



News CAPSULE

For students, faculty, staff, alumni, & friends | West Hall | Loma Linda, California | (909) 558-1300 | pharmacy.llu.edu

Inside this issue:

Faculty News	2
<i>Philanthropist of the Year</i>	2
Pharmaceutical Sciences	4
<i>NIH awards \$1.3 million grant to</i>	4
<i>Weldon, PhD, awarded GRASP funds</i>	4
Pharmacotherapy & Outcome Sciences	5
<i>How valuable is experiential learning?</i>	5
Post-Graduate Teaching Certificate Experience	5

Student News	6
<i>Student Awarded Amazon Mission Trip</i>	6
<i>LLU CPhA Quiz Bowl Team WINS</i>	6
<i>Students Benefit from Corporate Sponsorship</i>	6
<i>CSP/CPhA members deliver hand-made blankets</i>	7
<i>Student Finishes Top-Ten in Patient Counseling</i>	7
<i>Elderly Outreach</i>	7

From the Dean | “Culture of Scholarship”—the defining difference

—Billy Hughes PhD, Dean

How do you distinguish undergraduate liberal arts education from graduate professional education? Both areas of academe have core curricula, electives, co- and extra-curricular opportunities, committed faculty and staff—all supported by the appropriate mix of both institutional and school-specific administration. What then is the difference? This issue of *NewsCapsule* gives me an opportunity to share with our stakeholders *what's different*.

Driven by intellectual curiosity to explore and contribute new knowledge, funded by institutional and governmental agencies, judged by regional and professional accreditation agencies, and guided by university and school-specific strategic plans—these are fundamental ways to characterize the need to build and maintain a culture of scholarship.

One of the goals for the School of Pharmacy is to expand and disseminate pharmaceutical knowledge through research and scholarly activities. Our strategic plan addresses research in two ways. First, to develop faculty and student research areas, including community-engaged scholarship; and second, to develop research, graduate and post-graduate programs, including support from extramural sources.

Let me share some successes that have contributed to a *culture of scholarship* in the Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences, some of which you will read about in this issue of *NewsCapsule*. Under the leadership of Dr. Rashid Mosavin, the entire Department is now housed in Chan Shun Pavilion, with a third laboratory currently under construction. Dr. Richard Maskiewicz received \$2.4M in NIH funding;

there is significant collaboration with other schools, as evidenced by Dr. David Weldon who was awarded one of four GRASP grants (\$50,000) for collaborative research with Dr. Kimberly Payne (School of Medicine), as well as Dr. Wei-Xing Shi (Co-PI) collaborating with Dr. Richard Sun (School of Science & Technology) on a recently-awarded \$1.3M NIH RO1 grant. There are two postdoctoral fellows, Drs. Dan Xu and Simi Gunaseelan, a PhD student, and technical and administrative support staff. Annually, the Dean's Office provides \$200K in research seed monies in anticipation that research can be completed that is foundational for successful grant submissions to extramural funding agencies.



The Department of Pharmacotherapy and Outcomes Science, under the leadership of Dr. Reza Taheri, is engaged in clinical research. This clinical research enriches the didactic experience of our students, bringing outcomes- driven pharmacy practice into the classroom. Multiple PharmD students are involved with faculty research. All PGY1 and PGY2 residents present their research findings at professional meetings, such as Dr. Norela Ocampo who just presented a poster at the annual LLU School of Medicine Alumni Postgraduate Convention. Faculty are engaged in research, such as Dr. Javad Tafreshi who collaborates with multiple School of Medicine Department of Cardiology faculty; Dr. Siu-Fun Wong's oncology research; and Drs. Hyma Gogineni and Linda Davis' tobacco dependence research and presentations.

In the School of Pharmacy we support scholarship, creativity, curricular and instructional innovation. We value and continually see the benefits connecting scholarship, teaching, student learning and service.

Faculty News

School of Pharmacy Faculty Member Nominated as Philanthropist of the Year

—Jim Pinder, JD, MBA

A School of Pharmacy faculty member was nominated as Philanthropist of the Year for the National Philanthropy Day celebrations held November 17 at Historic Mission Inn in Riverside. The event was hosted by Association of Fundraising Professionals, Inland Empire Chapter.

