

# The Link



FOR PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT SCIENCES

SUMMER/FALL 2008



## MISSION STATEMENT:

The Loma Linda University Department of Physician Assistant (PA) Sciences educates primary care physician assistants who will complement the work of physicians by providing health care as active members of a professional healthcare team, excellence and compassion in health care for the whole person, and quality

healthcare for under served individuals and communities nationally and globally.

## VISION STATEMENT:

The Loma Linda University Department of PA Sciences will be recognized for professional excellence, empathy, team effort, and advocating lifestyle changes to enhance health and prevent disease.

I begin with the department's mission and vision statements to illustrate the enormous challenge each of us face as faculty and graduates of our department. As our current group of students prepare for exams, boards, clinicals, and graduation, it is amazing to see not only the growth in their professional knowledge and skill but also their commitment to whole person care globally and internationally.

On April 19-20, 2008, 16 PA students, volunteers and PA program faculty members embarked on a mission service trip to Ensenada, Mexico. This was the fourth trip taken by the Loma Linda University PA department. Coordinated by faculty member Yasmin Chene, Assistant Professor, the trip was a great opportunity for the class to work together and apply clinical skills that they had learned over the past two years. The PA students, volunteers and faculty were very excited about this memorable experience.

Upon arrival on Saturday, the group shared with the children at the Door of Faith Orphanage where one of our alumni (Sarah Mayer-PAC) serves as part of her mission work. The children were

very kind and loving making us feel part of their family. Donations such as toys and clothes that were donated by current students, faculty and alumni were delivered at this facility. On Sunday morning the group drove to a community outside of Ensenada to deliver medical care. The school was transformed into a clinic and pharmacy where medicines and supplies, donated by alumni and medical providers from the community, were distributed. The PA students and faculty worked as a team to meet the health care needs of

the community members. We saw a variety of medical cases and examined an average of 80 patients including children, adults, and the elderly. These patients were very kind and appreciative.

We were fortunate to have the opportunity to serve such a wonderful group of people in this town, as well as to learn more about how to apply our professional and patient care skills in an international setting.

We have seen how our alumni continue to excel not only in their professional careers, but also in making a difference in the lives of those they meet. We would like to extend the opportunity to partner with you, our alumni, in projects and activities that further the mission and vision of our department and Loma Linda University.

Please feel free to contact us, come by, give us a call, or drop us an email message. It will be great to hear from you again!



**David Lopez, Ed.D, RCP, RRT**  
**Interim Chair of Physician Assistant Dept**

## Alumni Search with AfterCollege.com!

Register for a FREE AfterCollege account to view or contact fellow alumni. This is a great way to reconnect with your friends and classmates. This site also is SAHP's source for businesses to post their job listings. Visit [www.AfterCollege.com](http://www.AfterCollege.com) and sign up today!



## 2008 CALENDAR

AUGUST:

CE Cruise to Mexico.....10-17

NOVEMBER:

National Allied Health Week..2-8

## AWARDS

APRIL 19  
ALUMNI AWARDS BANQUET

*Distinguished Alum:*

Christy Eskes '03

*Rising Star:*

Meghan Galloway '08

MAY 21  
AWARDS CHAPEL

*Alumni Award:* Tim Partick Hoang

*Faculty Award:* Sarah Blucker

& Jennifer Lonac

*Chairman's Award:* Ruth Martin

*Spirit of LLU PA Award:*

Jennifer Bartolome

## CONTACT US

DEAN OF ALLIED HEALTH  
Craig R. Jackson, JD, MSW  
909.558.4545  
emailthedean@llu.edu

DEPARTMENT CHAIR  
David Lopez, Ed.D, RCP, RRT  
909.558.4932  
dlopez@llu.edu

ALUMNI AFFAIRS OFFICER  
Jaclyn Pruehs  
909.558.7840  
jpruehs@llu.edu

DIRECTOR OF DEVELOPMENT  
Kisha Norris, M.Ed.  
909.558.7790  
knorris@llu.edu

## First SAHP Student Association Developed and Officers Elected

For the first time in SAHP history, a Student Association, called SAHPSA (School of Allied Health Professions Student Association), has been officially developed with the help of Marketing Director, Chuck Dart, and student events coordinator, Karen Westphal. Students have been in deliberation concerning a Constitution and Bylaws since the first week of the 2008 winter quarter. On Thursday, May 22, five students engaged in a lunch-time debate for five positions in the Association. This event was cleverly named "Pancake and Debate" and lunch was, of course, pancakes. The new SAHPSA officers for the 2009 school year are as follows: President - Jorge Romo (Respiratory Care), Financial Vice-President - Jamie Venegas (Respiratory Care), Community Service Vice-President - Abigail Moss (Clinical Laboratory Science), Spiritual Life Vice-President - Jennifer Brucks (Speech Language Pathology), Social Life Vice-President - Peterson Le (Respiratory Care).



SAHPSA Constitution & Bylaws Committee

## LLU CEUs at Sea: Continuing Ed for Health Care Professionals - Aug 8-15, '09

Save the date for the *Loma Linda University Friends & Family 7-day Cruise to the Western Caribbean* with six CEU credits applicable toward radiation technology (radiography, ultrasound, radiation therapy, nuclear medicine, CT, MRI), respiratory therapy, nursing, advanced practice nursing, nurse practitioners, pharmacists, occupational therapy, physical therapy, speech therapy, dieticians, social workers, and chaplains.

CEU courses will include such topics as, "LAW: The License You Lose May Be Your Own" and "SPIRITUAL: I'm Not a Chaplain, But My Patient Wants to Talk."

