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Dentalgram

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## Dentalgram - Vol. 19, No. 02

Loma Linda University School of Dentistry

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# Dentalgram

A monthly publication of the dean's office  
for students, faculty, and staff of  
Loma Linda University School of Dentistry

February, 2005  
Volume 19, Number 2

<http://www.llu.edu/llu/dentistry/news.html>



## Welcome, alumni!

### Alumni Student Convention Events at a glance

#### Thursday, February 10, 2005

Golf Tournament  
Exhibitors  
Scientific Sessions  
Student Table Clinic presentations  
Homecoming Reception

#### Friday, February 11, 2005

Missionary Dentist & Prayer Breakfast  
Exhibitors  
Scientific Sessions\*  
• Two Faces of Occlusion  
—Jeff Brucia, DDS;  
Clayton Chan, DDS, MICCMO  
• Repetitive Strain Injuries: Treatment  
and Prevention  
—Cynthia R. Biron, RDH, EMT, MA

Managing Your Financial Future  
Hygienists & Assistants Luncheon  
Family Day Reception & Tour  
Student Dedication Program

#### Saturday, February 12, 2005

Worship services  
Sabbath luncheon  
Wedgwood Trio with Dick Walker 4:00 UC  
Class reunions

#### Sunday, February 13, 2005

• Street Drugs: Facts and Fallacies\*  
—Harold L. Crossley, DDS, MS, PhD

## Increase in pledges for Annual Fund

"Pledges to the Annual Fund campaign are up this year by 45 percent," announced Alfred Pragasam, DDS, Century Club Chair. At the close of the fall phonathon effort, more than \$163,000 had been pledged to the 2004-2005 campaign.

In addition, several classes took advantage of the opportunity to raise funds for their special honor year class projects.

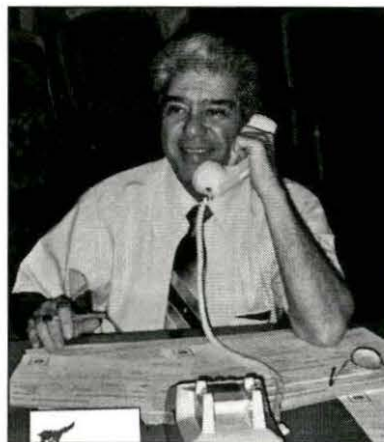
This year 35 alumni and faculty members participated in the Alumni Association phonathon during October and November.

Volunteering were Amsale Berhanu, SD'81; Jack Booker, SD'60; Mark Carpenter, SD'80; Gary Chan, SD'89; Brent Dupper, SD'80; Matt Elison, SD'03; Bill Emmerson, SD'80; Mark Estey, SD'98; Gary Golden, SD'76; Charles J. Goodacre, SD'71; Mark Gorden, SD'76; Jim Harris, SD'74; Robert Jung, SD'78; Steve Karmy, SD'03; Karen Koo, SD'03;

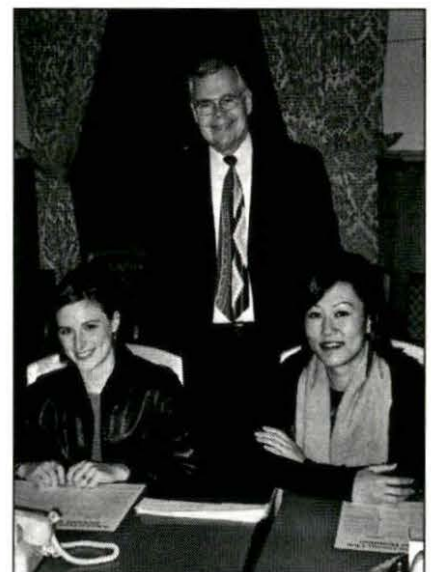
Dan Kunihiro, SD'74; and Heather Lauer, SD'03.

Others participating were Charles Lee, SD'75B; Mike Meherry, SD'80; Robert Mitchell, SD'78; Sandy Nash, SD'80; Dan Newbold, SD'82; Doyle Nick, SD'78; Quint Nicola, SD'69; Marvin Ota, SD'78; Ken Pierson, SD'00; Alfred Pragasam, SD'76; Eugene Rathbun, SD'65; Susan Roche, SD'93; Jessica Sabo, SD'03; Carl Scheult, SD'86; Tami Elloway-Song, SD'90; Mavern Suprono, SD'78; Tony Theodorou, SD'64; and Lawrence Lee Wong SD'78.

The Annual Fund supports several projects in the School of Dentistry, including student mission trips, recruitment of faculty members, student research, and personalized Bibles and lab coats for students.



