



NEWS CAPSULE

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

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Firmly Rooted in Fertile Soil

—Billy Hughes PhD, Dean

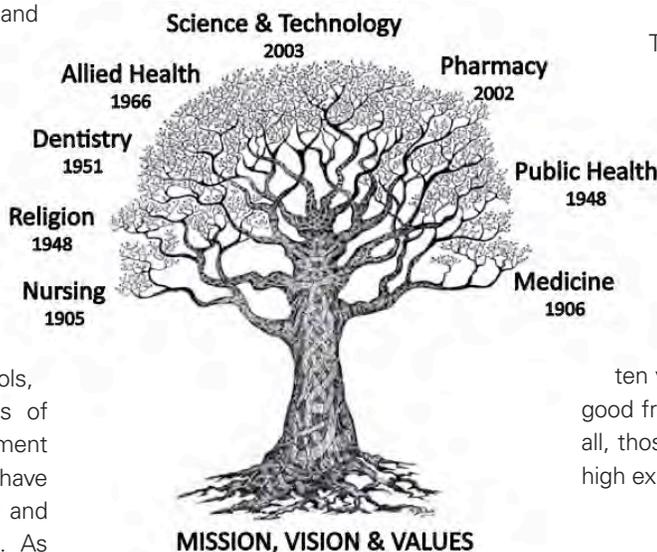
This is an exciting year in the life of the School of Pharmacy—celebrating 10 trips around the sun! That there is a School of Pharmacy at LLU is nothing short of miraculous. Reflecting on our School's beginnings, growth and current status, I've concluded that our School is a contingent fact of history. Our celebration is important, but it's also important to celebrate the existence of seven other Schools. The histories of two Schools, Nursing and Medicine, reach back ten times farther than our own. It's been the contributions of Schools that predate the School of Pharmacy, which provided the fertile teaching, research, and service environments that contributed to our success.

In the early years, we enjoyed the generous contributions of courses taught by faculty in the School of Medicine. And for our first 10 years we have shared more than a building with the School of Nursing. We've participated in joint faculty development workshops, wherein we've learned from our oldest School.

With relative ease our students, faculty, and staff have joined with their counterparts from other Schools in regional and global outreach. Our faculty in the Department of Pharmacotherapy and Outcomes Science are provided opportunities to contribute to the Cancer Institute, Behavioral Health Institute, Lifestyle Institute, and Global Health Institute—these Institutes bring professionals together from all Schools, and we benefit from the rich histories of the Institutes and Schools. Our Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences faculty have been awarded over \$4 million in internal and external grants in the past five years. As

a result of collaboration with researchers in multiple Schools, we have experienced success far greater than anticipated.

From the inaugural 34 students in 2002, we have grown to an entering class size of 85 and a total student population of over 300. Experiential education, both introductory and advanced, has matured to include over 160 sites and ~575 preceptors. The residency program now has 7 PGY1 and 5 PGY2 residents. Staff and faculty participation in philanthropy is at 66%, the highest of the eight Schools. Our faculty are leading the CKC music program at SACHS, supporting Redlands Market Night outreach, and preparing future leaders in CAPSLEAD and APhA patient counseling competitions. Through active participation in interprofessional education, both didactic and clinical, our alumni will be ready to assume professional responsibilities in accountable care organizations and medical homes—the new healthcare realities.



The SOP is firmly rooted in the mission, vision and values of the University. Our student pharmacists, faculty and staff are committed to service and outreach in San Bernardino, Redlands, multiple destinations in Central and South America, Romania, Benin, Ethiopia, Malawi, Cambodia and China. We look forward to the next ten years, with the hope that we will bear good fruit on the academic tree of life—after all, those who have gone before us have set high expectations!



Malawi, Africa | Work Continues with Global Service Scholarship Support

Danielle Davis has been presented with the Global Service Scholarship for her dedicated work at the Adventist hospital in Malamulo. She will be returning following graduation this year. Danielle has documented her journeys below.

How does one begin involvement in missionary work?

