

The Link

Winter/Spring 2010

News from Loma Linda University
School of Allied Health Professions

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LOMA LINDA UNIVERSITY
School of Allied Health Professions

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Note From The Editor:

In the nearly three years that I have worked here at Loma Linda in the School of Allied Health Professions, I have been privileged to meet many of you, our alumni, and hear your stories of when you attended SAHP. I've also loved answering your questions and sharing many of our exciting school developments with you! The alumni department has flourished in the past few years, and I, along with our Dean, Dr. Craig Jackson, and our Director of Development, Kisha Norris, have traveled many miles across the U.S. to host alumni get-togethers in an effort to keep you connected to Loma Linda. Since early 2008, we have held 17 reunions spanning from Florida to Colorado to Illinois. What an accomplished and confident group of alumni you are!

One thing that I have come to learn and excitedly expect from SAHP, is that things don't stay the same for long. Faculty positions change, buildings are remodeled, departments spread internationally, and students become more involved. This is why the Alumni Department here at the school publishes the LINK; so you won't feel as though things change at your Alma Mater without you knowing of it. All of us here at SAHP see alumni as our family for life and, therefore, we plan to stay in touch!

We always have the best time putting together the LINK for you to read. And now it's more of a magazine than a newsletter, which has been exciting to compile. So much is going on in our school that we can't just keep it to ourselves. We also want to open the door to receive updates from you about changes in your life; whether it be as small as a change of address, or as big as a promotion or a new baby in the family. We care and are excited to share the LINK with you today.

Jaclyn Pruehs
SAHP Alumni Affairs Officer

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the Link

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EXECUTIVE EDITOR
Kisha Norris

EDITOR
Jaclyn Pruehs

DESIGN/LAYOUT
Jaclyn Pruehs

TO CONTACT ALUMNI OFFICE
sahp.alumni@llu.edu

ALUMNI WEBSITE
www.alliedhealth.llu.edu/alumni

SAHP WEBSITE
www.alliedhealth.llu.edu

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FOR QUESTIONS, ADDRESS CHANGES
jpruehs@llu.edu

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SCHOOL OF ALLIED HEALTH PROFESSIONS
Nichol Hall
24951 Circle Drive
Loma Linda, CA 92350

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STAFF & FACULTY

Community Outreach Project

By JACLYN PRUEHS
Editor/Alumni Affairs Officer

On the morning of October 15, 2009, the residents of the Loma Linda Ronald McDonald House (RMH) experienced Christmas. A group of five SAHP staff members delivered a generous donation of items from SAHP faculty & staff, the LLU Dental School, and Whole Foods to the families who live there on a temporary basis. The RMH always has needs, but these needs increase during the Fall months when they begin running out of supplies.

The School of Dentistry donated 50 dental kits (toothbrushes, toothpaste and floss), and Whole Foods gave five boxes of travel-sized shampoos, conditioners and lotions. Other donations included: paper and laundry products, pantry items (instant oatmeal, dry cereals, hot



Photo by: Jaclyn Pruehs
L-R: Margie Martinez, Jodee Nichols, Barbara Parton, Karen Hooper (RMH Director of Operations), Madge Oh, Melody Chambers

chocolate and cider mixes, granola bars, coffee/creamers), beanie babies for the children, envelopes, light bulbs, and baby products.

In October, during SAHP's monthly Staff Forum, nearly 20 staff and faculty members decorated 50 brown bags and filled them with the donated items specific to age and gender.

It took many helping hands to unload the items at the RMH, but no one seemed to mind the work. A few of the RMH staff took the school volunteers on a tour of the house. "They shared some poignant stories with us about some of their residents and the obstacles they deal with on a daily basis," said Melody Chambers. "We all left RMH on a natural high knowing that we provided necessary items to residents of the house."

ANNUAL HALL BANQUET

Distributes Scholarships

In 1996, Dr. Delbert Baker and Daniel Castro led in the initiation of the Hispanic Alumni of Loma Linda (HALL) organization. Since then, approximately \$183,000 in scholarships have been given to LLU Hispanic students. The mission of HALL is to serve as a support system to the Hispanic student body of LLU while embodying the spirit and principles of Jesus Christ.

On October 18, 2009 the 13th Annual Scholarship Banquet took place in the



Wong Kerlee International Conference Center on the Loma Linda campus. The students in the photo represent many of the schools from across campus. From the School of Allied Health Professions, four accomplished individuals received \$1,000 scholarships. Those students were: Diana E. Cabrera (Radiation Technology), Milton De Brun (Post Professional Doctor of Physical Therapy), Edwin Ledezma (Respiratory Care), Leslie Mayer (Physical Therapy).

NATIONAL ALLIED HEALTH PROFESSIONS WEEK

November 2009

By JACLYN PRUEHS
Editor/Alumni Affairs Officer

Each year during the first week of November, the LLU School of Allied Health Professions recognizes the students, staff, faculty and administration who make our school and profession so meaningful to our local and global communities. For this particular week of celebration, a free Monday lunch was provided for more than 300 students and many of our faculty and staff. Each person received a special gift from Dean Jackson (lip balm with the SAHP logo).

This week was also a perfect opportunity for the development and alumni offices to team up with the department of Nutrition & Dietetics and



Photo by: Jaclyn Pruehs
SAHP Students in line for the complimentary lunch provided by the Deans Office

host a campus-wide grand opening of the U.D. Register Research Kitchen in Nichol Hall. On Thursday evening, alumni, donors, and people from across campus visited the newly remodeled kitchen. Read more about this exciting event on page 4.

On Friday, the Dean's office arranged for massage therapists from the Hands-On Medical Massage School in Redlands to offer 10-minute neck and shoulder sessions for all the faculty and staff. This brought the week to a relaxing close and left our school anxiously awaiting the festivities the 2010 National Allied Health Professions Week.

U.D. REGISTER RESEARCH KITCHEN Ribbon Cutting & Grand Opening

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

On the evening of November 5, 2009, the Nutrition and Dietetics U.D. Register Research Kitchen was reopened to the public after five months of renovations. Faculty, alumni, donors and friends were invited to partake in the excitement of the new state-of-the-art kitchen upgrades. The patio outside of the kitchen was transformed for the night. All who attended were greeted with twinkle lights, a jazz band playing soft music and glasses full of sparkling cider. As guests entered and signed the guest books they each received a School of Allied Health Professions oven mitt to commemorate the evening. Placed all around the courtyard were pictures of how the kitchen looked before the renovations. Many looked at the photos and reminisced about the old kitchen and their times preparing meals for SAHP events or classes.

