

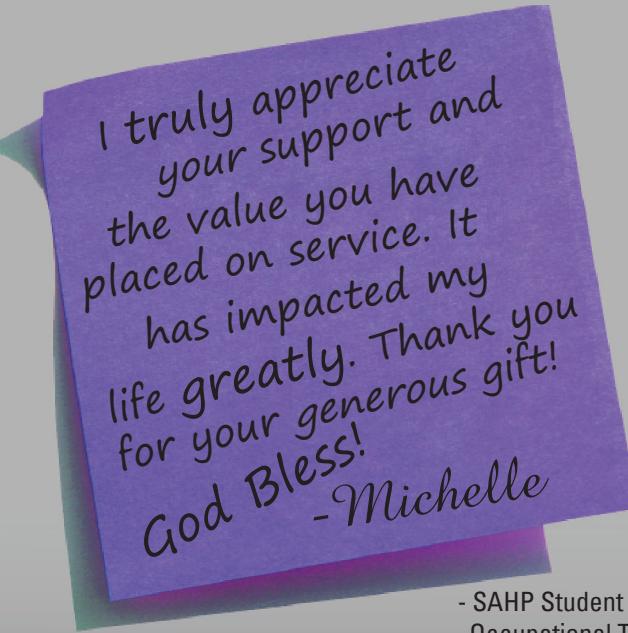
Dear Alumni & Supporters,

This year, Loma Linda University School of Allied Health Professions is pleased to distribute scholarships totaling over \$75,000. Most of the funds awarded come from endowed scholarships established by families and friends who wish to honor loved ones by assisting outstanding students. To all those who have given of their resources we want to say "Thank You" from the bottom of our hearts.

Sincerely,



Director of Development
School of Allied Health Professions



I truly appreciate your support and the value you have placed on service. It has impacted my life greatly. Thank you for your generous gift!
God Bless!
- Michelle

- SAHP Student
Occupational Therapy Department



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Donors Fund New Computer Lab

By JACLYN PRUEHS
Alumni Affairs Officer, SAHP
August 2010

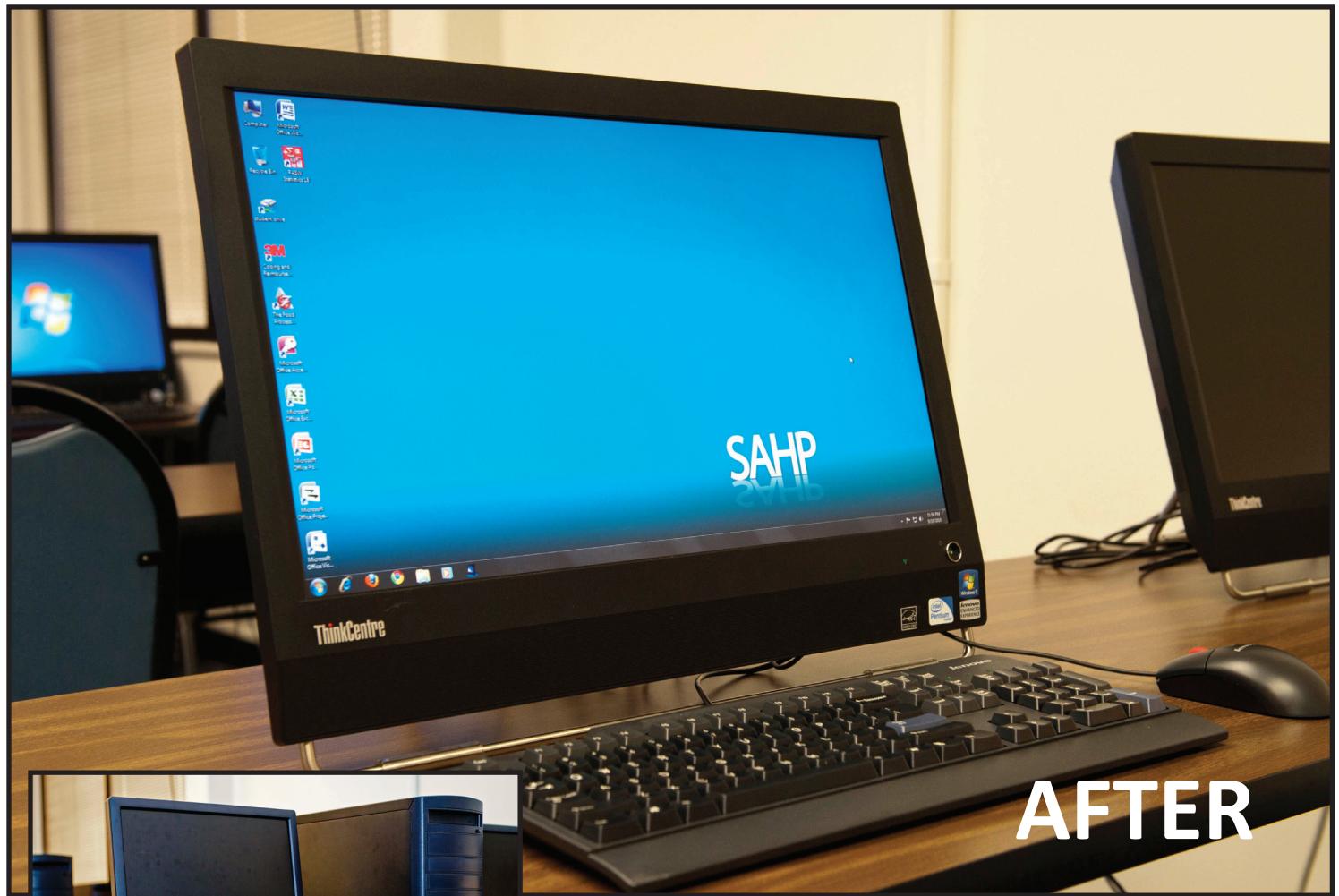
Education and technology go hand in hand. As the School of Allied Health Professions works to become a leader in educating health professionals there is a great need to supply our students with a state-of-the-art educational experience. "We know that a giant step toward securing our future in healthcare education is to provide up-to-date computers and programs for our students," says Craig Jackson JD, MSW, SAHP Dean.

Due to the technology push, computer laboratories in the school are very important to our students, faculty and staff. One such computer lab in the School was in need of a serious makeover. "The computers in the 1906 computer lab, used primarily in Health Information Management, Statistics, and Nutrition classes, are about five to six years old," explains

Art Kroetz, PhD, Assistant Dean for Educational Support Services. "After about three years, a computer may start to experience hardware failure. And that's exactly what was happening in the lab. It became evident that we needed to replace all the computers very, very soon."

As the plans were made to purchase the 19 new computers needed for the lab, the administration decided to turn to the SAHP supporters and donors for the funding. "Our alumni and supporters are very loyal to the School. I am continually amazed at their enthusiasm for SAHP and our initiatives to make this a better learning environment for our current and future students," says Director of Development, Kisha Norris, M.Ed. "We needed \$20,000 to complete this project and we received \$20,000."

"This is a fabulous restart to the computer lab," remarks Dr. Kroetz. "Computers are heavily used and extremely important to our teaching."



The before photo shows a traditional computer set-up with a 17" DELL monitor and a large desktop unit. These computers ran with a 2.8 GHz Single Intel processor.

The after photo shows the new 22" widescreen monitor. With these Lenovo machines, the computer unit is built into the monitor allowing for more desk space. They run on a 2.8 GHz Dual Core processor.

Photos By: Art Kroetz

More Challenge, More Opportunity: Why I Want To Be an RA

By DONNA OLMSTEAD
Contributing Writer
ASRT Scanner Magazine
June/July 2010

Like most technologists who return to college, R.T.s who study to become registered radiologist assistants want to enhance their skills and expand their career opportunities.

Unlike R.T.s who pursue advanced degrees in traditional paths to become educators or managers, would-be R.R.A.s must carve out a career for themselves and for the profession.

Kristeen Oronan, R.T.(R), a radiologist assistant intern, said she sees becoming a radiologist assistant as a way to advance in the profession. "I wanted more autonomy and responsibility."

Although she is a Loma Linda University RA student, she found her preceptorship in Florida because California doesn't yet have licensure for radiologist assistants. Working in a 950-bed hospital also appealed to her. She has accepted a position there after she graduates this month, she said.

Kristeen got a taste of what having more autonomy and responsibility could feel like working as one of two technologists at a rural hospital in Hawaii. "One of the doctors told me I should look into an RA position. They were relying heavily on my clinical observations in relation to the exams."

Kristeen said she didn't have any apprehension about committing to the radiologist assistant program, even though she knew the program was in its infancy. "We are pioneers in this. We need to find radiologists who want to work with us. It's not all smooth, but the rewards far exceed the obstacles."

Another Loma Linda RA student, Robert D. Norton, B.S., R.T.(R), said he believes the legislation to regulate radiologist assistants in California will pass by the time he graduates next spring. "I'm sure we can find something that makes everybody happy," he said. Robert just finished his second quarter in the master's program at Loma Linda, where he finds challenging course work and solid support. The program blends online with traditional instruction, requiring students to be on campus about one week each quarter. Students are responsible for finding their own radiologist mentor.

