Legislative exposure: students meet state

Advanced Education Program in Periodontics celebrates 50 years

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11092 Anderson Street  
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*phone* (909) 558-4754 · *fax* (909) 558-0473  
www.llulegacy.org · *email* legacy@llu.edu
Classy cluster (p. 28): the first eight students to enroll in LLUSD’s new Dental Hygiene Associate of Science degree program in Palm Desert, California.

Purpose

Loma Linda University Dentistry informs alumni, faculty, students, and other interested individuals about current School programs, events, and activities, as well as accomplishments of fellow alumni, faculty, and students. The journal is published twice each year by Loma Linda University School of Dentistry.

To reach the School of Dentistry
Alumni Association, contact:
Jeri Fowler, assistant director
LLUSD Alumni Association
11092 Anderson Street
Loma Linda, CA 92354
Phone: (909) 558-4399
Fax: (909) 558-4858

Admissions information:
School of Dentistry
Loma Linda University
Office of Admissions
Loma Linda, CA 92350
Admissions.sd@llu.edu
Phone: (800) 422-4558 or (909) 558-4621

Cover: Dr. Lloyd Baum poses (circa 1953) with the enormous tooth models he created for visual aids.
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**Dean’s message: Morphology of a pioneer**

When I graduated from Loma Linda University in 1971, I enrolled at the Indiana University School of Dentistry advanced education program in prosthodontics so that I could study under two of that school’s world-renown educators: Roland Dykema, DDS, professor emeritus of prosthodontics, and Ralph Phillips, MS, DSc, research professor emeritus of dental materials.

After completing the advanced degree program, I was given a faculty appointment that included the teaching of dental anatomy and tooth morphology. One of my early assignments was to teach both of those classes. I immediately remembered how Lloyd Baum, DDS, had taught us at LLUSD, using enormous tooth models he had devised for visual aids. I made my own set of large teeth and soon witnessed firsthand the enhanced learning that occurs when students can actually see teeth as they are in the mouth—three dimensionally.

It was the experience of seeing students visualize the form and structure of each tooth—as I held them up in front of the class, rotating them as I discussed their morphology—that cemented in my mind the invaluable learning tool that three-dimensional imaging can be.

That understanding is what has led us recently here at LLUSD to develop 3-D computer-based resources that greatly improve learning, precisely because they enhance our ability, as we plan treatment, to visualize what we need to do before we do it. This initiative really began as the result of what I learned from Dr. Baum.

In this issue of Dentistry, Dr. Baum’s professional life is reviewed, reminding us of his ground-breaking inventions, his innovative research, and his copious publications. His practical approach to teaching greatly advantaged the School’s alumni, not only those who learned directly under his tutelage, but also those who have learned more recently from those he taught.

There is no doubt that Dr. Baum’s influence will continue to be felt for decades to come, as we endeavor to build on his legacy of clinical excellence and innovative ways of visualizing dental anatomy and tooth morphology.

I salute Dr. Baum’s memory as an exceptional clinician, innovator, researcher, and educator. We are each in the debt of this founding faculty member of the School of Dentistry for the many contributions he made to both the profession and the teaching of dentistry.

Charles J. Goodacre, SD’71, MSD
Dean
Alumni president’s message:

In the spirit of the season

It seems to be part of the human condition that so many of us are almost surprised at the arrival of each Christmas and New Year. But these annual markers remind me that I need to report that our LLU School of Dentistry Alumni Association has been hard at work representing you to (and for) the School, its current students, and the wider Loma Linda University family.

The Student Loan Fund continues to fill a profound need for many of our students, as government loans and other forms of financial aid grow increasingly scarce, and the qualifications for financial assistance become more elaborate and exacting.

The School’s annual Student Dedication Service is one of the most popular and best-attended (by students, their families, and faculty) events of the year; and we continue to appreciate your help in paying for the embossed Bibles and monogrammed white coats that personalize them so meaningfully for the students.

The number of students participating in mission (service learning) trips across the country and around the world continues to grow, trips that provide students with some of their most memorable (and expensive) learning experiences. Your continued support of the Alumni Association makes these service-affirming excursions possible. This year the dentistry class of 2013 responded to its overseas service learning opportunity with deep sincerity. The class has adopted a dental clinic in Honduras as its long-term project that will continue not only through their years in dental school, but throughout their dental careers. Learn more about the class of 2013’s commitment on page 10. What a rewarding example of the unusually positive impact this University, this School, and its service-learning programs have on our students.