Visitors to the kitchen didn't just stop at the patio. Sweet smells and the sound of laughter beckoned them into the research kitchen. Upon entering the kitchen, the activity inside was an awesome sight to see. In one area, Chef Cory was tossing dough for pizza, in another corner there was a group huddled around cups of soup, and still in another area, warm chocolate chip cookies were being served by a student helper. The department had so many different appetizers for those who came to the kitchen



Chef Cory Gheen demonstrates the proper way to toss homemade pizza dough

Photo by: Jaclyn Pruehs



Customized Loma Linda oven mitt given to guests as a take-home gift.

to choose from. "There is so much food here!" exclaimed one visitor. "I have no idea where to start."

Because of the popularity of one of the food items, the zucchini pancakes with maple butter, Chef Cory shared his recipe with all who attended the event. "I was so excited to receive the recipe in the mail after I attended the grand opening," said visitor Jo Anna Codington. "I will definitely be making these for my family and friends."

"All in all, the evening was a wonderful success," said Dean Jackson. "We had around 100 visitors to the kitchen who were able to join us in the celebration of our renovations. I can't wait for our students to use this kitchen. First class education is what we are striving for, and this new kitchen puts us that much closer to our goal."



Photo to right, L-R: Martina Karunia, Dr. Maxine Taylor, Dr. Louise Schneider, Dr. Craig Jackson, Chef Cory Gheen, Dr. Bert Connell, Dr. Georgia Hodgkin, JeJe Noval



Photo by: Jaclyn Pruehs



Lindsay Westbrook (left) and Julianne Penner prepare some traditional Honduran food in the village where they completed their practical nutrition experience.



Julianne Penner holds a Honduran child

NUTRITION STUDENTS

Travel to Honduras

By GEORGIA HODGKIN
Nutrition & Dietetics Faculty
January, 2010

A Honduran village was the beneficiary of theoretical and practical nutrition teaching for ten of the 16 days of Christmas break. Student dietitians from the School of Allied Health Professions, Julianne Penner and Lindsay Westbrook, traveled to the gentle, pine-covered mountains surrounding El Suyatal, one and a half hours from the nearest airport.

This was Julianne's second trip to the Central American Bible School (CABS). She and fellow student dietitian, Leah Drouin, spent the week of spring break 2009 teaching nutrition to students at the new school. The first students had been accepted in the fall of 2008 for the February to December academic term. The focus of the curriculum ranges from agriculture to hydrotherapy, evangelism, nutrition, lifestyle and Bible.

The CABS is modeled after the European Bible School (EBS) in Norway. In the fall of 2007, Julianne attended EBS for one semester, where she received a certificate in Evangelism and Mission Service. The practical application of the program involved seven weeks in Tanzania for Julianne and her international classmates from Canada, Denmark, France, Germany, Italy, Kenya, Norway, Sweden, and Switzerland. Divided into two teams,

Julianne's team spent 10 days of "bush week" in very primitive conditions teaching and preaching.

While in Honduras over Christmas break, Julianne and Lindsay participated in constructing new apartments for missionaries, preparing meals over a fire for the missionary team, teaching food-safety guidelines, nutrition counseling for locals following medical student David Penner's diagnoses, visiting homes, and refurbishing a future health center.

Days were full and highly rewarding, in spite of no electricity and water running sometimes. Lindsay says she "enjoyed putting the nutrition/lifestyle principles we've been learning into practice." Julianne appreciated the "enthusiastic faculty and villagers thirsty for health information." She "could feel the presence of God's Spirit working with these people." While absorbing the beauty of the countryside, the eagerness of the villagers to learn, the peaceful pace of the surroundings, she could only say, "It is a privilege to use the health message as the right arm of the Gospel. It must be the epitome for teaching the pathway to a beautiful life both here and eternally." She finds the model from the Central American Bible School to be exemplary for her career course. The population appeared openly eager to accept lifestyle change, often a pathway to acceptance of the Gospel.

Julianne and Lindsay see many similar trips in their future.



Photo by:
Jaclyn Pruehs

Physician Assistant Class of 2011 — Pinning and White Jacket Ceremony — October 7, 2009

PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT White Jacket Ceremony

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

Nearly 1,600 hopefuls apply for the Physician Assistant (PA) Program at LLU each year. In the fall of 2009, only 26 gifted individuals were accepted. During the National PA Week, always celebrated in October, the entering Physician Assistant Class is honored at the annual SAHP White Jacketing Ceremony. For this class, the program was held in Cutler Hall on October 7. These excited men and women invited their friends and family to share in this notorious event with them.

The program began with a welcome from Dr. Craig

Jackson, Dean of SAHP, and led into the introduction of the faculty by Dr. David Lopez, Department Chairman. Following Dr. Lopez's introductions, Kendra Bosscher, PA-S, Class of 2010 gave the new students some insight into her experiences in school and in the clinic, and offered encouragement saying "keep going even when it's tough."

After an introduction by Christy Eskes, MPA, PA-C department faculty, Eric Walsh, MD, MPH, the keynote speaker, took the stage. Dr. Walsh began working with the County of Orange Health Care Agency as Medical Director for the Family Health Division, Public Health Services in August 2008. As of September 2009, Dr. Walsh has most recently been appointed Interim Medical Director for Correctional Medical Services and continues to provide support to the Family Health Division (including MCAH, Immunizations and Clinics). He is also an Associate Professor of Family Medicine at Loma Linda University School of Medicine and Medical Director of Loma Linda University East Campus Urgent Care.

In his address to the class of 2011 Dr. Walsh told the students that Loma Linda University is the right school for them. Not only because of the

*"You may be the hope
that someone needs."*

excellent instruction they receive, but because of the power [Christ] that they are connected to. He also explained to them that choosing to be a PA is more than a career; it's a ministry. "You may be the hope that someone needs," said Dr. Walsh. "What you do means something. Become what God wants you to be."

After the PA Pledge of Dedication and the official jacketing, assisted by the students' family and friends, the faculty presented each student with a special lapel pin from the PA Alumni Association.

A reception and information session was held after the ceremony where nearly 20 people from the community attended to learn more about the program.



Photo by: Jaclyn Pruehs

Eric Walsh, MD, MPH, keynote speaker

PA DEPARTMENT

Appoints New Co-Chair

By JACLYN PRUEHS
Editor/Alumni Affairs Officer, SAHP
February, 2010



Dr. Yasmin Chene, DHSc, MPA, PA-C, has been a part of the Loma Linda SAHP family for quite some time. She received her Masters' in Physician Assistant (PA)

Sciences from LLU in 2002, and began teaching in the department at the first of 2003. Now, in her eighth year of teaching, she has reached some professional milestones that make us in the School of Allied Health Professions quite proud.

