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## TODAY - December 16, 2011

Loma Linda University

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THANKSGIVING CELEBRATION

# Thanksharing inspirational program draws close to 1,000 from surrounding communities

By Larry Kidder

Nearly 1,000 residents of Loma Linda and surrounding communities were on hand for the annual ThankSharing program, held at 7:30 p.m. on Saturday, November 19, at the Loma Linda University Church.

The annual event, sponsored by Loma Linda University Medical Center, brought together musical groups and bestselling author, performer, and motivational speaker Nicole Johnson for an evening designed to draw atten-

tion to organizations in the Inland Empire who provide resources and support for homeless individuals and families, as well as those who are experiencing financial and other hardships.

Performing musical numbers during the evening were Joy, a singing group from California Baptist University; Kay-C, the Kansas Avenue Youth Choir from the Kansas Avenue Seventh-day Adventist Church in Riverside; Alva (piano), Emerald (violin), and Jeremiah (cello) Waworoendeng, who provided songs arranged for piano trio as a prelude; Ariana

Anugerah on cello, Karl Reiber on violin, and Danny Wongworawat, MD, on piano, performing an arrangement of "This Is My Father's World;" Natalie Hohensee singing "Keeper of the Door," accompanied by Alva Waworoendeng on piano; and "Follow You," performed by Jon Ciccarelli (guitar and vocal), Tim Hoch (bass and vocal), Fidi Mwero (keyboard and vocal), Jaime Valdovino (electric guitar), Bryan Solderblom (keyboard), and K.C. Hohensee (drums).

Nicole Johnson provided three vignettes, titled "Boundless Love," "The Label Maker," and "Stretch Out Your Hand," illustrating her stories through drama.

Those attending the event were encouraged to make a difference for others in their community through a number of outreach opportunities, including: LLU Medical Center Volunteer Services, Excell (tutoring/mentoring), Community Kids Connection (mentoring), YMCA (coaching children's sports), Community Garden (help maintain a community garden), and Redlands Family Service Association (financial and basic life skills education).

Other opportunities include Compassion Alive, Students for International Mission Service, Maranatha Volunteers, Habitat for Humanity, the Ronald McDonald House, Helping Hands for the Hungry, Central City Lutheran Mission, Salvation Army of San Bernardino, The Rock World Outreach Center, and Angel's Closet.

Races or walks to benefit others include: Believe



Ruthita Fike, MA, chief executive officer of Loma Linda University Medical Center, welcomes those in attendance. Looking on is Gerald Winslow, PhD, vice president for mission and culture at the medical center, who gave the invocation following Ms. Fike's opening words.

Walk, Bike MS, PossAbilities Triathlon, Unforgettable Foundation, and Relay for Life.

Individuals may also choose projects through Hands On Inland Empire-United Way.

Blood may be donated through LifeStream. Care packages for soldiers or needy children can be sent through <Anysoldier.com>. Operation Christmas Child can be contacted through <samaritanspurse.org>.



Bestselling author, performer, and motivational speaker Nicole Johnson provides three inspirational vignettes from the Bible and contemporary Christian life.



Paulette Jumalon (right) and Fidi Mwero sang "Blessings," accompanied by Jed de la Paz, piano.



Kids4Christ, a group of children from the Yucaipa Christian Church, sang "He Loves Me," by Pam Andrew and Rob Howard, followed by "This is How We Know," by Rob Howard, during the program.



Those attending the 2011 Thanksharing program also brought nonperishable items to donate to Helping Hands for the Hungry, a local organization that provides food for homeless and needy individuals in surrounding communities.



COMMUNITY HEALTH SUMMIT

## Loma Linda summit encourages community planning around health

By Heather Reifsnnyder

Location often links to lifespan, and it was the School of Public Health's aim to achieve better communities for all—and thus healthier lives—through its Healthy Communities by Design Summit November 14 and 15.

Now in its second year, the conference draws local leaders, public health professionals, and community advocates. About 170 such individuals came together this year to exchange ideas on new community planning approaches that incorporate health considerations.

The difference location makes can be striking. There is one place in the Bay Area where a 1.5 mile difference in home location translates to a 15-year discrepancy in life span, according to Sandra Witt, DrPH, the summit's keynote speaker. She oversees the California Endowment's healthy community initiative in the northern half of the state.

Poor health outcomes, she says, concentrate by geography. And while income also factors into health, it is not the whole story. Inequities affect everyone, she adds.

But the good news, she offered, is that health

inequities can be addressed and prevented.

The design of healthy communities brings geographic analysis into urban and suburban

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Sandra Witt, DrPH, underscores the strong connection between place of residence and length of life—and what we can do to bring about more equity.

PHILANTHROPY

## LLU Children's Hospital receives grant from The UPS Foundation

By Nancy Yuen

Loma Linda University Children's Hospital has received a \$5,000 grant from The UPS Foundation, the charitable arm of UPS. The grant will be used to purchase new uniforms and helmets for the Children's Hospital transport team.

Nathan Rawls, human resources department, UPS, made the check presentation in late November 2011 at the headquarters for Mercy Air, at the San Bernardino International Airport. "As I talk with members of the LLU

Children's Hospital Foundation and members of the transport team," says Mr. Rawls, "I am moved as I hear stories about the many lives saved at LLU Children's Hospital. As a result of their skill and caring, members of the children's hospital transport team enable miracles to happen every day."

In 2010, The UPS Foundation distributed more than \$44.6 million worldwide through grants that benefit organizations or programs such as Loma Linda University Children's Hospital and provide support for building stronger communities.



Nathan Rawls (second from left) presented a check for \$5,000, a grant from The UPS Foundation, to Loma Linda University Children's Hospital. The funds will be used to purchase new flight uniforms and helmets for members of the LLUCH transport team. Prior to the check presentation, Mr. Rawls was given a tour of the Mercy Air helicopter used to transport critically ill infants and children to the hospital. Here, pictured with crew members from Mercy Air are Sunhwa Kim, MD, director of the transport team (wearing lab coat), and team member Renee Santiago (right), NICU transport coordinator.

POWER OF PRAYER

## Prayer in a School of Pharmacy classroom

By Stephen Vodhanel

Jack Chen, PharmD, associate professor of pharmacotherapy and outcomes science, Loma Linda University School of Pharmacy, and associate professor of neurology, School of Medicine, has a personal goal to bring a good example into each of his classes. Dr. Chen does this by offering a brief time of reflection and prayer at the start of each class. "This time of reflection and prayer is to help students and myself settle in class, quiet our minds, and shake the dust off our shoes," Dr. Chen explains.

The prayers are intentional opportunities for Dr. Chen to pray for the students, share a group moment, and enhance the learning climate. "As part of the prayer, I make it real and relevant by praying for individual student needs, student academics, and current issues or events in the pharmaceutical sciences," Dr. Chen continues.

Prayer in the classroom is a long-standing tradition and embedded into the curriculum at Loma Linda University. "Classroom prayer demonstrates a real connection with our university mission of furthering the healing and teaching ministry of Jesus Christ to make man whole," Dr. Chen adds.

A brief portion from Dr. Chen's prayer follows:

*Father God in Heaven,  
I pray that within this ministry of pharmacy  
And of the healing sciences,  
We are able to dispense with excellence  
The ointment which anoints.*

*Let us be whole and administer comfort to aching joints.*

*Let us be excellent for those we love,  
And for those that love us,  
And for those that we serve.*

*Father God, we are beautifully, distinctively,  
and wonderfully made.*

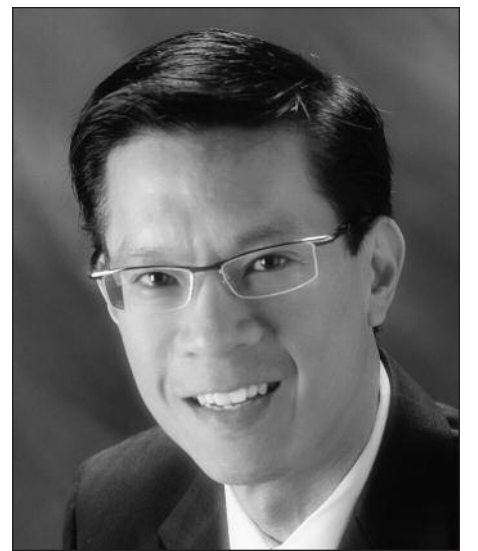
*I pray that we know this well and deeply  
In our souls.*

*Father God in Heaven,  
I know I pray for much,*

*I am but a mere person,*

*But I really do pray all of these things in your precious name,*

*The name of Christ Jesus, and the Holy Spirit,  
Amen.*



Jack Chen, PharmD

FACULTY EXCELLENCE

## Naomi Florea receives Spiritual Life Service award

By Stephen Vodhanel

Naomi Florea, PharmD, specializes in infectious diseases for the Loma Linda University School of Pharmacy. She has been named "Teacher of the Year" multiple times. Dr. Florea is now becoming known for something else—bringing her faith in God to her students and hundreds of indigent Romanian patients through mission service.