By Danielle Davis

Step 1: Be ready and willing to go when asked

In 2009, I was presented with an opportunity to go on a large intercollegiate mission trip to Malawi, Africa to several sites in the country including **Malamulo SDA Hospital**. This trip was led by Loma Linda University's Students for International Mission Service (SIMS). My peer, Lawrence Rutebuka, and I focused on observing the pharmacy and auxiliary services. It was due to these observations that LLU School of Pharmacy was asked to return.

Step 2: Meet a need

In summer 2010, I went on a second trip to Malamulo SDA Hospital. During this trip I met an organizational need that the hospital had. My partner for this trip was Kwaku Agyeman. Together we sorted through the amassed drugs and medical supplies. We also established inventory management, receiving procedures, and set up the storage area to increase efficiency in patient care.

During 2010, Loma Linda University adopted Malamulo SDA Hospital as a practice site for several programs at Loma Linda. As a result of this adoption, the School of Pharmacy IPOC committee invested in the funding of a third trip to determine how a pharmacist could practice in this country. Since I have previous experience with the culture, country, and hospital personnel, I was funded on a return trip to Malawi.

Step 3: Investigate the hospital: How an on-site pharmacist can be utilized

During my most recent trip to Malamulo SDA Hospital, I interviewed the Medical Director, participated in rounds, and observed challenges and changes that had occurred since the previous year. Participating in these activities allowed me to determine the extent to which a pharmacist could be utilized at this hospital.

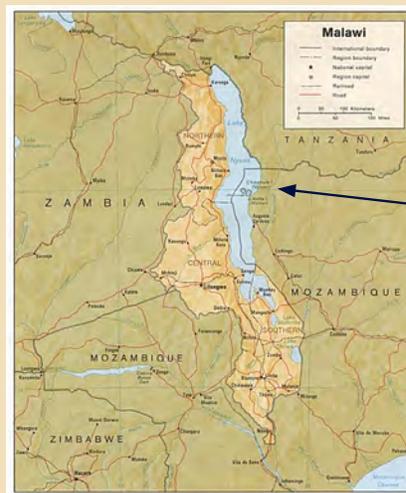
I also interviewed several of the physicians at the **Blantyre Adventist Hospital**. This interview focused on how a pharmacist could be utilized helping with medication management, formulary management, and pharmacy staff accountability. The interviews at these Adventist hospitals have led me to believe there is ample opportunity for pharmacists to practice here in Africa. This led me to the next step during my trip — involved interaction with local pharmacists.

Learn more online:

Students for International Mission Service (SIMS): tiny.cc/llusims

Malamulo SDA Hospital: tiny.cc/malamulo

Blantyre Adventist Hospital: tiny.cc/blantyre



Malawi map courtesy of www.nationmaster.com

Satellite image courtesy of Bing.com
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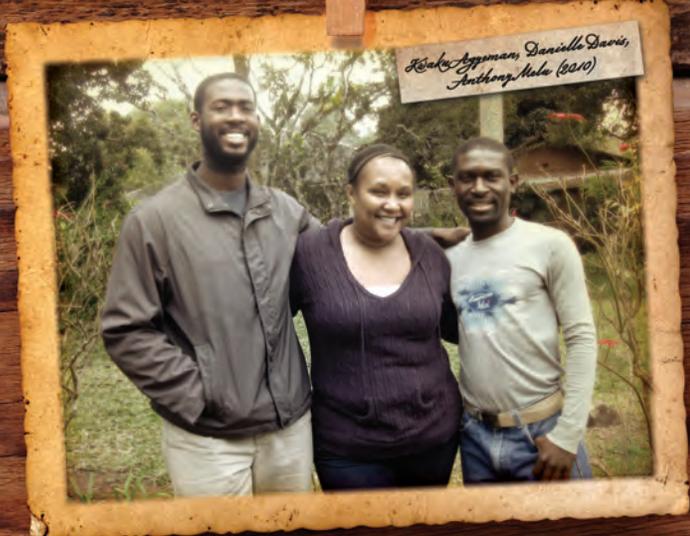
If Malawi were your home instead of The United States you would...