That's not a problem for Robert because of his close relationship with the hospital staff where he works. "Most of radiologist assistant learning is hands-on. Radiologists are the ones who are teaching you."

Robert became an R.T. while in the Navy, which he joined in 1996. He will complete his military service this summer, and said he wants to become a radiologist assistant to build new skills and advance his career. "I need to keep learning something new and doing something more."



Photos courtesy of iStockphoto.com
Radiologist assistant students Robert Norton, left, and Veronica Farris work with clinical coordinator Andrew Shepard.



Photos courtesy of iStockphoto.com
Enjoying a sunny day in Southern California are some of Loma Linda University's radiologist assistant program personnel. From left are Robert Norton, student; Renee Stone, program director; Andrew Shepard, clinical coordinator; and Brigit Lara, assistant program director



Photo By: Art Kroetz

CONGRATULATIONS, MSRS INAUGURAL CLASS OF 2010

By MIKE IORIO
Rad Tech Associate Professor
August 2010

(L-R) Melissa Wallschlaeger, Jennifer Owens, Tara Hartwick, Kellie Tatro

The journey concludes for a remarkable group of four students earning Loma Linda University's inaugural Master of Science in Radiation Sciences (MSRS) degree. Throughout the two-year journey, the MSRS faculty prepared this exceptional group of students to accept skilled positions in which critical thinking, communication, professionalism, and leadership are indispensable.

"I am confident these individuals will elevate radiation sciences to new

and innovative levels," remarks Mike Iorio, MPA, RT(R) (CT) (ARRT) CRT, Program Director and Professor.

The MSRS program is a 49-unit online program that offers a distinctive confluence of courses in education, leadership, and management. One of only five graduate radiation science programs in the nation, the MSRS program attracts a rich and diverse student population that is gratifying to both student and faculty alike.

Department chair Laura Alipoon,

Ed.D, RT(R), states that she "enjoyed sharing her passion for effective teaching with these students." The 2010 cohort embodied the geographic diversity inherent in online settings as students from this group represented the states of California, Georgia, and Florida.

We wish this group well on their continued journey to lead, to heal and to serve.

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Above Photo, L-R: Heather Javaherian, Amy Hedgecock, and Ipu Eliapo educated their peers about domestic violence during a meeting of the Occupational Therapy Association of California.

OT Department Raises Domestic Violence Awareness

By HEATHER REIFSNYDER
LLU TODAY Newspaper
May 2010

Two master's students and an associate professor from the department of occupational therapy sciences, School of Allied Health Professions, offered a three-hour domestic violence workshop April 11, 2010, to colleagues at the spring fling meeting of the Occupational Therapy Association of California.

Ipu Eliapo, Amy Hedgecock, and Heather Javaherian, OTD, presented on the role of occupational therapy in helping survivors of domestic violence get their lives back.

"This is a fairly new area of practice for the profession, and so it was nice to be a part of the resource information for those who wish to continue in this area," says Ms. Eliapo. "Helping women and children regain some degree of independence is rewarding in itself, and it's what we as OTs were meant to do as professionals."

As part of their studies, both Ms. Eliapo and Ms. Hedgecock spent 12 weeks in fieldwork at a domestic violence shelter running groups aimed to help the residents build full and balanced lives. The experience made both women interested in doing more outreach in this realm.

"I would like to increase the awareness of an occupational therapist's role within the area of domestic violence and within other areas of community practice," says Ms. Hedgecock.

"I believe occupational therapists are and can be doing

great things within the community setting," she continues. "Occupational therapists are well equipped to serve this underserved area with our unique holistic therapeutic approach."

Ms. Eliapo is from American Samoa, and when she returns there after graduation, she plans to pursue helping women and children affected by domestic violence.

"I hope to transition my knowledge and practice from what I learned here in LLU to the islands and design it to fit our cultural expectations while still upholding health and wholeness," she says. "I believe I was given the chance to learn in this area of practice because it is needed in American Samoa, and so I have no choice but to use it when I return home."

Women and children who've faced domestic violence experience challenges in their daily occupations and routines at home, work, and in social settings. They may have difficulty with skills such as money management, problem solving, stress management, and coping.

During their presentation at the conference, Dr. Javaherian, Ms. Hedgecock, and Ms. Eliapo described the role and scope of practice for occupational therapists working in domestic violence shelters, as well as how to enter that practice arena. They also offered examples of programs that can be used and discussed case studies.

"I hope our presentation eased the worries of therapists interested in community practice and pushed them to make their aspirations a reality," says Ms. Hedgecock. "Anything is possible with occupational therapy."

JAPANESE and American Exchange Brings Increased Understanding of OT

By HEATHER REIFSNYDER
LLU TODAY Newspaper
August 2010

Life in Japan and the United States may differ in many ways, but when it comes to recovering from a stroke, brain tumor, other disease, or brain injury, the same care is needed. For three days in May, 25 occupational therapy (OT) students from Jikei College in Osaka, Japan, visited Loma Linda University to compare OT practices in the two countries.

This is the seventh year students from Jikei College have traveled to LLU, but this year the group had a new opportunity to participate in an academic and cultural project with LLU OT students in addition to the 25 hours of classroom interactive sessions that addressed conditions and challenges of clients across the lifespan.

The joint project centered around the fact that life's myriad daily tasks, or occupations, require certain physical capabilities and cognitive functions. Simple tasks become complicated when clients sustain some form of brain damage, which varies from person to person but can happen to anyone at any age, says Karen Pendleton, MA, OTR/L, assistant professor of occupational therapy and coordinator of international study tours such as this one.

"When we brush our teeth, how many of us must mentally process through each of the many steps involved?" she asks. "We usually perform these tasks automatically."

A client with brain damage, however, may have trouble with the necessary sequence and related cognitive functions. The following are a few of the skills involved with this simple act:

- Following a familiar route to the bathroom (topographical orientation)
- Recognizing and locating items needed for the task (figure ground perception, visual object identification, depth perception, form discrimination, saccadic eye movement)
- Being able to start and stop each phase of the task (initiation/termination)
- Following an appropriate order of events (sequencing)

Story continues on next page...



Students participating in activities to increase left-right orientation/discrimination which is a key element when dressing, maneuvering in our environments, writing, engaging in sports and leisure activities, etc.



One of the students from Osaka describing intervention activities appropriate from her culture



Students engaged in a variety of activities to improve memory which is needed for every occupation we perform.

... continued from previous page

Prior to the trip, both LLU and Jikei students researched information related to traumatic brain injuries. An assignment was developed and translated into Japanese. Pairs of students from Osaka each teamed up with two LLU students, chose one of the cognitive deficits to explore, identified and addressed challenges a client with this deficit might face, and then designed an interactive exhibit showcasing intervention strategies from each of their cultures.

When the students arrived from Japan, they spent the first afternoon meeting with their teammates and assembling their exhibits. Two translators were present, but the students from both schools were encouraged to use various forms of communication in their interactions with each other, such as gestures, pictures, and demonstrations.

"This turned out to be a very successful strategy... laughter could be heard throughout the department"

"This turned out to be a very successful strategy and laughter could be heard throughout the department," says Ms. Pendleton.

On the final day of the visit, the interactive exhibits opened at Wong Kerlee International Conference Center to more than 100 participants.

The students' evaluations of the experience revealed it was both rewarding and positive. "Both groups of students enjoyed the cultural exchange and commented that they had an increased understanding of how a brain injury can affect so many occupations," Ms. Pendleton says.

"Some students from Japan shared that they had been fearful at first because of the language barrier, but felt a warm welcome by the LLU students."

Canine THERAPY

By JACLYN PRUEHS
Alumni Affairs Officer
September, 2010

Many human patients go through the rigors of physical therapy after an injury or a surgery and are given a variety of techniques meant to stretch, exercise and rehabilitate the body. Surgeries meant almost exclusively for humans are now common practice among dogs. Dogs are living longer today due to the many advances in medical treatments; because of this, they are requiring more care as they age. Now, in a new and exciting concept called Canine Therapy, treatments that were designed to assist humans are now being offered to members of the animal kingdom.