In December of 2009, Dr. Chene completed her doctoral degree from NOVA Southeastern University, located in Florida. Her final project was a study on "Health Education for the Hispanic Patient" and it focused mainly on diabetes in Hispanic patients.

In addition to her recent academic accomplishment, Dr. Chene was officially promoted to Co-Chairperson of the PA department on January 1, 2010.

Her role will involve departmental administration, managing faculty loads, budgeting, external and internal presentation of department. She still plans to teach and practice at the SACH Frazee clinic in San Bernardino, Calif. Dr. Chene is also the chief coordinator of the annual PA Mission Trip to Ensenada, Baja California, Mexico.

"I'm honored to be the Department's Co-Chair," says Dr. Chene. "There is a lot to learn but I'm excited about the challenges. As an alumna of Loma Linda, it's nice to be able to contribute to the school by filling this role."

Yasmin is married to Roger Chene, an employee of the Loma Linda University Public Health department. They have a 15 month old boy, Caleb and they reside in Loma Linda, Calif.

PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT SCIENCES

10-Year Departmental Anniversary Reunion

The Physician Assistant faculty and staff will be celebrating their 10-year departmental anniversary during the Alumni Homecoming Banquet on Saturday, April 17, 2010. All PA alumni are welcome to join the special reunion table at 7:00 P.M. in the Wong Kerlee Conference Center on the main Loma Linda University Campus. Bring your family or a friend and join in the celebration!

Banquet tickets may be purchased through Pamela Mermon at pmermon@llu.edu or (909) 558-7494.

Photo below, L-R: Christy Eskes, Gerry Glavaz, Roxie Williams, Benny Hau, David Lopez, Ghina Katrib, Molly Kurth, Yasmin Chene



Photo by: Art Kroetz

RIVERSIDE AUTISM SUMMER CAMP

Offers Fun and Empathy

Reprinted with permission

By MARLENE TOSCANO

The Press-Enterprise

August 8, 2009

A boy screamed and yelled outside a church in an apparent tantrum. He was perhaps 10 or 11, a little too old for the toddler phase. "No! I hate you! No! No! No!" he continued to yell.

Anywhere else, the boy might have attracted stares or derisive comments, but Betty Lozano's Speech and Fun Camp at The Grove Community Church in Riverside

for children two weeks this summer. Lozano started the camp

Please Copy and Paste This Link into Your Web Browser To
Read The Entire Story:

http://www.pe.com/localnews/menifee/stories/PE_News_Local_E_autism09.45a2539.html

*"We have friends...
This is huge for us.
We never have friends."*

about three years ago when she learned that her adopted son was autistic. She said she knows how hard it can be for families with autistic children. Registered families jumped from about 50 the first year to 200 this year. "I really think the Lord put it in my heart as a ministry," Lozano said.

Autistic children and their siblings rotate from room to room, doing crafts, going to the gym to play a game of duck-duck-goose, or to the occupational therapy room to do hula-hoops and other physical activities. The camp is an opportunity for autistic kids to work on their social skills — one of the skills the disorder affects the most.

"Social is pretty much the deficit that is in common with all of them," said Pam Houtchens, of Hesperia, whose three children are autistic. Houtchens said she was reluctant at first to drive the 50 miles each day to Riverside, but she is glad she did.

"We have friends!" she said with a smile. "It's huge for us. We never had friends before. We never had a video on her phone of her child hugging a little girl with glasses.

Kari Fobar, of Corona, brought her four children, one who is autistic. She was glad to be open with the other parents. "You don't have to pretend or not tell them something," she said, as she might do with parents of non-autistic children.

Miki and Schwan Park, of Murrieta, said the camp felt like coming home. Miki Park said there was not the same level of comfort even with their extended family. "Sometimes they're overly compassionate... it's uncomfortable," Schwan Park

said. Lozano had help from more than a hundred volunteers, including current and former students from the University of Redlands, UC Riverside and Loma Linda University, among other schools, and sponsors such as Riverside Medical Clinic and San Manuel Band of Mission Indians.

Kristal Arciniega, an applied behavioral analysis therapist at Loma Linda University, said she focuses on "teaching children what behaviors were appropriate when playing with her. She said working with autistic children fulfills her.

"Every kid is different. You have to kind of figure out what is anything wrong with them. They just have a different way of looking at life."



Kristal Arciniega, an applied behavioral analysis therapist, teaches children about the right and wrong ways to converse with each other.

You can also go to www.PE.com and search for the story title

assistant principal at Loma Linda University. "There's such a huge population of kids not getting the services they need," said Mainess, who started a clinic for autistic children at Loma Linda. (Lozano estimated that 1 out of every 150 children are autistic.) Mainess is writing a grant proposal that would allow many more children to be served than the dozen or so that get help now at her clinic, she said.

Only the most well-to-do families tend to get all the services they need, Mainess said. Most autistic children need about 40 hours a week of applied behavioral analysis, working on motor skills, speech and behavior modification — which would cost about \$5,000 a month.

"But, how many people can afford that?" Mainess asked. "Everyone else has to rely on what state, county services provide."



OT ALUMNI AND SAHP Contributors to East Campus

By JACLYN PRUEHS
Editor/Alumni Affairs Officer
February, 2010

On February 16, 2010, Dean Jackson and the OT Department Chair, Liane Hewitt, presented the LLU Medical Center East Campus (LLUMCEC) with a check for \$8,000 to be used for their new Tom and Vi Zapara Rehabilitation Pavilion. This 24-bed, 30,000-square-foot rehabilitation facility is dedicated to treating patients who have suffered from a recent disability. Included in the plans is a transitional apartment where patients, practitioners and Department of Occupational Therapy students can practice patient management skills in an actual living environment.

In this new transitional room, students will be able to participate in

patient training and see how patients are able to implement that training into their activities of daily life. Also, they can evaluate the skills taught to each patient and then decide how effective they were.

"I am extremely excited about this collaboration between LLUMCEC and SAHP," said Dean Jackson. "Working together is the only way that we can enhance the students' proficiency and cultivate more skilled graduates."

Funds donated were a combination of gifts from alumni and SAHP administration. "It's nice to see that when we ask, our alumni respond," remarked Kisha Norris, Director of Development for SAHP. "Currently our students do not have the opportunity to simulate this type of patient care. I believe the alumni recognize how

important it is for our students to have the chance to interact with actual patients and clinicians."

The Tom and Vi Zapara Rehabilitation Pavilion is scheduled to be completed in March of 2010. Patients will begin treatments in the facility in the summer.