Eric J. Mack, PhD, associate dean for academic affairs, was nominated by his colleagues because of his generosity and desire to encourage others to give.

A formal fundraising program at School of Pharmacy was launched in 2007 and Dr. Mack was eager to assist any way he could. He brought to the table a thoughtful approach and experience assisting with fundraising efforts at other institutions where he taught pharmacy courses. Why does Dr. Mack get involved with philanthropy? He cares about students and wants them to achieve success.

As the formal fundraising program unfolded it became apparent the alumni were not financially supporting their School of Pharmacy to extent Dr. Mack thought possible. The Classes of 2008 and 2009 were trying to spur participation by creating scholarship endowments in honor of their respective classes. Donations trickled in. The Class Presidents were becoming discouraged and wondered if their class endowments could reach full endowment status in five years (University requirement).

Dr. Mack stepped up to the plate and announced he would match all alumni donations to endowed funds for the 2009/10 fiscal year. This burst of energy reverberated through the e-mail and Facebook channels as alumni encouraged each other to give, knowing their gifts would be matched.

At the end of the fiscal year, the number of donors went up 78% and the amount contributed went up 176% compared to the year before. These participation levels are crucial as the development program grows and alumni achieve the capacity to make larger gifts.

Dr. Mack has now agreed to match the donations of all alumni during their first year after graduation. With less than 300 alumni,



Left to right, Eric J. Mack, PhD, pictured with Stephanie Titus, MBA, CFRE, president-elect of Association of Fundraising Professionals, Inland Empire Chapter, and Jose A. Marquez, president of Association of Fundraising Professionals, Inland Empire Chapter.

starting early to develop a culture of philanthropy will pay big dividends in the years to come. By growing endowment funds, financial aid will be available to students for generations to come.

Walanika Lum, Pharm.D, class president from 2008 says, "The Class of 2008 had the honor of Dr. Eric Mack as our class advisor and continue to be privileged by his ongoing leadership. As alumni, Dr. Mack has helped us with the Class of 2008 Endowment Fund by stimulating donations from the class members by offering a 'matching funds' donation in order to encourage philanthropy and support to LLUSP."

Landon Dean, Pharm.D, class president from 2009 added, "Throughout our years at Loma Linda, we always knew that Dr Eric Mack cared about our success. He has continued to prove his concern for student welfare by matching all of the donations to our class scholarship fund. We thank him for his generosity."

Dean of the School of Pharmacy, Billy Hughes, PhD concludes, "The School of Pharmacy is blessed to have 64% of our faculty and staff contribute to one or more School-based philanthropic funds. Dr. Eric Mack stands out in his commitment to our school through his many acts of generosity. Equally important is Dr. Mack's approach to philanthropy, one that not only involves personal giving, but also encourages alumni to start early with philanthropy through his matching funds program."



Publications

Dr. Siu-Fun Wong co-authored an article titled "A Prospective Crossover Pilot Study to Evaluate the Use of a Topical Wound Gel in Patients with Cutaneous Toxicity Caused by Epidermal Growth Factor Receptor" which was published in *The Journal of Supportive Oncology*.

Dr. Norela Ocampo had an abstract/poster accepted for presentation at the ASHP Mid-Year Clinical Meeting in Anaheim.

Dr. Marie Tran has had a paper accepted for publication in the *Journal of Cardiovascular Pharmacology and Therapeutics*. Word of appreciation go to Dr. Ramdas Pai (SM) and Dr. Javad Tafreshi (SP) for their guidance and mentorship of this project.

Dr. Vickie Maskiewicz has co-authored a paper titled "Fluorescence of Commercial Pluronic F127 Samples: Temperature Dependent Micellization." The paper has been accepted for publication in the *Journal of Colloid and Interface Science*. **Dr. Maskiewicz** was also recently published in the *Journal of Biomedical Materials Research B: Applied Biomaterials*, with her research focusing on "Characterization of protein degradation in serum-based lubricants during simulation wear testing of metal-on-metal hip prostheses."

Dr. Rebecca Cheung was recently published in the journal *Clinical Cardiology* for her research focusing on "Loop Diuretic Therapy in Heart Failure: The Need for Solid Evidence on a Fluid Issue."