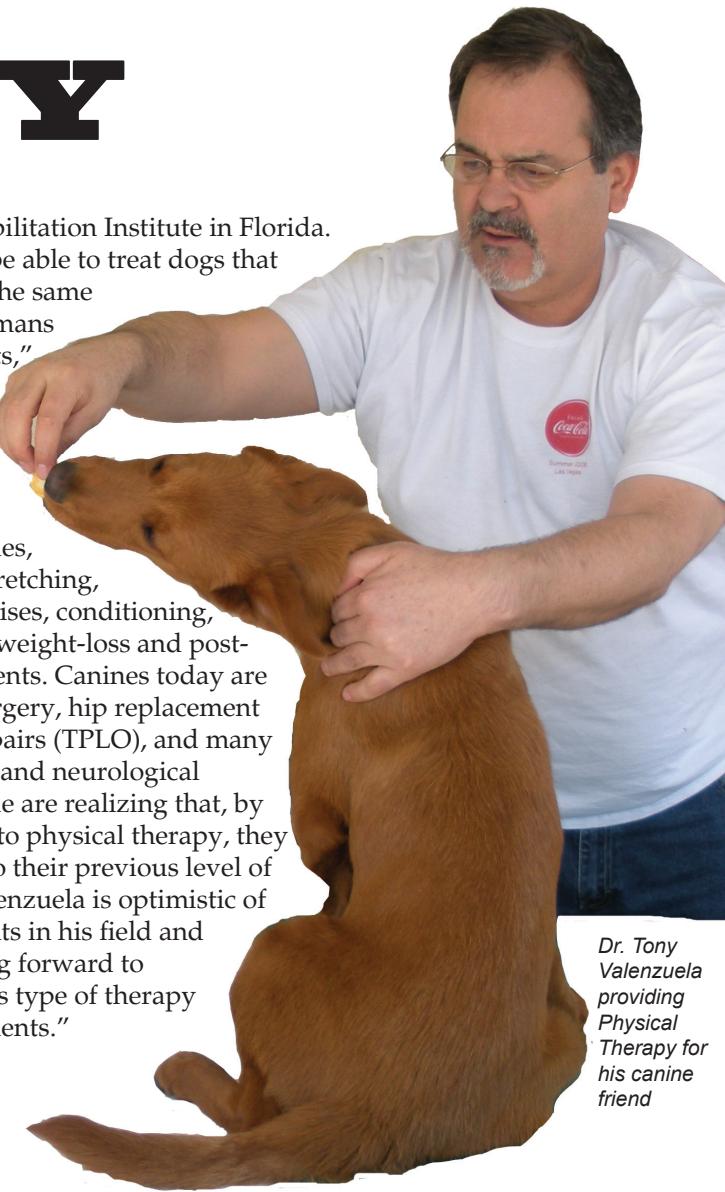
In 2001, Tony Valenzuela, PT, DPT, Ed.D., CCRT, professor in the Physical Therapy department, attended a 16-hour workshop introducing the practice of canine rehabilitation for physical therapists. "I fell in love with the concept," said Dr. Valenzuela. "In 2008 I began pursuing that goal and in April of 2010 I completed my certification."

Dr. Valenzuela is now a licensed CCRT (Certified Canine Rehabilitation Therapist). There are two institutions in the country that grant this type of certification to both Veterinarian Doctors and Physical Therapists: The College of Veterinary Medicine at University of Tennessee Knoxville and

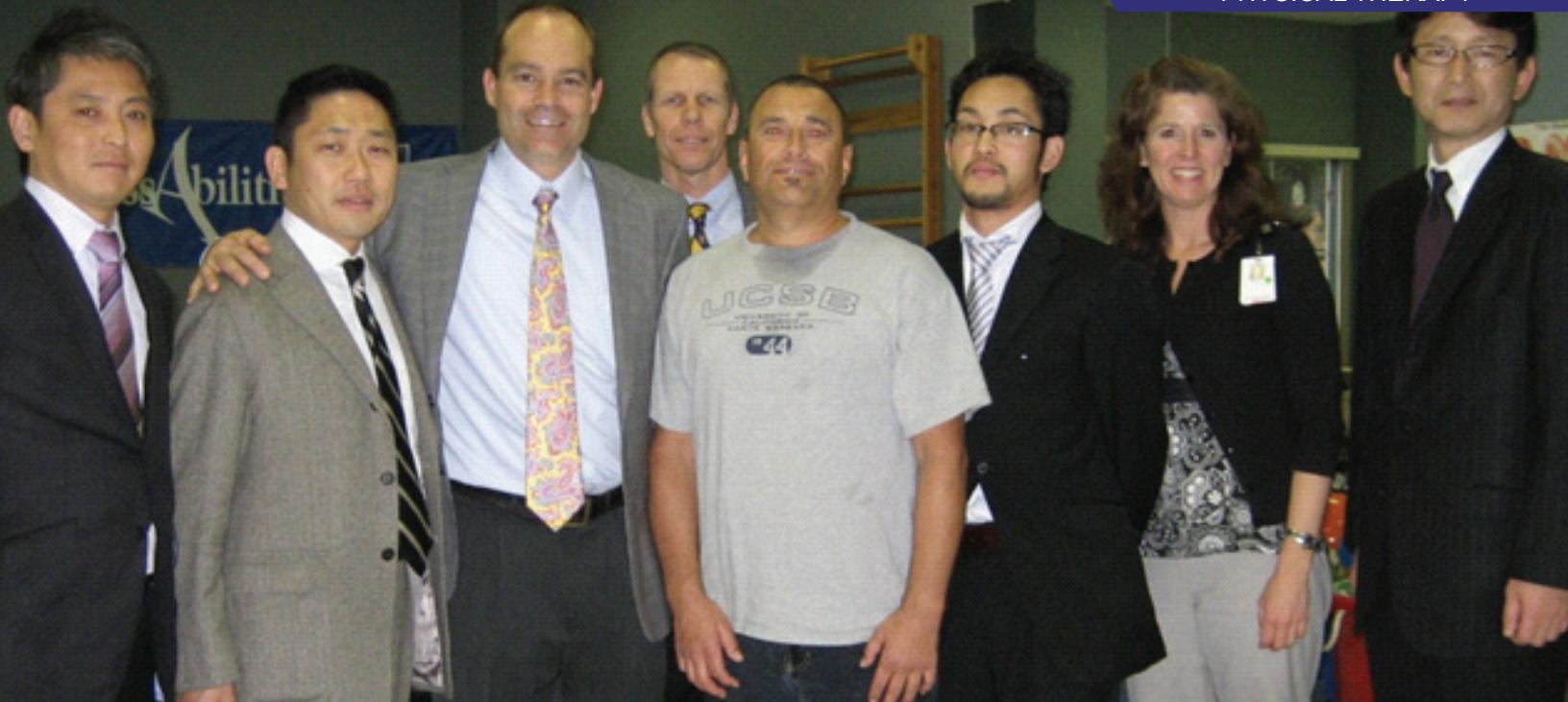
the Canine Rehabilitation Institute in Florida.

"I will now be able to treat dogs that require some of the same services their humans receive as patients," remarks Dr. Valenzuela.

The treatments he will provide include manual therapy, modalities, strengthening, stretching, therapeutic exercises, conditioning, aquatic therapy, weight-loss and post-operative treatments. Canines today are having spinal surgery, hip replacement surgery, ACL repairs (TPLO), and many more orthopedic and neurological conditions. People are realizing that, by taking their pets to physical therapy, they can be restored to their previous level of function. Dr. Valenzuela is optimistic of new developments in his field and says, "I'm looking forward to incorporating this type of therapy in my canine patients."



Dr. Tony Valenzuela providing Physical Therapy for his canine friend



Loma Linda University Faculty Members Dr. Eric Johnson, Dr. Everett Lohman, and Lisa Zidek with guests at the LLUMC Outpatient Rehabilitation Center.

LLU Faculty Members Serve as Keynote Speakers at Japan National Conference

By ERIC G. JOHNSON
Physical Therapy Professor
April, 2010

Loma Linda University faculty members Eric Johnson, DSc, PT, NCS, and Everett Lohman, DSc, PT, OCS, were the featured keynote speakers at the National Japan Physical Therapy Association (JPTA) Conference in Yokkaichi, Japan on October 2, 2009. The visiting professors spoke about the clinical and research aspects of balance and vestibular rehabilitation for nearly three hours to an audience of more than fifteen hundred attendees. Loma Linda University alumnus, Dr. Naoko Kashiwa provided translation.

According to Dr. Johnson, "Vestibular rehabilitation is not currently practiced in Japan by physical therapists despite the fact that it's a highly evidence-based clinical practice focused on managing patients with dizziness and imbalance."

The LLU professors were invited to speak at the seminar by Dr. Yuji Asai, chair of the Physical Therapy Department at Nihon Fukushi University in Handa City, Japan. Dr. Asai, along with several of his colleagues are working to develop vestibular rehabilitation in Japan and the seminar allowed maximum exposure for the topic to be introduced to a national audience.

The JPTA Conference was preceded by publications from Dr. Johnson and Dr. Lohman in the Journal of the Japan Physical Therapy Association (JJPTA) and a

collaborative writing project with Dr. Asai will be published in both English and Japanese languages later this year in the JJPTA.

During the conference, the LLU professors had the opportunity to meet with several faculty members from different universities in Japan. As a result, in January of 2010, SAHP and Department of Physical Therapy hosted four faculty representatives from three Japanese Universities on the Loma Linda University campus. The trip included clinical visits to the LLU Medical Center Outpatient Rehabilitation Center to observe patient treatments with vestibular certified physical therapist Lisa Zidek, off-campus clinical visits in Orange County, a tour of the Centennial Complex where Dr. Tony Valenzuela provided a cadaver dissection experience in the Physical Therapy Anatomy Lab, and participation in a Pilates balance class.

During their visit, Dr. Suzuki, from Nagoya University, presented a ninety-minute lecture to more than 100 LLU physical therapy graduate students about his research in the area of pain management.