I hope as you consider your year-end giving you include the Alumni Association in your generosity and utilize our online gift store—with its array of stocking stuffers—not only for the Christmas season but any number of special occasions throughout the coming year.

A component of giving that I personally take advantage of is the option to designate funds to special projects. One that I have a personal interest in is the remodeling of the old auxiliary laboratory in honor of Dr. Lloyd Baum—the room on the first floor and across from the main amphitheaters. I’m sure that many alumni from both the traditional and International Dentist programs will welcome the opportunity to hold Dr. Baum prominent in our memories by supporting this restoration. I look forward to giving each of you a personal tour, when this project is completed and dedicated as the Lloyd Baum Dental Laboratory for the International Dentist Program.

For a proposal, please contact the Office of Development at Loma Linda University School of Dentistry, 11092 Anderson St., Loma Linda, CA 92350. You may also call us at 909-558-4754, or email sdgiving@llu.edu.

As the end of another year approaches, I wish you peace and fulfillment, whether you are retired or in a prosperous and thriving professional practice.

Greg Mitchell, SD’84
President, Alumni Association

Following renovation, the School’s current laboratory will be designated the Lloyd Baum Dental Laboratory.
Loma Linda Friends & Family Group Cruise presents...

Alaska Cruise & Tour
10 nights from Vancouver, BC to Anchorage, Alaska
June 30 - July 10, 2012
Prices starting at $1,999

- Vancouver, BC
- Tracy Arm & Sawyer Glaciers
- Juneau
- Skagway
- Whitehorse
- Dawson City
- Tok
- Fairbanks
- Denali
- Anchorage

Australia & New Zealand Cruise
14 nights round trip from Sydney, Australia
October 24 - November 7, 2012
Prices starting at $1,979

- Sydney, Australia
- Hobart, Australia
- Dunedin, New Zealand
- Christchurch, New Zealand
- Wellington, New Zealand
- Napier, New Zealand
- Rotorua, New Zealand
- Auckland, New Zealand
- Bay of Islands, New Zealand

10 hours of Loma Linda University Continuing Education Credit provided 12 dentists sign up for CE course.

For more information about the cruises contact University Travel at (909) 796-8344 or email utravel@travelleaders.com.
If you would like to pay and register for the Australia/New Zealand CE course, contact Continuing Dental Education at (909) 558-4685 or visit www.dentistry.llu.edu
Alumni Student Convention
February 9-12, 2012

Dental Hygiene Scientific Sessions
Thursday, February 9, 2012

Missionary Dentist & Prayer Breakfast
Thursday, February 9, 2012

Homecoming Banquet
Thursday, February 9, 2012
Featuring guest speaker Louis Zamperini – a World War II prisoner of war survivor, inspirational speaker, and former American Olympic distance runner, and the subject of the New York Bestseller, “Unbroken”
Honoring the 2012 Distinguished Alumnus of the Year:
Senator William J. Emmerson, DDS, MS

Women’s Auxiliary Brunch
Friday, February 10, 2012

Scientific Sessions
Thursday & Friday
February 9-10, 2012

Dental Hygiene & Assistants Homecoming Luncheon
Friday, February 10, 2012
Join our tribute to Joni Stephens for her years of service, and help celebrate her retirement.

For more information or to register, call (909) 558-4685 or visit www.dentistry.llu.edu
Class of 2015 embarks

The incoming School of Dentistry class of 2015 began its orientation on August 29 in Prince Hall’s first-floor amphitheaters where several School of Dentistry administrators introduced them to the challenges, joys, opportunities, and responsibilities (academic, logistic, ethical) that are integral to the doctor of dental surgery program at this Christian university.

Every matriculating dentistry class is a tapestry of interesting individuals with diverse origins, histories, and expectations. At the class of 2015’s Monday morning orientation seminars, Fred Kasischke, DMin, associate dean, Admissions and Service Learning, shared some of the statistics that describe the incoming freshmen class, among them the following:

With a cumulative GPA of 3.5 (science, 3.4; non-science 3.6), the average member of the class of 2015 is anything but average. The mean age of the class is 26.3 years, with 21 of its members married.

