WeCare Pharmacy
Bridging the Care Gap
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— Jim Pinder, Director of Academic Affairs, Loma Linda University School of Pharmacy

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Vision 2020: LLUSP Curriculum

By Billy Hughes PhD, Dean

No doubt you’ve heard that the School of Pharmacy is having much dialog about how best to transform the PharmD curriculum to educate practice-ready pharmacists prepared to serve new healthcare realities. I’m certain that the curriculum of 2002 represented the highest aspirations of the founding administration and faculty of our School, and that this old curriculum has served us well—we’ve hovered around a 97% NAPLEX first-time test-taker pass rate. It begs the question “Why change the curriculum?” Here’s why: the pharmacy profession has changed, the number of faculty and their specialties has changed, accreditation guidelines have changed, our school’s facilities have changed, the prerequisites of incoming pharmacy students have changed, the practice settings have changed, even in LLUH hospitals— the easier question is what has not changed?

With so much evidence for change, what vision, data and professional requirements should drive the discussion? First, we must have a curriculum that continues our commitment to our mission and values, a curriculum that elevates wholeness and wellness for all stakeholders. The new curriculum should be responsive to what we learned through assessment activities, and it should leverage the clinical excellence found within LLUH, a premier academic health science center, including the wealth of interprofessional learning opportunities as one of eight professional schools. The curriculum should be driven by morbidity and mortality data, hospital admitting diagnoses, prescriptions dispensed, IOM best care initiatives, and relevancy to the profession to ensure that both CAPE outcomes and ACPE accreditation standards are exceeded. There should be educational/clinical modules that mirror existing and projected professional opportunities. Finally, the curriculum should be appropriately delivered with deference to recent scientific findings on how best to teach and how students learn.

As one of the 12 schools of pharmacy in California, LLUSP is positioned to be a leader in curricular innovation— exceptional faculty and staff, excellent facilities, abundant clinical experiences, unparalleled interprofessional opportunities, dedicated preceptors, loyal alumni, amazing student pharmacists, and the vision and drive to be a leader in curricular innovation. Together, we can make curricular transformation a reality.

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News Capsule
Four LLUSP Alumni hold executive positions in the Inland Empire's leading, innovative ambulatory care pharmacy.

By Ed Vulpe

Dennis Ho, PharmD, established WeCare Pharmacy in 2012 in San Bernardino, CA, to bridge a care gap between patients, payers, and providers in the outpatient setting. WeCare accomplishes this via ambulatory care (am care).

From its beginning as an eight-member pharmacy, WeCare now employs 20 healthcare professionals and holds preferred contract with the Inland Empire Health Plan (IEHP).

The following alumni hold executive positions in WeCare:

- Dr. Philip Hivale – Provider Relations and Marketing Director
- Dr. Ryan Huntsman – Operations Director
- Dr. Diana Huntsman – Residency Program Director
- Dr. Jefmar Dickey – Pharmacist Supervisor

Each of the executives works to grow and maintain WeCare’s function as an innovative community pharmacy, but with executive title comes executive responsibility.

As Operations Director, Dr. R. Huntsman manages company practice while upholding its goals and vision; Dr. D. Huntsman facilitates guidance and supervision of residents, including ethical, professional, and personal growth and development, while ensuring safe and appropriate care for patients; Dr. Hivale maintains company image and relations with its publics; and Dr. Dickey guides WeCare’s clinical team in line with company goals.

Administrative tasks are not the only focus of Drs. Huntsman, Hivale, and Dickey. In an effort to stay connected with their immediate community, these four alumni continue to practice clinically. This includes direct responsibilities for patients and facilitating meaningful communication between all parties involved.

In ambulatory care practice, clinical pharmacists provide diagnosis, observation, consultation, treatment, intervention, and rehabilitation services to outpatients, even having prescriptive authorities following primary care protocol. For Dr. Ryan Huntsman, am care is “the aspect of pharmacy that helps patients better understand their disease states and bridges the gap between physicians and their patients.”

With more than 10,000 Southern California patients on the books, providing unique service remains the focus. As well as administering diabetic supplies, the providers at WeCare ensure Medication Therapy Management (MTM) for each patient, “which is tricky because large-scale MTM is difficult for nearly any community pharmacy to manage,” explained Dr. D. Huntsman.

According to the Journal of American Pharmacists Association, clinical pharmacists, physicians, and healthcare providers interact for optimized medication utilization in MTM. Studies have shown that the results of MTM are improved clinical and economic outcomes as patients treat their condition(s) and become educated in relapse prevention.

