

# NEWSLETTER

## National Student Research Group

### Loma Linda School of Dentistry Creates Local Chapter



LOMA LINDA UNIVERSITY  
School of Dentistry



The new officers and faculty advisors are proud to announce the formation of a Loma Linda University Chapter for the National Student Research Group. Justin Weaver, SD'10, president; Scott Arceneaux, SD'11, vice-president of Technology; Kirollos Zakhary, SD'11, vice-president of

public relations; and Michael Knutson, SD'11, secretary; are working with faculty advisors Mei Lu, DDS, MS, PhD, associate professor, Department of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery, and course director for Research Design; Yiming Li, DDS, MSD, PhD, director, Center for Dental Research; and Ronald Dailey, PhD, executive associate dean for academic affairs to improve the student research opportunities at LLUSD.

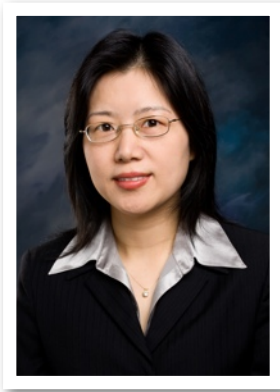
The goal of student research at Loma Linda University School of Dentistry is to help raise and maintain the quality of dental research and education by encouraging participation of dental, dental hygiene, graduate students, and dental school faculty in research to improve oral health care. In addition, research study encourages critical thinking skills and fosters a better understanding of the scientific literature essential to the practice of evidence-based dentistry.

#### SO WHY SHOULD I GET INVOLVED?

The American Association for Dental Research (AADR) National Student Research Group (NSRG) at Loma Linda University has been established to better facilitate opportunities for those students interested in research in areas of oral healthcare/craniofacial biology. The benefits of joining are numerous and include: travel opportunities, networking with others in your field, and expanding one's scope of interest in dental research. Active involvement in research

while enrolled in dental school is strongly advised for those students wishing to excel in their desired field and the AADR/NSRG is here to help. The chapter at Loma Linda University envisions that all students with the desire to be involved in one of the many research opportunities offered can be assisted in finding a mentor, joining an existing research project, or starting a new research project of their own. *Check out our website for more information.*

## LOMA LINDA CHAPTER STUDENT RESEARCH



Mei Lu, DDS MS PhD

One of the faculty advisors for the Loma Linda chapter Dr. Mei Lu, is also the course director of the Research Design class at Loma Linda University. This is a two-unit course that begins in the summer quarter of the dental student's third year, which is followed by a one-unit laboratory portion that provides

students time to work on projects of their own. In 2008-2009 students from Dr. Lu's class produced 34 projects which were presented at

the Loma Linda University Student Research Competition. The winning projects were sent to the Table Clinic Competition at the CDA convention in Anaheim. They were all received well by the judges and two projects took first place. In addition to the CDA, students are sponsored to travel and present at research conventions all across the United States. This provides them the opportunity to network with other students and continue to be involved in the research community. Dr. Lu says that she is proud of the work her students put in to their projects and is looking forward to another productive year with a group of 90 students who are currently working their projects.

## STUDENT PROFILES: JUSTIN WEAVER

I remember as a first year dental student, hearing a lecture given by Dr. Herford. He spoke about the field of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery; I wanted to learn more so I began looking for a research opportunity in that field. As a third year student in Dr. Lu's Research Design class I began working on an OMFS research project with Dr. Lu and Dr. Tanaka. I can truly say it has been a great experience for me as a dental student. We developed a digital multimedia teaching aid for intraoral suturing. A manuscript based on the project was recently

published in the December 2009 issue of the California Dental Association Journal.

This project opened many doors for me. I was able to learn more about an interesting area of dentistry, sponsored to travel and present my project, and had the chance to create a new teaching tool for my fellow dental students. I never expected all of these opportunities when I began the project; but now looking back, I am grateful that I made the decision to do research in my area interest. If you have an area of interest, I would suggest getting in touch with some one

who is working on research in that field and become involved. If you cannot find any projects, do not hesitate to create one. I guarantee you will not regret it!

Justin Weaver  
Class of 2010

RESEARCH ACTIVITIES

**2009 CDA Convention**

Nine of the possible sixteen winning groups were from Loma Linda University Student Research at the CDA Table Clinic Competition.

**Publications**

**Peer-Reviewed Paper**

J. Weaver, M. Lu, K McCloskey, E. Herndon, W. Tanaka, Digital Multimedia Instruction Enhances Teaching Oral and Maxillofacial CDA Journal Dec 2009: 37(12) 859-862

**Abstract**

N. Marongiu, S. Seheult, J. Ask M. Lu and B. Krall Gow-Gates Target Area and Maxillary Artery Anatomical Relationship. CDA Journal Sept 2009:37(9) 663

**2009 ADA Student Research Conference**

Justin Weaver represented Loma Linda University at the 45th Annual ADA Dental Student Research Conference in Gaithersburg, Maryland.

**2009 HINMAN Student Research Symposium**

Dr. Lu together with two dental students, Sherin Johnson SD' 10 and

Nicholas Marongiu SD'10 traveled to Memphis, TN and presented their projects.

UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

**AADR Poster Presentations**

Stuart Seheult SD' 10 and Scott Arceneaux, SD' 11 will be presenting in March in Washington D.C.

**LLUSD Student Research Presentations**

Dental Students and Dental Hygiene Students present their research projects to faculty and fellow students on March 18 in Centennial Complex.

**CDA Poster Presentations**

Winners from the LLUSD Student Poster Presentations will present at the CDA Convention in Anaheim

**ADA Research Convention**

One student will be sponsored to represent Loma Linda University at the ADA Dental Student Research Conference.

**Important Dates**

**March 3-6 2010**

AADR Student Research Group Competition

**March 18 2010**

LLUSD Student Research Presentations

**May 16 2010**

CDA Table Clinic Competition

**May 3-5 2010**

46th Annual ADA Dental Student Research Conference

**Upcoming Presenters**

STUART SEHEULT SD' 10



-Will present some of his project on the proximity of the Gow-Gates Injection to the maxillary artery.

SCOTT ARCENEUX SD' 11



-Will be presenting his project on digital multimedia and the instruction of flap design for surgical extractions.

WANT TO FIND OUT MORE?

If you have any questions or would like to become involved in any of the activities, you can find out more at our website.

<http://www.llu.edu/dentistry/cdr/index.page>

We will continue to post updates and news about the Loma Linda University Chapter as well as any research opportunities for students. If you are interested in joining the Loma Linda chapter

for AADR/NSRG, please feel free to contact Michael Knutson, SD'11, at [mknutson@llu.edu](mailto:mknutson@llu.edu)

We currently have

- Student Research Projects
- Faculty Research Projects
- Journal clubs
  - Oral Surgery, Orthodontics, Pediatric Dentistry, and more