Dr. Florea began by offering an elective course called "International Mission Preparation." This course focuses on physical assessment and the many disease states the students may encounter while in rural Romania, where the majority of people have no health care. Dr. Florea then takes a group of 15 students to Romania every August, where they spend 12 hours a day in various rural clinics to treat the local populace.

Bringing hope and meaning in the midst of health care challenges in a nation where health insurance is almost non-existent was an experience many of the students will never forget.

Michael Nguyen, third-year student and Romania trip alumnus, says, "Dr. Florea makes herself vulnerable to her patients and invests all of herself into helping them. In the face of such compassion, how could one not see the face of Christ?" Anastacia Chetty, another third-year student and Romania trip alumna, remembers, "Dr. Florea made sure each and every clinic

started with a word of prayer. When patients laugh, she laughs. When they cry, she cries. Above all else she imparts to them the love of God in the way she holistically treats her patients. I am so grateful to God for putting Dr. Florea in our lives."

The School of Pharmacy fully supports the experience in the medical mission field that Dr. Florea extends to pharmacy students—especially in Romania, where the country's health care system compares more with that of the Third World than with the countries of Western Europe.



Naomi Florea, PharmD



## UNSUNG HEROES

## Sterile processing saves lives every day

By James Ponder

They may work in the basement of Loma Linda University Medical Center, but when employees of the sterile processing department say they're performing a very important function, they're not kidding.

Jean Burgdorff, MS, nurse manager of the department, says the work of washing and sterilizing surgical trays and tools to protect patients from bacterial and viral invaders is vitally important in safeguarding the health of patients and the community.

She also says it's a relentless, ongoing challenge.

"Our work is never done," Ms. Burgdorff reports. "We have people on duty 24 hours a day, seven days a week, 365 days a year. There's always more to do."

Jessica Pratt, one of the lead sterile processing technicians, nods affirmatively to that last statement, but chuckles when asked if her boss leaves the job behind at the end of the day, or takes it home with her at night.

"Jean?" she asks with an incredulous look on her face. "She leaves it here."

A moment later, she recants, and tells the truth. "Not really. She takes it home every night!"

To better demonstrate the requirements of the job, Ms. Burgdorff leads the way through the basement headquarters of the department to a large table where Nathan Spore, a sterile processing technician, and Ms. Pratt are preparing to assemble trays of instruments and supplies needed in the operating room.

When asked how members of the team handle the pressure of knowing their work is never finished, he has a ready reply.

"By doing a good job," he says, and "knowing that we're saving lives."

The life-saving aspects of the job motivate each employee in the department to put forth their best efforts on every task. Watching Mr. Spore and Ms. Pratt prepare a tray, one gets the feeling that they take the responsibility of

ensuring that safety and accuracy are never compromised very seriously.

As they prepare laparoscopy sets for sending to the operating room, the two technicians frequently consult a printed list known as a count sheet. The sheets list the total number of supplies and instruments that must be included on each tray. Then they select each item and containerize or wrap it to make sure it remains sterile during transit.

The degree of accuracy tray preparation requires is compounded by the fact that each and every procedure performed throughout the medical center requires its own count sheet. For instance, the instruments required for a circumcision tray are different from those needed for a pediatrics thoracic set or a laparoscopy set.

All told, the department maintains more than 1,440 different count sheets.

Occasionally, a technician discovers that a needed item is not available. Maybe an instrument is broken, lost, or in need of repair. When that happens, Ms. Burgdorff or a member of her team contacts the service line specialist in the receiving department to let them know that a particular tray they requested is being sent incomplete.

"That way, they can tell us if they want us to substitute a similar item until the original instrument becomes available," she observes.

As she leads the way down aisles stacked with supplies organized neatly in bins and carts, Ms. Burgdorff introduces members of her team.

"This is O'Neill Ramirez," she introduces. Mr. Ramirez turns around and says hello. "He's shelving surgical trays to send back to the unit."

The process of making sure that all deadly pathogens are killed requires Ms. Burgdorff and the members of her team to thoroughly clean, disinfect, and sterilize all reusable equipment and supplies used throughout the medical center.

"This is Melinda Harris," she says, indicating a sterile processing technician separated from the main room by a large glass window. "She cleans



Jean Burgdorff, MS, nurse manager of the sterile processing department at Loma Linda University Medical Center, and Beverly Huntsaker, sterile processing department, converse for a moment before Ms. Huntsaker delivers the sterilized flexible bronchoscope she holds in her hand to an upstairs unit where it is needed for a procedure. Filling stat orders calls for a quick response from members of the department.

and disinfects everything as it comes into the department using hot water and an enzymatic solution. The solution assists in removing blood and other matter from the instruments."

Once the instruments are clean, they are sent through the washer where hot water, at a temperature of 180 degrees Fahrenheit, renders them safe for handling.

They arrive in the prep and pack area where they are assembled for the final stage of sterilization.

The type of sterilization—defined as the complete destruction of all microbial life, including spores—used for a particular type of instrument depends on the manufacturer's instructions. Some are sterilized in hot steam at a temperature of 270 or 250 degrees Fahrenheit, some are sterilized in plasma gas (hydrogen peroxide), and a few are sent offsite for sterilization in ethylene oxide.

When asked to name all the departments the sterile processing team serves, Ms. Burgdorff

replies with a question of her own.

"You mean my customers?" she asks. "Our biggest customer is the operating room, but we also do a lot of work for the Total Care Birth Center, emergency department, radiation medicine, School of Dentistry, neonatal intensive care, diagnostic radiology, neurodiagnostic laboratory, maternal family medicine, cardiovascular laboratory, perinatal research."

She hesitates a moment before adding that she may be forgetting someone. "If so," she says, "it isn't intentional."

Given the never-ending deadlines and relentless demand of 100 percent accuracy on every job, Ms. Burgdorff remains calm and focused. She credits her employees for the success of her department. "We have a great team of employees," she concludes. "By working together, we make sure that every task is performed to the highest standards of safety and accuracy. I can't say enough about them for all they do!"

## Loma Linda summit encourages community planning around health ...

Continued from page 2

design processes that seek to promote human health. It takes into consideration whether there are safe and accessible places for adults to exercise and children to play.

It notes whether neighborhood businesses sell fruits and vegetables as opposed to only liquor and junk food. Air pollution, water quality, noise levels, and so on also factor.

In addition to Dr. Witt, there were other key speakers including Bill Davenhall, MA, who examined community design through the use of geographic information systems.

He currently manages the health and human services marketing team for Esri, a global leader in developing GIS software to help solve human problems.

Robert Ogilvie, PhD, discussed strategy and efficiency in community planning; he directs the Planning for Healthy Places program at the organization Public Health Law & Policy.

More than 20 other experts also spoke in plenary, panel, and breakout sessions.

"I hope that the summit will create a positive impact on human health within our communities through proving the value and application of geospatial technologies in community health, urban planning, and the built environment," says Seth Wiafe, MPH, GISP, director of the summit and coordinator of the school's health geoinformatics program.

The summit serves a great purpose to bring about a better reality, according to Josie Gonzales, supervisor for the fifth district of San Bernardino County.

In welcoming remarks the first day, she encouraged participants to bring policy, industry, and academia together to throw away past models and write a new prescription.

"You are the change," she said.



Nathan Spore, a sterile processing technician, prepares an instrument container for sterilization. The work Mr. Spore and his teammates perform on a daily basis calls for 100 percent accuracy without exception. When asked how he and other members of the sterile processing department handle the pressure of relentless deadlines, he replies by pointing out that a lot is riding on their performance: "By doing a good job and knowing that we're saving lives."



NEW PROGRAM AND FACILITY

# Ribbon cut for School of Dentistry's dental hygiene program in Palm Desert

By Doug Hackleman

An open house and ribbon cutting ceremony Monday afternoon November 28, 2011, at Pointe Monterey Business Park made official and visible Loma Linda University School of Dentistry's dental hygiene associate of science degree program that opened in Palm Desert on September 28, 2011.

The public, administrators, and faculty from Loma Linda University and its School of Dentistry, administrative leaders from the College of the Desert, and representatives from state, county, and city government were welcomed by Loma Linda University President Richard Hart, MD, DrPH, and the Coachella Valley's congenial winter climate: a clear and quiet 75 degrees at sundown.

