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## Dentalgram - Vol. 21, No. 04

Loma Linda University School of Dentistry

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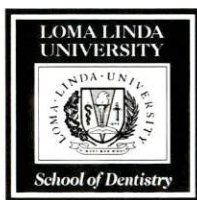
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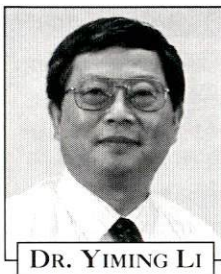


# Dentalgram

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

April, 2007  
Volume 21, Number 4  
<http://www.llu.edu/llu/dentistry/news.html>

## Yiming Li leads group rewriting evaluating dental materials guidelines



DR. YIMING LI

Dr. Yiming Li, director of the Center for Dental Research, is serving as chair for the American National Standard/American Dental Association

Specification for Biological Evaluation Materials, a body of which he is a long-time member. This prestigious committee developed specification No. 41, a 202-page report with Dr. Li the lead author, providing guidelines for determining biocompatibility (safety) for all dental materials, devices, and equipment. The guidelines received approval as an

American National Standard on December 22, 2005. Tests cover *in vitro* tests of cytotoxicity, *in vivo* tests, including acute systemic toxicity (oral and inhalation), subchronic systemic toxicity (oral and inhalation), skin irritation and intracutaneous reactivity, sensitization, genotoxicity and local effects after implantation, and dental materials-specific tests such as pulp and dentin usage, pulp capping, and endodontic usage.

Working with Dr. Li were: Angela Blackwell, Center for Devices and Radiological Health, FDA, Rockville, Maryland; Paul M. Bralower, American Dental Association, Chicago, Illinois; An-Shih Cheng, Cheng & Associates, Chicago, Illinois; Scott Erickson, 3M

ESPE, St. Paul, Minnesota; Stephen Gruninger, American Dental Association, Chicago, Illinois; Carl T. Hanks, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Michigan; Steven Jeffries, Dentsply International, York, Pennsylvania; Elisabet L. Kostoryz, University of Missouri—Kansas City, Kansas City, Missouri; Elden Lamprecht, 3M ESPE, Minneapolis, Minnesota; Jack Lemons, University of Alabama, Birmingham, Alabama; Milton Marshall, Texas Heart Institute, Houston, Texas; Ken Nakatani, 3M ESPE, Minneapolis, Minnesota; Cornelis Pameijer, University of Connecticut, Farmington, Connecticut; Ros Randall, 3M ESPE, St. Paul, Minnesota; Pamela Scott, US Food & Drug Administration, Rockville, Maryland; and Chakwan Siew, American Dental Association, Chicago, Illinois.

## Students receive Gold and Silver Academic Excellence Awards

Students from the dental class of 2007 earned outstanding scores on National Boards Part I and II that made them eligible to receive the School of Dentistry Gold and Silver Awards for Academic Excellence.

To receive the Academic Excellence

Gold Award, dental students must score at least one standard deviation above the national mean for parts I and II of the National Boards. These students each receive a \$1,500 scholarship and payment of the boards fee of their choice. This year each student chose the Western Regional Examining Board (\$1,500).

The Academic Excellence Silver Award is given to students who score at least one standard deviation above the national mean for either national boards part I or part II. The School will pay for the cost of the board exam of their choice.

Recipients of the Academic Excellence Gold Award for 2007 are dental class 2007 students: Thomas Kim, David Lee, Christopher Morris, and Travis Nelson.

Receiving the Academic Excellence Silver Award for 2007 are dental class of 2007 students: Dawit Adugna, EP Michael Cooper, Bethany Kronberg, Wini Luong, and Matthew Sanders.

Certificates will be given to these students during the annual awards chapel in May, 2007. In addition, if they desire, a press release about this honor will be sent to their hometown newspaper.

## Alumni voted among favorite dentists in Inland Empire

In the March, 2007, issue of *Inland Empire* magazine, readers were invited to tell which dentists made them smile.

From the results of the readers' poll, 35 dentists were chosen the favorite dentists in the Inland Empire. Fifteen of the dentists named were School of Dentistry alumni and are listed below.

James Patrick Caley, SD'87, PG'89  
Mark Carpenter, SD'80  
Gilbert Dupper, SD'67  
Mark Fehn, SD'91  
David H. Gilbert, SD'95, PG'99, MS'00  
Brenna Hamrick-Stotts, SD'86  
Mark E. Harris, SD'03  
J. Timothy Harris, SD'98  
Sheila A. Harris, SD'98, PG'03, MS'03  
Jim Lloyd, SD'86  
Robert D. Mitchell, SD'78, MS'85  
Robert J. Mohn, SD'88  
Dan Nguyen, SD'99  
Denine Rice, SD'97, PG'02, MS'02

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- Students receive Gold and Silver Academic Excellence Awards
- LLUSD alumni voted among favorite dentists in the Inland Empire
- Assemblymember Emmerson honors Dr. Carla Lidner as Woman of the Year for 2007
- Student profile: Kari McKenzie

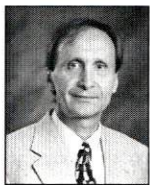


# Department news

## Welcome

We welcome **Idania Ortiz**, dental assistant, implant dentistry; **Nicole LaTulippe**, a student worker in prosthodontics, and **Ashish Engles**, computer support specialist, dental computer services.