- be 19.8 times more likely to have HIV/AIDS
- have 13.6 times higher chance of dying in infancy
- have 3 times more babies
- die 27.32 years sooner
- use 99.18% less electricity
- consume 99.18% less oil
- make 98.06% less money

Stats courtesy of www.ifitweremyhome.com



Missionaries at Malawi Hospital - Summer 2011



Kelly Aggeman, Danielle Davis, Anthony Mulu (2010)

Step 4: Meet & network with local pharmacists

I decided to seek out local pharmacists. I did this to find out the pharmacist application process and also find out some challenges that pharmacists face in the field while networking. The meetings with each of the pharmacists provided information about the application process for working as a pharmacist from the Pharmacy, Medicines, Poisons Board (PMPB), and information about the exams I will have to take prior to practicing. The meetings also made me aware of several challenges pharmacists face with drug procurement, patient safety, and theft. Being aware of the challenges helped garner a better understanding of how pharmacy is implemented in Malawi and what to expect as I consider practicing pharmacy in Malawi.

Final Step: Practicing pharmacy in Malawi

During the year 2012-2013, I plan to return to Malawi to practice pharmacy via the Global Service Scholarship. This program allows pharmacy graduates to practice internationally, while receiving a modest living stipend and providing assistance with loan repayment. With a board certified pharmacist at the site, there is a potential for students in their fourth year to participate in internationally precepted APPE rotations, thereby further enhancing the pharmacy experiential education experience. Practicing firsthand the core values that set Loma Linda University School of Pharmacy students and graduates apart from other schools of pharmacy is the utmost experience to gain from international service.



Larry Mutabako, Austin Topolinski, Pharmacy Stock Manager

2009



Teaching moment at Anwalita to improve inventory management

Summer 2011



Interview of Dr. Verona B. Mwanza, Administrator of R.K. Kasinja

Summer 2011

Romania, Europe

Medical Mission Trip in its Second Year

Thirteen Pharmacy students, led by Dr. Naomi Florea, traveled to Romania to serve as clinicians to poverty-stricken villages. These students provided their perspective on this life-changing experience.



Start of clinic day for Dr. Florea and LLUSP students

The second trip of what looks like an exciting annual tradition for LLUSP students took place last summer, from July 25-August 4, 2011, when 13 students from Loma Linda University School of Pharmacy, a program dedicated to training Doctors of Pharmacy that are capable of serving as clinicians in medical missions around the world, traveled to the country of Romania for the Romania Medical Mission Trip. Dr. Naomi Florea coordinates, leads, and guides these missions and coordinates all aspects of the trips.

The primary scope of the mission trip is for students, in conjunction with three local physicians, to provide medical care to over 600 patients living in under-served, poverty stricken villages where access to healthcare is quite limited. In addition, students are able to solidify their clinical skills and gain further knowledge in how to appropriately integrate and work collaboratively with members of a medical team. Most importantly, students have numerous opportunities to share the Gospel with patients in Romania and truly continue the teaching and healing ministry of Jesus Christ.

This medical missions trip is a unique and life changing opportunity for all involved to witness first-hand the tremendous need for medical care in countries outside the United States, as well as the overwhelming physical, spiritual, and emotional impact that can be made through medical missions around the world.

“God set things up perfectly so that I could be a part of this trip, and I am so grateful for that opportunity.”

— Coralee Johnson, Class of 2012

“I will forever look at my experiences with this particular trip and know that it has guided me to have the aspirations of devoting my time and efforts to serving under-served areas around the world in the name of God.” — Stephen Hom, Class of 2013



Malawi map courtesy of www.nationmaster.com

Satellite image courtesy of Bing.com
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"My personal goal is to eventually do mission work in a developing country and this trip has prepared me with the skills and confidence to do this. Having this great opportunity was a true blessing and we were all touched by the immense kindness and hospitality of the Romanian people and I am so grateful to Dr. Florea for this privilege to serve the people of Romania." — *Anastacia Chetty, Class of 2012*

"It was very humbling to serve those in need and very rewarding to see that we brought smiles to their faces. The Romanian people showed us gratitude for even the simplest of tasks that we did, and I was very grateful to be presented with an opportunity like this; it made me appreciate the little things in life that I have taken for granted before." — *Shady Mansy, Class of 2013*

"We were able to meet some of the most amazing people: patients that have changed the way I see my life, friends that I've been able share such profound experiences with, and brothers & sisters in Christ that have shown me incredible challenges that faith can conquer." — *Michael Nguyen, Class of 2012*