Dr. Johnson and Dr. Lohman are currently collaborating with the Japanese faculty members on clinical research as well as helping to develop vestibular and balance rehabilitation in Japan.

SAHP Recognizes Marilyn Davidian with Faculty Recognition Award

By DR. GEORGIA HODGKIN

Nutrition & Dietetics Faculty

June, 2010

Marilyn R. Davidian, PhD, RHIA, presented her research findings on "Mentoring in Higher Education" to the School of Allied Health Professions (SAHP) faculty council on May 7. When introducing her as recipient of the 2010 Faculty Recognition Award from the school, nominator Noha Daher, DrPH, pointed out Dr. Davidian is also the 2010 recipient of the Educator of the Year Award from the California Health Information Management (HIM) Association. She was nominated for the 2009 Research Award from her national professional organization, the American HIM Association.

Dr. Davidian has developed a number of programs in SAHP including the executive certificate program in HIM, the distance education HIM progression program (LLU's first distance education program), as well as international practicum and affiliation sites in Mexico, Guyana, China and Argentina. She has served as the chair of the department of health information management since 1993.

In her 20-minute presentation on mentoring, she described the important role faculty in higher education play in the long-term academic and career success of students. Her research showed that those with a mentor excelled in education, did better in their careers, and moved to higher positions. She surveyed members of the American HIM profession with 1,039 responding, 75 percent of whom did so within 48 hours using SurveyMonkey. The data showed 59 percent had a mentor. Many sent e-mails to Dr. Davidian

further describing their positive relationships with mentors, including those at LLU, even though SurveyMonkey was set in this case to maintain their anonymity.

Respondents identified a mentor's positive characteristics as being available, offering a perspective out of personal experience, becoming a friend, and providing job referrals. Additionally, mentors listened in an environment of trust, expressed enjoyment for the respondent's success, and encouraged the student to pursue higher education.

Dr. Davidian plans her mentoring of students. She includes time in her schedule to connect with students via e-mail, telephone, greeting cards and letters of encouragement. Her intention is to respond to queries within 48 hours. She appreciates retention researcher Barbara Lovitts' thought: "It is not the background characteristics students bring with them to the University that affects their persistence outcomes; it is what happens to them after they arrive." Faculty in SAHP subscribe to the LLU experience.

Dr. Davidian thanked her mentors for their support during her doctoral program, Dr. Daher, associate professor of research and statistics; Grenith Zimmerman, PhD, associate dean of SAHP and director of research and statistics; and Lianne Hewitt, DrPH, ROT, chair, department of occupational therapy.

The fall-out rate from doctoral programs is 30 to 50 percent, with women leaving at a higher rate than men. Dr. Davidian thus gave special thanks to Joyce Hopp, PhD, RN, emeritus dean, SAHP, who told Dr. Davidian as she was writing her dissertation, "You must not drop out of the program. I will not let you." Dr. Hopp then added, "I'll be here to help you." This sentiment is familiar to SAHP faculty as she encouraged graduate degrees for many.



Marilyn R. Davidian, PhD, RHIA (right), receives the 2010 Faculty Recognition Award from Georgia Hodgkin, EdD, RD, FADA, chair of the SAHP faculty council.





Photo By: Art Kroetz

Above Photo, (L-R): Jackie Angulo, Anny Ha, Esmerelda Guerrero, Tina Diaz, Casey Deschene, and Helena Machaj.

Nutrition Students Promote 'Local Eats and Veggie Treats'

By HELENA MACHAJ
LLU On Campus News
June, 2010

The next time you sit down to dinner, chew on this: The average bite of food you eat travels 1,500 miles before reaching your plate. While this fact may not be common knowledge, it certainly provided food for thought when it was imparted at the presentation "Local Eats and Veggie Treats," a program put on by Nutrition and Dietetics students in the School of Allied Health Professions on May 19.

The event, created to fulfill the requirements for a community nutrition class project, blossomed into something that was educational for both the students who organized the project and for those in attendance. The program consisted of short presentations by four different sets of speakers, followed by a food demonstration and a meal prepared by the students

themselves using ingredients obtained at local farmers' markets. It was held in the newly renovated U.D. Register Kitchen in Nichol Hall.

The students responsible for organizing the event were Jackie Angulo, Casey Deschene, Tina Diaz, Esmerelda Guerrero, Anny Ha, and Helena Machaj, all juniors in the Nutrition and Dietetics department.

David Dyjack, Dr.P.H., Dean of the School of Public Health, was the first to speak. Having recently completed a 30-day "locavore" challenge, the dean extolled the virtues of procuring food locally. Donning his chef's hat, he said, "The quality of the eating experience that I've had since I've begun to consume local vegetables and local fruits has been absolutely amazing."

He continued, "I would encourage all of us to support local agriculture. Number one, the quality of the food – and I can attest to this – is wonderful. Number two, 90 cents of every dollar that you spend on a local farmer's produce stays in the local community. And that's important! It's a part of our heritage."

Chef Cory Gheen, an instructor in the department of nutrition and dietetics, spoke next. Local, organic, sustainable agriculture is one of his passions, and he believes that this is

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a topic whose time has come. His presentation focused on the benefits that this type of food has to offer, and he also discussed the "amazing advances" in vegetarian restaurants around the world.

For him, the take-home message was simple: "Even living in a major metropolitan area, [people] can still find locally grown produce. It takes very little effort to acquire, and results in better products for you to eat," he said.

The last two sets of presenters were representatives of nearby organic farms. Abby and Jason Harned, the owners and operators of Three Sisters Farm in San Timoteo Canyon, spoke next. They discussed the acquisition of their land and the growth of their farm. They emphasized that farming isn't just a business for them; it is a way of life. For Abby, having a farm is a dream being realized. "It's more of a lifestyle choice for us to be doing what we're doing. We're not trying to supply the Inland Empire or even the city of Redlands with their produce. We're just trying to make a living on our land and raise our children with a good honest day's work. And we're really enjoying it."

The presentations ended with Kevin Carlin and Jon Rowan from Morningstar Ranch in Valley Center, California, sharing their experiences not only as farmers, but also as a community. Farming is a new trade for many of the people living and working at Morningstar Ranch, but, with a little help from their neighbors, they have become successful at it nevertheless. "It's easy to be in college and to read Thoreau and want to go and just till up some soil and start growing vegetables," said Mr. Rowan. "But it's a lot of work."

Morningstar Ranch currently sells its products at seven farmers' markets, which affords an upside to all the effort. "We're incredibly happy to do it, to provide the service. People really appreciate your labor...they see your lettuce and they can't believe that lettuce looks like that, and they want to put it in a vase on their table when they get home," Mr. Rowan added.

Hearing from the farmers was an important aspect of "Local Eats and Veggie Treats," because it gave the audience the opportunity to learn about local agriculture from the farmer's perspective. "Going to the farmers' market and walking around isn't the same as hearing from the farmers. This kind of puts all the information in place," commented Anne Atkinson, an M.P.H. student in the School of Public Health's department of health promotion and education.

The event concluded with a demonstration of just how delectable the concept of local eating can be. Ms. Diaz, one of the students involved in the project, presented a food demo of spicy parmesan green beans and kale. She was assisted by Ms. Deschene. Attendees then got to taste farm-to-table freshness when dinner was served. The menu, created by Ms. Ha, featured items such as vegetarian pesto sandwiches, beet soup, and strawberry rhubarb crisp.

Ms. Angulo, who acted as a moderator for the event, commented, "I was happy to have had such an amazing group of students to work with, as well as supporting staff and faculty. Each of us contributed our own talents to the project and the outcome was, I believe, more than what we ever expected."

Ms. Guerrero agreed. "Overall I felt that our group did a phenomenal job."

The event was also considered a success by those in attendance. Julie Turner, a first-year student in the School of Public Health's global health M.P.H. program, attended the program with her husband. "It was very inspiring," she commented. "I'm inspired to buy locally grown food. We both transferred to that [philosophy] tonight; otherwise we never would have known."

So, the next time you are feeling hungry, consider a trip to the local farmers' market in lieu of the grocery store. It will save your meal some mileage.



Don't miss this great opportunity to reconnect with friends, visit with teachers, and hear exciting updates from your alma mater. RSVP today to be our guest at the complimentary dinner reunion on Sunday evening, November 7th at 5:30. Email your reservation to Jaclyn at jpruehs@llu.edu.

Knitting to fill Inland Empire needs

By HEATHER REIFSNYDER
LLU On Campus News
May 2010

Rachel Braley isn't waiting until she graduates with her Emergency Medical Care degree to make a difference in people's lives. While studying for her bachelor's degree from the School of Allied Health Professions, she is also an active volunteer with three organizations.

For her commitment, the United Way program Hands On Inland Empire has named her as its 2010 Volunteer of the Year, as well as March 2010 Project Leader of the Month. "We are all connected in this community, in this world," she says. "There are a thousand good reasons to volunteer and not a single reason not to."

Ms. Braley runs a group at Hands On Inland Empire for four hours each week called *Knit 4 Need*. She is both leader and teacher to group members as they knit blankets, toys, sweaters, and other items to donate to organizations including Foothill Family Shelter, Soldiers' Angels, West End Animal Shelter, and Loma Linda University Children's Hospital.