## Dental Laboratory Services



Congratulations to **Mick Ilich, CDT**, laboratory technician, who has completed education in all five fields of dental technology and has acquired National Board Certification in Dental Laboratory Technology.

## Educational Support Services

The staff of educational support services provides help in a variety of technical areas. There is an open door policy for faculty who need assistance with technology critical to their teaching goals and objectives. Just call ext. 44605 and someone will be happy to assist you!

## Department of Student Affairs

Megan Millar, student assistant in student affairs, is the recipient of the California Speech and Hearing Association, District 10 Outstanding Student Award. Megan has been a student employee in the School for two years. She received the award and plaque at the annual state-wide association meeting in Long Beach on March 9, 2007, with many of her fellow students and faculty members present. Megan has also been president of the LLU chapter of the National Student Speech-Language Hearing Association during the past year. She will graduate with a master of science degree in

speech-language pathology in June. After that she says she will definitely be employed, although she has not decided whether it will be in a hospital or school

setting. She does say that she plans to work with kids. She adds "I have always liked being around kids, and besides I have experience being one."

## Featured Employee: Norma Lesko

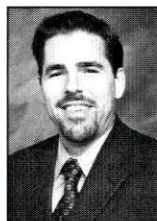
Featured employee Norma Lesko, RDA, CDA, has been on the staff for 13 years. She began working in DAU (dental assistant utilization) and then worked for a few months in oral surgery before transferring to the Faculty Dental Office on Taylor Street where she has worked ever since. When she first began working in FDO, Dr. Robert Kinzer and many other faculty members helped her gain confidence in her skills through their encouragement. "And I'll never forget Dr. Shryock telling me," she says, "that it is important to have fun while working." She assists taking radiographs and photos and sets up the operatories for the doctors. She sometimes assists in the prosthodontic clinic.

Norma has two adult children: Michael, a deputy probation officer in Orange County and Denise, a program director for a Boy's and Girl's Club in San Diego. Michael is married to Katherine, a physical therapist in Newport Beach. "I am looking forward to becoming a grandparent," she says. In her spare time she enjoys spending time with her family; watching sports on TV; and taking her dog, Champion, to the dog beach. She is an usher in her church, St. Adelaide Catholic Church, in Highland.



*TOP: Featured employee Norma Lesko with her dog, Champion. ABOVE: (LEFT TO RIGHT): Norma's daughter, Denise; her son, Michael; and her daughter-in-law, Katherine.*

## Brian Black named assistant director, division of clinical dentistry



Dr. Brian Black is now assistant director, Division of Clinical Dentistry. He plans to build on existing clinical processes while managing the predoctoral clinic. "My dream," he says, "is to implement more technology to create a superior clinic that will prepare our students in the field of dentistry."

He is learning and training with axiUm and is planning forums for primary attending faculty on Fridays and CE courses for other clinic faculty. He also will interview and hire part-time faculty, and is teaching the caries course to D1 students.

"I enjoy interaction with people—learning about them," he says, "and that fits in well with my new role. I hope to improve communication and increase collegial atmosphere of the clinic. My door is always open, except when it's closed."

Regarding the July 2 "go live" date for axiUm, Dr. Black is reassuring. "Remain calm," he says, "everything is going to be all right."

Dr. Black is authoring a series of articles featuring dental students to appear in *Dentalgram* and *LLU DENTISTRY* journal. He is a member of the editorial board for the journal.

In addition, Dr. Black is a model for the CDA image campaign. Since April, 2006, his image has been used in materials marketing Stage II dentists (dentists who have been practicing for 6 to 10 years). He also played the role of Mr. McAfee in *Bye Bye Birdie* with the Yucaipa Heartland Players, last November.

He is married to Pearl, a full-time mom who is homeschooling their two children: 7-year-old Julia and 3-year-old Chelsea. They are active in their church, Sovereign Grace Orthodox Presbyterian Church in Moreno Valley.

## Upcoming events

### EMPLOYEE APPRECIATION

Friday, April 13, 11:00 a.m.–1:30 p.m.

Coleman Pavilion lobby

*Faculty and staff are invited  
to enjoy light refreshments as a thank  
you for all that you do!*

### KEEPING CONNECTED

DATES: JUNE 1; SEPTEMBER 7;  
NOVEMBER 30

PLACE: MAIN LOBBY 1:00–2:00 P.M.