"I was blessed to be part of an awesome group of people. The overall experience was priceless, and I will do it again in a heartbeat." — *Abigail Adu-Gyane, Class of 2013*

Photo below: LLUSP students participate in many facets of direct patient care while serving in Romanian clinics

"A 6 year old boy with a congenital heart disease and malnutrition summed up the trip for me in the few words of English he could muster....."I love you!" I think we all left with the spirit to change the world." — *Philip Hivale, Class of 2012*

"I was constantly reminded, no matter who you are, where you come from or what you are doing in life, you are always important enough to receive a blessing from God. I was able to experience Loma Linda University's mission statement first hand, because when I left Romania, it was I who became whole." — *Kwasi Ageyman, Class of 2012*

"Teachers and textbooks have taught me a lot but the patients I treated first hand in Romania will be imprinted in my mind and heart forever. This trip was the experience of a lifetime and I will look back fondly on the memories I made for the rest of my life." — *Marissa Schroer, Class of 2012*

"Never have I experienced something so rewarding and fulfilling. In just ten short days, my life was changed." — *Erin Carpenter, Class of 2012*

"Not only did this mission trip permit me to experience a sense of satisfaction that can rarely be found anywhere else, but also illustrated the impact a group of pharmacy volunteers can make in a poverty-stricken country merely by extending the hand of Jesus Christ." — *Ryan Huntsman, Class of 2012*



School News

Pharmacy Students Lend Talent to CKC Program

Led by Dr. Kathryn Knecht, CKC-Music is now in its 4th season, teaching music to the children of San Bernardino. In addition to the stringed instruments, lessons are now being offered for the ukulele! CKC-Music operates year-round, in large part thanks to the help of pharmacy students who are available during the spring months when other students have finished classes. Pharmacy students have commented that CKC-Music provides them an opportunity to get into the community and work with children—a welcome change from the all-adult campus environment.



The School of Pharmacy family is growing!

Congratulations to Dr. David Weldon and his wife on the arrival of their baby girl, Emily, on August 25th. Jade Xu (born on September 9th) joins her brother Runlin (already 3 years old!) and proud parents Dr. Dan Xu and his wife. Double congratulations to Dr. Jack Chen and his wife on the arrival of their twin girls, Sophia Julianne and Faith Jacqueline, on September 15th. Our first baby of the new year has just arrived. We are very excited to announce the birth of Emery Rains on March 20. Shastin and her husband are now settling in with their new baby girl! Welcome, little ones.

Photos clockwise: Sophia and Faith Chen; Jade Xu, Emily Weldon, Runlin Xu.



Breast Cancer Awareness

The School of Pharmacy participated in community events in support of Breast Cancer Awareness month in October. Our CSHP chapter held a fundraiser at Cold Stone Creamery, with several faculty and staff members scooping for hours! Dr. Hughes generously sponsored 40 LLUSP faculty, staff, and family participants in the annual Stater Bros. Believe Walk.



School of Pharmacy celebrates 550th White Coat student

Marie Hovespian, Class of 2015, received a \$5,000 scholarship for being the 550th School of Pharmacy student to be given a White Coat during the 10th Anniversary White Coat Ceremony held Thursday, November 3rd, 2011. "You may ask why the 550th? Well, here is the math: 5+5+0 = 10 to commemorate the school's 10th anniversary, consequently the 550th student represented this important milestone," said School of Pharmacy dean Billy Hughes. During the 2011-12 academic year, LLUSP will be commemorating its 10th anniversary with many celebratory events.

Photo: Drs. Billy Hughes and Paul Norris present Marie Hovespian with a \$5,000 scholarship.



Faculty News

Dr. Hughes Announces Administrative Changes

Dr. Hughes is pleased to announce the following administrative changes in the School of Pharmacy:

Dr. Rashid Mosavin has assumed responsibilities as Associate Dean for Academic Affairs. Dr. Mosavin joined our faculty in 2004 and had been serving as the Chair of the Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences since 2007. Dr. Mosavin brings a broad background in scientific and administrative education to his new endeavor.