More than 600 volunteers have put in greater than 1,400 hours to produce thousands of dollars worth of goods that go to help sick children, families in need, soldiers, and animals waiting for adoption.

Ms. Braley's grandmother taught her to knit at the age of five. "I stopped knitting sometime in elementary school, but after my grandmother died, in middle school, my mother helped me rediscover the craft my grandmother had loved so much," she says. "I have been knitting a little obsessively ever since."

But that's not the only skill she puts to work volunteering. Ms. Braley's other volunteer work includes recording textbooks for the organization Readings for the Blind and Dyslexic and, for the last three years, serving as a YMCA camp counselor.

"There really is a volunteer project for just about any interest, from crafts to sports to gardening to building homes," she says.

For people interested in volunteering, Ms. Braley recommends as a starting point the websites dosomething.org, volunteermatch.org, and handsoninlandempire.org. She also accepts new volunteers into the knitting group and can be contacted at rbraley@llu.edu.

Upon graduating, Ms. Braley hopes to combine her loves for volunteering and medical care into a career of educating and coordinating disaster and emergency volunteers.

In addition to her awards from Hands On Inland Empire, Ms. Braley was nominated for the University of Phoenix Volunteer Leader Award and the Daily Point of Light Award from Points of Light Institute.

KOLA Cares for Kids Radiothon Benefits Children's Hospital

By JACLYN PRUEHS
Alumni Affairs Officer, SAHP
August 2010

Eight years ago, Victor Bannis, '88 Respiratory Therapy Graduate and current Coordinator for the Respiratory Transport Team at the LLU Medical Center, started a great program aimed at bringing comfort and a touch of security to young children transported to the LLU Children's Hospital.

"The Respiratory Transport Team moves between 1,300 and 1,500 pediatric patients each year from neighboring county hospitals via ambulance, helicopter or airplane, to the LLU Children's Hospital where they can receive the specialty treatment they need," says Bannis. "The transport process can be pretty scary, so we give each child a blanket and a teddy bear. That bear has come to be known as a KOLA Bear because of our work over the past seven years with KOLA 99.9 FM in a radiothon event which raises money for equipment in the LLU Children's Hospital, and goes toward the purchase of nearly 1,500 bears each year."

On August 16 and 17, 2010, KOLA 99.9 FM hosted the 7th Annual KOLA Cares for Kids Radiothon. Respiratory Therapy (RT) seniors from the School of Allied Health Professions volunteered their services answering phone lines and taking

Story continues on next page...



Photo of: Edwin Ledezma, Senior RT Student

Photo by: Josh Napod, RT Student

... continued from previous page

donations. Each caller was given the opportunity to donate in honor of someone special, and by doing so, the bear they donated was armed with a wristband which read: "This KOLA 99.9 FM bear was given by [Donors Name] in honor of [someone special]."

With the help of KOLA 99.9 FM, the many volunteers, and Executive Fitness & Martial Arts, who challenged the callers dollar-for-dollar up to \$5,000, the Children's Hospital raised a total of \$144,000 during this two-day event. "This fundraiser directly benefits both the Children's Hospital and the Respiratory Transport Team," says Bannis. "We greatly appreciate everyone who helped us raise those funds, and send our thanks to everyone who donated."

Spanish Immersion in Costa Rica

By KISHA R. NORRIS
Director of Development, SAHP
September, 2010

According to U.S Census 2000, Hispanics and Latinos currently constitute the largest minority group in the United States representing 12% of the population. By 2050, some estimate that Hispanics and Latinos will comprise 25% of the U.S. population.

For medical professionals, addressing this demographic shift and developing Spanish-language skills have become essential for effective communication and treatment of Hispanic and Latino patients. The Physician Assistant (PA) Sciences program has seen this trend and made it a priority to provide their students with the tools they need to be more competent practitioners.

The first year of the PA curriculum is filled with classes and one of them is a Spanish language course. At the end of that year the students are required to take a four unit course entitled Practicum in Spanish. This course is a full-immersion experience. Students travel to a Spanish-speaking country and live with families who only speak Spanish or have a limited understanding of English. They are also able to observe how medicine is practiced in another country.

"We want our students to become more compassionate practitioners," said faculty member, Christy Eskes, MPA, PA-C, PA, who traveled with the group of 23 students. "Service to our communities and being able to speak another language, or at least possess the ability to communicate effectively, is very important to us. We want our students to have all the tools necessary to change the world around them."

This summer the students traveled to Heredia, Costa Rica for their week-long course. "This is the first year we have traveled to Costa Rica," remarks Eskes. "We couldn't have been more pleased with the environment, the program or our students."

The students were enrolled in daily language courses that focused on medical Spanish. The curriculum from the Centro Pan Americano de Idiomas (CPI) School was a blessing to the department. "When we were researching places and programs to attend, we were very impressed by CPI, their program and their emphasis on mission work," commented Eskes.

The students had a full schedule during their week abroad. Out of the six days of their stay, two of them were spent in community service for an inner-city district called "La Carpio." There they had the opportunity to work in a local medical clinic, build bunk beds for residents who had no beds, or walk around the poorest parts of the neighborhood to hand out vitamins and toys to the local children. Each afternoon was spent in language courses where students were placed in groups according to their baseline Spanish skills with one instructor for every four students. In the evenings, students ate dinner with their Costa Rican families and then were given the option to go and explore the country. Most of the students chose to stay at their homes and talk with their families to increase their





working knowledge of the Spanish language and culture.

"Going to Costa Rica was a once in a lifetime opportunity," said Julia Seemark, President of the Class of 2011. "It was so intense to move into Costa Rican homes and become a part of the family. I enjoyed my new family so much. We ate, played cards, watched soccer and went to church! My time with my classmates was so amazing as well. I loved all of our activities, going to the rainforest and waterfalls together was magical!"

PA Department Increases Enrollment

By JACLYN PRUEHS
Alumni Affairs Officer, SAHP
August 2010

Slow and steady, is the proverbial phrase that can describe the Physician Assistant (PA) Sciences department's increase in student enrollment over the past 11 years. With a beginning class size of 15 students in the year 2000, the faculty in the PA department hoped to build up the program at a rate of two to four additional students each year. Now, 11 years later, the department has doubled their enrollment for the 2010-2011 school year. Out of the over-1,000 applicants who aspire to attend the LLU PA Program, 30 excellent individuals will pass through the two-year program and emerge as members of a rather small group of highly trained PA alumni from the Loma Linda University School of Allied Health Professions.

"We are, actually, one of the smallest [PA] programs in the nation. But we enjoy it this way because we can work with our students on a really personal level," says Yasmin Chene, MPA, DHSc, PA-C, Co-Chair of the PA department. "The program started with three faculty members and one medical director, Dr. Benny Hau. Now we have four full-time faculty members, and have greatly increased our number of adjunct instructors."

Through the years, changes have been seen in more than just the number of students who fill our chairs. The curriculum has been modified and updated, beginning with the implementation of a Spanish Immersion course where the students go to a Spanish-speaking country and practice medicine, take Spanish classes, and live with families for a week (*see the Spanish Immersion story on page 14*). The faculty have also restructured some of the existing courses. In the case of teaching laboratory data, they now not only focus on the analysis and interpretation of bodily fluids but they have added a separate course called Diagnostic Methods to assist the students in interpretation of x-rays, ultrasounds, CTs (CAT scans), and MRIs (Magnetic Resonance Imaging).

"There is such a high demand for this profession that we are planning to increase our acceptance yet again in the Fall of 2011," says Dr. Chene. "What excites me about the program is the potential that we have. There are so many opportunities that Physician Assistants have to make a difference in the community and in the world. We are so happy to be producing the kind of professionals who can go out and achieve great things."

Top Photo: Stephanie Anderson passing out toys to the neighborhood children while Caitlyn Morgigno and Elizabeth Poss look on.

Middle Photo: Elizabeth Poss, Travis Matsumoto and Kris Oliver preparing medication for a patient at the clinic.

Bottom Photo: Students from the Class of 2011 pairing up to learn a traditional Costa Rican dance

REMEMBER!
October 6-12 is
National Physician
Assistant Week





THE MISSION IN HAITI

Many allied health professionals found their calling to a great need in Haiti after the disastrous earthquake in January of 2010. Our SAHP students, faculty and alumni were no exception....

Above Photo: Heather Thomas, OT Assistant Professor, and Yvette Paquin, OT Student, place a splint on a patient at the Adventist Hospital in Haiti

On Tuesday, January 12, 2010 at approximately 4:53p.m. local time, a catastrophic 7.0 magnitude earthquake struck the island of Haiti. By January 24, at least 52 aftershocks measuring 4.5 or greater had been recorded. An estimated three million people were affected by the quake; the Haitian Government reported that an estimated 230,000 people had died, 300,000 had been injured and 1,000,000 made homeless. They also estimated that 250,000 residences and 30,000 commercial buildings had collapsed or were severely damaged. Many countries responded to appeals for humanitarian aid, pledging funds and dispatching rescue and medical teams, engineers and support personnel.