## Student profile: Kari McKenzie

It would appear that Kari McKenzie (SD '08) likes dental graduation ceremonies. She graduated from the dental hygiene program in 2002 and is now set to graduate again as a dentist in 2008! But there's more to it than that. Kari has thought of being a dentist since the eighth grade.

Kari was born in LLU Medical Center and has lived in Loma Linda almost her entire life. She can remember a day in the eighth grade when she told her parents that she was going to be a dentist. The idea "just popped into my head," says Kari.

That very summer, she observed her dentist at work and shadowed him in the office. She must have liked it because she later started the pre-dental program at Andrews University in her freshman year of college.

"I felt overwhelmed as a freshman,"

remembers Kari. "I was so tired and stressed out that I wasn't sure I wanted to really do it." Kari talked with her father and decided that she would continue on her path to dentistry, but shifted gears a bit. She applied for and was accepted into the dental hygiene program.

Says Kari: "LLUSD also has a lot of excellent, knowledgeable, and caring teachers who will go out of their way to make sure that you learn what you need to learn."

After graduation, Kari worked for two years as a dental hygienist, all the while realizing that she really wanted to be the dentist in the office. So, she took the remaining classes required for dentistry and was accepted into the dental program in the fall of 2004. "I hope to start a practice after working for several years," she says.

With the exception of her mom's cousin,



*Kari McKenzie (right) with former dental hygiene classmates Cora (Bell) Chapman and Becky (Todd) Hawkins.*

who is a dentist in Cuba, Kari will be the only other dentist in her family. Family is very important for Kari. She has one sister and brother-in-law living in Redlands, and her mother and father live in Loma Linda. And family is an attractive feature about her experience at here. Says Kari, "I enjoy the friendships I have made at LLUSD. I feel like I have gained a large, extended family."

*Editor's note: This is the first in a series of articles about interesting people in the School. It is authored by Dr. Brian P. Black.*

## Assemblymember Emmerson honors Dr. Carla Lidner as Woman of the Year for 2007



*Dr. Carla Lidner, assistant professor, receives the plaque from assemblymember Bill Emmerson (right) naming her Woman of the Year for 2007 for the California's 63rd assembly district. Fabian Nunez, speaker of the assembly, is also pictured.*

Dr. Carla Lidner, assistant professor, has been honored by Assemblymember Bill Emmerson (R-Redlands), as the 2007 "Woman of the Year" for the 63rd Assembly District. The annual Capitol ceremony salutes remarkable women from throughout California's 80 Assembly Districts in recognition of National Women's History Month.

"It is my privilege to recognize Dr. Lidner Baum as Woman of the Year," stated Assemblymember Bill Emmerson. "Carla is truly a woman of distinction. She's

a strong leader who uses her talent as a health-care provider to promote better health care for Inland Empire families. In San Bernardino County Dr. Lidner has worked to secure \$3.6 million from First 5, to promote health education and dental services for 8,000 infants and children per year. Carla's selfless efforts and contributions to our community make her uniquely qualified and deserving of the title of Woman of the Year."

In recent years, Dr. Lidner has stepped beyond her role as a health-care

provider and has become a proven community leader. She now chairs First 5 Riverside County's advisory board where she recently volunteered to direct a grant providing identical services to those that have been provided to San Bernardino children under the First Five grant for the past seven years.

In addition to her work with First 5 Riverside and San Bernardino Counties, she currently serves on the Riverside Community College Foundation's Advisory Board and is an active community

partner with the department of Social Services and the Juvenile Courts of Riverside County.

As part of Woman of the Year celebrations, remarkable women in California attend a special session of the California State Legislature where they are honored by Senate and Assembly leaders. Additionally, the honorees attend an afternoon reception with California First Lady Maria Shriver.

In addition to Capitol celebrations honoring Women's History Month, Assemblymember Bill Emmerson saluted the 63rd District's 2007 Woman of the Year along with noteworthy women from his legislative constituency as part of his Third Annual Women of Distinction Luncheon on March 29, 2007 at the Doubletree Hotel Ballroom in Ontario.

This year's Women of Distinction Luncheon featured a tribute to Dr. Lidner as well as tributes to 63 women who are being hailed by Assemblymember Emmerson as a Woman of Distinction in recognition of their achievements and accomplishments.

"I long to accomplish a great and noble task, but it is my chief duty to accomplish humble tasks as though they were great and noble."

*Hellen Keller; in a letter to a 5-year-old*



## School of Dentistry sends care package to USS Anzio



KEITH A.  
SALTSMAN



During the holidays a local church, New Testament Baptist, adopted the crew of the USS Anzio. Alisa Wilson's nephew, QM3 Keith A. Saltzman, has served on the ship for over three years. When Alisa asked if LLUSD would consider sending care packages (toothbrushes and floss) to the crew, the answer was a resounding "yes!"