“We also provide education and dietary counseling, which is unique because pharmacists work directly with outpatient providers in care and management of patients,” added Dr. Hivale.

Despite the amount of clinical and executive responsibility, these four alumni, with Dr. Ho’s leadership, find time to give back to their larger communities. WeCare chooses to precept LLUSP students because “we believe in giving back to the communities in which we practice,” explained Dr. Ho.

While the four alumni practice in an ambulatory care setting, only one of the four has completed an am care residency. But for those students interested in pursuing ambulatory care practice, the four executives recommended careful APPE selection and PGY1 residencies that emphasize am care.

WeCare Pharmacy
Community Pharmacy Leads in Patient-Centered Care

WeCare Pharmacy maintains company image and relations with its publics; and Dr. Dickey guides WeCare’s clinical team in line with company goals.

“Experience plays a huge role and working hard during rotations makes a big impact,” advised Dr. Dickey. “It may be difficult to find a specific am care occupation at first, but fill the need: each pharmacist has the capability to go beyond filling medication.”

The four alumni added that their experience at LLUSP prepared them clinically for work in ambulatory care practice. However, the intrinsic values LLUSP instilled in the alumni had a lasting effect as the four learned to apply “a needed degree of compassion and humility when handling patient situations,” stated Dr. R. Huntsman.

With more than 10,000 Southern Californian patients on the books, providing unique service remains the focus.

“Patients trust a practitioner that conveys empathy and understands their needs.”

This intrinsic emphasis translates into meaningful work that measures beyond professionalism for the four alumni. “I am given the opportunity to better someone’s life everyday – absolutely meaningful,” remarked Dr. Hivale.

When asked why LLUSP graduates were on his radar for candidates-for-hire, Dr. Ho responded, “because each brings something unique to the table and all of them believe in the vision of WeCare – promoting pharmacists as capable providers.”

As WeCare continues to grow and expand, Dr. Ho plans to maintain ties with LLUSP and its community. “It is my hope that WeCare can continue to play a role in developing future leaders in pharmacy.”
LLUSP Moving to Transform Curriculum to Better Educate Future Pharmacists

By Ed Vulpe

Projected for Fall 2017, the Loma Linda University School of Pharmacy (LLUSP) will implement major transformations to its curriculum to better educate pharmacists and maximize use of Loma Linda University Health (LLUH) resources.

According to the National Training Laboratories, information retention rises to 75% when students “practice by doing” and 90% when students “teach others” what they have learned. Major course restructuring will occur as LLUSP revamps the curriculum to include more interactive components, more hands-on learning, more interprofessional educational experiences, more structured educational/clinical modules, and a tighter relationship between pharmaceutical/administrative sciences and therapeutic courses, and the hospitals within LLUH.

Under the proposed curricular transformation, LLUSP students will spend two years in didactic education, one year in structured educational/clinical modules that will include abundant interprofessional engagements and immersion in transitions of care services in both outpatient and inpatient settings, and a final year of Advanced Pharmacy Practice Experiences. This will replace the traditional three years didactic and one year clinical education of the current PharmD program—a curriculum developed for the inaugural Class of 2006. The more time LLUSP student pharmacists spend in educational and clinical settings that address the new practice realities, the better prepared they will be to succeed in the rapidly changing healthcare environment.

Under LLUSP and LLUMC pharmacist and other healthcare provider guidance, students will have greater patient responsibilities in clinic, hospital, and outpatient settings. This will enrich students’ interactions with patients and their prescriptions before graduation, meaning more clinically competent and confident LLUSP graduates entering the workforce.

“We’re adjusting to our unique learning environment . . . maximizing our engagement with the abundant resources of LLUH as an academic health center, and optimizing the educational experience . . . with over 100 clinical and staff pharmacists, 18 faculty clinicians, five outpatient pharmacies, and the multiple hospitals along with diverse healthcare providers within LLUH,” stated Billy Hughes, Dean of LLUSP.

Patient satisfaction is also projected to increase as dialogue between pharmacists and patients increases, allowing for more conversations and explanations that create a “comfortable environment through transparency,” according to Dr. Paul Norris, Executive Director of Pharmacy Services and Associate Dean for Clinical Affairs. In addition, he predicts a reduction in medication errors and an increase in patient safety and outcomes from the increased dialogue. “It will help my staff grow and stay up-to-date as well as better educate practice-ready pharmacists: a win-win,” said Norris.