School of Dentistry Dean Charles Goodacre, DDS, just returned from a trip to Israel, presided in a buoyant mood over a very optimistic associate degree launch. The eight young women who compose the program's student vanguard were all on hand to assist visitors with a tour of the 10,411-square foot, state-of-the-art space at 34-280 Gateway Drive where their training is nearly nine weeks under way.

Remarking that "Palm Desert has a proud history of being the Coachella Valley's foremost destination for higher learning," Mayor Pro Tem Robert A. Spiegel welcomed the "creation of this new associate of science degree program in dental hygiene" as "a wonderful thing for our city and for the Coachella Valley as a whole." Mr. Spiegel was particularly pleased that "local students who aspire to become dental hygienists



The first eight students accepted into LLU School of Dentistry's associate of science in dental hygiene program, shown in front of the Palm Desert facility, include (from left): Jennifer Lora, Andrea McGinty, Wendy Marquez, Brianna Gatti, Priscilla Blow, Selina Cardenas, Margine Hernandez, and Sarah Woodhead.

will be able to study and train close to home," and that "area residents will also enjoy better access to dental and oral health care through the program's new public clinic."

Administrative contributions to the program's development made by department of dental hygiene chair Kristi Wilkins, MA, and Joseph Caruso, DDS, MS, MPH, associate dean for strategic development.

On behalf of the California State Legislature, California Senator Bill Emmerson, DDS, MS (and LLU School of Dentistry alumnus), congratulated the school with a handsomely framed joint member resolution (No. 617) resolving that "they draw special attention of the public to ... the Loma Linda University dental hygiene program and clinic in Palm Desert, and point with great pride to the outstanding opportunities it will provide to its students well into the future."

The School of Dentistry's new program will matriculate 28 students annually, including a large number of students from nearby College of the Desert where many will receive their general education and biomedical science prerequisite education.

Loma Linda University professors will provide the dental hygiene science and clinical training for the program—a teaching staff of seven, including a full-time dentist and board-certified hygienists.

Dean Goodacre recognized the essential admin-



California State Senator (and LLUSD alumnus) Bill Emmerson and School of Dentistry Dean Charles Goodacre display the California Legislature's joint member resolution (No. 617) commending the school for opening its dental hygiene associate of science degree program in Palm Desert.



Late afternoon view of Loma Linda University School of Dentistry's dental hygiene associate of science degree program housed in 10,411 square feet of the Pointe Monterey Business Park, at 34-280 Gateway Drive, in Palm Desert.



School of Dentistry Dean Charles Goodacre, Palm Desert Mayor Pro Tem Robert A. Spiegel, and LLU President Richard Hart celebrate the occasion.



Pictured above are some of the new clinic's 17 operatories.



## MILESTONES

## 5+5+0=10: School of Pharmacy celebrates 550th white coat student

By Stephen Vodhanel

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 3, 2011.

"You may ask why the 550th? Well, here is the math: 5+5+0=10 to commemorate the school's 10th anniversary," says school Dean Billy Hughes. "Consequently, the 550th student represented this important milestone."

Of Armenian descent with both parents coming from Yerevan, Armenia, Marie attended the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA), where she majored in psychobiology and was exposed to the value of pharmacists and their role in the health system.

Attraction to study at Loma Linda University School of Pharmacy for Marie came when she missed the small atmosphere of her Armenian high school while at UCLA. "Going to UCLA

was a different experience for me since I did not have the closeness with my classmates. The atmosphere of a smaller university, where long-term relationships are an important part of the curriculum—along with the unique and distinctive aspects of strong cultural and religious ties, are what attracted me to Loma Linda University," explains Marie.

Also, Marie is well on her path of serving the medical community by having volunteered at a small community pharmacy in Los Angeles. And, while attending UCLA, Marie co-founded a pre-health organization called "Healthy Bruins," which aided and encouraged other students to enter the medical profession.

During the 2011–2012 academic year, the School of Pharmacy will commemorate its 10th anniversary with many celebratory events, and 550 white coat students represent an important milestone along the way.

The School of Pharmacy 10th anniversary celebration will take place April 12, 2012.



Presenting the scholarship to Marie Hovespian (center), class of 2015, is Billy Hughes, PhD (left), Loma Linda University School of Pharmacy dean, and Paul Norris, PharmD, associate dean for clinical affairs.

## ENROLLMENT NEWS

## Enrollment soars in School of Allied Health Professions

By Heather Reifsnyder

There was extra cause to celebrate at LLU during National Allied Professions Week, observed November 6–12: a record number of students are studying this fall in the School of Allied Health Professions. With an all-time enrollment high of 1,176, LLU's biggest school just got bigger.

Arabia. "I felt like I learned a lot from it and enjoyed it. The good thing about Sputum Bowl is that it helps your critical thinking. As a practitioner, at the bedside, when you want to recall something, you will recall it immediately."

The team had study help from coach Alan Alipoon, instructor in the university's cardiopulmonary sciences program and manager of education in the department of respiratory care services at LLU Medical Center.

In addition to the competition for practicing professionals, the Sputum Bowl also has a separate student match. Mr. Alipoon and Michael Terry coordinate the student competition for Southern California. Crafton Hills College advanced through two rounds in California earlier this year, winning the chance to represent the state in Tampa. Like their practitioner counterparts at Loma Linda, these teammates also took the national title.

Loma Linda University respiratory care students, who also competed in the local competition last April, now get to hear even more about the bowl since Mr. Alismail became an instructor as of fall quarter 2011. He tries to spur their critical thinking and encourage them to compete next year.

As for the winning Loma Linda practitioners, they are barred from competing again for two years due to bowl regulations.

"I would like to mentor other teams, if possible, while in retirement," says Mr. Baldwin. "After all, learning and gaining knowledge are a lifelong process."

"It is exciting that our enrollment, year after year, continues to climb," says Craig Jackson, JD, MSW, dean of the school. "It is a combination of exceptional programs taught by exceptional faculty and taking advantage of the growth in health care."

"God has blessed our school, and we give Him all the glory; and we will stay committed to our unique focus on service and mission," he adds. "That, we believe, is what attracts students to Loma Linda University."

The school celebrated National Allied Health Professions Week by showing appreciation to its students, faculty, and staff with a fourth-annual lunch meal Monday on the lawn behind Nichol Hall, as well as other gestures.

"Each year our school takes time to celebrate National Allied Health Professions Week and the commitment of all allied health professionals to the healing of broken lives," says Dr. Jackson. "It is an expression of our commitment to our motto 'to make man whole.' It is our way of saying thank you."

Allied health students in the school's nine departments are learning to help patients breathe, speak, function, move, and heal. Their testing and imaging skills will help physicians accurately diagnose conditions and injuries.

They will manage the health information systems vital to patient care.

The School of Allied Health Professions offers roughly 50 associate's, bachelor's, doctoral, and certificate programs through its departments of:

- Cardiopulmonary sciences
- Clinical laboratory science
- Communication sciences and disorders
- Health information management
- Nutrition and dietetics
- Occupational therapy
- Physical therapy
- Physician assistant sciences
- Radiation technology.

## CLINICAL EXCELLENCE

## Respiratory care team wins national championship

By Heather Reifsnyder

Quick memory recall can save patients' lives when every second counts. Four respiratory therapists from Loma Linda University and LLU Medical Center proved their rapid accuracy in winning the national Sputum Bowl, held at the 57th International Respiratory Convention and Exhibition, November 5–8, in Tampa, Florida.

Representing California, the Loma Linda team bested Maryland, Minnesota, New York, Pennsylvania, Utah, and Washington, D.C., to take first place. The four Loma Linda competitors were Shannon Cocilova, Abdullah Alismail, Michael Terry, and team captain Stan Baldwin.

"I was in shock and awe. It was better than any sporting event that I have been to in person," says Mr. Baldwin, a supervisor of education at LLU Medical Center, and an assistant professor at Loma Linda University. "Our goal

is for people to immediately associate Loma Linda with the best education, knowledge, and expertise."

To compete nationally, the team had to first win the California championship in May 2011. The four competitors then intensified study levels ahead of the November nationals, coming together weekly on their own time to tackle about 15 knowledge categories including biochemistry, microbiology, and physics.

The motivation of knowledge, and not just winning, kept the team going, according to Mr. Alismail, who is studying for an MS in health care professions education in the School of Allied Health Professions. A 2010 alumnus of the school's respiratory care program, he also recently completed his residency at LLU Medical Center, where he met all his teammates.

"It has to be a voluntary thing," says Mr. Alismail, an international student from Saudi



The trophy is so big it takes all four of the winning team members to hold it. From left are Stan Baldwin, Abdullah Alismail, Shannon Cocilova, and Michael Terry. This large trophy remains property of the American Association for Respiratory Care. The take-home version is a more manageable size, as shown by Mr. Baldwin. The winning score, seen above, was 18 to 11.