Tony Theodorou, SD'64, was among 35 volunteers who called alumni around the country during the School's annual phonathon for the Annual Fund.



Charles J. Goodacre, SD'71, MSD, dean, joined Jessica Sabo, SD'03 (left), and Karen Koo, SD'03, during the phonathon for the Annual Fund Campaign.

# Department news

## Dental Hygiene

• Darlene Armstrong, MA, DH'71, RDH, assistant professor, earned an MA degree in educational technology and learning from Azusa Pacific University. She marched for graduation on December 18. Ms. Armstrong presented her husband, Dan (SD'72), with a certificate of appreciation for his support during her studies—he took over many household duties. Dr. Dan Armstrong is an assistant professor in the department of restorative dentistry.

• Alyssa DeBold, DH'95, married Jeffrey Golden on December 5, 2004.



• Sharon Boggs, DH'91, gave birth to little Haley on January 12.

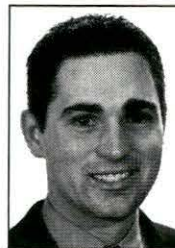
## Graduate Periodontics

• The department of graduate periodontics welcomes back office surgical assistant Lanadra Gauthier.

Lanadra is a recent graduate of Baldy View dental assisting program and was an intern with the department prior to graduating. The graduate periodontics staff welcomes her enthusiasm and are excited she is a part of the team.

## International Dentist Program

• Warm wishes to Jennifer Nez, who is moving to Eugene, Oregon. Jennifer, a dental assistant, was on the staff for three years. Bunny Beyerle transferred from patient billing office to fill Jennifer's position; and Bonnie Alexander will replace Bunny.



## Oral Maxillofacial Surgery

• Alan Herford, SD'94, MD, chair, recently was an invited lecturer to present a seminar on facial trauma in Jacksonville, Florida.



*LEFT PHOTO: Darlene Armstrong, MA, RDH, assistant professor, dental hygiene, poses with family on her graduation day. Pictured with Mrs. Armstrong are her husband, Dan Armstrong, SD'72, and their two children, Douglas and Charlotte. RIGHT PHOTO: Mrs. Armstrong receives her hood during graduation ceremonies at Azusa Pacific University.*

## February birthdays

Elena Aguilar	Dent Records
Claudine Alarcon	LL Endo
Juanita Alcaraz	Data Entry
Cathy Anderson	Grad Pros
Denise Berthelsen-Stephens	RPP
Marianne Bossert	Ortho
Garth Brown	ODRP
Tina Boyd	CSD
Antonio Cuevas	Dent Supply
Ellen Daniels	OMFS
Carrie Davies	Grad Perio/FDO
Colin (Tony) Forde	CDR
Lauri Harding	OMFS
Shannon Harris	Grad Endo
Irene Marutso	Ctrl Steril
Veronica Mata	Grad Perio
Debbie Medford	FDO
Cristina Moreno	FDO
Nishan Odabashian	Grad Endo
Manouchehr Pouresmail	Grad Endo
Nancy Pulliam	Infec Control
Jesus Rodriguez	Impl Dent
Jackie Ronan	Dent Supply
Irma Rubio	PBO
Elaine Samperio	Ortho
Barbara Samuel	CSD
Marilyn Saverino	IDP
Doug Snider	Grad Endo
Deborah Webster	IDP

## Featured employee of the month: Cindy Adell

Those who visit urgent care/screening are often met by a cheerful greeting from Cindy Adell, RDA.

In April, 2005, Cindy will celebrate her 17th year working for the School. Prior to joining the staff, she worked for two LLU alumni in private practice. In addition to working as a dental assistant, her duties include working at the front desk as a receptionist.

Cindy was always interested in working in health care, and after beginning her career assisting terminally ill patients, she pursued her RDA degree. "This profession," she says, "has allowed me to have a fulfilling life outside of work."

This includes spending time with her husband, Tim Adell, an English professor at Victor Valley College (VVC), and her son, Adam Figueroa.

Cindy and Tim met in 1993 and married two years later. Mr. Adell earned tenure at VVC in 2004, and is an avid golfer. In addition, he plays intramural soccer at the Drayson Center.

Adam, who enjoys playing baseball, graduated from Colton High School last year and is working in clinic supply while



*Cindy Adell, RDA, who is a member of the urgent care/screening staff, is featured employee of the month.*

going to school part-time at Crafton Community College. He enjoys coaching a Little League Majors team in Grand Terrace, and Cindy enjoys supporting her husband and son, watching games.

Their home is filled with music: flute, guitar, and singing. In her spare time, Cindy enjoys gardening and spending time with her dogs: Chandler, Rocky, and Oscar.