“Having a pharmacist explain medications is preferred. In some hospitals, the pharmacist calls the patient at home within 48 hours of discharge for further clarification,” explained Dr. J. Pappas, Vice President for Patient Engagement at LLUMC.

“One on a broader scale, this will demonstrate what pharmacists are trained to contribute to the healthcare team,” commented Norris, “as we increase student pharmacists’ exposure to learn the current scope of practice and teach them to take advantage of such opportunities to promote positive outcomes in their patients.”

LLUSP will also communicate with the Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education (ACPE) to ensure the new curriculum satisfies accreditation guidelines.

The vision of curricular transformation is currently under review in multiple departments and committees. Input will be solicited from alumni, preceptors, and students on the new curriculum. Finally, the proposed curricular transformation will come to faculty for review and approval. As one of the 12 schools of pharmacy in California, LLUSP is positioned to be a leader in curricular innovation—with exceptional faculty and staff, excellent facilities, abundant clinical experiences, unparalleled interprofessional opportunities, dedicated preceptors, loyal alumni, amazing student pharmacists, and the vision and drive to be a leader in curricular innovation.

“The center of our effort is to better educate clinically confident and competent pharmacists,” stated Dr. Rashid Mosavin, LLUSP Executive Associate Dean.

LLUSP holds First Annual Research Day

On May 14, 2015, the School of Pharmacy held its First Annual Research Day in the Wong Kerlee Conference Center on the Loma Linda University campus. The day showcased the research activities of the students, residents, postdoctoral fellows, and faculty of the school. LLUSP places a high value on research, and the Dean’s office provides over $200,000 annually to fund research in the areas of basic and administrative science, pharmacy practice, missions and outreach, and educational methodologies.

There were 48 posters presented at this conference and it was attended by all PY1 - PY3 students along with a number of PY4 students. Fifteen juniors from Indian Springs High School’s Health Academy also presented a poster on research they are doing in collaboration with the Department of Pharmaceutical and Administrative Sciences.

(continued)
Halfway There: Vision 2020 Campaign Soars

By Richard Hart, MD, DrPH

It’s official! Loma Linda University Health’s monumental vision for the future, “Vision 2020: The Campaign for a Whole Tomorrow,” has passed the halfway point. As of this week, we have commitments and cash in hand for $182 million, which puts us more than halfway to our $360 million philanthropic goal. This figure represents $33 million raised since the campaign kick-off event on July 15, 2014.

That day was the big “Reveal,” the date we moved from several years of planning and ended the silent phase. With the announcement of Carol and Dennis Troesh’s commitment of $100 million toward building the Children’s Hospital tower, we took the campaign to the public and detailed our plans for construction, research, scholarship and educational endowments and programs that will change the way we do health care and education for the future.

Of course, while we celebrate, we also realize that we still have a formidable goal ahead of us. This campaign represents a bold vision. I would like to acknowledge our advancement team and, most importantly, our generous donors for their part in bringing us to this historic halfway point. We look forward to the future of Vision 2020 with great confidence and deep faith.

Live It! LLUSP Has its Very Own IRONMAN

Anthony Esquivel, Department of Experiential & Continuing Education, competed in the IRONMAN 70.3 New Orleans Triathlon on April 19, 2015. The international half ironman distance race consisted of 1.2 miles swimming, 56 miles cycling and 13.1 miles running. He completed the race in 5:18:13 and was 39th out of 124 males in his age group (25-29). He will compete in six other triathlons this year which lead up to his first-ever attempt at a full 140.6 Ironman Triathlon on November 15th in Tempe, AZ. The Arizona Ironman 140.6 triathlon is double the distance of the triathlon completed (2.4 miles swimming, 112 miles cycling and 26.2 miles running). Congratulations, Anthony, for showing us “Living It” in action!

Alumni News

On January 14, 2015, Mona Ghomeshi (’07) was named Sacramento Valley Pharmacist of the Year at the CSHP Sacramento Valley Installation Dinner.

On October 12, 2014, 70 students participated in the annual October Month Health Fair. This year Dr. Larry Rutabuka (’10) hosted the event at the Loma Linda Wal-Mart neighborhood market. Students saw 53 patients. All in all, the health fair was a great success.