The Journal of Pharmacology and Experimental Therapeutics accepted the manuscript, "The Effects of L-Dopa on Nigral Dopamine Neurons and Local Field Potential: Comparison with Apomorphine and Muscimol," authored by **Dr. Wei-Xing Shi, Dr. Eileen Brantley, Dr. Dan Xu, and Bradley Karain**, for publication in the FastForward section of the online journal.

Dr. Thu Hoang and **Dr. Tomik Gregorian** (Class of 2010) have had a project accepted for publication in the peer-reviewed journal *Pharmacotherapy*. Words of appreciation to Dr. Ramdas Pai (SM) and Dr. Javad Tafreshi (SP) for their guidance and mentorship of this project.

Dr. Priyanka Desai, former PGY1 resident, has had a paper accepted for publication in *The Journal of Heart Valve Disease*. Once again, words of appreciation to Dr. Ramdas Pai (SM), for his priceless guidance with this project.

Of Interest

2010 Cambodia Medical Missions – Dr. Jeany Kim Jun, new faculty in the Department of Pharmacotherapy and Outcomes Science, shares with us about her mission work in Cambodia through her Cambodia Newsletter. The newsletter can be found by visiting the following link: <http://plantingcambodia.com/2011/04/my-purpose/>.

Jim Pinder, JD, MBA, is presenting findings from his research project "Factors Affecting Retention of Development Professionals at SDA Institutions in North America" at the Philanthropic Service for Institutions' 13th International Conference on Philanthropy & Leadership Symposium. The title of Mr. Pinder's presentation is "Why Development Professionals Leave and How to Fix It." The Conference is in June and will feature a wide variety of fundraising and leadership topics.

We would like to include alumni news in this column. Please forward any items to jneilsen@llu.edu. Tell us what is new and news in your life... This is the place!

Dr. Siu-Fun Wong – Leading to Expand the Roles of Pharmacist Researchers in Cancer Research

Dr. Siu-Fun Wong continues participation in SWOG - SWOG (formerly the Southwest Oncology Group) is one of the largest cancer clinical trials cooperative groups in the United States. Funded largely by research grants from the National Cancer Institute (NCI), part of the National Institute of Health, the Group conducts clinical trials to prevent and treat cancer in adults, and to improve the quality of life for cancer survivors. SWOG studies many adult cancer types, including breast, gastrointestinal, genitourinary, gynecologic, and lung cancers, as well as melanoma, myeloma, leukemia and lymphoma. Approximately 100 clinical trials are underway at any given time.

The Group's network consists of almost 5,000 physician-researchers practice at more than 500 institutions. Among SWOG's institutions are 20 NCI-designated cancer centers. Among the types of medical practices represented in the Group are university teaching hospitals, community hospitals, community-based physician cooperatives and individual physician offices.

More than 5,000 cancer patients and healthy participants are enrolled each year in Group studies, and approximately 30,000 more are involved annually in ongoing clinical trials. During the last 25 years, more than 170,000 patients have directly benefited from the Group's trials, while millions more have received improved care as new standards of treatment or prevention are developed by the Group.

Dr. Wong has been the founding chair of the SWOG Pharmacy Committee since 1994 when she led the development of the first Investigational Drug Handling Training Video nationally. This unique training tool has since been upgraded to a web-based program and is recognized by the NCI and other research cooperative groups in the United States. The committee continued to serve as the drug information resources for the Group in protocol development and quality control. In 2008, the Pharmacy Committee was renamed the Pharmaceutical Sciences Committee to further expand the role of the pharmacist committee members as liaison within each SWOG Disease Committee. Dr. Wong was also appointed as the Leader of Pharmaceutical Sciences and her role is to work with the leaders of SWOG in managing all research drug-related issues through the drug development process, including policy and procedure development. In addition, she is also a principle investigator of SWOG multi-center research studies and engages in training of young investigators.

NEWS CAPSULE

Published by the Loma Linda University School of Pharmacy and is solely intended as an informational publication for students, faculty, staff, and friends of the School. All material is copyrighted by Loma Linda University and may not be reproduced without written permission.

Executive editor: Billy Hughes, PhD | **Associate editor:** Jim Pinder, JD,MBA

Phone: (909) 558-1300 · Website: pharmacy.llu.edu

Address: West Hall, Loma Linda University, Loma Linda, California 92350



Pharmacotherapy & Outcomes Science

Partners-in-D: How valuable is experiential learning?