Twenty-six students from the class of 2015 arrived with educational backgrounds from seven countries outside the United States: 16 from Korea, five from Canada, and one each from China, Malaysia, the Philippines, Romania, and Taiwan. Of the 72 who earned their undergraduate degrees in the US, 50 received that education in California.

Eleven of the new class members are the progeny of, or otherwise closely related to, LLUSD alumni.

Dental Admissions Test scores for the class of 2015 are impressive. Its Academic Average (comprised of five scores rounded to the nearest whole number: quantitative reasoning, reading comprehension, biology, general chemistry, and organic chemistry) was 19.8. It averaged 20.88 on the Perceptual Ability Test; and its Total Science score, based on the 100 questions in the biology, general chemistry, and organic chemistry tests, was 20.05.

The future of the class of 2015 looks promising.
Recruitment success continues

The School of Dentistry’s Annual Admissions Report for 2011, submitted September 16, 2011, by Esther Valenzuela, MBA, MA, director, Admissions and Recruitment, indicates that the LLUSD’s recruitment effort continues to be successful.

Recruitment statistics indicate that over the past five years the School of Dentistry has accepted one out of 20 applicants who apply to take dentistry.

The Dental Hygiene Department’s new Associate of Science degree program in Palm Desert opened in September with eight students, but recruitment efforts have already filled 21 of 28 available spaces for the coming, 2012-2013, academic year.

Interesting data for the Doctor of Dental Surgery applications and acceptances for the past fourteen years are tabled below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Total Applicants</th>
<th>SDA Applicants</th>
<th>SDA Accepted</th>
<th>% of SDA in Class</th>
<th>Other Faiths Accepted</th>
<th>Total Accepted</th>
<th>Gender</th>
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<td>75%</td>
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<td>40%</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Alert: Licensure in California denied to tax delinquents

Licensure, certification, and registration with the Dental Board of California will be denied to licensees or applicants if they have outstanding tax obligations with the Franchise Tax Board (FTB) or the State Board of Equalization (BOE), beginning on July 1, 2012 (AB 1424, Perea, Chapter 455, Statutes of 2011).

A licensee or applicant appearing on the FTB or BOE’s certified lists of top 500 tax delinquencies over $100,000 has 90 days from issuance of a notice of intent to suspend or withhold a license to either satisfy outstanding tax obligations or enter into a payment installment program with the FTB or BOE.

Failure to comply with the specifications for licensure or certification will result in denial or suspension of licensure until the Dental Board of California receives a release from the FTB or BOE. The law prohibits the Dental Board of California from refunding money paid for a license that has been denied or suspended for failure to pay taxes.

Applicants and licensees can check to determine if they are on the FTB’s certified list at www.ftb.ca.gov/individuals/txdlnqnt.shtml; or on the BOE’s certified list at www.boe.ca.gov/cgi-bin/deliq.cgi. To challenge the accuracy of the list, FTB supplies this number to call: (866) 418-3702. For making corrections with the BOE, this is the number to call: 916-445-5167.
Jane Gumangan, SD’13, has just disembarked in Tegucigalpa, Honduras, ending a 2,375-mile flight from Los Angeles. With five classmates (and their 25 pieces of luggage), she arrives at the Hospital Adventista de Valle de Angeles’ dental clinic. At the hospital, Jane and her colleagues utilize one dentist’s chair an x-ray machine and emergency equipment dating from the 1970s. Derek Chu, SD’05, assistant professor, Department of Endodontics, was invited by the Class of 2013 to provide professional assistance on this first trip, as was Neal Johnson, PhD, SD’08, associate professor, Department of Oral Diagnosis, Radiology, and Pathology, on subsequent trips.

As a second-year dental student, Jane is about to see her very first dental patient, just screened by the local dentist. The patient is 8 or 9 years old. He has two chipped front teeth. Jane has experience repairing broken teeth—all expertly performed on typodonts. Typodonts don’t cry. Typodonts don’t cringe at the sight of a needle. Jane’s patient is crying. Needles terrify him. Jane finally dispenses with the rejected anesthesia and goes to work. When she needs help she can turn to Dr. Chu, who provides professional assistance. And tomorrow, with her fingers now wet in oral therapy, Jane will be revisited by her happy patient flashing his beautiful new smile.