Congratulations to the Class of 2015!
Welcome to your LLUSP Alumni Family
BY THE NUMBERS

- 6,974 Service Hours
- 20 States Represented
- 25,000 Faculty & Staff Giving 2014
- 698 Pharmacy Practice Sites
- 45 Publications by 36 Faculty
- 98% Graduate Rate
- 65% Increase in 2014 Philanthropic Revenue
- 69% Faculty Participation in Grow Together Giving
- 99.5% NAPLEX Pass Rate
- 2% Attrition Rate
- 90 Entry Students Class of 2018
- 338 Number of Students
- 1,030 Number of Preceptors
Faculty News

Congratulations to Dr. Farnoosh Zough! She is the 10th clinical faculty in the Department of Pharmacy Practice to obtain her board certification as a Pharmacotherapy Specialist (BCPS) •

On March 5th, Dr. Tania Stewart and Dr. Kristine Parbuoni were installed at the Inland Society of Health-System Pharmacists (ISHSP) Night of Industry & Annual Banquet. Dr. Stewart is the new President, and Dr. Parbuoni is serving as a Delegate. ISHP is the regional chapter of CSHP that covers the Inland Empire. • 2

Dr. Kristine Parbuoni received the 2014 Presidential Citation award from the Society of Critical Care Medicine (SCCM), the Presidential Citation for her contributions to the society during 2014. This award recognizes CSSM members who have made extraordinary contributions of time, energy, and resources to SCCM during the previous year. • 3

Dr. David Weldon has been invited to present a talk to the National Association of Boards of Pharmacy (NABP) National Meeting this May in Chicago, Illinois. Dr. Weldon and Dr. Elvin Hernandez have conducted research on the Pharmacy Curriculum Outcomes Assessment (PCOA) exam regarding performance outcomes at US Schools of Pharmacy. Congratulations to the both of them. • 4, 5

Dr. Elvin Hernandez and Dr. Abby Weldon co-authored, “Surface APRIL is Elevated on Myeloid Cells and is Associated with Disease Activity in Rheumatoid Arthritis” (Abby Jones Weldon, Ioana Moldovan, Marven Cabling, Elvin Hernandez, Sheri Hus, Jennifer Gonzalez, Andrea Parra, Abigail Benitez, Nasim Daoud, Kimberly Payne). The paper was recently accepted for publication by the Journal of Rheumatology. • 5

Dr. Javad Tafreshi announced that our Cardiology PGY2 Pharmacy Residency Program has received accreditation for three additional years. A special thank you and congratulations goes to Dr. Diana Cao for her leadership, hard work, and this great accomplishment. • 6, 7

Congratulations Dr. Wei-Xing Shi, a recipient of the 2014 GRASP Award for $75,000 over 2 years, to conduct a joint study with the School of Medicine on IFPSas a Stem Cell Therapy for Neonatal Brain Ischemia. • 8

Dr. Kathryn Knecht received the following grants: MOCA Foundation, for CKC-Music (Community Kids Connection), $1,500, October 2014. Safe Kids of Indiana Empire, for prescription medicine safety, with Healthy Neighborhoods Project (Dr. Marti Baumn), $4,000, November 2014. • 9

Dr. Knecht was also part of the following poster: LaPointe, C., Luong, A., Yim, D., Tran, H., Knecht, K.T. Herbal usage and beliefs in a Vietnamese population, American Society of Health-System Pharmacists (ASHP) Midyear Clinical Meeting, Anaheim, CA, December 4-11, 2014. • 9

Dr. Kristopher Boyle was entitled “Obesity and the Microbiome” at the Loma Linda University Faculty Colloquium on September 18-19, 2014 for Interprofessional Education Faculty Champion. • 9

Knecht, K., Reviewer, Pharmacology and Alternative Medicine Therapeutics, October 2014. • 9

Congratulations to Dr. Rashid Mosavi who was nominated, selected, and awarded the Spiritual Life Service Award on October 28, 2014. This award is presented to individuals who exhibit a special commitment to the spiritual wholeness of colleagues, patients, students or others. The criteria for nomination are: • A vibrant faith in God that leads to extraordinary care for the spiritual well-being of others. • An effective ability to bring hope and meaning in the midst of educational or healthcare challenges. • 10

Jim Pinder presented “Pharmacy Law Updates 2014” at CSHP Seminar 2014. This is the second year he has made a pharmacy law update presentation at this conference. Jim also had a manuscript accepted in the California Journal of Health System Pharmacy, “Tricky Tramadol and the 120-day Rule! This article explores the reasoning and legal implications of moving Tramadol to Schedule IV. • 11

Jim Pinder’s manuscript “Pharmacy Law Updates 2014” has been accepted for publication in California Journal of Health System-Pharmacy. This manuscript follows his presentation at CSHP’s Seminar 2014 in November on the same topic. • 11

