes you have to take the health care to the people. That's the thinking behind Jim Pinder's recent trip to Africa. Mr. Pinder traveled to the continent to take part in the Fifth West Africa Project Fair and Polio Immunization Program in Benin.

According to Mr. Pinder, polio, which is almost never encountered in the West, is still a major problem in Africa, India, Pakistan, and Afghanistan. “People in first-world countries might not even be aware of how serious polio is and what it can do to you, or that it even still exists today,” he says. He notes that so far this year, 768 people have been diagnosed with the debilitating disease worldwide.

“The message is clear,” Mr. Pinder notes. “Polio still exists in the world. The Loma Linda University School of Pharmacy is proud to join Rotary International in the fight to eradicate polio around the world.”

And finally, to show how grateful he is for the pharmacy team's unabashed commitment to community outreach, Dr. Hughes treated the staff to an appreciation luncheon at Buca di Beppo restaurant in Claremont. After carbohydrate loading on plenty of pasta, the team drove safely to K1 Speed Go Cart Racing, but once they arrived, some members of the LLUSP staff cast restraint to the wind and—according to an informed observer who wishes to remain anonymous—“drove like there's no tomorrow.”

Chapel program highlights global mission impact

While there are over 100 schools of pharmacy in the United States, Loma Linda University School of Pharmacy is the only one that financially supports students to participate in global pharmacy outreach. Loma Linda University exemplifies a commitment to global medical service by incorporating international service opportunities into the academic curriculum in order to 1) prepare health professions students for a career of effective global service, and 2) to promote the health of the medically underserved people throughout the globe.

"We are committed to being the exemplar school of pharmacy for global outreach. By putting our students in the furthest reaches of the world to interact with the medically underserved we open the door to active learning opportunities that complement opportunities here in the United States," states School of Pharmacy Dean Billy Hughes.

The experiences for pharmacy students participating in international outreaches has truly been global. Pharmacy faculty and students have traveled to provide healthcare to under-served

people as close as Mexicali, Mexico, to the remote locals of the Amazon River, the Ethiopian desert, Kenya, Malawi, Afghanistan and China, just to name a few.

To date, the School of Pharmacy has worked in five continents. Recalling his mission to Africa, third-year student Steven Bowen stated, "...the experience of leaving everything and everyone behind and only depending on myself and what I was taught gave me confidence in myself and I returned inspired for challenge, for giving, and for life."

During chapel on May 12, the School of Pharmacy celebrated the many contributions that students have made to global pharmacy outreach. Rashid Mosavin, PhD, MBA, who coordinates the International Pharmacy Outreach Program (IPOP), inter-

viewed students who recently participated in mission outreach in Kenya, Ethiopia, Malawi, and Brazil. "I chose to study pharmacy at Loma Linda University because of its reputation as a paragon of global service to humanity," stated Midhasso Foge, third year pharmacy student.



Pharmaceutical Sciences Chair Rashid Mosavin, Ph.D., MBA, describes many contributions that students in the School of Pharmacy have made to global outreach.

School of Pharmacy students practice whole-person care to reaffirm mission...

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tive of their health status or comorbid illnesses," Dr. Lam explains. "She adapts excellently to the patients' moods and allows them to pet and hug her during their medical visits. Her friendly presence really relaxes these patients, who initially were more reserved or upset, and, subsequently, they open up to myself and the other health care providers."

Zoe, the therapy dog, has accompanied Dr.

Lam to the HIV clinics at the Desert AIDS Project in Palm Springs, as well as the Riverside Neighborhood Family Center and the Perris HIV Clinic. Zoe's presence constantly brings smiles and happiness to patients during their subsequent clinic visits.

Linda Williams, assistant dean for student affairs and admissions, stresses to current and prospective students that one of the things making Loma Linda University unique is the

emphasis on whole-person care.

"The pharmacy students put their LLU experience into action by the outreach programs they are involved with," says Ms. Williams. "It is wonderful to see how our students give back to the community through such programs as this blanket outreach. This is truly service in action, and I am personally so proud of the way the School of Pharmacy students are involved in our community."