The Honduras dental clinic is now the official project of the class of 2013, to which members have made a long-term commitment to donate continuity of dental care to its patients. The 2013 students were searching for a class project that would knit them together. Brit Steel, SD’13, says, “Our mindset was, ‘We’re together here four years. But when we walk out, what have we done to make a difference?’ We were looking for something we could do as a class so that we could remain connected as alumni.” A promising response came from first-year students in the School of Medicine who wanted to collaborate with students from the schools of dentistry, pharmacy, and nursing to create a significant, ongoing presence at a needy site. “This is what creates development and growth,” says Steel.

Representatives from the entering classes at the four LLU schools meet with University President Richard Hart, MD, DrPH, whose globe-trotting expertise had spotted options at six locations. Prudently narrowing the choice to a site that has an Adventist health institutional hospital presence and that lies within reasonable distance of affordable airfare, the students select Honduras.

Tina Pruna, MS, LLUSPH, a public health mission appointee in Honduras, serves as local contact for the students. They complete a flurry of paperwork. They need letters of invitation from the government and from the hospital. They must submit a letter of intent every time they launch a trip.
Year two of the Honduras project finds 10 students enroute to the mission site. Radio announcements have alerted the local population about free dental care. A line is waiting for the team. A routine is established. A local dentist screens. Children from two schools (a total of approximately 1,000) receive fluoridation treatments. The students have never heard of fluoride. “It’s fun with the kids,” Jason Mashni, SD’13, reports. “We have Tomas and Rosy puppets. We became puppeteers, telling the kids why they need to brush their teeth.” None of the ten team members is fluent in Spanish. The four class of ‘13 members that speak the language had prepared puppeteer scripts for their departing colleagues, who demonstrate on a model. “We make do as non-natives. We make do as non-natives, and try our best to communicate with the students. The kids think it’s funny,” says Jason. One of the local Honduras dentists talks about primary and secondary teeth, and the children are provided flouride treatment and given toothbrushes and toothpaste.

On trip three, 12 students are on board; a patient in the Hospital de Valle de Angeles hears they need equipment. He provides two chairs and two dental units, expanding the number of patients the team can treat. They are taking x-rays in Honduras for the first time. Michael Savage, SD’13, says, “The patients were aware that we were able to take x-rays this time and therefore save teeth with restorations. They were so happy that we could save teeth. For one lady, anxious about getting an extraction, we made a filling, saving her tooth. Afterwards she came up to me and another person who helped with the procedure on the verge of tears. I felt that we had a team and could focus on the patients. We had translators who would help us know the patients’ feelings and thinking,” says Michael.

“We have two more trips before graduation,” the students note. Class members will be returning to Honduras in the spring and fall of 2012. Half the class members going on the fourth and fifth trips will be going for the first time. The past participants are targeting classmates who have not volunteered. “We want to get them to go on to a long-term commitment, to move from ‘I’m trying to do enough procedures to get done,’ to, ‘This is what I’ll do to make an impact in the long run.’”

So far, Jane reports that in some way everyone in the class “is active in contributing to the project. This is a learning process, and the class is taking ownership rather than merely doing ‘service learning,’” she says, adding, “We have done external fund raising to assist each student who is expected to pay his or her way” (airfare: $700).

Brit Steele explains, “Kevin Kuniyoshi, SD’97, assistant professor, Restorative Dentistry, alumni Century Club president, has helped us ask questions: Where do we go from here? How do we get another class to explore a similar project? When we become alumni, we have a place we have identified with, even if we haven’t gone ourselves. Our goal: to make this a project so that everyone in the class has a chance to serve in Honduras.” Jane Gumangan adds, “It’s neat going from ‘Can we do this?’ to ‘How can we keep this going?’”

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**Dr. William Heisler Inducted to American College of Dentists**

*Bill Heisler, SD ’59*, professor, Department of Restorative Dentistry, was inducted into the fellowship of the American College of Dentists at its October 11, 2011, meeting in Las Vegas, Nevada. Dr. Heisler graduated with the third class at Loma Linda University School of Dentistry where he was awarded membership in Omicron Kappa Upsilon, the national dental honor fraternity.