2014 Loma Linda University Basic Sciences Research Symposium – The Department of Pharmaceutical and Administrative Sciences participated in this research symposium that was held on November 13, 2014. Dr. Willie Davis was an invited speaker for the mini-symposium. His talk was entitled “Obesity and the Microbiome”. Dr. Christopher Boyle was invited to be part of a panel discussion on “The Road to Success: Life After Graduate School”. • 12, 13

The following paper has been accepted for publication by the journal, Chemical Research in Toxicology: Lanceot McLean, Cheri Watkins, Petreena Campbell, Dain Zylstra, Leah Rowland, Louisa Amis, Lia Scott, Crystal Babb, W. Joel Livingston, Aguas Danwanto, Willie Davis, Maheswari Senthil, Lawrence Sowers, Eileen Brantley. Aryl hydrocarbon receptor ligand 5F-203 induces oxidative stress triggering DNA damage in human breast cancer cells. • 12, 14

Congratulations to Dr. Jeany Jun. Her poster was recently presented at The International Continuing Medical & Dental Education Conference in Chiang Mai, Thailand. Jun JK, Knutson D, Kim EM, Shim A. “Two years of epidemiological data from mobile clinics in Cambodia.” • 15

Thank you to Dr. Paul Gavaza for peer reviewing a timely publication entitled, “Rare, serious and comprehensively described suspected adverse drug reactions reported by surveyed healthcare professionals in Uganda,” for the PLOS ONE (Public Library of Science) journal in November, 2014. Dr. Gavaza was also a scientific reviewer for Research in Social & Administrative Pharmacy journal in December 2014. • 16

Dr. Andy Williams recently had his manuscript, Seizure Associated with Clozapine: Incidence, Etiology, and Management, published in CNS Drugs. 2014 Dec 25. doi:10.1007/s40263-014-0222-x. • 17

Williams AM, Dopheide JA. “Nonpsychiatric Medication Interventions Initiated by a Postgraduate Year 2 Psychiatric Pharmacy Resident in a Patient-Centered Medical Home,” Prim Care Companion CNS Disord 2014;16(6):doi:10.4088/ PCC.14m01680. • 17

The following presented posters at the CSHP Seminar in San Francisco on October 31st through November 2, 2014: • 18


2. Dekermendjian V, Khangura N, Zough F. Pain management with intravenous acetaminophen in the post-anesthesia care unit: A systematic chart review. • 19

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Faculty News

• Faheem S, Zough F. Effectiveness of creating video commercials as a course project on student learning outcomes. 1
• Stewart TL, Everett EA, SP ’12, Spencer-Safier M, Donkor KN. The Impact of Pharmacist Provided Chemotherapy Education on Patient Satisfaction & Clinical Outcomes at an Adult Outpatient Cancer Center. 2

The following faculty and students presented their posters at the APhA Midyear Clinical Meeting in Anaheim December 9–10, 2014:

• Dr. Jeany Jun, PY4 Joseph Han, PY4 Michelle Park and PY4 Samuel Xu. Disease and medication management in rural underserved Cambodia using mobile clinics. 15
• Dr. Rashid Mosavin and PY4 Christopher J. Jacobson. A Systematic Approach to Involve PharmD Students with the School Accreditation and Self Study Process. 10

• Dr. Alireza Hayatshahi, PY4 Collin Chan, and PY4 Phoebe Guo. Evaluation of unfractionated heparin or enoxaparin utilization in hospitalized patients receiving venous thromboembolism prophylaxis. 19
• Dr. Lee Nguyen, PY3 An Nguyen, PY3 Uyen Nha Tran, PY3 Nancy Garcia, and PY3 Allison Le. Evaluating the clinical effect of a levofloxacin restriction program on urinary tract infections at a community non-academic medical center. 20
• Dr. Lee Nguyen, PY3 Amy Kang, PY3 Nguyen Ta, PY2 Liem Hoang, and PY2 Crystal Lestari. Evaluating the utilization and clinical effect of prolonged infusion piperacillin-tazobactam in elderly patients with Pseudomonas aeruginosa pneumonia. 20
• Dr. Kristine Parbuoni, PY4 Michelle Adia, and PY4 Marena Zakhary. Central nervous system (CNS) toxicities in a pediatric patient on pentonelal dialysis: A perfect storm? 3
• Dr. Huyentran Tran, Dr. Katherine Knecht, PY3 Christopher LaPoints, Dr. Anh Luong, SP ’13, and Daniel Yim. Herbal usage and beliefs in a Vietnamese population. 21, 9
• Dr. Huyentran Tran, PY1 Ivan Bareng, PY3 Christopher LaPoints, PY3 Marina Odekian, PY3 Hans Teuscher, and Dr. Vitma Torres. Evaluation of the use of Target Specific Oral Anticoagulants (TOSOACs) in real-world clinical practice in patients with atrial fibrillation. 21
• Dr. Farnoosh Zough, PY2 Susan Cho, PY3 Avenil Austin, PY3 Han Nguyen, and PY3 Carmen Wong. Evaluating the impact of delayed rifaximin therapy initiation in patients with hepatic encephalopathy. 1
• Dr. Jeany Jun, PY4 Joseph Han, PY4 Michelle Park and PY4 Samuel Xu. Disease and medication management in rural underserved Cambodia using mobile clinics. 15
• Dr. Rashid Mosavin and PY4 Christopher J. Jacobson. A Systematic Approach to Involve PharmD Students with the School Accreditation and Self Study Process. 10