Check with the AMA (American Medical Assoc.) and/or the AAPA (American Academy of Physician Assistants) to see if these CEU's will apply for you! However, you don't have to be a health care professional to come along. This fun adventure will take place on the Royal Caribbean Cruise Line and will stop in Haiti, Cozumel, Grand Caymen, and Jamaica. Beginning September '08, you can reserve your cabin. Call Cheryl to book your trip today! (909)796-8344 or (800)362-3389



## Preceptor Receives Appointment From Governor Schwarzenegger

Steven Klompus, PA-C, of Garden Grove, has been appointed to the Physician Assistant Committee for the Medical Board of California by Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger. Mr. Klompus currently practices occupational medicine with East Edinger Industrial Urgent Care in Santa Ana, California. He was previously employed at both Concentral Medical Centers and U.S. HealthWorks Medical Group. Additionally, he has been a clinical instructor of Physician Assistant Education at Western University of Health Sciences, University of Southern California, and Loma Linda University since 1999.

Mr. Klompus is a fellow member of both the American Academy of Physician Assistants (AAPA) and the California Academy of Physician Assistants (CAPA). His term on this committee will last until January of 2012.







## STUDENT PROFILE: Amber Klispie, '09 Class President

Amber Klispie is the president of her 2009 PA class. She attended college at the University of Wyoming and received a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree in Theater and Dance. After living in Wyoming for 21 years, she moved to San Diego, CA to dance and teach with the California Ballet Company (CBC). After about two years with the CBC, Amber decided to explore the world of health care. She spent a few years finishing pre-requisites in order to apply for PA school. She chose LLU because during her interview she felt that this university has a great sense of family values and compassion for others. She immediately felt welcome and knew that LLU was the place for her.



"I know I could never be on campus and not receive an encouraging smile from someone," Amber says. "Everyone is so friendly and caring. [LLU] is exactly where I want to be!"

Amber feels that the greatest joy of being a PA is spending time caring for the health and lives of others, but not having to worry about the administrative responsibilities of a physician.



## ALUM PROFILE: Christy Eskes, '08 Distinguished Alum

Christy received her undergraduate degree from Northern Arizona University in Exercise Science. She worked as an EMT with an ambulance company in Arizona for eight months before starting the Physician Assistant Sciences Program at Loma Linda University.



After graduating in the fall of 2003, she worked for a private Family Practice/Urgent Care Center in Alta Loma, CA and for an extended care facility in Rialto, CA. In the summer of 2004 she was hired at the Loma Linda University Family Medical Group. She worked primarily in Urgent Care until May of 2005 when she transitioned to the clinic full-time. She has been at the clinic ever since and started precepting PA students from Loma Linda in the Spring of 2006.

Christy is the women's worship leader at her church, and she and her sisters have a singing ministry called *threefour: one*. They have four CDs and have been featured on a CD about adoption with artists such as Steven Curtis Chapman and Sandi Patty. They are involved in outreach to street children in Africa through Agape Children's Ministry and are advocates for sponsorship and adoption through Holt International.



## PA Alumni Award Presented

Tim Patrick Hoang was presented with the alumni award at the Annual Awards Chapel in the Campus Hill Church on May 21, 2008. Tim was chosen for this award by the alumni who felt as though he fulfills the criteria: sound judgment in resolving student issues, willingness to lead activities or study groups, mature and responsible behavior, rapport with peers, faculty/staff, and recent involvement in community service.



## Current Student Awarded as a Rising Star

At the 12th Annual Alumni Recognition Banquet, held Saturday April 19 during the 2008 Homecoming weekend, Meghan Galloway (Miller) was recognized as the PA Department's Rising Star recipient for her contributions to the School of Allied Health Professions in the areas of leadership, service and research. Dr. David Lopez accepted the award on Meghan's behalf as she was in Mexico on her second PA Mission trip.



Meghan obtained her high school education from Gem State Adventist Academy in Caldwell, Idaho and graduated in '02. While there, she was involved with varsity basketball, orchestra, piano, handbells, ministry outreach, and cross-country. She became interested in the PA profession during her Junior year. By the time she entered college at Northwest Nazarene University (NNU) in Nampa, Idaho, she was certain she wanted to become a PA and proceeded to work toward that goal.

While at NNU, she was involved in various science activities, like Science Olympiad, JASON Project, and research. She was the secretary for the NNU chapter pre-medical honor society, Alpha Epsilon Delta, for three years. She also volunteered in the Emergency Department at Mercy Medical Center as a Patient Advocate and obtained phlebotomy training from Boise State University.

She first learned she was accepted to the PA program at Loma Linda University in March of '06, to which she responded with a resounding "Yes!" In May of '06, she graduated Magna Cum Laude with a BS in Biology/Chemistry. One week later, she married her boyfriend of four years, Tristan Galloway, and they moved to California in July.

During her first year, Meghan was secretary of her class and involved with the HOPE program. She is currently in her clinical year and is expected to finish her schooling in September of 2008.

# STAY CONNECTED...ONLINE!

We would love to hear about what's happening in your life.  
Email photos and information to [jpruehs@llu.edu](mailto:jpruehs@llu.edu).

Update your personal information online  
by visiting the alumni website and clicking on  
Stay Connected. To get there quickly, here's your link:  
[www.llu.edu/llu/sahp/alumni/stayconnected](http://www.llu.edu/llu/sahp/alumni/stayconnected)

*Sign up now for our new online mailing list to receive email notifications of Alumni events,  
SAHP updates and so much more! You will find the sign up form on the Stay Connected page.*



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Loma Linda University  
Office of the Dean  
School of Allied Health Professions  
11234 Anderson Street  
Loma Linda, CA 92354

Nonprofit  
Organization  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
Loma Linda  
University  
Loma Linda, CA

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PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT SCIENCES  
SCHOOL OF ALLIED HEALTH PROFESSIONS  
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