Photo below, L-R: Madge Oh (OT Dept. Assistant), Liane Hewitt (OT Dept. Chair), Craig Jackson (SAHP Dean), Heather Javaherian (OTD Program Director), Esther Huecker (OT Faculty), Christy Billock (OT Faculty), Mara McCarville (Exec. Dir. of Rehab), Michael Jackson (Senior VP & LLUMC East Campus Administrator)



Photos by:
Jaclyn Pruehs

Race For The Cure

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

On Sunday, October 18, 2009, a group of Occupational Therapy students participated in the Susan G. Komen Inland Empire Race for the Cure® in Temecula, Calif. This, the 11th annual race, was the largest run in Temecula's history with more than 11,800 participants raising more than \$482,000 in entry fees and combined pledges, and over \$1 million in additional cash and in-kind scholarships. Ipu Eliapo, MOT student said, "our team was proud to be a part of this wonderful event. It was an indescribable feeling to walk with thousands of people whose lives have been touched in one way or another with breast cancer."

The Race for the Cure® celebrates breast cancer survivorship and honors those who have lost their battle with the disease. For many participants, the race is much more than just running or walking a 5K, it is an act of support, love and

commitment to someone who is battling or has battled breast cancer.

"I am so proud of the students' involvement in community activities," said Dr. Liane Hewitt, OT department chairperson. "This is what their [OT] training is all about!"

A total of 75 percent of the net proceeds raised from the race will be directed back into the local community to support services for those affected by breast cancer. The remaining 25 percent will go to the foundation to help fund breast cancer research.

For more information on how you can support the Susan G. Komen Race for the Cure Inland Empire Affiliate, visit:

www.komenie.org



Photo by: Amy Hedgecock

News From the OT Department

● Associate Professor, Esther Huecker, gave a presentation on "Topics in Autism Spectrum Disorders" to the Department of Medicine and Biosciences of Kansas City University. The presentation took place through the Department's CME-At-Sea cruise aboard Celebrity Cruiseline touring New Zealand and Australia.

● As part of the department's outreach to the community, faculty member Arezou Salamat has been providing OT services to the West End Family Counseling Services in Ontario, Calif. Arezou is treating a seven-month old, brought in for therapy by foster parents, who was functioning at a one-month old level. After five months of therapy, the baby is showing interest in people, crawling, picking up toys, standing, and trying to take his first steps.

● Assistant Professor, Arezou Salamat gave two presentations on September 24, 2009 at the 23rd Annual Children's Network Conference in Ontario, Calif. The first was presented with Joyce Cabrera, OTR/L ('82): "Childhood Trauma From Sensory Processing Perspective." The second was presented with Cheryl Romano, Psy.D.: "Learning To Be a Child Again: Case Study of Siblings Exposed To Excessive Abuse and Trauma and The Benefits of Collaborative Treatment."

● During the 13th annual SAHP Alumni Homecoming in April 2009, the OT Department celebrated its 50th anniversary milestone. At the University Church's Sabbath School Program on April 18, the faculty presented an overview of the OT profession. The OT program was founded by Edwinna Marshall in 1959, and began with three students. As of 2009, the department has graduated over 1700 students with degrees in AA, BS, MOT, and PPMOT. The first OTD students will graduate in 2010.

EMERGENCY MEDICAL CARE ALUMNUS

Emergency Response Volunteer

By RaeChelle English
Contributing Reporter
February, 2010

Chad Cossey, Loma Linda University 2006 alumnus, was not a typical student and upon graduation he was not looking for your typical 9 to 5. Cossey, instead, decided on a less conventional career in the field of emergency care and now spends a great deal of time as a volunteer disaster responder. Providing care to house fire victims or shelter to displaced citizens; it's all a part of his duty as a member of the San Bernardino County Sheriff's Medical Reserve Corps (MRC).

The education he received through the Emergency Medical Care Program at the School of Allied Health Professions helped him transform a passion into a career. He now teaches health education and medical techniques for a number of agencies and programs in California. While studying at SAHP, Cossey was introduced to the MRC.

The MRC is a group of diverse volunteers on a mission to supplement local health care systems during times of emergencies through organized efforts. Through what they call a "surge," a dramatic increase of patients to a hospital or treatment center after a disaster, they are able to provide aid for victims of disasters that hospitals are not able to accommodate. The MRC works diligently to enable more



L-R: Dr. Luis Saca (Pediatric Allergist), Chad Cossey (EMT-I), Linda Stratton (Executive Director of the San Bernardino County Medical Society)

patients to be treated by allowing hospitals to see the higher priority patients.

Cossey feels as though MRC has helped to serve his community by bringing health professionals together in times of disaster and providing a structured response and effective aid that helps in "cutting down on spontaneous volunteerism and increasing the availability of Medical care." The MRC also includes job duties for non-licensed volunteers enabling citizens without medical training the chance to give back.

"What an experience,"

Cossey remarked as he

reminisced on his last high profile emergency back in October 2007 with the California fires. The MRC set up shop in the shelter at the Orange Show Fairgrounds and provided much needed healthcare to the mountain communities.

Cossey and the rest of the volunteers at San Bernardino County Sheriff's Medical Reserve Corps constantly welcome anybody willing to help. If you'd like to learn more or get involved, visit their website at www.scbms.org/mrc or contact Debbie Long at the San Bernardino County Medical Society, 951-787-7700. Maybe you, like Chad Cossey, can be a leader in your community's Medical Reserve Corp. Who knows what adventure awaits and the great difference that you can make for those in need.



Photo by: Art Kroetz

The Wil Alexander WHOLENESS SERIES

FROM WHEELCHAIR TO WORLD-CLASS ATHLETE: A Recovering Quadriplegic's Journey

Taken from WWW.AARONBAKERS.COM
January, 2010



Daniel "Aaron" Baker was born January 23, 1979, in Newport Beach Calif. to father Daniel G. Baker and mother Laquita Dian Stovall. Raised on the Monterey Peninsula in Central California, Aaron was always on the go, whether it be surfing, skateboarding, mountainbiking, back packing, bungy jumping, or just coming up with new ways to test one's mortality. As a high school graduate, Aaron pursued his passion for motorcycle racing, achieving great success as an amateur.

On May 26, 1999, Aaron was practicing on a local motocross track in Simi Valley, Calif. in preparation for the AMA National Motocross Series. On the approach to the largest jump on the track, his bike malfunctioned, causing him to lose valuable speed at the most crucial part of the launch. As a result, he was flung over the front of the motorcycle while still airborne and landed on the ground head first, breaking cervical vertebrae four and six, and completely shattering the fifth. He was flown to Los Robles Regional Hospital in Thousand Oaks, Calif., where a team of neurosurgeons, headed by Dr. John Lee, fused the broken vertebrae with a titanium plate and five screws. Dr. Lee's prognosis was that Aaron would have a "one in a million" chance of regaining any type of function.