Experiential and Continuing Education

Alums Honored at Annual Networking Event

By Ed Vulpe

For the first time in its history, all graduated classes of the Loma Linda University School of Pharmacy were represented at the annual Loma Linda University School of Pharmacy Alumni Networking Event held on December 18, 2014.

Hosted by both the Department of Experiential & Continuing Education and the Office of Alumni Affairs, graduating Class of 2015 PharmD (P4) students were provided the opportunity to network with practicing pharmacy professionals.

“It was reassuring to see our future through previous generations of colleagues . . . who hold outstanding positions throughout the state of California,” said Sara Beshay, Class of 2015 President.

140 attendees were present for the event held at the Disneyland Grand Californian Hotel, which also honored outstanding alumni. The five recipient alumni of the Excellence Awards were as follows:

• Excellence in Community Practice: Gregory Harrington (2009)
• Excellence in Administrative Practice: Antony Gobin (2007)
• Excellence in Clinical Practice: Jenny Park (2006)
• Excellence in Community Service: Danielle Davis (2012)
• Excellence in Academia: Tania Stewart (2010)

“The Alumni/P4 Networking event was a huge success. It was an evening that strengthened our goal to establish and maintain a network where alumni and students have access to invaluable professional resources,” said Dr. Naomi Florea, Chair of the Department of Experiential & Continuing Education.

Loma Linda University School of Pharmacy is proud of our alumni, and we look forward to more opportunities to reconnect in the future! ■
The Department of Experiential and Continuing Education had the privilege of hosting a Networking Reception at Fig & Olive in Newport Beach for the Class of 2015 on March 26, 2015, giving students an opportunity to network and interview for jobs. This is the third consecutive event organized for the P4 students. Several directors of pharmacy, independent pharmacy owners, recruiting managers, and other professional pharmacists were in attendance, including many Loma Linda University School of Pharmacy Alumni, representing Riley’s Pharmacy, Kaiser Permanente, Pacific Pharmacy Group, Loma Linda University Medical Center, CVS Health, Advance Care Pharmacy, Target, Arrowhead Regional Medical Center, White Memorial Medical Center, WeCare Pharmacy, Bristol-Myers Squibb, Fountain Valley Hospital, Hoag Hospital, PPM/Restore Health, Flintridge Pharmacy & Wellness Center, Desert Hospital Outpatient Pharmacy, and Kindred Health.

Not only was the Networking Reception a great opportunity to provide additional career opportunities for the Class of 2015, but it was also a wonderful evening to reconnect with many of our alumni and pharmacists who currently precept our students. The Department of Experiential and Continuing Education is thrilled for our students who were able to get a jumpstart on their post-graduation careers from this event and wishes the fourth-years all the best on their professional paths from Loma Linda University.

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Linda University School of Pharmacy hosted its annual Employment Showcase and Interview Day on February 12, 2015, giving students an opportunity to network and interview for jobs and internships.

Six pharmaceutical companies and 16 recruiters attended the five-hour Employment Showcase, allowing P1-P3 students the opportunity to connect with potential employers. A total of 51 LLUSP students were interviewed, of whom several received callbacks.

“I thought the Interview Day and the Employment Showcase was really an outstanding way for students like me, who do not have much job experience, to get their foot in the door with some of the major retail companies,” said Jason Kiroyan, P1. Both Albertsons and CVS Pharmacy contacted Jason for internship and job interviews.