Serving in the role of Acting Chair of the Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences is **Dr. Willie Davis**. Dr. Davis began his academic service at LLUSP in 2004. Recognized by the University this year for his teaching excellence, Dr. Davis brings this and many other facets of academic experience to his assignment.

Appointed Acting Chair of the Department of Pharmacotherapy and Outcomes Science is **Dr. Javad Tafreshi**. Dr. Tafreshi has rich experience in academia and clinical teaching, including a recent secondary appointment in the School of Medicine (Department of Medicine). These accomplishments, in addition to his residency program expertise, will serve Dr. Tafreshi well in his new capacity.

The Division of Experiential Education has a new Director. **Dr. Naomi Florea** adds this important job to her teaching commitments in the Department of Pharmacotherapy and Outcomes Science. Dr. Florea continues to garner teaching accolades from students; and these new responsibilities will further expand her influence in shaping future pharmacists.

Photo right: From left to right, Drs. Rashid Mosavin, Willie Davis, Billy Hughes, Javad Tafreshi, Naomi Florea



1 Wei-Xing Shi, PhD, has been awarded \$408,000 from the National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA) to study the effects of midbrain dopamine neurons in a research project titled "Prefrontal Control of Dopamine Neurons." The National Institute of Health has many institutes specialized in different areas and NIDA is one specialty. NIDA's mission is to bring the power of science to bear on drug abuse and addiction. With the use of new optogenetics techniques, Dr. Shi's research project hopes to address a number of questions that cannot be assessed using previous techniques. It is hoped that the results of the research project will provide new insights into disorders that involve both the prefrontal cortex and dopamine neurons, including schizophrenia, drug addiction, and ADHD.

2 Siu-Fun Wong, PharmD, FASHP, FCSHP, has been invited as a new co-chair for the Drug Development Task Force with the National Cancer Institute (NCI) Symptom Managements and Health-Related Quality of Life Steering Committee. The goals of the Task Force are 1) to increase availability of biologically plausible, pharmacologic intervention for clinical trial assessments in the Clinical Community Oncology Program (CCOP) network, and 2) to provide resource and expertise to facilitate the drug development process. Dr. Wong has also been asked by the Executive Committee of the National Association of Boards of Pharmacy to continue to serve on the North American Pharmacist Licensure Examination (NAPLEX) Review Committee.

3 Dr. Vickie Maskiewicz has been promoted to Associate Professor in the

Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences. Congratulations, Vickie, on this new phase of your academic career.

4 Willie Davis, PhD, has been selected from among twenty-one excellent Loma Linda University candidates for the 2012 Kinzer-Rice Award. Since joining the School of Pharmacy in 2004, Dr. Davis has had a remarkable impact on the PharmD program here at Loma Linda University. Dr. Davis' influence extends through teaching and into curriculum planning, accreditation, and classroom teaching methodology. The entire School of Pharmacy is proud to have the dedication to teaching excellence exhibited by Dr. Davis.

5 Jim Pinder, JD, MBA, has been honored with the Paul Harris Fellow award through the Redlands Rotary Club. Chosen amongst a field of

Faculty News



outstanding service members of Rotary Club, Jim was recognized in appreciation of tangible and significant assistance given for the advancement of better understanding and friendly relations among peoples of the world.

6 Naomi Florea, PharmD, has been awarded the LLU Spiritual Life Service Award. Recipients of the Award are known for a "vibrant faith in God that leads to extraordinary care for the spiritual well-being of others and an effective ability to bring hope and meaning in the midst of educational or health care challenges." Dr. Florea specializes in infectious diseases for the School of Pharmacy. She is considered to be one of the best lecturers, winning teacher of the year multiple times. Now, Dr. Florea is becoming known for something else: bringing her vibrant faith in God to her students and hundreds

of indigent Romania patients through mission service. Dr. Florea has been newly appointed as Director of the Division of Experiential Education.

7 Javad Tafreshi, PharmD, BCPS, AQ Cardiology, F.A.H.A., has been elected as a Fellow of the American Heart Association. This recognition, signified by the F.A.H.A. abbreviation, is an important recognition of professional accomplishments and leadership. F.A.H.A. recognizes outstanding and sustained scientific contributions in basic cardiovascular sciences, as well as volunteer leadership and service to the American Heart Association. F.A.H.A. is open to scientists and physicians with a major and productive interest in cardiovascular basic sciences.