**ABOVE LEFT:** During the December Keeping Connected staff meeting, Santa (Dave Brodeur, SD'71), adjusts George Blount's (SD'77) elf hat. **CENTER:** Gina Cuccia, DH'05, discusses lessons she learned while undergoing cancer treatment. **RIGHT:** Lucas Pimental, Lenny Cortez, and Enoch Thomas provided musical selections.

**Nancy Pulliam receives special recognition**



*Nancy Pulliam, infection control supervisor, receives a plaque from Verlon Strauss, CPA, vice chancellor, during the Safety Coordinator of the Year Awards Luncheon on January 25. Nancy is safety coordinator and chair, disaster committee, for the School. The plaque reads: "Special recognition: LLU honors Nancy Pulliam in recognition of her continuing contribution to the safety management program."*

**Sincere thank you to the School family**

I want to express my sincere appreciation for the beautiful flowers, phone calls, visits, prepared food, gifts, cards, and encouragement during my recovery from the auto accident. I especially thank you for the many prayers offered in my behalf. I believe it was God's mercies, your prayers and acts of kindness, that brought me through. Thank you, my dental school family!  
—*Evie Roach*

*International dentist program recently sponsored a trip to the mountains so students and their families could enjoy the new snow. PICTURED, FROM LEFT: Christina Menendez, and IDP students—Drs. Jorge Menendez, Hossein Danesh, Mouhammad Dahman, Cecilia Ibarguen, Rami Salloum, and Mouhab Samman (Christina is married to Dr. Menendez).*



**Start your day right**

—Submitted by Joseph Jordan, D2

Ever wondered if the need for good dentistry will exist in Heaven? And if so, will dentists be expected to pass Heaven State Boards or the Orion Regionals before they can hang their plaque somewhere along downtown's Golden Circle?

After careful consideration, I have serious doubts that any dental skills will be required of me once I pass through those pearly gates. I don't think I will be asked to perform root canal therapy on Gabriel's #8, or adjust a "flipper" for the dear St. Paul.

Yet I marvel at how much time and energy can be spent on things that will one day be obsolete. And what is still more amazing is how easy it is to neglect those things which will last and benefit us forever.

Now, before all you die-hard dental professionals start throwing your properly sharpened hand instruments at me or begin constructing a noose out of dental floss, please allow me to stress the fact that in no way am I suggesting any of us back off from our solid commitments to an honorable career in dentistry, nor am I attempting to undermine its significance in society.

What I am trying to do is simply encourage everyone to consider—consider making the daily effort to include and maintain a vital relationship with God in conjunction with the pursuit of dental excellence.

God must become the constant in our equation for true success in order for us to secure our eternal destinies. I trust all blood pressures are back within normal limits now and I have permission to proceed...

My class, the dental class of 2007, under the spiritual leadership of Grace Chu and Brent Pahls, has done a heroic job of trying to begin each day by pointing to our Father.

Most mornings, we enjoy some kind of devotion from 8:00 to 8:10 a.m. Sometimes, classmates will lead out with song service and prayer, while other times we will share very unique and special moments with guest speakers such as Pam Rathbun, Randy Roberts, or Hyveth Williams (just to name a few).

Personally, I know I have really been blessed by these precious and significant moments, and I know God appreciates and blesses the efforts we make to bring glory to Him. While He understands our crazy lives, He doesn't want us to ever forget Him. Remember, the "widow's mite" doesn't necessarily have to represent money.

On behalf of my classmates, I would like to personally invite everyone and anyone reading this article to join us for our morning worships in room 1102, Prince Hall. It may be standing room only, but I still encourage you to come. *I hope to see you there!*

## School of Dentistry staff donates toys to Children's Hospital



As a special project, staff collected toys to donate to Children's Hospital. Two big boxes of new toys and unwrapped gifts for infants, children, and teens were presented to Denise Winter, director of volunteer services for LLUMC and Children's Hospital Friday, December 10, immediately following the Keeping Connected meeting. PICTURED, FROM LEFT, are: Denise Winter; Robin Fierro, department assistant, clinic administration; Shelley Console, department assistant, clinic administration; Stacey Moya, manager, patient business office; Heather Bright, office aide, academic affairs; Stan Lillard, foreman, dental maintenance department; Heidi Cooley, assistant to the dean, office of strategic planning; and Chuck Yetter, director, dental maintenance.

## Christmas Breakfast memories...

Faculty, students, and staff enjoyed holiday entertainment, including music and poetry, while attending the annual Christmas Breakfast. **RIGHT PHOTO:** Timoteo Cocjin, LLU housekeeping, attended the breakfast. **FAR RIGHT PHOTO:** William Heisler, SD'59, professor, international dentist program, recites a favorite poem.