It was the privilege of Drs. Clyde Roggenkamp, SD’70, MSD, associate professor, Department of Restorative Dentistry, and Leslie Arnett, DDS, MS’68, professor, Department of Periodontics, to sponsor Dr. Heisler for membership in the American College of Dentists.

For more on Dr. Heisler’s contributions to oral healthcare, see the School of Dentistry’s online news at:

The School of Dentistry Class of '62 has been unique in many ways, both during our four years in dental school and the fifty years since our graduation. For instance, when we graduated, instead of the obligatory “drinking fountain” class gift, we created a Class of ’62 Fund to which each of us promised to contribute $100 per year for the next 10 years. Thus, at our tenth anniversary, the Class Fund had grown to more than $60,000 through gifts and interest.

Many gifts have been given to the School of Dentistry over the years that benefit the School and its students. Perhaps the greatest result of having started the Class of 62 Fund was the fact that it kept us connected over the years to a degree that has not been true of most other LLUSD classes. We have met almost every year and taken many trips together, including cruises and visits to other countries.

This year our class decided to take a cruise to celebrate our fiftieth graduation anniversary. On October 4, thirty-four class members, spouses, friends, and relatives boarded the M/S Crown Princess in New York for a ten-day trip to Quebec City. The cruise stopped at nine destinations along the way that included Rhode Island, Massachusetts, Maine, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Prince Edward Island, and, our final destination, Quebec.

Besides the interesting daily visits to the New England and Maritime Provinces cities, we enjoyed eating together at our reserved eating areas where we visited each other by changing tables almost every day. The food was great and we all gained some poundage.

Probably the most delightful experience we all had was the opportunity of meeting, for the first time in fifty years, our classmate, Gerald Alderson (Aldie) and his lovely wife, Ellen. They have promised to join us in February ’12 for the Alumni Weekend where our class will be officially honored at our 50th anniversary.

During our cruise, we were able to have two “class meetings,” something we do every time we get together on class trips. Each of us reported on our lives, families, and happenings over the years, both happy and not-so-happy ones.

Thor Bakland reported attending, with several classmates, Lloyd Baum’s memorial service on August 7. We all mourn his passing very much—he had been a real inspiration and help to all of us—so much that our class had made him an official member of the Class of ’62. Our class has decided to donate $10,000 of our remaining class of ’62 Fund to the LLUSD Lloyd Baum Memorial Fund. Several classmates have made individual gifts to this fund as well, and the Baum family will use the Memorial Fund to honor his special concerns, most of which centered on helping students. It is hoped that many more alumni will honor his memory by contributing to the Lloyd Baum Memorial Fund.

The cruise participants were unanimous in their opinion that the 50th Anniversary Cruise was a real success. We don’t know if there will be more such cruises, but if not, we will long remember the good time we had together on this class trip.
The class of 1962 cruised comfortably on the Crown Princess.

Lee and Dottie Crane

Lloyd and Pat Stoll

Tom and Gladys Scott

Thor and Jean Bakland
President Barak Obama signed a statement on August 9, 2011, that read in part,

Know ye that, reposing special trust and confidence in the patriotism, valor, fidelity and abilities of Monserrat Jorden, I do appoint her a Lieutenant Commander United States Navy to rank as such from the sixteenth day of June two thousand and eleven.

Ten days later, with her right hand raised before recruiting officer Lieutenant Jason M. Boyce, commissioning officer Lieutenant Fernando Patron Jr. (Medical Corps), as well as friends and School of Dentistry co-workers, Monserrat Jorden, DMD, MS’11, associate professor, Department of Pediatric Dentistry, swore to “support and defend the Constitution of the United States against all enemies, foreign and domestic,” and that she would “well and faithfully discharge the duties of the office on which I am about to enter so help me God.”

And so on August 19, 2011, Dr. Jorden was commissioned into the United States Navy as a Lieutenant Commander.

Dr. Jorden earned the doctor of dental surgery (CD) in 1994 as Monserrat Fernandez, graduating as class valedictorian from the Facultad de Odontologia at the Universidad Nacional Autonoma de Mexico, in Mexico City. (Monserrat had attended Catholic schools her entire life, and dreamed of becoming a physician. But her chest surgeon father and internal medicine mother steered her into dentistry rather than encourage her to follow them into medicine.)