8 Stanley C. Weisser, RPh, DHL (Hon), has been reappointed to the California

State Board of Pharmacy by Governor Brown. Then-Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger first appointed Mr. Weisser to the Board of Pharmacy on November 1, 2007. Stan is very active in many San Bernardino County philanthropic activities as well as civic, cultural, and educational programs. Mr. Weisser is presently an LLUSP associate professor of Pharmacotherapy and Outcomes Science.

9 Congratulations to **Dr. Kathryn Knecht**, who co-authored the publication, "Practices, Attitudes and Beliefs Associated with Complementary and Alternative Medicine (CAM) Use Among Cancer Patients." The article was published in the 02.07.2012 issue of the journal, *Integrated Cancer Therapies*. This article represents a collaborative project that includes the Loma Linda University School of Public Health.

Student Activities

Pharmacy Students Participate in MyCampus Program Initiative

MyCampus is a program designed to provide awareness and guidance to minority high school students in the communities surrounding Loma Linda, reaching as far as the Sherman Indian High School in Riverside. Organized through LLU CAPS (Community-Academic Partners in Service), the MyCampus program informs students and their parents of opportunities in the health professions. Information such as college prerequisites, the process of applying to college, and discussion of paying for college are important parts of the session experiences. Under the student leadership of Sarah Prates, CAPS has designated the School of Pharmacy to be the main host for the high school students. We extend many thanks to Sarah for her efforts in coordinating the important and successful MyCampus program for the School of Pharmacy.

Photo right: Sarah Prates (with crutches) leads MyCampus endeavor with fellow students and faculty



Market Night Tradition Continues in Redlands

Continuing its practice of the past several years, LLUSP students, under the supervision of School of Pharmacy professors, continue to participate in Redlands Market Night. At the market night, LLUSP sets up a booth where students and faculty answer questions for visitors about various medicines—how they work, why they were prescribed, and possible side effects and drug interactions. This year, the LLUSP joined the ScriptYourFuture campaign, sponsored by the National Consumers League, to enable patients to further understand any medical condition and the importance of proper medication adherence in managing a health problem.

Rho Chi Expands On Call Tutoring Services

In addition to the already extraordinary program, our Rho Chi tutors have started a new program. These “on call” tutors are just a phone call away almost any time of day or night, and will meet with the student(s) as needed. This “on call” feature of the tutoring program is to help ensure that no student goes without any additional help that they may need.

Photo below: Some of the many students who participate regularly in Market Night activities



Alumni Updates

Alumni Dinner

The Office of Alumni Affairs hosted a dinner for LLUSP alumni and students attending the 2011 CSHP meeting in Anaheim. Naples restaurant in Downtown Disney was very busy with nearly 100 diners. Faculty in attendance included **Drs. Naomi Florea, Jerika Lam, Lee Nguyen, and Mary Gutierrez**. Alumni always bring a special flavor to any LLU School of Pharmacy gathering. Alumni Affairs will be planning more events, and we look forward to further connections with our growing alumni family.



Alumni, students, and faculty attend the Alumni Affairs Dinner during CSHP in Anaheim.

More Alumni News

Blaire Heath (2011) is working as an outpatient pharmacist at Arrowhead Regional Medical Center. She is very involved with the METS (Medical Evangelism Training & Strategies) organization. As a result of the impact METS has had in her professional and personal experiences, she is partnering with LLUSP CPFI (Christian Pharmacists Fellowship International) leaders to share this ministry with students as they strive to incorporate whole person care into their health care careers.

Landon Dean (2009) reports that after working for two years at Walmart in Beaumont he recently became the pharmacy manager of the Sam's Club in Riverside. Landon hopes to be able to provide a site for IPPE/APPE students from LLUSP. But, more significantly, **Lucien Theodore Dean** was born on December 10th. The School of Pharmacy family keeps growing!

Nhu and Quang Nguyen (2006) welcomed a baby girl into the world on January 9th. Baby **Aria** is truly a precious blessing to these proud parents.

Photos right: Aria Nguyen (left) Lucien Dean (right)



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School of Pharmacy

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quality of life
starts with our
pharmacists



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