EMERGENCY MEDICAL CARE

"It wasn't like the [World] Trade Center. We couldn't handle it like Katrina. As a person who's helped in disasters, the second day there [in Haiti] was the most stressful day of my life."

James Goss, MHA, MICP, has been a paramedic, a Medical Service Corp Officer, and a Captain in the military for many years. He is also a 2002 graduate of the Emergency Medical Care program in the School of Allied Health Professions. "We learn to adapt and overcome," he says. "But when communication is down, medical supplies and personnel are limited, and aftershocks continually challenge our footing...it becomes overwhelming, to say the least."

The group James traveled with

consisted of an anesthesiologist, general surgeon, orthopedic surgeon, and a few family practice doctors. They arrived in Haiti within a few days of the January 12 earthquake. With the city still in chaos, there was hardly any available

"...what do we do now?"

transportation out of the airport. "For a moment, all we could do was stand there and think, what do we do now?" said James.

They initially thought they would provide a primary care facility, but found that the surgical needs in the Adventiste Hospital D'Haiti were too great to ignore. Since they had no final destination in mind, just the knowledge of a need and faith that they would be used at the right place and the right

time, they decided to rush to the aide of the Adventist Hospital, which was near the epicenter but fortunately, still structurally sound.

"As we arrived, we felt as though we were stepping into a 'medical Alamo' of sorts – cut off from the world around us," said James. "And even though the world was rushing to aid, they became bottlenecked at the source. Things became complicated by language barriers and by a lack of organization." And that is where James stepped into place.

James acted as the Hospital's administrator, putting in place a system of admitting patients and giving them the correct care. "The system is the solution," he said. "We began organizing and running a surgical hospital with a few Haitian doctors who were completely exhausted. Our surgeons jumped in and felt equally strained with

their 20-hour workdays that lasted for five days straight."

Adding to the strain, these surgeons operated without nurses for three days before James could catch a ride to the airport with a British Search-and-Rescue team who had somehow acquired a dump truck. The team climbed in and headed back to the hospital.

In times of disaster, it's typical to see people at their worst, but many times, it's possible to see individuals at their best. Some civilians were profiteering from the tragedy by gouging prices on gasoline, transportation and food; while others were putting their own lives at risk to help others. One such individual was a mother trying to save her son who was trapped under rubble. Despite all the life-saving efforts, her boy was crushed by the very equipment meant to free him. Even amidst all her grief, this mother helped relentlessly in search for other people's sons and daughters.

Others exuded an unbelievable cheerful nature throughout their struggles. "We met a little guy named Henry," said James. "He was always smiling. And even though he had a pelvic and femur fracture, he never whimpered."

As their departure date approached, some began to wonder how and when their patients would receive follow-up care to restore function.

"We provided initial care right after the earthquake," James said. "But I was concerned about our patients' long-term care once we left." Andrew Hagland, from the LLU

School of Public Health, relieved James of his position as hospital administrator when he left, but who would follow-up with the orthopedic patients who have hardware installed on their legs and arms? Who would work with them on learning how to walk again, or on returning motion to an elbow or wrist? Who would care for those in need of direction on how to exercise and remain

healthy? With all these questions left unanswered, James had no idea that months later, his colleague, Everett Lohman, DSc, PT, OCS, would travel to Haiti and fulfill those needs.



Some children after surgery in an outside recovery area

PHYSICAL THERAPY

Six months after the enormous 7.0 magnitude earthquake hit Haiti, Dr. Everett Lohman III, along with a group of 30 volunteers from Children's Hospital Oakland, Ukiah Adventist Hospital,



The surgery center, located outside and covered by only tarps

and Loma Linda University, stepped in at a very pivotal point in the country's recovery process. They arrived as efforts were shifting from emergency relief to long-term development, recovery and rehabilitation. Many of the rehabilitation needs were addressed by two Physical Therapists from LLU, Dr. Lohman (Class of '89, '95, '98), professor in the School of Allied Health Professions and

Emily Rivas, a recent Doctor of Physical Therapy graduate (Class of '09). They worked collaboratively with Rosemary Sullivan, an Occupational Therapist from the Jerry L. Pettis Memorial Veterans

Affairs Medical Center in Loma Linda to provide whole patient care.

"When we first arrived, I wondered where Jesus was amongst all of the pain, sorrow and rubble. Driving through the effects of the devastating earthquake, I searched for an answer but found none and my faith was beginning to crumble like the bricks and mortar everywhere around me," said Dr. Lohman. "But then...I found Him. He was in every single one of the relief workers. I met some really amazing heroes who came to serve in Haiti."

Dr. Lohman spent most of his time at the Adventiste Hospital D'Haiti focusing on direct patient care. Often however, after clinic hours, he would lend a hand in Central Supplies and the surgery center as the "official fly swatter" or "flash light holder" when the electricity would go out during a procedure. Not all tasks were PT related, and few were glamorous, but they made a dramatic difference for the everyday working environment of many volunteers.

On day three of the ten days in Haiti, Dr. Lohman rounded up a small crew of volunteers to tackle a severely unorganized room of donated crutches, wheelchairs, walkers, etc. They placed these items in baby cribs that were found on the roof of the hospital. Brooke Beck, a nurse from Ashland Oregon who decided to stay in Haiti long-term "sat down and cried" after walking into the room that was previously so disheveled and now so nicely organized. Everett said, "Nurse Brock wrote me an email after I had left and told me that I had given her some peace by transforming that room. In that world of chaos, there was at least something that was in its place."

A dramatic realization came into focus upon the group's arrival. Haiti,

Story continues on next page...

prior to the earthquake, was the poorest country in the western hemisphere. Eighty percent of its citizens lived on less than two dollars a day, and seventy percent of their people were unemployed. Less than twenty percent of Haitians had access to improved sanitation and sixty percent of them were undernourished.

"We needed to think about these statistics in our bigger rehabilitation plan. We had to recognize that even if everything went back to status quo, there would still be a lot of needs in the country," said Dr. Lohman. "Since January, much has been done to minimize human suffering in Haiti. However, without jobs, schools and shelter...these gains will not endure."

Their next challenge is to create sustainable rehabilitation services in a country that has never had a "luxury" such as this. Dr. Lohman is currently serving as a consultant for LLU Global Health Institute as they propose construction of a small rehabilitation center on the grounds of the Hospital de Adventista Haiti campus to join two recently delivered portable prosthetics laboratories. Volunteer physical therapist, occupational therapists, prosthetists, and prosthetic technicians will staff these rehabilitation facilities. "For rehabilitation services to become sustainable, Haitian residences will need to be trained to take over these rehab efforts," said Lohman. Haitian translators like Silencieux Marck

Dearsley and Jean Cardin Dorgil, who received on-the-job training under Lohman and other health care volunteers, are beginning to help provide some rehabilitation services;



Volunteers tackle a severely unorganized room of donated crutches, wheelchairs, walkers, etc in over 100 degree weather

however, more formal training is needed to assure that rehab is sustainable and provided at a high quality level. LLU is in the preliminary stages of discussions regarding rehabilitation education in Haiti.

It is estimated that there are still over two million homeless Haitians since the earthquake. Over one million people live in 1,300 spontaneous camps, often called "tent cities." Many are afraid to return to homes that are still standing due to the fear of another quake. Those who are fortunate to be living in homes are at risk of being in dangerous sub-par conditions. Surgeons are still performing orthopedic surgeries and amputations caused by collapsing building or blocks that are dislodged by heavy rains.

The UN & Interior Ministry have estimated the death toll from the January 12, earthquake to be 217,000 to 230,000 people. Haitian President Rene Preval, stated that "170,000 bodies were buried in mass graves, with many more thousand still buried under the rubble."

"Six months ago a terrible tragedy befell Haiti. How can we ensure that the quake was not just a preamble to future anguish and hopelessness?" asked Dr. Lohman. "All I know is that we need to continually work to help the people of Haiti. I am pleased to report that a few weeks after we left, four LLU occupational therapy students and one

teacher did huge amounts of work and made a tremendously positive impact."

OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY

On May 18, 2010, four LLU Occupational Therapy students sat in a very important meeting; a meeting that changed their lives and hopefully the lives of many Haitians in need.

Shane Gemoto, Yvette Paquin, Kelsey Peterson, and Emily Pinkerton met with Heather Thomas, Ph.D (cand.), OTR/L, an assistant professor in the Occupational Therapy Department at LLU, to begin planning a voyage across the world to the Hospital Adventiste d' Haiti in Port-au-Prince, Haiti to

Dr. Lohman and Emily Rivas visiting with a few of their patients in the hospital



provide OT services for survivors of the earthquake and others living with disabilities.

In preparation for the trip, the team began fundraising to cover their costs. They also gathered supplies, such as gloves, food, wipes and splint materials. In the seven weeks leading up to their departure on July 1, the group prepared themselves for a cultural change, a language barrier, and an opportunity to make a difference.

The students were apprehensive at first to begin practicing what they had learned in the classroom. However, as they began to see patients, their knowledge quickly turned into practical application.

The need for Occupational Therapy services in Haiti was profound. Many struggled with injuries sustained by the earthquake and subsequent wreckage and had become dependent on others for their basic self care.