With the grim diagnosis ahead of him, Aaron attacked his therapy sessions with a single-minded determination. On June 22, 1999, he became an in-patient at Northridge Hospital Rehabilitation Unit. He focused his energy on

return of function rather than learning adaptive skills. The miniscule muscular impulses gradually became muscle movements. Each tedious, repetitive motion helped turn his impeded neuro-pathways into super neuro-highways (neuroplasticity). Aaron was an in-patient for five months and continued therapy at Northridge as an out-patient for seven months.

At this point in the recovery process, Aaron needed someone new who understood the interworking of an athlete's mind; the excessive drive and determination along with a spirit that thrives on excellence and constant pursuit of progress. He also needed someone who had indepth knowledge of repairing a severely altered and non-functioning body. Aaron was blessed when he met Taylor-Kevin Isaacs who completed a physical assessment on him, and studied his medical reports and x-rays in order to design a comprehensive program, specifically crafted to Aaron's precise condition and goals. A complete nutritional program was also established based on Aaron's specific needs. The program provided muscular strength, cardiovascular endurance, muscular endurance, posture, flexibility, reactive neuromuscular training, balance, and psychosocial aspects.

Each and every day, Aaron spent focused time on recovery exercises. His functional return was slow and arduous; however, with each new flicker of movement, there was celebration. After many months, Taylor no longer provided the manual assistance for Aaron's training. His muscles were strong enough for him to hold a one-pound dumbbell. And the progress continues to this day; seven years later.

... continued from previous page

Two years post-injury, cycling once again became a reality when Aaron pedaled a stationary recumbent bike. A year and a half past that, Aaron was ready to ride a real bike. Although not yet able to ride unassisted, he could ride on the back of a tandem bike with his mother, Laquita.

Laquita and Aaron became training partners, and together, a purpose was born. Life shattering experiences completely reshaped their existence. Everything once thought to be true, was no longer. For Aaron and Laquita, each pedal stroke made their resolve clearer and stronger. Aaron represents all that is possible and they ride with this belief each time they get on the bike. They ride to share this message.

Aaron and his mother have been featured on the CBS 2 local news station for their mother-son training regiment. Aaron nominated his mother as CBS's "Woman of the Week," however, stating at the end that she is more than that. "She's Woman of the World" he said with a smile, bringing his mother to tears.

Aaron travels around the United States telling his story and sharing the message of defeating the impossible. He spoke for the Wil Alexander Wholeness Series held at the Centennial Complex on the Loma Linda University Campus on February 3, 2010.



RT DEPARTMENT

Appoints Co-Program Director



Brenda L. Pfeiffer, M.A., RT (R)(M), has been promoted to Co-Program Director of the AS in Medical Radiography program. A '06 graduate of Loma Linda's Radiography program, Brenda will replace Mark Clements, M.A., R.T.(R) when he retires in two years. She has currently been working with the faculty to update policies and procedures, review curriculum, develop an "outcome and assessment plan," and create new practices for the clinical aspect. She is responsible for working with the faculty to promote the department's programs through the web, brochures, CEU events, and advertising. She is also taking a lead role in the A.S. in Medical Radiography program in Saudi Arabia. Brenda is currently completing her PhD in Leadership from Andrews University.

RT DEPARTMENT

Welcoming New Faculty



Joe Giron, R.N., R.T. a '98 graduate of Loma Linda's Medical Radiography program, is also a Registered Nurse. He pursued his RN after working several years in the RT field. While acquiring his RN, Joe started a Cath Lab Registry business that has matured into a specialized company that provides nursing care and cardiovascular and electrophysiology consulting services.

Earlier this year, Joe assisted in bringing a new and much needed program into the RT department; Cardiac Electrophysiology Technology (CEPT). Joe is helping with the infrastructure of the CEPT program as it relates to curriculum, clinical sites, marketing, competencies and resource procurement. He will also serve as instructor and clinical coordinator for the CEPT program this coming fall.



Karla Lavin Williams, MPH, DrPH(c), is the new Director for the Bachelor of Science in Healthcare Administration (BSHA) Program. She has over 15 years of experience specializing in sports medicine, health administration, and health promotion and education.

Karla has held teaching appointments in both the Departments of Health Administration and Health Education in the School of Public Health at LLU. Previously, she was the Project Manager for two federally funded disaster/telemedicine projects (DISCOVERIES and CURE) at Loma Linda University Medical Center and the Co-Founder and Chief Operations Officer of CARE, a nonprofit research and health education company. In addition, she conducts various public health education seminars both locally and internationally.

In her new role as the BSHA Program Director, Karla will be responsible for facilitating the student application and enrollment process, student advising and mentoring, program promotion and advancement, and course instruction.

A.S. IN MEDICAL RADIOGRAPHY

Student Lab Assistant Program

By BRENDA PFEIFFER
Co-Program Director,
A.S. Medical Radiography
January 2010

One of the most important class sequences in the A.S. in Medical Radiography program is the three sections of Medical Radiography Procedures Lab. "It is where 'the rubber meets the road' in this profession," says Jerone Murphy, RT(R), procedures lab instructor. In this lab sequence, first year students are given a hands-on opportunity to learn radiographic positioning skills.

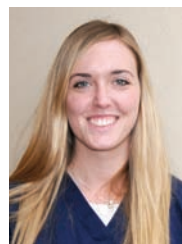
"In 2009, we conducted a pilot Lab Assistant program for two quarters," says Murphy. "Within those quarters, six of the top second year students were selected to help the first year students in procedures lab." At the end of that pilot study, the Lab Assistant program was seen as very beneficial to both the first year students and the radiography program as a whole. It was determined that Lab Assistants were also needed in the Principles of Radiography Lab, taught by Mark Clements, M.A., RT(R), where students practice making images using radiation.

Mark Clements, Co-program Director and instructor for the principles lab says, "The Lab Assistants

are an extension of the instructor, so that students have more one-on-one help in the lab."

"I enjoy interacting with the first year students, and I like being able to help them because I can relate to what they are going through," says Johan Tan, second year Medical Radiography student. "It is also helping me refine my skills, and it is good way to review for the ARRT boards."

Johan continues, "I was surprised when I was selected because it was a great opportunity to help students; I was also honored to think that my professors considered me for this position. I know that this is the first full year that the Lab Assistant program has been going...and I am privileged to be part of something from the very beginning...it is so important to the Radiography program."



Kristen Dale, second year Radiography student says, "It has given me a chance to reinforce what I already know, and then teach that to other people. It is

helping me review everything that I have learned over the past year, and it is also showing me what it is like to be a teacher. I was excited to have this opportunity. I have had students come to me after I have explained something and they tell me that my explanation and demonstration really did help them understand the content."