—Steve Vodhanel

LLUSP has enjoyed the second year as collaborators with the Partners-in-D service grant, designed to assist underserved elders with Medicare Part D counseling.



Funded by the Amgen Foundation, the program enables the school to send pharmacy students directly into several community assisted-living facilities to help underserved seniors choose a Medicare Part D program that best suits their individual needs. Students receive classroom instruction regarding Medicare Part D and are supervised by School of Pharmacy faculty during all site visits.

LLUSP's involvement with Partners-in-D offers valuable experiential learning for pharmacy students by providing the opportunity to work directly with individual patients, often with complicated drug regimens, in a manner that evaluates cost efficiencies in the Medicare system. The Partners-in-D experience allows pharmacy students the real-world opportunity to help seniors get the best and most appropriate coverage for their medications when possible. Partners-in-D prepares students for future work with elderly patients and builds a foundation for them to become vital advocates for elderly medication needs.

So, how valuable is experiential learning? According to Joycelyn Yamzon, Pharm.D., director of the Partners-in-D grant, very valuable. "Not only did our students learn the Medicare enrollment process, but they also experienced first-hand the medication routines of many elderly people. Helping many of these elderly people with savings of up to \$2,000 makes this valuable in itself, and extending students into the community is also having our students experience first-hand the mission of Loma Linda University," stated Dr. Yamzon.

Experiential Education Events

LLU School of Pharmacy and **Western University College of Pharmacy** co-hosted a Continuing Education event on Friday, March 11, 2011. The CE event was titled "My Patient Wants to Quit Smoking—How can I Help?". This event was held on the Western University Campus in Pomona. Among the featured speakers for this event were LLUSP faculty **Hyma P Gogineni, Pharm D, TTS**, and **Linda Davis, Pharm D, TTS**. Other speakers were **Dr. David Sachs**, well known tobacco dependence treatment expert, **Dr. Linda Ferry** from LLU medical faculty, and **Eunice Chung, PharmD**.

Post-Grad Teaching Certificate Experience Continues

—Carl P. Dominguez, PharmD, BCPS

Loma Linda University School of Pharmacy, in collaboration with the LLU Medical Center, created a Teaching Certificate Program for the Post-Graduate Year One (PGY1) Residency Program. The program is currently one of only a few PGY1 programs in the nation to provide training for an academic profession. The overall goal of the program is to provide residents the experience and guidance necessary to understand and apply educational issues in pharmacy education.

In addition to formal didactic lectures, the residents participate in over 60 hours of recitation along with a Faculty Mentor. Loma Linda University School of Pharmacy has continued in this rich experience for the residents and has expanded the opportunities as the program has grown.

Current residents and participating faculty have shared positive responses towards the Teaching Certificate Program. Prior residents have continued incorporating teaching roles in their practice, such as being lecturers at the School of Pharmacy or being preceptors to students on rotation, and have deemed the program to be of great value.

Since its inception in 2008, the Teaching Certificate Program continues to offer residents a valuable learning experience during this time of growth within the academic pharmacy profession.



2010-11 P1 residents pictured left to right: Drs. Alefen Fahimi, Ryan Koca, Lee Nguyen-Residency Academic Coordinator, Nanette Gamazon, Shirley Wong, Nancy Kang, Tam Nguyen, and Carl Dominguez-Residency Clinical Coordinator.

Publications and Presentations

Dr. Hyma P Gogineni was invited to speak at the LLU School of Dentistry CE event in early February, 2011, where she presented to dentists, dental hygienists and dental students in the area of tobacco dependence treatment.

In late February, 2011, **Dr. Hyma P. Gogineni** attended the Society of Research on Nicotine and Tobacco (SRNT) Conference in Toronto, Canada where two of her posters had been accepted for presentation: "Tobacco-Dependence Education –Training Future Pharmacists As Tobacco Treatment Specialists" and "Year-1 Pharmacy Students Systematically Visit Local Smoke Shops: A Pre-Clinical Method for Teaching Future Pharmacists about Tobacco Use and Dependence"

Pharmaceutical Sciences

NIH awards \$1.3 million grant to SST and SP

—Patricia Thio

Every week in the United States, 200 people are diagnosed with multiple sclerosis (MS)—a chronic, often disabling disease, which attacks the central nervous system. Symptoms can be mild such as numbness in limbs, or severe, such as paralysis and loss of vision. But before these patients are diagnosed with MS, most have gone through months or even years of health tests. During that time, their symptoms get worse.