With dental school behind her, the next year Dr. Fernandez completed a prosthodontic preceptorship at the University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio where she met her then dental student husband-to-be, Navy Ensign Jeff Jorden.

After the preceptorship Dr. Fernandez associated in private practice with a Mexico City prosthodontist. The long-distance romance and Jeff Jorden’s dental school studies culminated (spring of 1998) in three, consecutive hectic days: regional boards, graduation, wedding.

For the first couple of years of their married life, the doctors Jorden lived in Virginia and New Jersey, where Dr. Monserrat Jorden, lacking an American license to practice, worked as an expanded function dental assistant, earning the tuition to enter the Advanced Standing Program at Tufts University School of Dental Medicine in Boston from which she graduated with honors in 2002.

Dr. Jorden then worked as a general dentist for seven years wherever her husband was stationed—in Groton, Connecticut, San Antonio Texas, and the US Naval Hospital in Sigonella, Italy, before entering the Advanced Specialty Education Program in Pediatric Dentistry at Loma Linda University in 2009.

It was Dr. Jorden’s professionalism in Sigonella that was instrumental in acquiring her Navy commission, because she was recommended by a Navy officer who had appreciated her work as a civilian dentist to Navy personnel in Italy.

For the past two years Commander Jeff Jorden has been a dentist to the crew of the aircraft carrier USS Nimitz,
initially stationed out of San Diego and later from Seattle, Washington. Monserrat Jorden’s Navy commission will enable her to join Jeff in Japan where both will be practicing dentistry for Navy personnel and their dependents.

The United States Navy’s gain is the School of Dentistry’s loss.

Also recently commissioned as Navy lieutenants were three School of Dentistry graduates from the Doctor of Dental Surgery class of 2011, Donavon Yapshing, David Green and Yamel Ramirez, sworn in at Randall Visitor Center by retired Brigadier General Michael Walter, MD, associate professor, LLU School of Medicine, on the morning of their May 28 graduation.

The high moment was witnessed by family, friends, classmates, as well as Navy and Air Force veterans on the School of Dentistry faculty who welcomed the trio to the fraternity of their service.
For the first time in several years, the International Association of Student Clinicians competition, held during the annual American Dental Association meetings, did not convene on Saturday—a change that enabled Vanessa Browne, SD’12, to present in Las Vegas on Monday, October 10, 2011, a research project completed with her colleagues, Mike Flewelling, SD’12, and Mark Wierenga, SD’12. The Loma Linda trio’s project won second prize, awarded in a competition with 76 student researchers from all American (and 17 international) dental schools.

Neal Johnson, SD’08, PhD, associate professor, Department of Oral Diagnosis, Radiology, and Pathology, suggested the research topic, “Sterilization of Used and Contaminated Implant Healing Abutments and Impression Copings: A Cost Benefit Analysis,” because no scientific evidence had been produced on this practice that many dentists have begun to employ. The suggestion came just two and a half weeks before the deadline—a ten-week pursuit of another project that did not materialize.

“We worked morning, noon, and night for two weeks to design the protocol and complete the research,” Vanessa reported. To assist them, Ray Aprecio, Sr., research associate, Center for Dental Research, was meeting the team at 6 a.m. and again in the evening. Alisa Wilson, safety and infection control coordinator, facilitated processing the research material through sterilization, and delivered lunch as the team worked through the noon hour.

Vanessa names other mentors who met “multiple times” to give advice: Yiming Li, DDS, PhD, MS, director, Center for Dental Research and Paul Richardson, SD’72, MEd, associate dean, Clinic Administration. In Las Vegas, Dean Charles Goodacre, SD’71, MSD, and Nikola Angelov, DDS, MS, PhD, professor and director, Pre-doctoral Periodontics Clinic, Department of Periodontics, listened to her presentation rehearsal in the hotel lobby. The recipient of the award, Vanessa comments with conviction, “Loma Linda supports its students who are interested in research.”
Student representatives from four California dental schools visited Sacramento last month to gain an understanding of how legislative advocacy impacts dentistry.