Maria Chiovare, second year Radiography student says, "Being a Lab Assistant encourages me to keep studying the things we learned earlier in the program. From the first year student's perspective, sometimes it's easier to hear something explained from another student than from a teacher. I really like how the Lab Assistants are involved with the students, as mentors, as well as fellow classmates."



The second year students who have participated in the Lab Assistant program this year are Steven Bushnell, Taylor Hurst, Kristen Dale, Johan Tan, Celina Espinoza, Maria Chiovare, Charles Burse, and Janine Senior.

HEMET VALLEY MED CENTER

Provides RT Training

Reprinted with permission
From VALLEY HEALTH SYSTEM NEWSLETTER
October 1, 2009

The Radiology Department at Hemet Valley Medical Center is providing training for future radiation technology students from the Loma Linda University School of Allied Health Professions. Serving as an affiliated medical facility, HVMC has an average of three students onsite several days a week throughout the school year. Gene Reiver, HVMC RIS/PACS Specialist and Clinical Instructor for the training program says, "Students must be able to interact professionally with all hospital personnel, perform all

duties of a radiologic technologist with proficiency including in-department studies and fluoroscopy plus portable bedside, surgery, and emergency



L-R: Izzy Diaz (student), Gene Reiver (HVMC RIS/PACS Specialist), and Ana Valle (student)

radiographic studies." The Associate of Science degree through the Department of Radiation Technology at LLU requires 21 months during which students rotate across affiliate sites in order to determine their site preference. While onsite at HVMC, students rotate through the ER, OR, patient bedside and departments to receive mentoring and advanced training for diagnostic radiography. Coursework for Computerized Tomography (CT) was added this month, providing students with the opportunity to sit for CT boards upon completing the additional competencies.

MEDICAL RADIOGRAPHY PROGRAM Begins With Twelve Students in Saudi Arabia

By BRENDA PFEIFFER
Co-Program Director,
A.S. Medical Radiography
January 2010

After two years of planning, 12 students in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, started the A.S. in Medical Radiography in January 2010. The Medical Radiography program is the second Loma Linda University program to start in Saudi Arabia; the Respiratory Therapy program was the first.

"We are very excited about the start of the Radiography program in Saudi, which includes six male and six female students," says Laura Alipoon, EdD, R.T.(R), Department Chairperson. "The need for ARRT board certified Radiographers in Saudi is great, and we feel privileged to have been asked by King Faisal Specialist Hospital & Research Center to work with them in this effort."

Laura also added that "King Faisal Specialist Hospital & Research Center has blocked all other radiography programs from rotating through their facility because they want to have only the LLU students receiving clinical education there."

The educational plan is to have the Saudi students complete the same program in Saudi Arabia as students do on the Loma Linda University campus. To provide a cohesive link between the two campuses, program faculty will travel to Saudi three to four times a year, and students on both campuses will link up by satellite each quarter. The main classroom in the Radiography program has been remodeled to include a projection system with a dedicated computer, a video camera, two high definition televisions, and satellite link-up equipment.

We look forward to a long term collaboration with our colleagues in Riyadh Saudi Arabia and having many alumni to interact with throughout the years to come.



Photo by: Maria Esther Valenzuela

The Physical Therapy department, in conjunction with Wheels for Humanity, go to Mexico once every six months to fit and distribute wheelchairs for people in need. Bonnie Forrester, Dsc, PT, started this relationship with Wheels for Humanity back in 1997. In the above photo, [from L-R] Milton De Brun, Post Professional DPT student, Lissie Mayer, Post Professional DPT student, and Tony Valenzuela, D.P.T., Ed.D. and PT instructor, are fitting a young girl with one of the 80 wheelchairs that were distributed on November 21st in Baja California, Mexico.

FIRST BANGLADESHI NATIONAL RECEIVES Degree in Physical Therapy

By ERNIE SCHWAB
Associate Dean, SAHP
February, 2010

The School of Allied Health Professions (SAHP) has been blessed throughout its history with a broad diversity of students. Although the majority of our graduates come from the United States, a significant number of our applicants, and graduates, are international students. Most of these students must make multiple sacrifices to leave their countries and travel to the U.S. for an education. This is the story of one such student.

During the summer of 2006, Dr. Everett Lohman, Director of the Post-professional Master of Physical Therapy (PP-MPT) program, informed me of an international student who was eager to enroll in that program. The student, A. H. Nurul Arefin, was a citizen of Bangladesh. According to the 2007 CIA Factbook, Bangladesh is economically classified as a developing country, with an annual adjusted per capita income of \$1500, in U.S. dollars. That is well below the global average of \$10,497 U.S. That fact alone stands as a major challenge to Bangladeshis seeking to further their education in the United States, as the amount of money they must save or obtain for a single year of higher education represents multiple years of domestically-earned income.

From the outset, Mr. Arefin was upfront with the school regarding his financial situation. He did not have adequate funds to come to the U.S. and attend Loma Linda University. But that remained his dream – to attend LLU and earn the PP-MPT degree.

As a young man in his late twenties, he was already chairman of the only government-operated physiotherapy education program in Bangladesh, associated with the University of Dhaka. He had become chair shortly after graduating from that program with his bachelors degree, and recognized a critical need to further his education and bring fresh ideas and academic enrichment to his department. He was especially eager to participate in the strong research experience available in the Department of Physical Therapy.

The SAHP recognized the underlying need driving Mr. Arefin's request. Bangladesh, with a population of roughly 140 million, has only slightly more than 400 physical therapists in the country. Clearly, the need for physical therapy education is great! The school worked for nearly two years, attempting to obtain Fulbright scholarship funding for Mr. Arefin. Unfortunately, at that time, the Fulbright program was targeting engineering students in Bangladesh and was unable to consider a scholarship for a physical therapist. In the end, SAHP was able to offer a plan to help Mr. Arefin realize his dream. The plan included a tuition waiver, and a position in the Cardiovascular and Physical Fitness Laboratory as a graduate research assistant, working under Jerrold Petrofsky, Ph.D. Coupled with financial contributions from friends and family, Mr. Arefin was able to apply for his student VISA and join the PP-MPT program at LLU.

The sacrifices for Mr. Arefin were many. He emptied his life savings, and several family members did the same.

He was apart from his wife and two young children and traveled alone to Loma Linda for the year-long program. Though he left his department at the university in capable hands, it increased the work-load of his colleagues. In spite of his absence, he was frequently online, engaging in problem solving, planning and even daily operations. For him, the year was challenging!