INTERNATIONAL OUTREACH

## Student's South Sudan experience highlights need for LLU involvement

By Heather Reifsnnyder

When the local health clinic is a table under a tree, a sick or injured individual will often fare badly. But such is the situation for some in the Republic of South Sudan. So witnessed global health student Diane Garcia-Gonzales during her three-week field practicum.

She advised a team of local individuals who were assessing health care facilities in the state of Warrap—part of a Loma Linda University project to create a geospatial information system that integrates environmental and socioeconomic data with the capabilities and locations of health- and community-based facilities. The team was surveying information such as staffing, the availability of medication, condition of buildings and medical equipment, referral capacity, and specific types of health care services provided.

“Very few facilities had much to work with,” says Ms. Garcia-Gonzales.

LLU School of Public Health is part of a consortium carrying out the Southern Sudan Health, Nutrition, and Empowerment program, funded with \$50 million from the U.S. Agency for International Development. The lead organization on the grant is the nonprofit Adventist Development and Relief Agency International (ADRA), and the goal is to improve health, nutrition, and empowerment for women and children under 5.

Ms. Garcia-Gonzales didn't hesitate to become involved when presented with the opportunity to participate in this project. In addition to the MPH she is pursuing in global health, she is also earning a certificate in health geoinformatics. Her experience in South Sudan brought both of these fields together.

“All of these health facilities were just packed,” says Ms. Garcia-Gonzales, who noted malaria to be one major health problem impacting the area. Most of the facilities only had one type of anti-malaria medication to offer—problematic if a patient is resistant to that particular drug—and only one or two were distributing mosquito bed nets to prevent additional cases.

Landing in the capital of Juba for preparatory work, Ms. Garcia-Gonzales then traveled far north to areas largely inaccessible and strife-ridden. She went as far as the small settlement of Turalei, damaged during decades of civil war between northern and southern Sudan. Most recently, Turalei has seen an influx of refugees fleeing violence in the disputed Abeyei border region. At times the violence can even touch Turalei directly.

“I thought I was prepared for what I'd see, but I definitely was underprepared even with as much studying and research as I did,” she says. “The conditions were extremely harsh, and it was just an overall very tough region to be in. There were a lot of very hungry people, and the resources even for the humanitarian workers were minimal.”

As technical adviser for the field surveyors, Ms. Garcia-Gonzales solved issues such as difficulties they were experiencing with their GPS units.

The Turalei area is only accessible via foot or the specialized Land Cruiser vehicles used by humanitarian organizations. With much of the region under water this time of year, the workers could not walk. Even with a Land Cruiser, multiple health facilities couldn't be reached. Of 73 facilities, more than 20 were inaccessible due to flooding.

After the fieldwork, Ms. Garcia-Gonzales



Diane Garcia-Gonzales washes her hands in the relative luxury of a water pump in the capital of Juba. As she visited the northern reaches of the country, conditions deteriorated significantly. Much of the remote region she visited was a swampy flood land where residents live in mud and thatch huts.



Limited resources lead to health care improvisation, as illustrated by this tree holding intravenous lines for these malaria patients at a clinic in the South Sudan state of Warrap.

empowerment for women and young children.

Poverty levels, agricultural capabilities, geography, and demographics will be integrated along with information such as airfields, major roads, and administrative boundaries.

“By applying geospatial technologies to this project, we can share information that will promote food security to benefit the people of South Sudan,” says Seth Wiafe, MPH, project lead at LLU and director of the university's health geoinformatics programs.

LLU's role in this project will last two years, after which the geospatial information system will be updated and used by ADRA, the U.S. Agency for International Development, and other project partners in their efforts to improve quality of life in South Sudan.

spent more time in Juba digitizing the collected data and integrating the GPS coordinates and photos of the facilities. Now, during her final quarter of coursework, she is completing data analysis.

The results will guide ADRA in distributing funds and resources to improve health care in Warrap. Another state, Northern Bahr el Ghazal, is also being surveyed.

Though Ms. Garcia-Gonzales' specific portion of the overall project concentrates on health care, the geospatial database LLU is creating will integrate data also collected by ADRA and fellow collaborators at Johns Hopkins University addressing issues of food security and

INTERNATIONAL OUTREACH

## School of Medicine welcomes displaced medical students from Puerto Rico

By James Ponder

Loma Linda University School of Medicine (LLUSM) recently welcomed 15 medical students from the San Juan Bautista (SJB) School of Medicine in Caguas, Puerto Rico, after that institution lost its accreditation on October 3 of this year for failing to provide adequate clinical resources for students.

On learning that the closure stranded 275 medical students with no place to continue their studies, Roger Hadley, MD, dean of LLU School of Medicine, responded to the Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC) and offered to help. He dispatched a team of five faculty members—Daisy De Leon, PhD, Tammi Thomas, MD, Paul Herrmann, MD, PhD, Carlos Casiano, PhD, and Marino De Leon, PhD—to Puerto Rico to interview the students from October 19 to 21.

“We got the news that our school lost its accreditation in a text message from one of my friends on October 3,” says Carla Perez, a junior. “The news spread like wildfire! The

school didn't break it to us until the next day, but by then, everybody knew.”

The loss of accreditation meant the students could no longer take United States licensing board exams or apply to residency programs in the U.S. Instead, SJB graduates would only be allowed to practice as generalists in Puerto Rico.

The October 3 termination letter from the Liaison Committee on Medical Education (LCME)—the accrediting body for medical schools in the United States, Canada, and Puerto Rico—contained a ray of hope for SJB students affected by the decision.

“The AAMC will be notified of this decision,” the letter informed. “In the past, the AAMC has assisted displaced students seeking to transfer to an LCME-accredited program. We believe similar assistance will be provided to SJB students who seek it.”

The students didn't exactly sit around waiting for something to happen. They reached out to

Please turn to page 7



Third-year medical students Carla Perez (left) and Sarah Beck are two of the 15 Puerto Rican students who recently transferred to Loma Linda University School of Medicine from San Juan Bautista School of Medicine in Caguas, Puerto Rico.



## School of Medicine welcomes displaced medical students from Puerto Rico ...

Continued from page 6  
the AAMC and were instructed to refer to the organization's website for a list of frequently asked questions. They didn't need a second invitation.

"AAMC put up a website," recalls Sarah Beck, also a junior, "with a list of schools that were willing to consider transfer students. We

applied to every school we could. Loma Linda was the first to offer a decision."

According to Daisy De Leon, PhD, assistant to the dean for diversity, "A total of 59 students applied to Loma Linda University School of Medicine, 42 completed the secondary application, and we interviewed 22 students."

Dr. De Leon adds that nine third-year, two fourth-year, and four deferred third-year students were eventually selected for transfer to LLU School of Medicine.

The process of interviewing the prospective transfer students took a considerable amount of time.

"They came to Puerto Rico and interviewed us," Sarah Beck shares. "We each had three interviews of 20 to 40 minutes duration. I had heard

about Loma Linda before because David Jaspers, the husband of my good friend from Michigan, is a third-year student here."

Carla Perez had also heard of Loma Linda University before, but knew relatively little about the school until the accreditation crisis forced her to look for a new place to study.

"A week later," Ms. Perez informs, "on Wednesday, October 26, we learned that we had been accepted to LLUSM. We were very excited, and felt a great sense of relief!"

The accepted transfer students began arriving on the campus of LLU a day or two before orientation scheduled for Wednesday, November 2. They dove headfirst into the process of acclimating to their new school, community, and—for some of the students—nation. One of the first obstacles ahead of them is catching up academically to their peers in the School of Medicine.

"We were told we're about 20 weeks behind the Loma Linda students," Ms. Perez reports. "However, they hope we can make up the difference before we graduate. It depends on how competitive our choice of specialty is. In some cases, it might be best to take a little extra time and do research."

When asked about her future plans, Ms. Beck says she's considering ophthalmology or dermatology for her specialty, and adds that she's excited about the clinical opportunities LLUSM affords.

"I particularly want to work with Hispanic patients," she says. "It's not very diverse where I'm from in Northern Michigan, but here in Loma Linda, I will have plenty of opportunities to work with a large Hispanic population."

Ms. Perez plans to pursue pediatrics or pediatric gastroenterology as her specialty. She is particularly excited about the opportunities for global service offered at Loma Linda through organizations like Students for International Mission Service (SIMS). With Ms. Beck, she believes the physician of the future will need to be bilingual and culturally literate in order to minister to the needs of patients in the context of trends that are currently altering the demographic and social landscape of America.