Brian Brown, a jazz guitarist, performed several numbers. Brian is a friend of Jeri Fowler's.



Jeri Fowler, assistant director, Alumni Association has performed during the Christmas Breakfast for many years.



Hula performers: (from left) Tammi Aceres, RDH; Jennifer Lee, DH student worker, and Shirley Lee, DH'82.

## Dates to remember...

Alumni Student Convention Feb. 10-13  
 Keeping Connected . . . . . Feb. 25

Clinic With a Heart . . . . . April 10  
 Employee Appreciation . . . . . April 15

## Office of academic affairs releases dean's list for fall quarter

### Class of 2008

Marie Baumgartner, Melissa Bassham, Matthew Chung, Matthew Cilderman, Jennifer Clark, Tara Ericson, Bryan Fletcher, Michelle Hoag, Jessica Horricks, Philip Horsley, Jeffrey Hwang, Hee Jeong Jeong, Neal Johnson, Tera Johnson, Pauline Karunakaran, Nathan Latimer, Jaime Lee, Lawrence Lee, Thomas Lee, Brian Lin, Scott Parker, Jeffrey Rho, Jorge Rojas, Ryan Rudd, David Self, Christine Son, Elisa Song, Andrey Ustinenkov, John Will, James Willis.

### Class of 2007

Chad Abby, Christine Aufderhar, Leslie Butler, Eunduk Choi, Curtis Chu, Diana Cliniciu, Krystle Fenton, Tiffany Graham, Meghanne Gromis, Christina Hoybjerg, Kwang Dong John, Thomas Kim, Bethany Kronberg, David Lee, Melissa Lee, Timothy Lewis, Wini Luong, Christopher Morris, Travis Nelson, Vanessa Pulido, Montry Suprono

### Dental Hygiene Class of 2005

Tracy Adams, Arlen Blandino, Jennifer Breslin, Claudine Caballero, Michelle Carrick, Gina Cuccia, Amy Ferrence, Bekki Griffin,

Kelly Harklerode, Dana Hawkins, Brandy Holder, Jenae Kerbs, Lindsay Landis, Kelli Lyon, Frances Madore, Stacey Malcomson, Daniela Mihai, Kimberly Romero, Lindsay Saunders, Lynnette Tillman, Melissa Vogt, Lorrie Wilson.

### Dental Hygiene Class of 2006

Shanan Carlson, Janelle Cobb, Tara Dominguez, Ashley Ellison, Mistie Imdieke, Dana Kattenhorn, KeriAnne Kubrock, Shawn Leetch, Jossy Leonora, Rachelle Reaney, Desteen Stroh, Kimberly Thielen, Randy Valencia, Thuan Vuong, Tina Wister.

### IDP Class of May 2005

Khaldoun Attar, Tarana Chhatiwala, Sue Kim, Emmanuel Klein, Mei-Ting Nieh.

### IDP Class of December 2005

Andres Amaya, Jay Ayass, Maya Bachour, Jae Kwon Bok, Omar de Oliveira, Rami Saloum, Elena Sangachhe, Rosemarie Sheline

### IDP Class of May 2006

Mouhammad Dahman, Hossein Danesh, Cecilia Ibarguen, Mouhab Samman, Norma Vazquez, Ming Zhao.

## In memoriam



**Janet Moore**

**Janet Moore**, recall/continuing care coordinator, passed away January 27 of amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS).

Mrs. Moore's career in dentistry spanned more than 30 years, and has included being a member of the faculty at United Health Careers, training dental assistants.

Many dental assistants now working in the School of Dentistry were Mrs. Moore's students.

A memorial service was held Wednesday, February 2, 2005 at 2:00 p.m. at United Methodist Church, 1 East Olive Avenue, Redlands.

## The story of 7-year-old Andrew Martinez featured in local media



*"Time to savor flavor," proclaimed one headline; "A reason to smile: pioneering operation separates Rialto Boy's Jaw," read another. The front-page articles (in the San Bernardino Sun and The Press-Enterprise), and television news reports on NBC, chronicle the story of 7-year-old Andrew Martinez, who Liviu Eftimie, SD'93, PG'98, assistant professor, OMFS, first saw five years ago when Andrew was 2. His upper and lower jaws were fused together (a condition called syngnathia). According to Dr. Eftimie, only 14 cases of syngnathia similar to Andrew's, have been reported (and none were corrected surgically). On November 5, Dr. Eftimie operated on Andrew, allowing him to move his jaw and chew for the first time (this is the first time in history the procedure has ever been performed). There was enough time for Andrew to heal and enjoy a hearty Thanksgiving dinner for the first time.*

## How to contact dental computing services

- When contacting dental computing services, please dial ext. 44674. Pat Winkler answers this line and listens to messages. Using this extension will help her respond to calls more quickly.