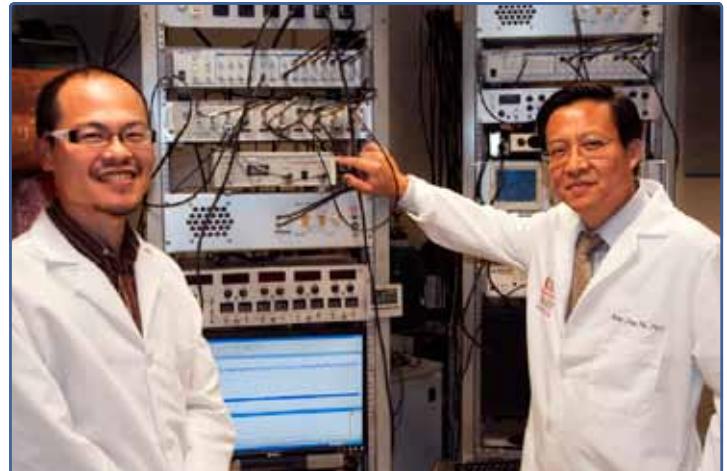
Professors in the School of Science and Technology (SST) and School of Pharmacy (SP) strive to alleviate symptoms in MS patients thanks to an NIH \$1.3 million grant. By using cutting-edge technology, the LLU researchers plan to develop new techniques to more accurately diagnose MS earlier, before patients experience severe symptoms.

When any part of the nerve, which consists of an axon covered by myelin sheath, is damaged or destroyed, nerve impulses traveling to and from the brain and spinal cord are distorted or interrupted, producing MS symptoms. This potentially leads to permanent neurological impairment.

However, there currently isn't a way to specify the axon degeneration, meaning that some patients receive ineffective treatment. In MS, the earlier and less severe damage is caused by inflammation in the myelin sheath, followed by more severe damage to the axon. While the first kind of damage can be detected, the second type occurs when prolonged inflammation triggers axonal dying-back degeneration, resulting in permanent neuronal loss. Currently, this type of damage has been neglected in MS because there is no tool for non-invasive detection of it.

"Treatments for MS have focused on suppressing the occurrences of inflammation but very little on the more critical neural protection," says Shu-Wei (Richard) Sun, PhD, assistant professor of biophysics and bioengineering, SST, and principal investigator of the study, "Understanding neuronal and axonal degeneration in a murine model of human MS."

Most MS patients exhibit cycles of relapsing and remitting along the disease progression.



Shu-Wei (Richard) Sun, PhD (left), asst. professor of biophysics and bioengineering, School of Science and Technology, LLU, and principal investigator of the study; and Wei-Xing Shi, PhD, professor of pharmaceutical sciences and basic sciences, School of Pharmacy and School of Medicine, LLU, and co-investigator of the study, begin neurological research with the goal to help those living with MS.

"We suspect that this cycle may relate to the progression from early inflammatory disorder to the process of neurodegeneration," says Dr. Sun. "It is critical to visualize and differentiate stages of axonal damage, so that therapeutic approaches can be used effectively to target each pathological condition," states Dr. Sun.

To do that, Dr. Sun will be utilizing Diffusion Tensor Imaging (DTI) coupled with a high-resolution signal on a mouse model of MS. DTI is a clinically available imaging technology. According to Dr. Sun, this project will provide significant clinical impact to MS diagnosis and treatment.

In addition, Wei-Xing Shi, PhD, professor of pharmaceutical sciences and basic sciences, School of Pharmacy and School of Medicine, and co-investigator of the study, will be recording electrical signals emitted by neurons with a small probe called a microelectrode. Hence, he can verify whether changes revealed by DTI are associated with changes in nerve function.

According to Dr. Shi, multiple sclerosis is one of the most difficult diseases to diagnosis in its early stages. "We're hoping that before patients show severe symptoms they can receive accurate diagnosis," says Dr. Shi, "and therefore, receive treatment earlier to prevent severe MS symptoms."