Later the same evening, seven pharmaceutical companies and 12 recruiters attended the Employment Showcase where P4 students interviewed for employment opportunities before graduation.

“This is a really exciting time for our P4 students as they round the last bend before graduation,” commented Bernadette Malqued, (event coordinator from the Department of Experiential Education.) “We, as a department, are privileged to provide as many opportunities as possible for student success in both employment and residency.”

We wish continued success to our community partners and students!”

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Experiential and Continuing Education

LLUSP Showcases Community Partners and Provides Residency Interviews

By Ed Vulpe

Experiential and Continuing Education

Annual Networking Event in Newport Beach Continues Tradition of Success

By Bernadette Malqued

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Honors and Award Program Grows

LLUSP’s annual Honors & Awards Ceremony was held April 16th. A record over $145,000 was given in scholarships to pharmacy students as well as more than $1,500 in raffle prizes. Teachers of the year included: Drs. Farnoosh Zough, Jeany Jun and Tania Stewart. Preceptors of the year included: Drs. Tania Stewart, Hoa Hoang, Jeany Jun, Kofi Donkor and Chris Hauschild. Congratulations to all the Honors & Awards recipients! An additional $65,000 was given to incoming PY1’s in scholarship.

By Rithy Tamba

The life of a pharmacy student does not always consist of studying, it also involves networking and developing relationships. Finding the opportunity to develop these relationships can be difficult. Fortunately, Loma Linda School of Pharmacy recognizes multiple student organizations and encourages students to be active members.

LLUSP has a total of 11 various campus-based student organizations, all specializing in different pharmacy areas. These organizations manage a variety of different events including clinical outreach, community service, fundraising, and networking. During the 2014-2015 academic year, the organizations raised over $3000 through several fundraisers, and developed new and continued relations with external organizations.

Professional Affairs: Another Side to Pharmacy School

By Rithy Tamba

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Leadership in the Professional Affairs Department assists the student organizations, educating them on serving others wholeheartedly to make man whole, and building their pharmacy experience and profession where competition is on the rise. The skills developed and honed through the Professional Affairs Department will set LLUSP students above the rest.
Student News

Students Provide Blood Pressure Screening for Women’s Health

For the second year, LLUSP students provided blood pressure screening in January, 2015 at the annual Women’s Conference sponsored by Loma Linda University Health. With over 1,000 women in attendance, the health screening stations were popular and busy! We thank the Women’s Conference coordinators for calling on our students for yet another outreach opportunity.

Pharmacy students Robi Cocjin and Yu-Chun Wang stayed busy helping out with blood pressure readings at the 7th annual LLUH Women’s Conference.

Pharmacy students Robi Cocjin and Yu-Chun Wang stayed busy helping out with blood pressure readings at the 7th annual LLUH Women’s Conference.

Student News

LLUSP Students and Faculty Place 3rd in 83rd Annual Postgraduate Convention (APC) Poster Session

By Ed Vulpe

A team of students under the guidance of Dr. Lee Nguyen, Assistant Professor at LLUSP, presented research on Prolonged Antibiotic Infusion to alumni, faculty, and fellow students. The APC convention is the annual School of Medicine alumni professional meeting.

LLUSP students An Nguyen, Nancy Garcia, Ayen Tran, and Alison Le were responsible for crunching large amounts of data originating from research started in 2011. The students were also responsible for abstract submission and data evaluation. After consultation with Amy Kang (P3), the students’ final product was a poster presentation of optimal findings, which placed third in the academic competition.

Though academic recognition was welcomed, professional motives were conferred. “The students presented their research posters . . . to enhance their professional development,” stated Dr. Nguyen. “We had approximately 80 poster submissions this year, all of which represented the exciting, compelling research that is being done at this institution. It was so inspiring to see this,” added Dr. Nguyen.

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APhA-ASP officers – Amy Kang, Katherine Hadikusumo, Nancy Garcia, Patricia Harding, Susan Lee – attended APhA Midyear Regional Meeting (MRM) in Arizona from October 31st to November 2nd, 2014 and represented LLUSP.

Patricia Harding presented her proposal on behalf of LLU chapter regarding instatement of rapid flu testing in community pharmacy settings to aid in reducing healthcare costs and potential misuse of antibiotics. This proposed resolution was voted to pass to the Resolutions Committee for further discussion.

Carmen Wong, patient project coordinator, received Outstanding Member recognition at MRM for successfully reinstituting Operation Diabetes to our APhA-ASP chapter by initiating collaboration with American Diabetes Association and funding from Rite Aid.