According to Dr. Hadley, LLUSM has assimilated students from two other closed medical schools: the first was the University of Southern California in 1920, and the second was Oral Roberts University in 1989.

"The story of the Good Samaritan informs us that when we see a person in need, we should stop and help them, and find a place for them to stay," he says.

Dr. Hadley notes that the Loma Linda University School of Medicine has trained more than 10,000 graduates, and is recognized as a national leader in educating future doctors for Christian service.

Carlos Casiano, PhD, associate director of the Center for Health Disparities and Molecular Medicine, says the story is particularly rewarding to members of the faculty team who went to Puerto Rico to interview potential transfer students.

"To see them now at LLUSM as our own  
Please turn to page 10

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## NATIONAL RECOGNITION

## Nutrition professor to serve as advisor for development of federal dietary guidelines

By Heather Reifsnnyder

Loma Linda University may help influence the national dietary guidelines issued every five years by the U.S. Department of Agriculture and the Department of Health and Human Services.

Nutrition department chair Joan Sabaté, MD, DrPH, has been invited to serve as one of a six-member expert workgroup that advises the USDA Nutrition Evidence Library in analyzing dietary patterns and their resulting health outcomes.

The group is working in preparation of 2015, when the next set of guidelines will be issued. The USDA invited Dr. Sabaté to participate



Joan Sabaté, MD, DrPH, chair of the School of Public Health department of nutrition, will serve with a six-member expert workgroup to help advise the USDA Nutrition Evidence Library.

because of his expertise on vegetarian diets and their link to health. Of the six experts, he is the only vegetarian.

"I'm happy that our knowledge acquired by studying vegetarians in general, and in particular Adventists, could be used to inform policy in this country," says Dr. Sabaté. "I hope that many will learn about the health effects of a vegetarian diet and incorporate it into their lifestyle."

Through LLU's Adventist Health Studies, researchers including Dr. Sabaté have noted numerous health benefits in vegetarians as compared to meat-eaters, such as lower body weight, blood lipids, blood pressure, incidence of diabetes, and cases of fatal heart attack.

There is also evidence that vegetarians may have a lower risk of certain cancers, including colon and bladder cancers.

These benefits align exactly with the USDA's stated goals of the nutritional guidelines: improved health, reduced chronic disease, and reduced obesity and overweight.

The 2010 guidelines placed a greater focus than before on the importance of overall dietary patterns consumed on average over time, recognizing vegetarian and vegan lifestyles as one option. They also mentioned Mediterranean-style diets and nutrition programs such as DASH, which aim to address issues like hypertension.

"Around the world and within the United States, people make strikingly different food choices and have different diet-related health outcomes," the guidelines state. "Although the study of eating patterns is complex, evidence from international scientific research has identi-

fied various eating patterns that may provide short-and long-term health benefits, including a reduced risk of chronic disease."

Dr. Sabaté hopes the benefits of the vegetarian eating pattern will come to increased light as the scientists of the Nutrition Evidence Library scour research on various patterns in order to develop the scientific basis for the 2015 recommendations.

As part of the team advising the Nutrition Evidence Library, Dr. Sabaté will offer guidance on questions to be addressed, which research merits consideration, interpretation of evidence, and so on. This will take about two years.

The overall goal is to determine how different dietary patterns link to health, including factors such as total mortality, cardiovascular disease, stroke, and hypertension.

## PUBLIC HEALTH

## Leading public health educator speaks at Loma Linda University



Harrison Spencer, MD, MPH, spoke to faculty, students, and staff of the School of Public Health during a special visit to campus on November 10. Dr. Spencer is president and CEO of the Association of Schools of Public Health. He discussed the state of public health education in the country and plans for the future.

## RESEARCH EXCELLENCE

## Loma Linda University researcher joins team at Duke University

By Heather Reifsnnyder

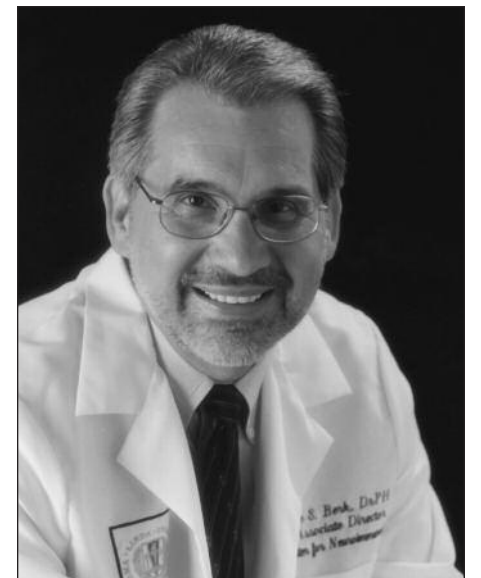
The Duke University Center for Spirituality, Theology and Health has invited Lee S. Berk, DrPH, to serve as a non-resident faculty scholar. Dr. Berk is an associate professor in the School of Allied Health Professions and associate research professor in the School of Medicine.

Having studied the health benefits of laughter for more than 20 years, Dr. Berk brings his expertise on mind-body interconnectedness and psychoneuroimmunology to the Center for Spirituality, Theology and Health.

The center strives to further knowledge of the interplay between religion and health via research, the training of new researchers and clinicians in the field, and discussions on the implications and applications of findings to theology, society, and the clinical setting.

Dr. Berk's new position builds upon his history of dialogue and collaboration with Harold G. Koenig, MD, director of the Center for Spirituality, Theology and Health. In extending this invitation, Dr. Koenig expressed his desire to solidify Dr. Berk's relationship with the center.

"Dr. Berk's contribution to our center's research has been essential to the success of our studies examining abnormal hormonal and immune system changes that occur in depression, and in



Lee Berk, DrPH

particular, the role that religious involvement may play in reversing those changes," says Dr. Koenig.

Dr. Berk looks forward to working closely with the center.

"It is my hope that as we continue to expand our understanding of the relationship between religion, spirituality, and health here at Loma Linda, that we enhance the research and academic collaboration between the Center for Spirituality, Theology and Health at Duke and Loma Linda University," says Dr. Berk.

## ADVENTIST HEALTH STUDY

## NAACP recognizes Adventist Health Studies for minority health research

By Jennifer Frehn

Adventist Health Studies of Loma Linda University School of Public Health has been recognized for its contributions in building a healthy community by the San Bernardino Branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP).

The "Outstanding Health Institution" award was presented October 27 at the San Bernardino branch of the NAACP's annual Freedom Fund Dinner. The theme for the event was "Health Education and Prevention: A Passport to Healthy Lifestyles."

"We were delighted to receive this award in recognition of our contribution to minority health research, and I felt honored when asked to accept this award on behalf of the School of Public Health and the study," says Patti Herring, PhD, MA, who is the director of black recruitment for Adventist Health Study-2 and an associate professor at Loma Linda University School of Public Health.

Adventist Health Studies also received certificates of recognition of the award from the Cali-

fornia State Senate, the California Legislature 62nd Assembly District, and San Bernardino County Fifth District Supervisor Josie Gonzales.

Adventist Health Studies are long-term studies that explore the links between diet, lifestyle, and disease in Seventh-day Adventists. Adventist Health Study-2 is the latest study, which has 96,000 participants, including 26,000 black participants. As one of the largest health studies of blacks, it aims to determine ways to prevent lifestyle-related disease in the black community. Already Adventist Health Study-2's research has shown that following a vegetarian diet significantly reduced the risk of diabetes in blacks, who are twice as likely to be diagnosed with diabetes when compared to non-Hispanic whites.

In addition, to increase access to healthy foods, Dr. Herring and her graduate students have started several community gardens in the San Bernardino area this year.

To read more about Adventist Health Studies' research and activities, visit <adventisthealthstudy.org>.



## PHILANTHROPY

## Grateful dad pledges portion of his real estate income to LLU Children's Hospital

By Nancy Yuen

In 2007, shortly after her birth, Jessica Goldsmith was transferred to Loma Linda University Children's Hospital. Baby Jessica had been born with a heart defect, and cardiothoracic surgeon Leonard Bailey, MD, performed two surgeries on her to correct coarctation—a narrowing—of the aorta. The surgeries were successful. Jessica thrived, and is now an adorable 4 year old.

"The experience," says Jessica's dad, Martin Goldsmith, "made me realize that life is not about how much I work, but how much time I can offer my family." A successful paramedic before Jessica and her younger brother were born, Martin transitioned into real estate, and now works with Century 21 Beachside covering all of Southern California.

Never forgetting the role LLUCH played in

saving his daughter's life, Martin recently contacted the LLU Children's Hospital Foundation wanting to start a fund in his daughter's honor, pledging a portion of his commissions to Loma Linda University Children's Hospital.