William Al Seegars, command master chief, USS Anzio sent a thank-you letter (pictured, right); saying in part, "your support is appreciated, especially during these challenging months that we are deployed in support of operation Enduring Freedom, Operation Iraqi Freedom, and Maritime Security Operations off the coast of Somalia. It is reassuring to know that we reside in your thoughts and prayers." And we appreciate our troops in the military for their dedicated service.



**ALUMNI NOTE**—A picture plus 24 inches of text in a Paris, Illinois newspaper highlight the commitment of Jan Oh, SD'06, to public health dental care, appearing on page 1 of the *Beacon-News* feature section. Dr. Oh's story tells of her immigration with her family from Korea as a 9-year-old. Now an accomplished violinist and wife of a busy Chicago pathology resident, she pursues her dental career in a rural community where she says she wants to give care to underprivileged patients. Working two chairs in the Tri-County Dental Clinic, she emphasizes the importance of getting to know her patients, discussing preventive care, and overcoming patient fears. Describing her dental work, she echoes values espoused by her alma mater: "I take my time with procedures and do my work as if I were doing it on my own teeth."

## Inspiring messages given during April 'Keeping Connected'

This year's Keeping Connected staff meetings is "It's all about me," and the March 9 "Keeping Connected" staff meeting featured powerful messages about keeping healthy. April Richards, clinic administration, created a PowerPoint presentation on the 15 most healthful foods. Louise Schneider, DrPH, assistant professor, nutrition and dietetics, spoke about eating a healthful diet.

Staff then gave testimonials about changes they have made that have helped them live a more healthful life. Joni Stephens spoke about her experience as a cancer survivor. She recalled a life-changing comment made to her by a cardiologist who said, "much of the heart disease and cancer we see would disappear if people had less stress in their lives." As she lives her life, Joni remembers this advice.

Staff from dental maintenance who completed the Weight Loss Challenge spoke about changes they have made to their diets. The

group of six lost a combined 91 pounds in 38 days, and have continued to work toward their personal weight loss goals. They challenged staff to join the Weight Loss Challenge. Joining the challenge are teams of six people from: dental hygiene; Faculty Dental Office; department of pediatric dentistry; patient billing office, and the clinic (including the department of radiology).

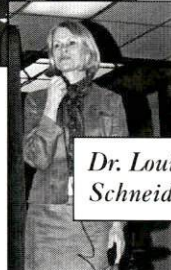
Staff chosen as "Featured Employees" are: Norma Lesko, Faculty Dental Office (April); Nancy Yuen, educational support services (May); and Dana Koops, orthodontics (June).



Joni Stephens



Mary  
Hartwell  
welcomes  
the staff.



Dr. Louise  
Schneider

## Alumni voted favorite dentists in Inland Empire *Cont'd from page 1*

David Westerberg, SD'88

John E. Willardsen, SD'97, PG'01

Lawrence L. Wong, SD'78.

In addition, comments from the reader poll were included in the article and showed the caring, gentle and excellent qualities of the nominees.

*Dr. Caley*—"I live in Riverside and travel to Redlands to see Dr. Caley. His work is always wonderful and he doesn't hurt me. His staff is always helpful and caring. I have been coming here for years."

*Dr. Dupper*—"While I asked Dr. Dupper about the chances of caries occurring beneath a filling, he said simply 'No chance if I've done it.' Thirty-six years later, there have been no repeats on teeth that Dr. Dupper treated."

*Dr. Harris*—"Dr. Harris cares about each of his patients in a way that goes beyond that of an ordinary dentist. When I received an award about six months ago, Dr. Harris sent me a congratulatory hand-written card."

*Dr. Mitchell*—"He treats young people with respect, never making them feel ignorant or childish. He has time to talk about hobbies and interests, never rushing or putting the young person off to get to the next patient."

*Dr. Mohn*—"He is the most gentle dentist I have ever been to. I wouldn't ever consider going anywhere else."

*Dr. Wong*—"When my husband was in an accident and was in ICU, Dr. Wong's office sent flowers to the hospital. My family was so touched by this."

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**Editor:** Nancy Yuen, [nyuen@llu.edu](mailto:nyuen@llu.edu)

**Photographers:** Ryan Becker,  
Carmen Fernandez

**Contributors:** Leif K. Bakland,  
Michelle Bernal, Brian Black,  
Heidi Cooley, Nancy Davidson,  
Michael Fitzpatrick, Yiming Li,  
Maynard Lowry, Rosa  
Marmolejo, Kathleen Moore,  
Carole White, Alisa Wilson,  
Patricia Winkler, Miriam Yanez,  
Chuck Yetter

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