Pharmacy students raise funds for Haiti relief efforts

Students from the School of Pharmacy have raised a total of \$1,122 as of Friday, January 22, to aid in the relief effort for Haiti earthquake victims, according to Linda Williams, MS, assistant dean for student affairs and admissions in the School of Pharmacy.

"This is amazing what our students are doing to aid in the relief effort for Haiti," Ms. Williams says. "We in the

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School of Pharmacy students provide blood pressure screening...

Mohammed Ghonim, PharmD, director of pharmacy services for LLU Medical Center, recently sent an e-mail to Billy Hughes, PhD, dean of LLU School of Pharmacy, that began, "I wanted to thank the students for their support."

Thirty-one LLUSP students had volunteered that day, March 9—many of them arriving at 8:00 a.m. and staying all day—for the blood pressure screening and medication consultation held in honor of National Patient Safety Week in the LLUMC lobby.

"This really would not have been possible without the exceptional efforts of Blaire Heath," Dr. Ghonim continued in his e-mail.

Ms. Heath, an LLUSP student, is the president of the LLUSP student chapter of the California Society of Health-System Pharmacists (CSHP), and Dr. Ghonim, president of the local CSHP professional chapter Inland Society of Health-System Pharmacists (ISHP), contacted her two weeks before the event about recruiting student volunteers.

However, Ms. Heath points out how she did not even attend the event due to school-related commitments, and she modestly directs most of the recruiting

credit to Alison Wong, CSHP student chapter secretary.

"It is not always easy to have a set time to do these screenings each year," notes Dr. Ghonim. "Pharmacy students' availability is dictated by exams and class projects."

Ms. Heath and Ms. Wong felt this in the slow responses to their e-mailed volunteer requests; nonetheless, closer to the screening date, more and more students replied, eager to help.

Behind the scenes, Ms. Heath arranged for necessary equipment with Dr. Ghonim, and Ms. Wong allocated supplies and student work shifts.

Regretting her absence at the event, Ms. Heath recalls the last screening she attended. "One specific patient I interacted with was newly diagnosed with diabetes. We had a good discussion," reflects Ms. Heath. "She asked if I was a Christian and told me she could tell as soon as we started talking and wanted to inform me she knew the Lord as well. This interaction encouraged me so much."

In addition to students, the planning for the event involved: Carl Dominguez, PharmD, LLUSP assistant professor, who helped recruit faculty for the screening; Michael Campbell, PharmD, who spent a

few hours at the booth; and Dr. Ghonim, who, in addition to overall planning, provided oversight for students throughout the day.

During the event, students walked through the lobby informing patients about the booth's services. While most visitors to the booth were not LLU employees, only one couple came to the booth with previous knowledge of the event from a newspaper ad.

Heinedine Aguilar, LLUSP student, promoted the booth at the hospital entrance during her shift and noticed a pattern in people's responses to the event. "There were many who refused to get their blood pressure screened because they just received a reading and were either afraid that their blood pressure would be too high or already knew that it was too high. Some wanted to avoid having to seek more serious medical attention."

One out-of-state lady stopped by because her husband was receiving proton treatment, and she told Ms. Aguilar that because she was away from home, she was not able to check her blood pressure, even though she had been taking her blood pressure medications, exercising, and eating healthfully.

Ms. Aguilar found the lady's results to be close to normal, and she applauded the lady for her diligence, telling her, "Most importantly enjoy your life. Do not let your blood pressure problem control your life."

Apart from blood pressure screening, visitors also sought medical consultation. "They know they can bring in their bag of

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Pharmacy students raise funds for Haiti relief...

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School of Pharmacy applaud the generosity of our students."

First year-pharmacy students contributed a total of \$102; second year students, \$720; and third-year students contributed a total of \$300.

All funds have been submitted through the university's office of philanthropy.



School of Pharmacy students provide blood pressure screening and medication consultation during National Patient Safety Week.

Pharmacy students win awards for scholarship, citizenship

Students from the School of Pharmacy received nearly \$100,000 in scholarships and awards for scholarship and citizenship. Following is a list of the donors and the awardees. The presentations were made on Thursday, April 29.