Martin has also teamed up with Nagy Riad with Wells Fargo Home Mortgage. Through Well Fargo's Sharing Advantage Program, \$300 of each home mortgage closed will go directly to LLU Children's Hospital.

On November 9, 2011, they delivered their first check to the foundation. And so the Jessica Marie Fund begins.

Martin hopes this first donation is just the start to many donations in his daughter's honor, providing hope and healing to children like Jessica. To find out more information on ways to support the Jessica Marie Fund at LLUCH, contact Tiffany Hoekstra at (909) 558-3528.



Thankful for the lifesaving care provided to his daughter, Jessica, at LLU Children's Hospital when she was a newborn, Martin Goldsmith has started the Jessica Marie Fund. Martin has pledged to donate a portion of his commission to provide hope and healing to children at LLU Children's Hospital.

## FACULTY EXCELLENCE

## Dr. Neal Johnson receives Arthur A. Dugoni Faculty Award

By Doug Hackleman

Neal Johnson, PhD, DDS, associate professor, department of oral diagnosis, radiology, and pathology, is the most recent recipient of the \$5,000 annual Dr. Arthur A. Dugoni Faculty Award.

The endowment and scholarship were developed by the California Dental Association in honor of Dr. Dugoni's remarkable accomplishments in organized dentistry and many contributions to dental education in California, and to support individuals who contribute to the scholarly and creative activities of California dental schools through direct contact with students.

After reviewing a pool of applications and accompanying letters of recommendation, the CDA's scholarship committee chose Dr. Johnson for this year's award.

He is grateful for a very complimentary letter to the committee written on his behalf by Ronald Dailey, PhD, executive associate dean, School of Dentistry, that he suspects was instrumental in his selection.

A native of Barbados, Dr. Johnson has a passion for helping students learn, and, as a consequence, he loves to acquire new ways to assist students with their learning.

Dr. Johnson's desire to learn seems almost congenital. He was, from his first memories, driven to assimilate knowledge.

He is the first person in his family to earn a college education, surmounting considerable hardship by sleeping for months on the floor of a rented room in Kingston, Jamaica, while earning the bachelor of science degree he received in medical technology from Northern Caribbean University in 1996. (His parents, now both nurses, followed him with college degrees.)

Following graduation, Dr. Johnson remained at Northern Caribbean University for three years as an instructor in the school's department of medical technology and director of its clinical

practicum to teach such subjects as hematology, immunohematology, immunology, and chemical pathology to undergraduate students while organizing student clinical internships at various hospitals in Jamaica.

Dr. Johnson entered a Loma Linda University Graduate School doctoral program in 2000. As a graduate student, he supervised the research of microbiology master's students and taught the same subject to second-year medical students, before receiving his PhD in microbiology and molecular genetics in 2004.

With his doctorate in hand, Dr. Johnson joined the Loma Linda University School of Dentistry as associate professor in the department of oral diagnosis, radiology, and pathology, teaching microbiology, immunology, and pathology to students in the School of Dentistry's various programs.

What was out of the ordinary about Dr. Johnson's initial presence on the School of Dentistry's faculty was that he simultaneously enrolled as a first-year dental student and graduated with his doctor of dental surgery degree in 2008.

Previous to his Arthur A. Dugoni Faculty Award, Dr. Johnson has twice been honored with the Loma Linda University Chancellor's Award (2004, 2008), has received the Pierre Fauchard Award for Leadership (2007), was inducted into the Omicron Kappa Upsilon Honor Society (2008), and is author of articles published in five different peer-reviewed scientific journals.

Beyond his teaching duties, Dr. Johnson participates in recruiting trips on behalf of the school, chairs the School of Dentistry's research committee, sits on the board of the Center for Dental Research, and serves as a particularly probing referee during the judging of the annual student research project presentations.

Most recently, Dr. Johnson was elected chair of the Loma Linda University School of Dentistry's Faculty Council and appointed to the university's Faculty of Graduate Studies.

## MORE PHILANTHROPY

## Sam's Club employees donate toward children's hospital Safe Kids program

By Nancy Yuen

It's a special thing that businesses do—helping to make their communities stronger by giving back.

And that's what Sam's Club in San Bernardino has done. The store has provided a \$2,000 grant to Loma Linda University Children's Hospital for its Safe Kids program. The funds will be used to purchase car safety seats for infants and children.

Michael Bautista, grants officer, accepted the \$2,000 grant from Stephanie Moreno, Sam's Club membership marketing manager. The presentation was made during a staff meeting for Sam's Club employees, so that they could learn about how their store is helping LLU Children's Hospital assist families, keeping children in their community safe.

Mr. Bautista spoke about the importance of car seats in preventing injuries and revealed a fact that many parents don't know: every car seat has an expiration date.

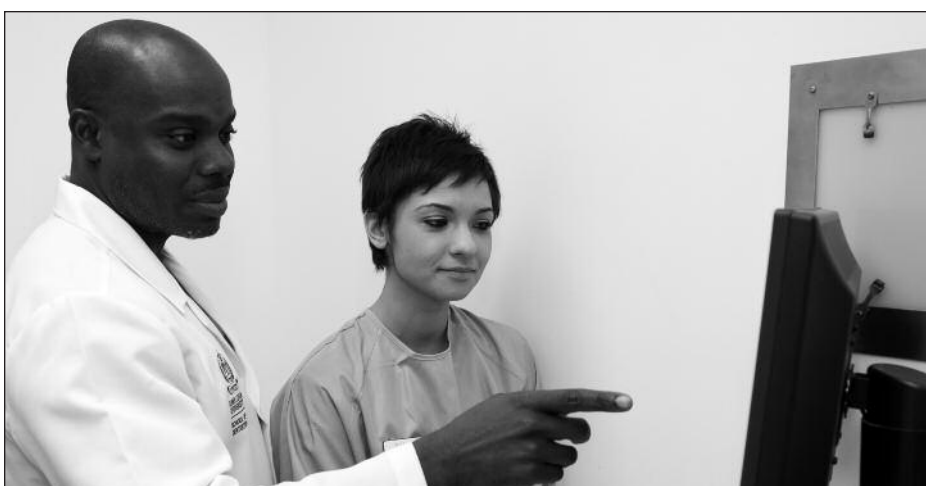
Ms. Moreno and Louie Landeros, general manager for the San Bernardino Sam's Club, are committed to supporting Children's

Hospital, now and in the future, as an important resource in the community to help kids stay healthy and to live strong.

Sam's Club in San Bernardino has 32,634 members. It serves the cities of Loma Linda and Redlands. Members also reside in Apple Valley, Big Bear, and Victor Valley.



Sam's Club employees donate toward the Safe Kids program.



Dr. Johnson mentors class of 2013 dental student Eva Baciu.



NEW PROGRAM AND FACILITIES

## Vegetarian diet and physical activity protect against diabetes for black population, according to Adventist Health Study-2

By Jennifer Frehn

New Loma Linda University research shows that following a vegetarian diet and exercising at least three times a week significantly reduced the risk of diabetes in African Americans, who are twice as likely to be diagnosed with diabetes compared to non-Hispanic whites.

"These findings are encouraging for preventing type 2 diabetes in the black population, which is more susceptible to the disease than other populations," says Serena Tonstad, MD, a professor in the School of Public Health and lead author of the research, published in the October issue of *Nutrition, Metabolism, & Cardiovascular Diseases*.

In addition to being at a greater risk for devel-

oping diabetes, black persons in the U.S. are also more likely to suffer from diabetes-related complications, such as end-stage renal disease and lower-extremity amputations, according to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

"A vegetarian diet may be a way to counteract the increased diabetes risk for the black population," Dr. Tonstad says.

Dr. Tonstad's research showed that, compared to non-vegetarian blacks, vegan blacks had a 70 percent reduced risk of diabetes, and lacto-ovo vegetarian blacks (those who consume dairy, but no meat) had a 53 percent reduced risk of diabetes. Dr. Tonstad says one explanation was the protection associated with foods typically consumed in higher amounts in a vege-

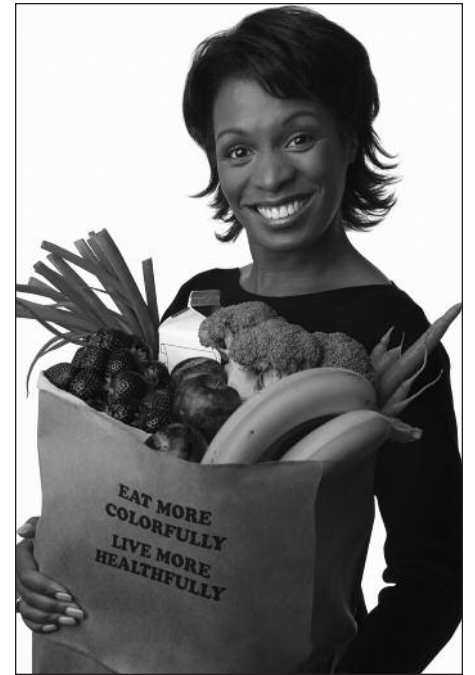
tarian diet. Fruits and vegetables have a high fiber content, which may contribute to a decreased occurrence of type 2 diabetes. In addition, whole grains and legumes (beans) have been shown to improve glycemic control and slow the rate of carbohydrate absorption and the risk of diabetes.