Of the many patients who received care from these five individuals, one collective effort was spent on a particular patient named Johnny. Finding himself beneath the rubble of a collapsed building, Johnny suffered from a severe spinal cord injury, which left him a paraplegic. In order to enhance his quality of life, the group worked hard to restore him to independence. They provided him with a special cushion for his wheelchair that would prevent pressure sores and allow his sacral wound to heal. They also taught him about 'fall recovery' and how to maneuver over curbs and rubble on the street. In addition, they taught him to become independent in bowel and bladder control, they educated him about healthy fiber foods to eat, and also how to use an adapted chair so he could bathe.

For most of the trip, Shane Gemoto was assigned to wound care and saw patients with a variety of ailments. He worked closely with the existing wound

care specialist, a Haitian man named, Jean who shared his recollection of the day the infamous earthquake hit. "I thought the end of the world had come," said Jean. "Everything was so chaotic, and I saw dead bodies lining the streets." For Mr. Gemoto, Jean's reality

felt the serious weight of her request," said Ms. Paquin. "She didn't think that David would survive very long after she left the hospital. We felt our eyes fill with tears as we explained to her that we could not take her boy." This young woman, parenting a fatal child, and mourning the loss of everything she held dear, including her child's father, has faced more obstacles in just one year than many will face in a lifetime.

They worked, ate and slept in the hospital for nearly two weeks. Suffice it to say, the relationships they formed with each other, the staff, the patients and their relatives resembled that of a close knit family; something that the Haitian culture deems extremely valuable.

"It was not unusual for the family [of a patient] to stay at the hospital, sleeping on unfolded cardboard boxes on the floor or on hard folding chairs," said Ms. Pinkerton. "We were told that because of their strong sense of family and community, it may

be difficult to encourage individuals to become independent, since the patient's family members wanted the patient in the hospital to rest and get better, not to physically exert him/herself. But we quickly saw how everyone willingly accepted the work being done to get the patient as close to independence as possible."

In many cases, it was as simple as finding a shower chair to help a man learn how to bathe himself (the first bath he'd taken in months), or exercising a

woman's hand by teaching her to write again or feed herself. "Many of our patients were overcome with joy as they experienced things that they hadn't done in so long," said Ms. Pinkerton. "Those moments truly made us realize the importance of OT in Haiti."

Monetary donations are still very much needed. If you would like to make a donation, you may do so by visiting www.llu.edu/news/haiti and clicking the "donate now" link.



Above Photo, L-R: Kelsey Peterson, Yvette Paquin, Heather Thomas, Shane Gemoto, Emily Pinkerton

became his reality. "Hearing Jean's story made [the effects of the earthquake] much more personal and it became less of just a news event."

Each day, the OT team encountered



Baby David, his mother, and OT Student, Yvette Paquin

patients who not only challenged their minds, but also their spirits. They worked with a five and a half month old boy named David who weighed only eight pounds and was diagnosed HIV positive. As David's mother watched the members of the team shower him with love and attention and work on his developmental skills such as sitting up and rolling, she tenderly asked them if they would take David home. "She spoke in a light tone of voice, but we

High School Students at Science Camp Learn About Clinical Lab Careers

By JACLYN PRUEHS
Alumni Affairs Officer, SAHP
August 2010

During the summer months, many kids attend camps across the nation to enjoy nature, campfires, rope climbing, making new friends, and so many more adventures. But some choose to experience the same activities as summer camp, plus the excitement of science when they go to the Leoni Meadows Honors Science Camp in Grisly Flats, California.

Beginning on July 18, 2010, young people in grades 10, 11 and 12 from various SDA academies headed just outside of Sacramento for a week of traditional camp activities, worship programs, and some extreme science learning.

Admission into the science camp included a required GPA of 3.5 or above, achievement test scores of 90% or above in math and science, recommendations from teachers/principals, and a personal letter stating why the applicant would like to be included. Among other valuable benefits to this camp was the opportunity to acquire one hour of college credit offered by Pacific Union College (PUC), who provided the biology lectures, curriculum and activities during the week.

Both PUC and Loma Linda University (LLU) offered active learning classes throughout the week. Each day, a different school from the LLU campus presented on what they do as a part of healthcare. Representing the School of Allied Health were Chuck Dart, MBA, director of Marketing and Recruitment, and Nikki Gilbert, MT (ASCP), associate professor and instructor from the Clinical Laboratory Science (CLS) department.

Dart spoke to the kids about finding their passion, setting goals, and making it a priority to get good grades now. "It was exciting to share with the students how much Allied Health and particularly CLS has to offer," said Dart.

Nikki Gilbert said she enjoyed the hands-on presentation of two activities: Blood Banking 101 and an Infectious Mono workup. In the Blood banking activity, students learned how to perform an ABO blood type. The campers then typed a mock trauma patient and determined if there were compatible units available to transfuse from the pretend blood bank.

With the Infectious Mononucleosis workup, also called "kissing disease," the participants had a hands-on activity where the participants did a latex agglutination test to figure out which

of the mock patients from a high school setting would test positive for the disease. These activities were developed by the Class of 2009 CLS students and acted as their year-end project. Their goal was to develop a recruitment strategy that included activities geared toward high school students.

Gilbert told the campers, "If you really like science, but not necessarily direct patient care, then CLS could be a good career choice for you. Working as a Clinical Laboratory Scientist is a great career on its own. In addition, the knowledge you will acquire from studying as a CLS will provide you with a solid foundation for higher education in many related healthcare fields."

Faculty in the Department of Clinical Laboratory Science are taking many new steps toward raising awareness of the great opportunities that a degree in CLS can offer. In the spring of 2010, Gilbert and other faculty visited Patrick Henry High School in San Diego to participate in their Math and Science Expo. Gilbert is hopeful that they are successfully "getting the word out that this is a great profession and great career!"

Professor Payne Co-authors New Textbook

By INSIDE ASU NEWSLETTER
Arkansas State University
May 3, 2010

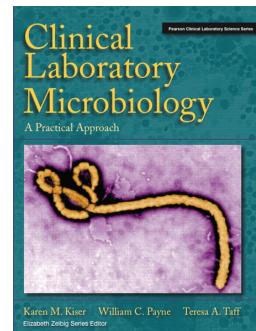


Professor William Payne, 1979 graduate of the SAHP Med Tech program, has co-authored a new textbook, "Clinical Laboratory Microbiology: A Practical Approach," published by Pearson Publishers (Prentice-Hall). His co-authors are Karen Kiser, from St. Louis Community College, and Teresa Taff, from St. John's Mercy Medical Center in St. Louis. Series editor, Dr. Elizabeth Seibig is at St. Louis

University. Payne wrote five chapters and co-authored four additional chapters in a 42-chapter text. His areas of focus dealt with processing fungal cultures, processing acid-fast bacilli cultures, processing clinical specimens for viral, chlamydial, and rickettsial cultures, final identification procedures for microbes, susceptibility testing, as well as medical mycology, medical parasitology, intracellular microorganisms, and diseases affecting the gastrointestinal system. In addition to writing chapter content, he also provided many of the photos used as illustrations. Payne and his co-authors were also responsible for developing online resources for

students and instructors which include quizzes, tests, lecture presentations, an image library, and an e-book. Real-life case studies help students sharpen their problem-solving skills and allow them to envision themselves as members of the health care team.

This textbook will serve as a valuable resource for all laboratory personnel and other health care practitioners.



Professor Retires After 38 Years

By JACLYN PRUEHS



Photo By: Art Kroetz

As a young man, Dr. Ron Hillock, PhD, MBA, MT (ASCP) joined the U.S. Air Force and was stationed in Montgomery, Alabama. While there, he trained in the Air Force's Air University to become a medical technologist. After six years of military service, the University asked him to stay as an instructor. Dr. Hillock, being introverted in nature, answered, "Who? Me?"

"The furthest thing from my mind was the idea of talking in front of people," said Dr. Hillock. Now, 38 years later, he is planning his retirement from a career of teaching Chemistry in the departments of Clinical Laboratory Science (CLS), Physician Assistant Sciences and Nutrition & Dietetics within the LLU School of Allied Health Professions (SAHP).

In the early-70's, Dr. Hillock migrated to Southern California from his station in Alabama. He began teaching chemistry at SAHP, in addition to working at the LLU Medical Center (LLUMC) as the Chief Clinical Chemist. Dr. Hillock always worked toward the betterment of the department and the profession, as could be seen when he was the first person to hire a woman supervisor in the LLUMC Clinical Laboratory. He was also instrumental in acquiring a grant from Beckman Industries, one of the leaders in medical equipment and supplies. Dr. Hillock's partnership with Beckman has been very beneficial to the CLS department over the years. In 2000, he retired from working in the Medical Center and focused solely on training new professionals.

"I'm going to miss the interaction with my students," says Dr. Hillock. "Their young minds keep mine going."

"Many professionals in this area have been taught by Dr. Hillock," says Nikki Gilbert, MT (ASCP), instructor in the CLS department. "He always brings a wealth of knowledge and experience to the podium when he lectures because he has done it all; from a bench tech, to lab director, researcher, author, and teacher but he will be remembered most of all for his passion for students and teaching."