LLUSP Asst. Professor Dave Weldon, PhD, awarded GRASP funds



Through the Office of the President and the Office of Research Affairs, Loma Linda University has awarded five \$50,000 Grants for Research and School Partnerships (GRASP) to ten faculty members. The new

highly competitive GRASP program is designed to encourage faculty across the university schools to engage in collaborative research, to publish their work, and to seek extramural funding.

Dave Weldon, PhD, from the School of Pharmacy, collaborating with Kimberly Payne, PhD, from the School of Medicine, have been named as recipients for their research project titled "Natural Product Therapy to Inhibit B Cell Precursor Proliferation."

improving the
quality of life
starts with our
pharmacists



As the largest pharmacy health care provider in the nation, CVS Caremark knows that improving the quality of life for our patients starts with our Pharmacists.

We have a comprehensive plan for continually creating a caring and professional environment. We surround our Pharmacists with **highly trained colleagues, industry-leading technology, and innovative tools and training** needed to support their practice.

By providing an enriched quality of life to our Pharmacists, we know we can provide a better quality of life for our patients, too.

We seek only the best Pharmacists to join our team and advance the quest to deliver outstanding health care every day.

www.cvscaremark.com/careers

For more information, or to schedule an interview, contact:
Chi Vi Tran, Pharm.D., Manager, Professional & College Relations
phone: (714) 681-5564 • e-mail: CTran@cvs.com

One CVS Drive • Woonsocket, RI 02895

CVS Caremark is an equal opportunity employer supporting a drug-free work environment.

cvs
CAREMARK

Student News

School of Pharmacy Student Chosen for Amazon Mission Trip

—Steve Vodhanel

First-year pharmacy student Vanessa Ardon was chosen as a participant for the Amazon river mission trip with the Students for International Mission Service (SIMS) March 18 – 27, 2011 based on an essay describing why service is personally important. Initiated in 2010 and open to all Association of Latin American Students (ALAS), the essay competition offers a chance to serve with Students for International Mission Service (SIMS) on a mission trip to the Brazilian Amazon region.



According to ALAS president Atilio Palma, Vanessa's essay was chosen for two reasons: it was judged to best answer the question why service is important, and because of her prior dedication to service. "ALAS is pleased and honored to have someone like Vanessa represent the club as her passion for mission service was readily apparent in the essay, but her prior community service is simply outstanding," states Atilio. ALAS will be providing the funds for the trip which will be in the excess of \$2,100.

Vanessa's essay is based on a biblical life lesson by Luke 12:48: "For whomsoever much is given, of him will much be required; and to whom much was entrusted, of him more will be asked." To quote Vanessa from the essay, "This wonderful message has been the motivating force behind my desire to use my talents and abilities to serve others." Vanessa's essay detailed events from a prior community service remodeling project for the Centro Campesino Farmworker Center building in Florida. It was here that a young girl embraced Vanessa stating that she was grateful to have such a beautiful place to learn to read and that she could go home and teach her mom and dad to read as well. This moment of gratitude left Vanessa with the realization that "...service is not only found in the immediate time frame of the work, but it extends out through time and people like ripples of water."

Congratulations! LLU CPhA Quiz Bowl Team WINS!

At the recent California Pharmacists Association Outlook 2011 (annual meeting) in Palm Springs, the LLU team won the Quiz Bowl competition among all of California's pharmacy schools. The team consisted of Stephen Hom, Mandeep Kaur, Shady Mansy, Regie Tayaben, and Alison Wong.

This is the first time in the School's history that LLU has won the Quiz Bowl. Congratulations to the CPhA team for bringing the trophy to LLU!



LLUSP Students Benefit from Corporate Sponsorship

—Steve Vodhanel

For LLUSP, Redlands Market Night is a community service outreach program where LLU pharmacy students, under supervision of several professors and pharmacists, set up a drug information booth at a farmer's market for the local community. Redlands Market Night brings important information to people of the local community regarding various medications, diabetes information, as well as blood pressure screening in a convenient manner for people on a busy schedule or those without access to quality medical care.