- To access the online Help Desk:

<http://dental.llu.edu/hdesk/helpdesk.htm>

If your name is not listed on the above web page, please contact Pat and she will add your name (you may also make the request under your department name).

## Dr. John Leonora awarded honorary OKU membership

Dr. John Leonora, professor of physiology in the School of Medicine, received an honorary membership in the Omicron Kappa Upsilon (OKU) Honor Society in Dentistry during immediate past School of Dentistry graduation ceremonies. Among the criteria for selection are high scholarship and exemplary traits of character.

Although serving a career in the School of Medicine, many of Dr. Leonora's distinguished contributions have been in dental research.

He arrived on the LLU campus in 1965 and shortly thereafter began collaborating with Dr. Ralph Steinman in elucidating a pattern of dental caries resistance that involves hormonal mechanism(s).

Commonly held theory limits the outer surfaces of teeth to passive subjection to acid produced by sugar-feeding bacteria. What had not been realized is that the process goes deeper. Teeth normally exhibit active caries resistance from within themselves.

Using experimental laboratory animals, Dr. Leonora showed that the act of chewing food sets up a signaling system involving a hypothalamic and parotid gland endocrine axis that stimulates dentinal fluid flow from the pulps of teeth through

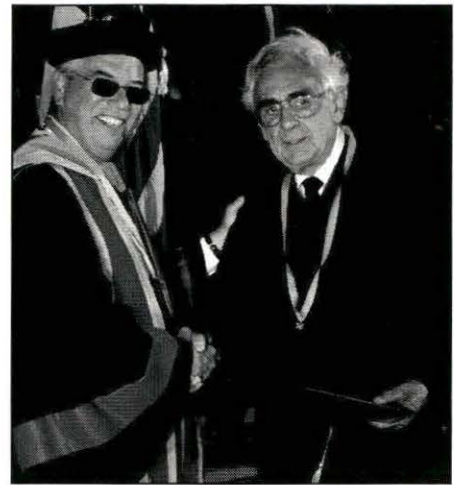
natural channels in dentin and enamel pores. Such slight outward pressure is sufficient to resist caries-producing acids from entering the teeth during and after eating, and is also essential for maintaining the vitality of dentin.

This protective dentinal fluid transport was recognized by Dr. Leonora to be hormonally mediated. After years of careful investigation, his laboratory in 1980 was able to report the isolation of a parotid hormone, and its amino acid sequence and activity was verified in animal studies. Ultimately the parotid hormone gene was identified and the expressed protein was shown to be biologically active.

Complementary to these studies was the demonstration that synthetic parotid hormone was as biologically active as the isolated protein from porcine parotid glands or expressed by the gene in vitro.

These findings add an entirely new dimension to the commonly understood concept of dental caries.

It is for this highly significant research and for his many years of thoughtful teaching of dental students in physiology that the local Chi Chi Chapter of OKU selected Dr. Leonora to receive this prestigious honor.



*Dr. John Leonora, professor, physiology, School of Medicine (right), receives honorary membership in Omicron Kappa Upsilon Honor Society in Dentistry during the 2004 graduation ceremony for the School of Dentistry. Joseph Caruso, SD'73, MS'75, MPH, chair, advanced education program in orthodontics and dentofacial orthopedics, makes the presentation.*

### Mark your calendar

**What:** Keeping Connected

**When:** February 25, 2005

**Where:** Prince Hall main lobby

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*The deadline for the March, 2005, issue:  
Friday, February 18.*

# Bb

## Blackboard

## Blackboard Tip of the Month for February Navigation Menu

The navigation menu on the left side of your Blackboard site can be modified and customized with new items as needed. If you don't use all the features, you **can and should** disable the buttons for the tools you will not be using. This keeps your students from having to click through all the extra buttons to find that you have not posted anything in those areas.

To modify the menu, enter your course's Control Panel; then, under "Course Options," select "Manage Course Menu." Use the buttons along the top to add major buttons. Use the "Remove" button to the right of any of the listed areas to remove that button from the course menu. Instead of removing the button, you can also unclick the "Available for Student" user's button. This will make the area unavailable until you are ready to show it to users. Use the "Modify" button to the right of any listed area to modify the properties of that part of your course. Use the numbers to the left of each area to reorder the buttons.

If you have a question about Blackboard or are interested in learning more about it, contact Leigh Ann Evans in educational support services at ext. 88628.