For Kathy Davis, MS, MT(ASCP), Clinical Lab's Program Director, who sat in Dr. Hillock's first graduating class and is now, as he puts it, his "right hand" as a fellow faculty member, the experience of working side-by-side with Dr. Hillock has been "nothing short of excellent! He's the roughest, toughest, creampuff in the world."

For those who know Dr. Hillock, his long run as a chemist, a teacher, an officer and a friend could be summed

up with three words spoken often by the man himself... "It's all Chemistry." To which his colleague Nikki Gilbert replies, "The longer I live, the more I'm beginning to think he's right."

"Why I Came Back"

By CHRISTY ESKES

I was initially drawn to Loma Linda University because of its mission. I was thrilled to have found a school that upheld my same values and had an outstanding reputation in the medical community. After graduating in 2003 with my Master of Physician Assistant degree, I entered clinical practice at a family medicine/urgent care clinic that was close to my home. My supervising physician was available electronically, but I felt unsupported in the work environment. During my rotations in PA school, I had enjoyed the positive atmosphere at clinics associated with Loma Linda and decided to return to this area, initially working in the urgent care and then in the family medicine clinic where I stayed for five years.

It was during those years in family medicine that I began precepting our PA students, and I was finding myself wanting to spend extra time teaching them despite my tight clinic schedule. I was invited to come back to the program to give a lecture on Acute Care Topics, and I was warmly welcomed by both the faculty and the students. When a full-time position opened for a faculty member in the PA department, I jumped at the chance. I knew that I wanted to come back to the university that had both given me a superior education and cultivated my desire to serve others through the practice of medicine.

I started as the Didactic Coordinator and as of this year have become the Program Director. As an alumna of the program, I am grateful for the opportunity to return to my alma mater and

become a member of the extraordinary team here at Loma Linda University. It is my hope and prayer that I am able to provide our students the same quality of education that I received and continue the tradition of graduating exceptional physician assistants who are inspired to touch the world through compassionate service.



Photo By: Art Kroetz

NURSE ANESTHETISTS

By KISHA R. NORRIS

The nurse anesthesia program at the Loma Linda University School of Allied Health Professions began in 1972 and ended in 1984. During that time there were approximately 89 graduates from the program. Recently, I sat down with one of our Anesthesia graduates, Terre Donaldson Ilardi, class of 1980. We got to talking about her time in the School of Allied Health Professions (SAHP) and her career as a nurse anesthetist...

Kisha: Tell me about your degree in Nurse Anesthesia.

Terre: I graduated in September 1980. Our class of 12 was degreed through SAHP. We were one of the first classes to receive a Bachelor's degree in Anesthesia Management in the states. Previously, nurse anesthesia had been only a certificate program.

Kisha: How did you come to realize that Nurse Anesthesia was for you?

Terre: I was raised in Puerto Rico and was around Bella Vista Hospital a lot, where my father was a practicing internal medicine physician. There were several nurse anesthetists at the hospital. One in particular, Jim Smith, was one of the most incredible nurse anesthetists and became my mentor later in life. Because of my exposure to it, I fell in love with the work. From there I went to Southern Missionary College (now Southern Adventist University) and got my degree in nursing.

Kisha: What is the role of Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetists or CRNAs?

Terre: CRNAs can provide anesthesia for any needed surgery. I work independently at several surgery centers. However, many CRNAs work as a team with

anesthesiologists. Regardless of whether their educational background is in nursing or medicine, all anesthesia professionals give anesthesia the same way.

Kisha: Where do CRNAs work?

Terre: CRNAs practice in every setting in which anesthesia is delivered: traditional hospital surgical suites and obstetrical delivery rooms; critical access hospitals; ambulatory surgical centers; the offices of dentists, podiatrists, ophthalmologists, plastic surgeons; and U.S. military (to name a few). CRNAs have been the main providers of anesthesia care to U.S. military personnel on the front lines since WWI, including current conflicts in the Middle East. Nurses first provided anesthesia to wounded soldiers during the Civil War.

Kisha: The LLU School of Nursing started a Nurse Anesthesia program this Fall. How do you think it is that your department came to be a part of the SAHP family years ago?

Terre: I don't know exactly how that came to be. Because we were part of the allied health profession, we took a lot of classes with respiratory and physical therapy students. We also attended physician anesthesia residents' sessions.

Kisha: Tell me a little about your career as a Nurse Anesthetist.

Terre: After graduation, I moved to Texas and worked there for three years. I returned to California and worked at UC Davis for a year. From there, I went to Kaiser and stayed there 20 years. Currently, I work in surgery centers, plastic surgery and labor and delivery.

Kisha: Have you been involved in any mission work?

Terre: I recently went on my first mission trip to the Dominican Republic and worked with a group called MACLA (Medical Aid for Children of Latin America). MACLA strives to help the financially underprivileged of the Dominican Republic, Bolivia and other third world countries. The teams treat patients with correctable physical deformities such as cleft lips and palates, burn scar contractures, as well as hand and soft tissue deformities. It's amazing when you help those in need. You really learn to appreciate what you have.

Kisha: Do you love what you do?

Terre: I am absolutely delighted every day that I get to go to work. I feel incredibly lucky that I love what I do.

Kisha: Do you keep in touch with any of your classmates?

Terre: Of course! We had our very first reunion about two years ago over President's Day

weekend. Out of the 12 in our class, eight were in attendance. When we got together it was like we had never been apart!

Kisha: Did you enjoy your time at Loma Linda?

Terre: When I think back on our time spent at Loma Linda, I know that we received a terrific education. LLU was very forward thinking and allowed us to do things that were new at the time but are now common practice. We graduated feeling like we could go out and take on the world! It was incredible.

Kisha: Tell me about the future of Nurse Anesthesia.

Terre: There is a promising future for this profession. I believe that's why LLU has decided to reinstate the program.



The Lord's Prayer



Photo By: Art Kroetz

CSD students, (L-R) Taryn Mae Henderson, Jessica Leigh Keis, and Natalie Esquerra Kellogg performing sign language to *The Lord's Prayer* song.

By JACLYN PRUEHS
Alumni Affairs Officer, SAHP
September, 2010

Each year at the SAHP graduation ceremony in June, students from the Communication Sciences and Disorders (CSD) Department bridge the gap between sight and sound in a unique benediction that provides a very touching ending to the service.

The signing of the Lord's Prayer at graduation has been a long-standing tradition dating back to the early 90's when Jean Maki, PhD, Speech Pathology professor and former department chair, developed a Sign Language Drama group called *Rhema* – which is Greek for 'bringing Word to life' – with students from the School of Allied Health, as well as from other schools within the University. They performed their rendition of The Lord's Prayer at an SAHP chapel and caught the attention of the school's dean, Joyce Hopp, PhD, RN, who asked if they would share the special number at the graduation ceremony.

In 1993, Jan McFarland was one of Dr. Maki's students, and performed the song with her class at her own graduation. Now, 17 years later, Jan is carrying on the tradition and coaching each new crop of graduating seniors on how to sign to a musical version of The Lord's Prayer. "I tell my students that this performance gives a visual perspective to the music that we usually don't have, as hearing people," says Jan, who began teaching full time in the CSD department in 2001. She is now a contract teacher, focusing exclusively on Beginner's

Sign Language, a required course for every CSD student.

Sign Language is a visual language expressed by hand gestures, facial expressions, and movements. It has its own structure and grammar which allows it to be independent from any spoken language, such as English. For example, British Sign Language and American Sign Language are quite different and mutually unintelligible, even though the hearing people of Britain and America share the same oral language¹. With that being said, it certainly takes time and hard work to distinguish the signs that specifically go along with the English words to the song.

Current department chair, Keiko Khoo, MS, MA, PhD, CCCA, says "many times we thought of resigning [the Lord's Prayer benediction], but each time someone will remind us of how he/she was touched by it. Many times, it has brought tears to my eyes."

Dr. Maki currently teaches Acoustic and Physiological Phonetics on a contract basis in the CSD department. She commented, "The course I teach is about the natural world of how muscles work together to produce the sounds in spoken words. Watching Loma Linda students sign The Lord's Prayer each year moved me beyond the natural. If the stillness of the audience, followed by the applause, was any indication, *Rhema* happened every year. I continue to be grateful for the hundreds of LLU students who gave their time and energy to make it happen. For me, it is the perfect commencement benediction, both a perfect ending and a perfect beginning."

¹Wikipedia, *Sign Language*

Speech and Language Clinic Offers Sessions for Adults and Children

The department of Communication Sciences and Disorders is expanding its Speech and Language Clinic to assist individuals needing stuttering/fluency therapy and accent modification.

Individual and group sessions are planned. There is no age restriction to begin stuttering therapy; however, adults are preferred for accent modification.

A low-cost group therapy program will also be offered for

preschool children ages three to five, beginning in early October, 2010.

The program is designed for children whose speech is difficult to understand, but who can understand what others say to them. The group therapy format will provide a fun and effective way for children to learn to talk more clearly. The cost is \$20 per session. For more information, please call 909-558-4998.



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