But that year was also the realization of a dream come true. Mr. Arefin now holds a Masters degree in Physical Therapy. And with the receipt of that degree, awarded in June of 2009, came the distinction of being the first Bangladeshi national to receive a graduate degree in PT from the U.S. His desire to become independent in his ability to conduct scholarly research was also achieved, thanks to the assistantship with Dr. Petrofsky. Currently, three papers on which he will be a coauthor, are in preparation. But, perhaps his most far-reaching accomplishment was his submission to the Ministry of Education in Bangladesh, of a proposal to establish a new Master in Physiotherapy degree at his university.

As a school, it is our hope that Mr. Arefin received all he sought to obtain. And what did we, as an institution and academic family, gain from Mr. Arefin? I think what we gained is best viewed in the letter below from Mr. Arefin.

"Respected Sir:

I would start by conveying my whole hearted thanks for having been so wonderful to me and providing such an opportunity to study at LLU. In the midst of my quest for higher education you showed me the light of hope and made it happen. It was such an engrossing year. Never did I imagine myself being in such a stimulating environment with something new coming almost every day.

I though it was a tough decision to go back to school and be away from my family, however, things went well and I owe it to your support and excellent faculty. I have no hesitation in recommending this course to anyone who wants to relish the dream of visiting this great nation.

I conclude by conveying my thanks again and strong regards. I leave now as a PT ambassador of Loma Linda University. And by the grace of GOD, I am hopeful that some day I may come back for further education for I just finished the best year of my life!"

Thanking you
A H Nurul Arefin
Assistant Professor and Head
Department of Physiotherapy
State College of Health Sciences
Dhaka, Bangladesh



Photo by: Art Kroetz

L-R: Dr. Ernie Schwab (Associate Dean), A. H. Nurul Arefin, Dr. Craig Jackson (Dean)

PHYSICAL THERAPY TRAINING At Hiroshima College

By TONY VALENZUELA
PT Faculty
November, 2009

Since 1993, the LLU Physical Therapy Department has had a working relationship with Hiroshima Welfare College in Hiroshima, Japan. The partnership was the idea of one who has family ties to LLU. Mr. Morris Matson, Special Projects Coordinator for the college, is the brother of one of the PT department's former instructors. He is a Seventh-day Adventist who lives and works in Hiroshima for the college. The reason for this relationship is quite simple; the students need training on basic physical therapy.

The Japanese program mainly trains students to be aides for nursing homes. As part of their responsibilities, these aides work with patients during their daily care. Their students must learn how to properly ambulate, transfer, perform range-of-motion on patients, assign

therapeutic exercises, and instruct their patients on the use of adaptive equipment. That's where the LLU PT department comes in. For one week, every other year, the Hiroshima students come to the LLU campus and receive hands-on training from the PT faculty.

Last year, the College thought that they would do something different. The administrators at the Hiroshima College invited the faculty to come and conduct the training at their facilities in Japan. Dr. Tony Valenzuela, LeAnn Chavez, and Mr. Isaac Asami, traveled to Hiroshima in September of 2009 to start the training for the newest class. The LLU instructors taught the students every morning and then went to one of their nursing home facilities to help treat difficult patients and conduct staff in-service in the afternoon.

The Loma Linda PT group has been invited to return to Hiroshima Welfare College in 2010 to perform further in-service training for the nursing homes' staff and to teach at the college.



L-R: Mr. Kono, Head Master of the College; Mr. Matson, Special Projects Coordinator; LeAnn Chavez, DPT, Contract Instructor PTA; Tony Valenzuela, DPT, Ed.D., LLU, PT Instructor; Mr. Isaac Asami, MPT, LLU Translator

RESPIRATORY CARE

Graduation in Saudi Arabia

By CRAIG R. JACKSON
SAHP Dean
September, 2009

The heat was rising in Riyadh, but it could not be matched by the rising enthusiasm that greeted the day by our graduates from the second graduation of the respiratory therapy bachelor degree and certificate programs. The 15 graduates brought their families to the Four Seasons, Riyadh Hotel to witness and celebrate their success. Dr. Richard Nelson, Director of International Studies, and Dr. Muhammad al-Fagih of the Dallah Health Group, were also in attendance.



Dean Jackson spoke to the graduates about the values of Loma Linda and their call to minister to the needs of their patients

Dean Craig Jackson and Dr. David López, chair of the Department of Cardiopulmonary Sciences, participated in the conferral of the degrees.

During the graduation address, Dean Jackson encouraged the graduates to remain true to the values of Loma Linda University and their calling to minister to the needs of their patients. They were also reminded that practicing wholeness is critical to their patient care; that the value of excellence is not perfection; the value of compassion involves risk and vulnerability; and the value of humility requires a passion for service. This message was well received by graduates and family members alike.