As part of the CDA-sponsored Student Advocacy Conference on April 5, 40 students from Loma Linda School of Dentistry, Herman Ostrow School of Dentistry at USC, UCLA School of Dentistry and UCSF School of dentistry visited CDA offices and the State Capitol, where they met with assembly members and state senators.

“Student advocacy day is a remarkable thing because it lets first-year and second-year students see that the goal of CDA is not just to regulate dentistry, but it’s to organize it and to go to the Capitol and make sure that proposed bills or legislation are justified and fair in the eyes of the dentist,” said Ryan Abelowitz, fourth-year student at UCLA.

During the morning session, CDA President Andrew Soderstrom, DDS, and CDA legislative staff led several presentations on topics including how a political action committee works, the process CDA takes to get state legislation passed, and workforce and access to care.

Following the morning session, students walked from the CDA offices to the State Capitol, where they met with Sen. Bill Emmerson, DDS. CDA endorsed and helped elect Emmerson to the Assembly in 2004. He was elected to the 37th Senate District in 2010.

Emmerson offered the students insight into the state legislative process, showed them the Senate and Assembly floors, and posed for pictures. He encouraged the students to continue to be involved in grassroots efforts through CDA.

“The best thing you can do when you practice is to join the California Dental Association; it does a remarkable job here in this town of representing dentistry,” said Emmerson, who practiced orthodontics for 26 years in Hemet. “When any crisis ever comes up, the California Dental Association certainly steps up and does the right thing.”

Third-year student at UCLA Lindley Zerbe said he joined CDA in hopes that he would some day have the chance to meet a senator or assembly member.

“As a CDA member and a student member even, it was great to get direct access to Bill Emmerson... He is an orthodontist; he’s a fellow dentist who is taking the time to speak to us and get our ideas—it’s just a real vote of confidence for the future of dentistry,” Zerbe said.

“For me, it was amazing.”

Students would later hear from other legislators such as Sen. Jean Fuller and Assemblywoman Fiona Ma.

Fuller stressed that things get accomplished in Sacramento when enough people get together and tell legislators that something is wrong and needs to be fixed, and they don’t “quit yelling about it until it gets done.”

“There’s never the best anything in politics, but at that moment there is enough pressure from enough people who agree on the need—at that point things begin to happen,” Fuller said.
Students asked Ma questions about topics including infection control, how a bill is introduced, student loan funding and term limits.

Diana Torres, first-year student at Loma Linda School of Dentistry, said the conference was informative and motivated her to get involved.

“I had an amazing experience while visiting the CDA building and attending their conference. I think it is important to get involved now as D-1s... Getting involved, knowing what to do and how to support all of these [dental-related] bills is very important,” Torres said.

Abelowitz said he believes advocacy is the biggest benefit of CDA membership.

“Your profession is your life; and if you have control over your profession, you have control over your livelihood,” Abelowitz said. “By being a part of the political aspect—the legislative arm of CDA—you have an input on what is going to happen in your profession; and by doing so, you rule your profession.”
Class panel campaign

Students, patients and alumni frequently pause to pore over the class panels on the second floor of Prince Hall. These graduation photos display the legacy of the School’s graduates and administrators, and provide alumni a personal and tangible link to the School’s past. However, the last five years of class panels have not been displayed, because there was simply no more room on the wall to hang the panels.

Requests from alumni and current students to hang the class panels resulted in a redesign of the display, creating an artistic rendering of the School’s history, and making room for all current, and many years of future, class panels for both the dentistry and dental hygiene program graduates. Each class panel will be digitized to restore and maintain the image quality, placed in plexi-glass sheaths, and hung between wallpaper borders that display photographs depicting the mission, core values, and motto of the School of Dentistry.

The total cost for this expanded display is $500 per class picture panel. Funding for this project is not in the current Alumni Association budget, so your help is needed. Please discuss with your classmates the sponsorship of your panel; for those panels without class sponsorship, a $100 individual gift will be recognized. There will be room on the display wall to acknowledge the classes and individuals contributing to this project.