Walgreen's Diversity Award for African-American Students
APhA-ASP Senior Recognition
Faculty/Staff Citizenship Award
CVS/Caremark

Good Neighbor Pharmacy Outreach Award
Walgreen's Diversity for Hispanic Students
JM Long Foundation
LLUMC Hospital Practice Scholarship

NACDS Foundation
Novo Nordisk Excellent in Diabetes Care

Ollie Terrell Scholarship
Perrigo: Award of Excellence
Phi Lambda Sigma PY1 Leadership Scholarship
Ralph's Pharmacy
RiteAidScholarship

Dean's Award 2011
Dean's Award 2012
Dean's Award 2013
Stephen Chan Memorial Scholarship
SuperValu/Albertsons Pharmacies
Teacher of the Year 2010
Teacher of the Year 2011
Teacher of the Year 2012
TEVA Pharmaceuticals
Barbara Vodhanel Memorial Scholarship
Walgreen's Pharmacy
WalMart Scholarship
AMCP P&T Competition

AphA-ASP Patient Counseling Competition
ASHP Clinical Skills Competition
Facts & Comparisons
GlaxoSmithKline Patient Care Award
Lilly Achievement Award
Mylan Excellent in Pharmacy
Phi Lambda Sigma Future Leader
Phi Lambda Sigma Member of the Year
Phi Lambda Sigma Faculty Member of the Year
Preceptors of the Year – Ambulatory Care
Preceptors of the Year – Hospital
Preceptors of the Year – Medicine
Preceptors of the Year – Community Pharmacy
Roche Pharmacy Communications Award
Roche Pharmacy Preceptor of the Year
USPHS Excellent in Public Health

Rita Abankwa
Tuan Pham
Midhasso Foge
Gerard Riveria, Talin Setaghatian, Jessica Yee, Ruzanna Gevorkian, Amanda Davis
Van Nguyen, Jefmar Dickey, David Whatton
Connie Elejalde
Michael Ibrahim
Dijvaker Rastogi, Beth Becker, Jua Choi, Nancy Fong, Emilie Hanlon, Nancy Kang, Cham Nguyen, Stacey Pak
Fabian Rodriguez
Emily Garispe, Caroline Nguyen, Julie Buu Chau Nguyen, Hanna Hyun Kong
Elisabeth Marquez
Cham Nguyen
Sara Prates
Siwoon Kim
Kleoniki Guzelyan, Thuy Nguyen, Cambria Wehtje-Sim, Erin Carpenter, Osakana Niknafs
Oksana Niknafs, Jefmar Dickey, Cambria Wehtje-Sim
Sun Yoo Lee, Amy Balog, Ha Young Park
Andrew Line, Willie Eirich, Natalie Sosa
Nancy Fong, Nancy Kang
Kezia Bechtoldt, Stacey Pak
Naomi Florea
David Weldon
Robert Teel
Larry Rutebuka
Oksana Niknafs
Angela Mo, Andrew Pham
Reginald Tayaben, Kimberleigh Ingram, Hoi Yeung
Tuan Pham, Reginald Tayaben, Lena Tran, Tammy Nguyen
Timothy Honrada
Cham Nguyen, Stacey Pak
Gham Nguyen
Sheena Hafezizadeh
Stacey Pak
Sheena Hafezizadeh
Blair Health
Alice Khong
Javad Tafreshi
Mary Gutierrez
Mohammed Ghonim
La Donna Oelschlaeger
Rocco Massimiano
Sean Jones
Dennis Ho
Reginald Tayaben

School of Pharmacy students provide blood pressure screening

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meds," Dr. Ghonim explains, "and we will spend as much time as they need to go over any specific questions they have."

Dr. Ghonim notes a key benefit of such consultations, especially when patients receive different prescriptions from different doctors. "Sometimes there is overlap," he notes. "We can catch these overlaps and intervene."

Regarding the cases of visitors at the booth, Dr. Ghonim comments, "There really wasn't anything out of the ordinary, as this is what we do day in and day out."

Erica Lee, LLUSP student, agrees with Dr. Ghonim while she admits, "I was there for only an hour, and the station was really slow." She then excitedly discusses the 16 blankets she and other LLUSP students handmade for an HIV clinic in Riverside.