The study also showed that black participants who exercised three or more times a week, compared to once a week or never, had a 35 percent reduced risk of diabetes.

The findings used prospective data (following persons over time) of 7,172 black Seventh-day Adventists participating in LLU's Adventist Health Study-2. Adventists are a Protestant religious group promoting vegetarianism and advocating abstinence from tobacco and alcohol, which results in less confounding (distortions) when studying associations between diet and disease. Participants were given a questionnaire that asked how often they consumed 130 foods and food groups. Participants were then categorized into a dietary category (vegan, lacto-ovo vegetarian, etc.) based on their responses.

The study also analyzed data of 34,215 non-black Adventists and found similar protections against diabetes for a vegetarian diet. These findings confirm results from past cross-sectional research (examining persons at one point in time) that showed a vegetarian diet offered protection against diabetes.

This research was funded in part by a grant from the National Institutes of Health.



HEALTHY PEOPLE 2012

## School of Public Health calls for posters for Healthy People 2012

By Heather Reifsnyder

The School of Public Health is accepting posters for its annual Healthy People prevention and lifestyle conference. The 2012 conference, slated for March 5 to 7, focuses on healthy aging.

Because lifestyle factors threaten the public's health and longevity, the conference will define 10 lifestyle priorities that promote aging well and living whole. It will demonstrate how the systems approach to health care maximizes prevention efforts.

Posters should be submitted by January 15, 2012, and support current evidence for prevention and/or effective strategies implemented to drive significant improvement in the public's health. Recommendations for policy and program development, with preference given to sustainable efforts impacting large numbers of people, will also be considered.

Posters will be categorized into the following lifestyle priority areas, inspired by the Surgeon General's National Prevention Strategy, as well

as decades of federally funded lifestyle research at Loma Linda University.

1. Healthy eating
2. Active living
3. Prioritizing rest (more than just sleep)
4. Mental and emotional well-being
5. Creating health-sustaining environments
6. Preventing substance and alcohol abuse
7. Stress reduction
8. Reproductive and sexual health
9. Social support networks
10. Spiritual support

Presenters will be notified of acceptance by February 1. If selected, presenters are responsible for all conference expenses, including travel and registration (at the student rate of \$75, or \$125 if continuing education credit is desired).

For questions, call (909) 558-4595 or e-mail Christine Peterson at <cpeterson@llu.edu>. To submit your poster for consideration, visit <www.llu.edu/public-health/cpe/healthy-people/2012/poster.page>. General conference information is available at <www.healthy-peopleconference.org>.



Healthy aging is the topic of the 2012 Healthy People conference, which will be held March 5 to 7. Conference organizers are accepting poster submissions now through January 15.

## School of Medicine welcomes displaced medical students from Puerto Rico ...

Continued from page 7

students brings a lot of joy, and the satisfaction that our school has given them hope and is saving their medical careers," he notes. "While still a little apprehensive and overwhelmed because of the drastic changes in their lives, these students are elated and extremely grateful to LLUSM and to God for the new opportunity given to them. They, and a lot of people in Puerto Rico and other places, are speaking very highly of LLUSM for the quick, smooth, and

compassionate way this 'rescue operation' was conducted."

Speaking for all 15 of the newest LLUSM students, senior Angie Lastra, who also recently arrived in Loma Linda, says, "It's a blessing to be here. We felt like it was the end of the world when our school closed, but now we are glad to be here.

"We are eternally grateful!" she concludes.

## HRM collects food for underserved San Bernardino County residents ...

Continued from page 12

in front of the building, the boxes almost completely obscured the windows. Ms. Wilson called for a count. When it was completed, she announced that a total of 98 boxes had been collected. Now the burning question was which team had collected the most food for SACHS.

After the numbers were handed to her, Ms. Wilson announced the winner. "The winning team," she said, "brought in a total of 26 boxes of food and supplies." To their excitement and the consternation of the five other teams, the Cheerful Givers learned that they had once again won the prize.

To show that they were good sports and demonstrate that the real purpose of the friendly rivalry was to gather food to help the poor of the community, members of the other teams joined Ms. Wilson and the Cheerful Givers for a group photo in front of the stacks of boxes. Moments later, they all pitched in to load the collected goods onto three trucks and haul them to SACHS.

When the human resource management envoy arrived at SACHS, Nancy Young, SACHS executive director, and several members of her

staff came out to thank the generous team members in person. Ms. Wilson had told Ms. Young the group was coming over, but she hadn't told her how much to expect. Ms. Wilson reports that when Ms. Young and her team saw three trucks pull up and unload 98 large boxes of food items for the underserved, they choked up with gratitude and joy.

Ms. Wilson notes that in that moment, the importance of service came full circle for members of the human resource management team. It reminded her of a statement from William George Jordan in *The Crown of Individuality*: "wealth could not buy the very things the world hungers for most—love, kindness, calmness, inspiration, peace, trust, truth, and justice. The greatest gift the individual can give the world is personal service."

When asked about the project outcome, Ms. Wilson explained that "All of us have issues, but somehow, when we start giving back to mankind, our own problems don't seem so great." She believes that her department is a department of service. "I wanted to instill in them the philosophy and importance of being servants to all those around us by being servant leaders and cheerful givers," she concludes.



## Tom Rockwell's connections to the past, present, and future ...

Continued from page 12  
the hunch was right on the money.

According to the Smithsonian Institution's Dennis Stanford, PhD, the excavation of the Rockwell property proved hugely important.

Dr. Stanford, who directs the Paleoindian/paleoecology program at the Smithsonian, says the Farpoint site—as the Rockwell property came to be known—represents a significant breakthrough in the understanding of the prehistoric Clovis Culture, which survived by hunting mastodons, woolly mammoths, bison, and other large mammals thousands of years ago.

"The discovery of a Clovis-age occupation at the site is extremely important not only for the local archaeological record, but for understanding the earliest prehistory of the Americas," Dr. Stanford says.

Dr. Stanford pinpoints the locus of excitement over the discovery at its geographical location. "Until the discovery of the Farpoint site, no *in situ* Clovis age sites are known along the west coast of the Americas," he writes.

Because of its Stone Age significance, the story spread rapidly to international media outlets like *The Times of London*. In a February 10, 2007, article, reporter Chris Ayres talked about the controversy the point had engendered—some groups don't like the idea of rethinking the prehistory of North America—but concluded that the "distinctive 'fluted flakes' on the base" of the artifact clearly identify it with the now-extinct Clovis Culture.

The Rockwells were elated that the hunch had panned out so well. Dr. Rockwell points to a spot across the room where the crucial discovery was made.

"There," he says, "three feet from where you're sitting, is where it was found."

The person he addresses is one of three Loma Linda University School of Medicine representatives who recently visited Dr. Rockwell to thank him for a generous contribution to the school.

The "it" he references is a five-inch Clovis

point, or spearhead. Made of local chert, it was found at a depth of one foot on his land. Clovis points were mounted to the shafts of prehistoric spear-launching devices called atlatls. However, Dr. Rockwell says this particular point—which was subsequently named the Farpoint Clovis Point—may have been created for ceremonial use.

Regardless, the discovery is making waves in the archaeological community.

"It was supposedly dated by thermoluminescence," he reports, "and validated by scanning electron microscopy to about 8900 B.C.E. This puts it about 2,000 years after the previously recognized end of the Clovis Culture itself."

In addition to archaeology, Dr. Rockwell enjoys digging through family archives and tracing connections to early America and Loma Linda University.

"I happen to represent the product of two very old American families," he says. "The Garrett family from the South—Jamestown, Virginia—and the Rockwell family, which can trace its history all the way back to Boston."

By all the way back, he means both chronologically and geographically. His family arrived in America 12 years after the Pilgrims landed at Plymouth Rock in 1620.

"The Rockwells showed up around 1632 AD," he notes, "and spread out from Boston like an oil spot. The family motto was that every generation should move 25 miles to the west. We dumped into the Pacific Ocean about 100 years ago and the migration stopped."

The connection to Loma Linda begins with his paternal grandfather Orville.