For the first time, Redlands Market Night is experiencing valuable corporate sponsorship from CVS, Rite Aid, Walgreens, and Walmart. The corporate sponsorship enables LLU pharmacy students greater outreach opportunities with several events planned during the year. This year's first Redlands Market Night, held November 18, had students offer drug and health information to well over 100 people of the local community, providing experiential learning to students in as much of a real-life situation of that of a practicing pharmacist.

Redlands Market Night also provides pharmacy students with the opportunity to create valuable relationships throughout the profession of pharmacy. These relationships extend to the patient, other local pharmacists and health professionals, as well as to the corporate entities sponsoring the event. Students attending Redlands Market Night have an opportunity to experience firsthand not only random questions from patients, but also meet many pharmaceutical professionals and corporate personnel that constitute today's pharmaceutical industry.

LLUSP is extremely grateful to CVS, Rite Aid, Walgreens, and Walmart for sponsorship of this experiential learning and community outreach opportunity.



CSHP/CPhA members continue delivering hand-made blankets

—Steve Vodhanel

For the second year, several School of Pharmacy students, under the direction of Dr. Jerika Lam, have extended themselves for the Riverside County HIV clinics in Perris and Riverside by bringing a little 'wholeness' into their work. Several students decided to do extra service for the HIV patients by taking the time to hand craft twenty-four blankets, bringing some extra care and consideration for those suffering from the physical ailment. Students Emily Garispe, Cathy Thach, Aimee Kohatsu, and Tim Honrada 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.



In an effort to destigmatize HIV and to promote wholeness, the outreach event hopes to bring awareness to LLUSP students that there are those people who are less fortunate than us, and that we should take time from our busy lives to help them in any feasible way. More importantly, the outreach event hopes to reinforce the Christian principles of humanity, compassion and humility through the students' continued efforts to serve the underserved within our communities, stated Dr. Lam.

Here at Loma Linda University we believe that whole person care is very important to the patient and vital to optimal health care. 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 that recognizes the needs of patients go beyond the healing of the body, and the development of students involves more than the training of the mind. At the School of Pharmacy, students, staff and faculty strive to make our daily activities into personal ministries by extending into the local communities pharmaceutical care and expertise along with the university's mission.

Student Finishes Top-Ten in Patient Counseling

Timothy Honrada, PY2 student pharmacist, finished top-ten of the Patient Counseling Competition at the recent APhA annual meeting in Seattle, Washington. Tim was also the LLU School of Pharmacy representative at the CPhA competition in February in Palm Springs. This is the second straight year that Tim represented LLU at these events.

Tim is the first top-ten finisher in the APhA competition in the school's history.



Outreach to Elderly at Asistencia Villa Rehabilitation and Care Center

—Blair Heath and Steve Vodhanel

This elderly outreach program has been sponsored by the School of Pharmacy student organizations CSHP/ASHP and CPFI (Christian Pharmacist Fellowship International) to encourage pharmacy students to visit patients receiving long-term rehabilitation care. This opportunity has become a quarterly event occurring at Asistencia Villa Rehabilitation and Care Center in Redlands, California. It permits pharmacy students to establish relationships with patients who spend most of their time bed-bound.

A vital aspect of this outreach is the spiritual care that Loma Linda University is renowned for, as pharmacy students visiting local sites are able to discuss the spiritual and emotional aspects the patients face on a daily basis and offer prayer if a patient desires. The School of Pharmacy will be continuing this outreach as it is a valuable opportunity for pharmacy students to become better acquainted with the health needs in the surrounding community and be blessed by comforting the patients they encounter.



Asistencia Villa Rehabilitation and Care Center, Redlands, Ca.

School of Pharmacy Faculty and Staff Support Student Mission Outreach

School of Pharmacy faculty and staff achieved a new milestone when 64-percent chose to make financial contributions to one of several funds. The previous record in 2009/10 was 57-percent. This represents the highest-known school participation rate on the Loma Linda University campus and equates to over \$11,000. The majority of contributions are directed to the International Pharmacy Outreach Committee which is tasked with helping students and faculty participate in mission service overseas. This past year students went to Brazil, Africa, and Romania. "I am excited about this level of support," said Jim Pinder, JD, MBA, director of development & alumni affairs. "In 13 years of fundraising I have never seen this level of commitment."