Yet her fellow LLUSP student, Reggie Tayaben, when asked about exciting happenings at the booth, claims, "There were actually two."

Apparently, a man entered around noon with a bag full of medications, and the students who arrived before Mr. Tayaben told him this man had the same medications as a woman who visited earlier.

"What clinched it," Mr. Tayaben recalls, "was when he took out some toothpaste, which the woman also had. What are the odds two people ask about toothpaste?" Mr. Tayaben then discovered that the man was the previous woman's husband, and they both were participating in a research program for a toothpaste aimed at increasing calcium absorption in seniors.

This had been the sixth screening for Mr. Tayaben this school year, and he shares, "When there are no community events on the calendar, we LLUSP students make our own." Last year, he helped organize the first LLUSP Health Fair, which he hopes to establish as an annual event.

Both Mr. Tayaben and fellow booth

attendee Mina Than volunteer for the LLUSP health information booth at Redlands' weekly market night where they provide screenings for hypertension, diabetes, and osteoporosis.

"Some people ask why we're allowed to do osteoporosis screenings," mentions Mr. Tayaben. "I explain to them that we're drug experts for all disease states and can do assessments not just for high blood pressure. It's rewarding when people realize that pharmacists can do all these things."

Ms. Than stresses the blood pressure awareness that the market night booth promotes in the community. At the LLUMC screening, she was struck by the need for this awareness.

A middle-aged, average-weight man asked Ms. Than for a blood pressure screening after not having received a screening for years. The man had hypertension.

"He was so surprised," remembers Ms. Than. "He thought he was doing fine, but hypertension is a silent killer. There are still many people in the community living with it and not visiting a doctor for their checkup."

With these students, Dr. Ghonim senses the need to promote health awareness in the community.

Encouraged by March 9th and the growing relationship between the School of Pharmacy and LLUMC pharmacy services, Dr. Ghonim hopes to provide screenings like this at least each year.

Alumni and Faculty notes...

- ♦ **James White IV SP'06.** I am currently still working at CVS. It has definitely been an experience, as there is more to it than just counting by 5's. Personnel management and efficiency, diplomacy, and time management are other skills being developed in me though this job. It has, and continues to be, a good yet at times very taxing, career opportunity. At the same time, I do plan very soon to look into other practices, one option being hospital, so I can put full use of my of clinical skills, which doesn't happen as much in retail. Aside from career, I have recently moved to Fontana, in my very own house, and I am engaged to be married. The wedding will be early next year and I am looking forward to that.
- ♦ **Bui & Don Tran, SP'07.** After graduating from Loma Linda, I was offered and accepted an PGY1 residency position at Kaiser Permanente, San Jose, Medical Center. Then my fiancée Don K. Tran, PharmD, and former classmate, were married on November 15, 2008. We moved to our house in Rocklin, CA and hope to start a family in the future. Currently Don works as a clinical inpatient pharmacist at Sutter General Medical Center in Sacramento. I accepted a position as Ambulatory Care Pharmacist at Kaiser Permanente, South Sacramento Medical Center. The management at my medical center believe in expanding the role of pharmacists. Therefore, I am cross-trained to work in Oncology, Nephrology, Anticoagulation, PHASE (preventing heart attacks and strokes every day-helping pt to manage diabetes, hypertension, and hyperlipidemia), MTM (medication therapy management), and IMPACT (helping patient with medication substitutions and reducing drug cost) programs. We are looking forward to starting a new pharmacy program-primary care pharmacists at Kaiser Permanente, South Sacramento. At our medical center, we also precept students and pharmacy residents for various school or pharmacy to available inpatient, outpatient, and ambulatory care rotations.
- ♦ **The School of Pharmacy** congratulates Dr. Jack Chen on two recent publications. One is an article titled: "Parkinson's Disease: HealthRelated Quality of Life, Economic Cost, and Implications of Early Treatment" published in the March issue of the *American Journal of Managed Care*. The second is a chapter (Chapter 12-Movement Disorders) in the book titled *Drug-Induced Diseases*. Editors: James E. Tisdale & Douglas A. Miller.



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