After Orville's father Clinton Rockwell "took off with some babe around 1883," Orville assumed the responsibilities of man of the family at age 12.

"He became a driven, focused person from then on," Dr. Rockwell recalls.

Impelled by the need to provide for his mother and siblings, young Orville learned reading and



A short time after it was excavated from the ground beneath Tom Rockwell's living room in the Point Dume section of Malibu, the five-inch prehistoric stone spearhead that has subsequently become known as the Farpoint Clovis Point was photographed against rulers marked in centimeters and inches. According to Dennis Stanford, PhD, who directs the Paleoindian/paleoecology program at the Smithsonian Institution, the discovery is hugely important and represents a significant breakthrough in the understanding of the prehistoric Clovis Culture. Although not seen from this angle, the characteristic Clovis fluted flakes are clearly visible on the other side of the important artifact.

math. At the ripe old age of 13, he became the schoolteacher of Roaring Branch, Pennsylvania.

The townspeople were so grateful that when he turned 16, they took up a collection so Orville could attend the University of Michigan.

"He went there in 1895 and '96, and roomed four blocks from Battle Creek Sanitarium," Dr. Rockwell says.

"There was a cute girl there," he goes on, "named Nellie Sisely, recently orphaned. She and Orville started going to church together. Neither of them were Adventists when they started, but became well acquainted with Ellen White."

The Adventist leaders took note of Orville Rockwell's abilities. "At the age of 25," Tom continues, "he was put in charge of Nebraska Adventist Sanitarium."

Meanwhile, Nellie's younger sister contacted tuberculosis, so the girls took the advice of doctors and booked passage for Australia to see if she might recover. Before they left, Orville delivered an important message:

"When you come back," he told Nellie, "I'll marry you."

After four years in the Land Down Under, Nellie's younger sister finally recovered, fell in love, and got married. Although Nellie had not communicated with Orville for four years, she sent him a postcard announcing her soon return, and got on a slow boat to Boston. When the boat finally pulled up to the pier, there was Orville, waiting on his horse-drawn wagon. They were married immediately.

Soon afterward, Ellen White appointed Orville to a five-member scouting committee to evaluate a couple of promising locations where the Church might establish a medical school in California. When the train stopped in Mound

City, as Loma Linda was first called, Orville and his colleagues liked what they saw. They also liked the Napa Valley, but felt that Loma Linda was the better option.

"It was just orange groves, but they liked the views from the hills," Dr. Rockwell remembers. "They also liked Napa, but the weather was better in Loma Linda."

Half a century later, Tom's father, Marshall A. Rockwell Sr., MD, graduated with the class of 1940 from the College of Medical Evangelists, as Loma Linda University was known until 1961. He later chaired the department of orthopedics at the School of Medicine, and practiced in the area for many years.

With the encouragement of G. Gordon Hadley, MD, dean of the school at the time, Tom himself arrived in Loma Linda in 1965 to study medicine at his father's alma mater. A year later, however, he transferred to the University of Southern California (USC) when his regimen of studying full-time in Loma Linda, working 40 hours a week at USC, and commuting an hour each way between Loma Linda and Los Angeles came to the attention of his mentor at USC. After transferring to that school, Tom kept working full time and still graduated in the top 10 of his class.

As he reflects on a fascinating career in medicine and research, Tom Rockwell is grateful for the start Loma Linda University gave him, and for the fact that he is able to give back, leaving a financial legacy to honor his father's work. He's also grateful that grandfather Orville helped solidify the site for the school, and that his ancestors landed in America in 1632. Come to think of it, Dr. Rockwell is grateful to live on a site occupied by Clovis hunters at the dawn of prehistory.

"Connections," he smiles. "You never know what you'll find when you do a little digging around."

### Reportable crimes

The Crime Awareness and Campus Security Act of 1990 requires Loma Linda University to publish interim reports on campus crime activities. Listed below are the crimes reported for the months of September and October 2011:

Type of crime	Number of crimes	Place of crimes
Assaults	2	Behavioral Medicine Center (2)
Burglary	3	East Campus Hospital; Loma Linda University Church; LLU Medical Center/loading dock
Vehicle burglary	9	Lot DC/west; Lot DC/Superfield (2); Lot J (2); FMO; Lot T; Lot A; East Campus Hospital
Grand theft	1	Farm/animal care
Grand theft auto	1	Parking structure
Drunk in public	1	Lot C
Narcotics violation	1	Behavioral Medicine Center
Trespassing	1	LLU Children's Hospital

You can assist the department of security in maintaining a safe and secure environment by notifying security immediately at extension 911 if you see or know about a crime taking place.





COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Human resource management department collects food for underserved San Bernardino County residents

By Ben Bunker and James Ponder

A few months ago, Charlene Wilson, MPA, executive director of human resource management at Loma Linda University Shared Services, toured the Social Action Community Health System (SACHS) clinic in San Bernardino. What she saw touched her heart, and Ms. Wilson started wondering how her department might help SACHS meet the needs of the underserved.

The clinic, an outreach of Loma Linda University (LLU), provides primary medical, dental, and behavioral health services to individuals of limited means, many of whom have no health insurance. Ms. Wilson began to explore ideas in the context of the LLU mission to continue the teaching and healing ministry of Jesus Christ, and to formulate a plan that would not only help the individuals and families who depend on the clinic, but would also benefit the members of the human resource team.

Her idea was simple: she would create a contest in her department using healthy competition to stimulate individuals to collect food for the clinic. This would enable the employees to engage in helping SACHS, while fostering principles of teamwork, organizational values, and department unity—all while underscoring the concept of serving others in the name of Jesus Christ.

When she presented the concept at a staff meeting, Ms. Wilson's proposal met with excitement and apprehension, but after talking it over, the employees approved the concept, divided into six teams, elected leaders, and chose team names.

To promote a sense of spirited collegiality, Ms. Wilson announced a prize for the team with the most creative name, and another one

for the team that collected the most goods for the needy.

The team names reflected the excitement generated by the project and the desire to get involved in reaching out to others: "Servants for SACHS," "Team Pro Bono," "USS (Us Simple Servants)," "Food for Thoughtfulness," "The Cheerful Givers," and "HUGS (Helping Unify by Giving Service)."

Food and hygiene items began pouring in. Team members worked hard to outpace each other in finding creative ways to collect supplies for SACHS. As the excitement and engagement built, Ms. Wilson announced a department luncheon on Monday, July 1, admission to which would be contingent on bringing three canned food items for SACHS.

When the day finally arrived, Mark Hubbard,

senior vice president for human resource services, announced that the team with the most creative team name had been selected. The room fell to hushed silence as he reported that the Cheerful Givers had won the coveted title.

That left just one issue to resolve, but Ms. Wilson said it would have to wait until Thursday, July 21, when the teams gathered in front of the LLUAHSC 101 building to tally up the total and see which team brought in the most food for the SACHS Clinic.

By the time the teams finished loading their bounteous harvest of canned goods and supplies

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Employees of the Loma Linda University department of human resource management gather at the LLUAHSC 101 building on Redlands Boulevard in front of boxes of food and supplies (barely visible in the picture) that they collected to benefit needy Inland Empire families through the Social Action Community Health System (SACHS) Clinic in San Bernardino. When Charlene Wilson, MPA, executive director of human resource management (front row, third from left), first presented the idea to employees, there was a bit of apprehension. However, they soon rallied behind the idea and organized themselves into teams with names like "Servants for SACHS," "Team Pro Bono," "USS" (Us Simple Servants), "Food for Thoughtfulness," "Cheerful Givers," and "HUGS" (Helping Unify by Giving Service). Altogether the teams collected 98 boxes for the needy.

ALUMNI DISTINCTION

Tom Rockwell's connections to the past, present, and future

By James Ponder

Digging up the past can be enlightening. From his living room overlooking the Pacific in Malibu, Marshall A. "Tom" Rockwell Jr., MD—who attended Loma Linda University School of Medicine in the 1960s and whose father, an alumnus of the class of 1940, chaired the department of orthopedics in the 1970s—savors his personal connections to prehistory, early American history, and the founding of Loma Linda University.

He begins at prehistory.

"When Laura and I first viewed this property," he remembers, "we were warned of an antiquities clause that would require the buyer to hire an archeology firm to excavate the land." Although the restriction had frightened other potential buyers away, Laura and Tom had a hunch the site might reveal something intriguing.

"So Laura bought it," he says. As it turned out, Please turn to page 11



For Marshall A. "Tom" Rockwell Jr., MD, the past is a great place to find links to the present and future. Dr. Rockwell is not only a former Loma Linda University School of Medicine student himself, but his father and grandfather are also connected to the history of the school.



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