Eight first year students, David Downham, James Calma, Adrian Waslyshen, Ryan Faulconer, Anna Anscho, Natalie Dickerhoff, Vanessa Tran, and Vivi Tran, represented LLUSP at the 2015 California Pharmacy Student Leadership (CAPSLEAD) Conference in Garden Tran, California. At the conference they were engaged in activities that were just the beginning of their leadership journey in the profession. Over the next 12 months they will work as a team to explore the problem of “how to dispose of expired and unused medication in the State of California.” Their work on this project will be presented at the California Society of Health System Pharmacists Seminar meeting next October in San Diego and the 2016 California Pharmacists Association meeting in San Francisco. Drs. Zough and Kawahara serve as faculty for the CAPSLEAD program and they will mentor the eight students as they continue their leadership journey.

The Office of Professional Affairs organized student groups to compete in the 2015 Script Your Future Competition. Pharmacy students teamed up with nursing students and pre-med students to address the importance of medication adherence. Over 300 flyers were distributed, two YouTube videos were created and a total of 74 individuals “pledged to take their meds”:

http://y2u.be/oFGBO6Sybmc
http://y2u.be/1Xo0mv15m_0

Congratulations to this year’s CSHP LLUSP Quiz Bowl team. The team placed 3rd at this year’s CSHP Quiz Bowl Competition. Congratulations again to Jerry Chen, Jennifer Cho, Scott Fitter, Joseph Han, Millina Hanna, Diana Hoang, Anthony Lee, Michelle Park, Gilbert Rodriguez, Nadine Siazon, Parisa Tourgoli, and Carmen Wong!

On October 5, 2014, eight student volunteers from LLUSP participated in the Mexican Consulate Health Fair in San Bernardino. The fair provided free healthcare screenings and consultations. LLU SNPhA partnered with Walgreen’s pharmacists to administer about 500 immunizations.
Alumni Profile

Shady Mansy, Class of 2013

Family: Currently I live with my brother and parents in Las Vegas where I work.

Education: I obtained my B.S. in Pharmacological Chemistry from UC San Diego.

Professional information: I completed my residency at the VA Southern Nevada Healthcare System, where I currently work as an inpatient pharmacist. Shortly after residency, I became a board-certified pharmacotherapy specialist (BCPS). In the near future, I will be transitioning to an ambulatory care position, where I will manage patients with diabetes, hypertension and hyperlipidemia.

Why are you a pharmacist? I became a pharmacist because of my dad’s influence on me while I was growing up. He used to own a pharmacy in Egypt before my family immigrated to the U.S. I was able to see how much he was able to help people. Pharmacy practice differs in Egypt, in that people go to their pharmacists first, before their doctors, to get advice and medications for their ailments; prescriptions are only needed for select control medications only. I saw how much influence my dad had with helping his patients, and so I ended up following in his footsteps.

What do you like most about being a pharmacist? I like the vast amount of knowledge that can be attained. The field of pharmacy continues to evolve and grow with more and more discoveries, medications and breakthroughs. I like how much we are able to bring to the table as healthcare professionals.

What do you like least about being a pharmacist? All loans that I’m currently paying back.

Your best advice for aspiring pharmacists: You have to put yourself out there and continue to work hard. Be a reason for others to enjoy coming to work and keep on smiling.

Who are the mentors or role models in your life and pharmacy practice? My family members are my biggest support. My parents for giving me the opportunity to come to the United States and have a shot at success and happiness; my brother for his continued support through my pharmacy career road trip; my sister for her continual motivation.

Your best memory of LLUSP: I would have to say winning the CPhA quiz bowl with Alison, Mandeep, Reggie and Stephen. It was great bringing home the first quiz bowl cup to Loma Linda.

Your favorite faculty member at LLUSP: Dr. Florea with all her hard work as our experiential director and ID professor. I really enjoyed having her as a mentor and getting the chance to go on the Romania Medical Mission Trip twice! And Dr. Weldon as our class advisor and medicinal chemistry professor, with all the laughs and support as well as welcoming us into his home for our class Christmas party.

Hobbies and interests: I have had the chance to precept some pharmacy students here at various health fairs. I also try to go hiking around some of the national parks here in Las Vegas, such as Red Rock and Valley of Fire.

Funniest memory from pharmacy school: The Brick Awards were some of the most fun and enjoyable events that were always filled with lots of laughter.

Do you have any family members in the pharmacy career field? My dad and brother are both pharmacists.
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