

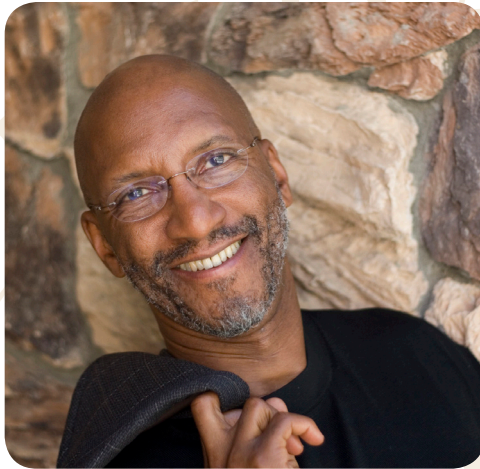
The Link



For Occupational Therapy

Winter/Spring 2008

The Way I See It...



Dr. Craig R. Jackson, Dean of Allied Health

...the School of Allied Health Professions is poised for a great future. There are a lot of things I can say attribute to our success. The first would be a faculty that is dedicated to their work and their students. I am fortunate to interact with such a determined set of individuals. Their love and enthusiasm for their work is contagious, as I'm sure you all know. These individuals have dedicated their lives to the future of this institution and for that, I can tell, our potential is endless.

Our students are another aspect of our exciting future. They have come on the Loma Linda campus poised to embark on this educational journey that you were a part of not so long ago. When I look at them, I can see the determination in their eyes. They are eager to learn and excited to see what the future holds for them. Their future is bright and I can't think of a better view from my office than the anticipation of

service that I see from the way they study, learn, and live at LLU.

One of the brightest stars in our future is you, the alumni. You make us proud! And to be quite honest, we brag about you. You are a prime example of what we think about when the word success comes to mind. Alumni are the culmination of our vision for the school. You have taught us what we need to do and how we need to do it. We can't imagine what we would be without people like you who support us in so many ways.

With such an exciting outlook on our future, we can't help but celebrate it. This newsletter that you are reading is the first of many improvements to our communication with you. We realize that what happens in your department is very important to you, so we want to keep you updated with the inside scoop. Expect to read about students, faculty, and even stories of other alumni. We want to link you to the important happenings in the School and specifically your department. So, please, take the time right now to read through this newsletter and catch up on the activities of your school. This is your opportunity to share in our celebration of the School of Allied Health Professions.

The future looks extremely bright indeed, with lots of possibilities ahead – big possibilities. Like the song says, "We've only just begun."

Sincerely,

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OT & PT Departments Unite to Educate Community

On July 24 and 31 of 2007, Sharon Pavlovich, BA, COTA/C and Dr. Bruce Bradley, PT, DPTSc, GCS, embarked upon a collaborative mission between the departments of Physical Therapy & Occupational Therapy in the School of Allied Health Professions (SAHP). They set out to train the employees of Easter Seals of Southern California in the importance of both employee and patient safety when lifting, transferring and assisting those in transit. Easter Seals is a program focusing on adult day services for individuals with developmental, physical or multiple disabilities.

Sonia Godina, Program Coordinator for West Covina Easter Seals, first approached

Pavlovich on the recommendation from an OT student interning at their facility. Godina and Pavlovich coordinated two days of instruction for 25 staff. The first class was an interactive lecture focusing on injuries to the back. Dr. Bradley took a model spine and explained the details of a herniated disk, what to do if it happens and how to avoid the injury. During the second session they learned by hands-on activities. They practiced transferring patients from a bed to a chair, assisting them as they walk and protecting them from falling. They also learned how to correctly position patients in wheelchairs. Each employee was provided a manual created by Bradley and Pavlovich with information from each session.

Godina rated this experience at a 10. "I was wishing we had an extra day. Our

staff kept wanting to know more. And the fact that Sharon speaks fluent Spanish helped our staff feel comfortable asking questions," she said.

The Allied Health Professions make such a difference in health care and these two departments want to make sure they are out making a presence in their community as well. When asked how volunteering affects him, Dr. Bradley responded with an eager "I get all fired up! I love it! They

were hungry for what we had to offer and that is what makes it all worth while." Pavlovich and Dr. Bradley did this as a free service for Easter Seals. The employees were



so grateful and reported very positive feedback to Godina about the learning experience.

The Easter Seals Regional Director Kris Lyman was so impressed with the training that she wants the duo to provide the same training to other offices in Southern California. She is also interested in working with SAHP to provide students with internship opportunities at the West Covina office. Pavlovich was so positive about her experience with Easter Seals that she said, "I love being an active partner in fulfilling the mission of Loma Linda University. Educating those in the community is just as important as educating our students. I can't wait to do it again!"

1

Classroom A911 Remodeled

“New and improved” is how the OT classroom, A911, is being described. Brand new carpet, newly painted walls and an overall brighter appearance is what



is seen when you open the doors of this room. Cabinetry around the newly installed sink and all along the back walls of the room holds the equipment needed

for the classes, such as wheelchairs, mats and various other supplies. The classroom still has dividers so the large classroom can be split into two smaller rooms for different demonstrations or class presentations. There is also state of the art projection equipment being installed to aid the faculty in teaching their classes.

“The room is so much more conducive to learning than it once was,” says Heather Javaharian, OTD, OTR/L, assistant professor in the Occupational Therapy Department. “And, once all the technology is in it, A911 will be fantastic!”



The new room provides much more useful space for the OT classes than ever before. It’s safe to say that this renovation is a giant step up for all of the OT faculty and students. Having an environment that is functional and exciting is what effective learning is all about.

3

OTA Program - Inactive Status

Effective during the 2008-2009 academic year, the OTA program will change to inactive status. The program’s request was approved by ACOTE (Accreditation Council for Occupational Therapy Education) at its Spring Council meeting. The program is collaborating with a community college to develop an OTA program. The last OTA class has 15 students, all who have lots of energy and passion for the profession.

Department Adopts Local School 2

For several years the OT department has adopted the Anderson School in San Bernardino, CA as a special project. This school has about 144 students, ages 11-22, with a variety of disabilities which include mental retardation, autism, traumatic brain injuries and cerebral palsy. Under the supervision of faculty, senior OT students evaluate and develop intervention plans for selected students. This year graduate students are also working on program development projects and working with their teachers to implement plans to facilitate student learning. This type of community involvement has added great practical application to the OT program.



Young Researcher of the Year

Heather Javaharian, OTD, OTR/L assistant professor in the Occupational Therapy Department, was presented with the Young Investigator’s Research Award at the SAHP Awards Chapel on May 16, 2007. “This is the first year we have given out this award,” says Grenith Zimmerman, PhD, Associate Dean for 4 Research and Statistics. “We wanted our faculty who are just starting out in the research arena



to be awarded for their hard work and success.” Some of the requirements for this award include: being a full-time faculty member with a masters or doctoral degree, having less than five years of research experience, and being the first author on more than 8 papers in peer-reviewed journals (with one to three of those papers representing non-student research projects.)

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...to Occupational Therapy

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School of Allied Health Professions



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