SAHP CELEBRATES

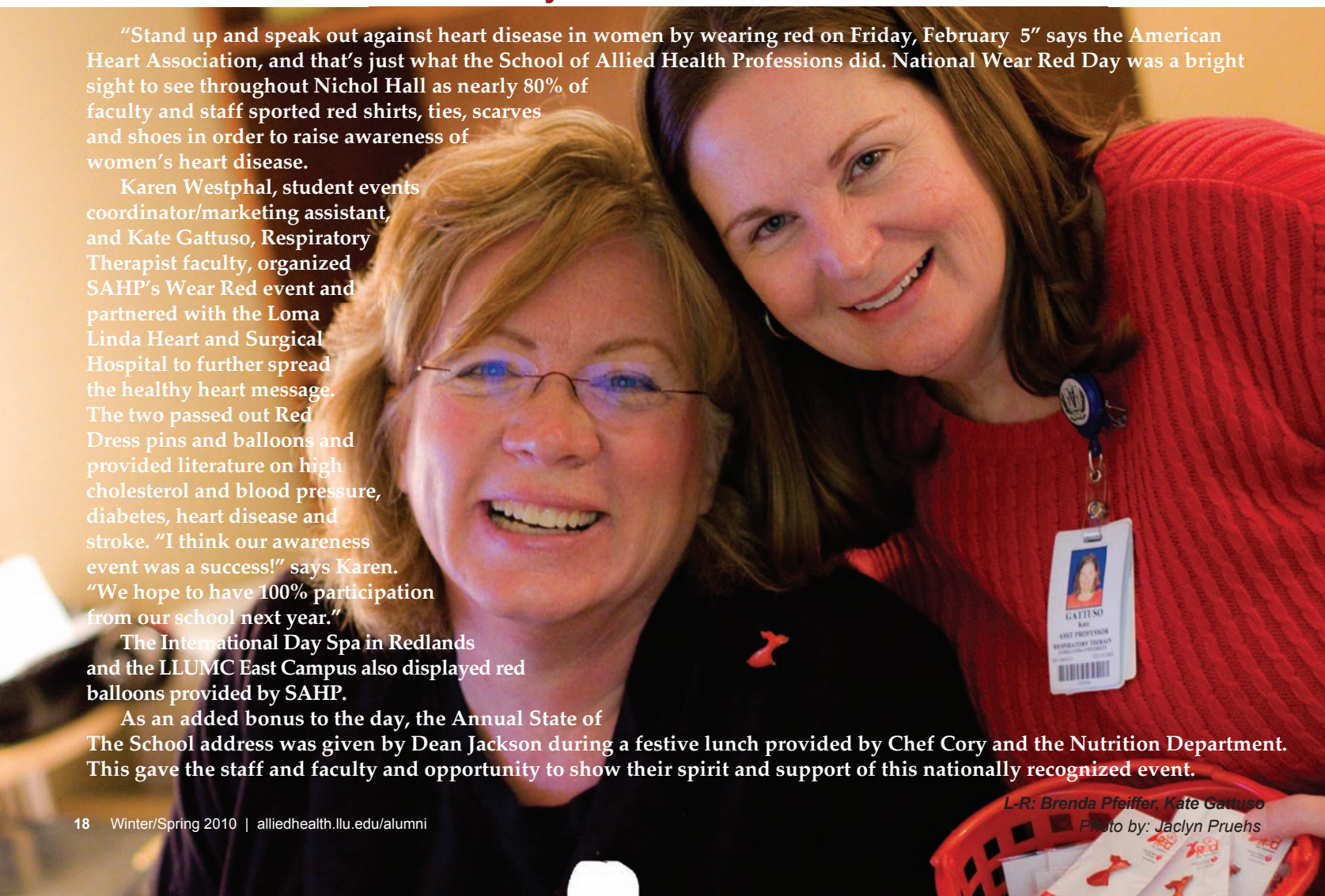
National Wear Red Day

"Stand up and speak out against heart disease in women by wearing red on Friday, February 5" says the American Heart Association, and that's just what the School of Allied Health Professions did. National Wear Red Day was a bright sight to see throughout Nichol Hall as nearly 80% of faculty and staff sported red shirts, ties, scarves and shoes in order to raise awareness of women's heart disease.

Karen Westphal, student events coordinator/marketing assistant, and Kate Gattuso, Respiratory Therapist faculty, organized SAHP's Wear Red event and partnered with the Loma Linda Heart and Surgical Hospital to further spread the healthy heart message. The two passed out Red Dress pins and balloons and provided literature on high cholesterol and blood pressure, diabetes, heart disease and stroke. "I think our awareness event was a success!" says Karen. "We hope to have 100% participation from our school next year."

The International Day Spa in Redlands and the LLUMC East Campus also displayed red balloons provided by SAHP.

As an added bonus to the day, the Annual State of The School address was given by Dean Jackson during a festive lunch provided by Chef Cory and the Nutrition Department. This gave the staff and faculty and opportunity to show their spirit and support of this nationally recognized event.



L-R: Brenda Pfeiffer, Kate Gattuso
Photo by: Jaclyn Pruehs

CLINICAL LABORATORY

Students Receive Instruments From Alumni Gifts

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

Since the grand opening of the new laboratory last year, the Clinical Laboratory Department has become more and more grateful for their new educational space. Because the lab was first-class, the department faculty decided that all their instruments needed to be the same.

"During the remodel, we discarded the old instruments which had become obsolete," said Rodney Roath, department chair. "We must match our first-rate education with equipment that matches the lab."

In order to fund the new instruments, the department decided to ask for assistance from the alumni. "Our alumni know first-hand the importance of having

up-to-date equipment in our labs," remarked SAHP Dean, Craig Jackson. "It was only natural for us to ask them to join us in our endeavor."

Due to the overwhelming support from their alumni, the department was able to purchase the needed coagulation instruments for the lab. The coagulation instruments, called BFT II Analyzers, have now replaced the old fibrometers. Each one is a semi-automated dual-channel coagulometer designed to perform all routine coagulation tests, such as PT, aPTT and fibrinogen. They combine the advantages of mechanical and photo-optical clot detection as well.



Photo by: Jaclyn Pruehs
L-R: Tammy Rantung and Karl Tangonan, both first year students, learning to use the new equipment

HEALTH INFORMATION MANAGEMENT

Department Chair Completes Doctorate Degree

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



High academic achievement is something of great honor and requires hard work. For Dr. Marilyn Davidian, Health Information Management (HIM) Department Chair since 1993, it is an accomplishment that has given her a

High academic achievement is something of great honor and requires hard work. For Dr. Marilyn Davidian, Health Information Management (HIM) Department Chair since 1993, it is an accomplishment that has given her a

"sincere appreciation for education research." And we, at the School of Allied Health Professions have a sincere appreciation for her and her extremely dedicated work.

Dr. Davidian has recently finished her Doctorate in Education from Claremont Graduate University based in Claremont, Calif. She received her Bachelor's Degree from Loma Linda University in 1984 as a Registered Health Information Administrator and began working for the HIM department in 1985

as a faculty member. Dr. Davidian also completed a Masters of Arts in Education from Claremont University in 1997.

After completing this next stage in her education, Dr. Davidian commented on the value of the change in thinking that comes with pursuing a higher degree. "I realize that my thinking became more global and broad," she said.

Her Doctoral Thesis was entitled *HIM Education: A Comparison of Faculty Mentoring Experiences of Traditional vs. Distance Education Students*.

CODING CERTIFICATE PROGRAM

Completion Ceremony, 2010

By DEBRA HAMADA
Program Coordinator
Coding Specialist Program
January, 2010

The Coding Specialist Program Graduation was held Sunday, January 10, 2010, in Randall's Visitor's Center. It was joyous occasion as 16 students celebrated their graduation. The ceremony began with welcome messages from Dr. Edd Ashley, EdD,

Associate Dean of the Student Affairs for SAHP and Marilyn Davidian, Ph.D., RHIA, Chair of the Department

of Health Information Management. This year's speaker, Sal Valdepena, CCS, is a 2005 alumnus of the Coding

Specialist Program. His message centered on how his education and hard work has provided him a financially and personally rewarding career. Graduates, family members and friends were deeply inspired by the words Mr. Valdepena shared.



L-R, Back Row: Kandyce Edwards, Leanora Vinson, Lauria Watts, Rickie Montgomery, Sarah Rivero. Front Row: Judy Stefan, Robin Trussell, Georgina Cisneros, Michelle Goldberg, Feven Getachew, Casey Cocchia, Erica Brown-Taylor



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Gospel Baritone

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This special gospel concert is sponsored by the School of Allied Health Professions in honor of the 14th Annual Alumni Homecoming Weekend. For more information about Alumni Homecoming, visit: www.alliedhealth.llu.edu/alumni