Whatever method your class chooses, thank you for funding this much-needed project. All gifts for this endeavor will be tax deductible as allowed by federal and state law. Please make your check payable to Loma Linda University, with “SD Alumni Photo Panels” in the memo section of your check. Send your check to:

Office of Development
Loma Linda University School of Dentistry
11092 Anderson Street
Loma Linda, CA 92350

Credit cards are welcome as well, either by phone at 909-558-4754 or online at www.llu.edu/dentistry. Click on Gift Giving, then Secure Online Donation. You’ll need to type “SD Alumni Photo Panels” in the Other Designation section, and specify the amount of your gift.

Stop by the second-floor hallway just off the main lobby of the School of Dentistry during the Alumni Student Convention (February 9 – 12, 2012) and find your class and your own graduation picture. It’s always fun to see ourselves and our classmates “back when” and compare that to now!
A School of Dentistry program for international dentists under assignment to mission clinics has attracted a diverse corps of dentists. Arriving early in 2011 to the School’s International Dentist Program (IDP), Dr. Sarah Gill was following in the footsteps of her Pakistani father who received advanced training from Dr. Quint Nicola, first in Pakistan and later (1991) during a six-month certification program at LLUSD.

Dr. Gill’s Sikh great-grandparents converted to Christianity. Her father, Victor Gill, a dentist, met Dr. Quint Nicola and joined the Seventh-day Adventist church. He now operates the mission clinic in Peshawar. Her mother has a mission too. For ten years she operated a sewing center for uneducated women who can work from home. She then opened a school for Christians that began with 10 to 15 students and has expanded to 300 pupils pursuing K-10 studies.

Assigned to a patient in IDP, wearing the program’s royal blue scrubs, Dr. Sarah Gill appeared thoroughly Western, visually merging with her colleagues during her stay at LLUSD, March through September 2011. Today Dr. Gill has returned to her native Pakistan, having donned her America style garb for a chador. “We don’t have freedom here,” she says. “We can’t go out alone. We have to totally cover ourselves, wearing the national dress.”

Because no dental hygiene or dental assistant courses are available in Pakistan, Dr. Gill is training her own assistant/hygienist, having chosen a male so that her office can serve men as well as women. Dr. Gill admits that Peshawar, on the border of Pakistan and Afghanistan, where she grew up and studied dentistry, and where her father practices, has been since 9-11 a very scary place. Driving to dental school at Gandhara University in Peshawar each day, she would be stopped at as many as ten check points. She recalls roadblocks requiring her to go to another part of the city to stay with friends after events such as the bombing of the U.S. embassy. Bomb blasts occurred every day while she attended dental school.

It’s scary in Rawalpindi too, Dr. Gill admits, adding that she accepted an appointment in that district precisely because nobody wants to go there. “Being local,” she says, “I can be helpful. It’s a place where you don’t trust anybody. You don’t know if the person sitting next to you is a terrorist.”

Dr. Gill agreed to open a dental mission clinic in Rawalpindi after treating a patient with cellulitis in her father’s clinic. The woman had arrived with pus draining from her cheek. The woman’s family had opposed her going to a doctor until they learned that a female dentist was working in the mission clinic. Treating the woman, Dr. Gill did some extractions, put her on antibiotics, monitored her recovery—and knew she needed to open a practice that would include women.

Studying dentistry at LLUSD was rigorous but peaceful for Dr. Gill. She recalls the day government agents stormed her father’s dental office, looking for contraband Bibles. Automatically suspect as a Christian dentist operating the Peshawar mission dental clinic, he avoided dire consequences when they found no Bibles.

Dr. Gill is one of many IDP students whose return to their native place, often in dangerous environments, helps to spread the good news and promotes oral health where the need is the greatest.
LLUSD Alumni Gear

The Alumni Association proudly offers the pictured (and additional) items for sale. The reasonable prices for each of the items includes a small profit that will help fund Century Club activities such as sponsoring international service learning trips for students, personalized Bibles for incoming students, a white coat for each senior student, and the graduation reception.

These items make great graduation, birthday, and Valentine gifts for loved ones, or a wonderful way to treat yourself to a piece of Loma Linda University School of Dentistry.

Men’s LLUSD Citizen watch $149.99

Women’s LLUSD Citizen watch $149.99

Travel Mug $5.00

2GB Thumb Drive $15.00

Travel Wallet $20.00

Laptop Case $20.00

To get LLUSD gear, go to:
www.dentistry.llu.edu
and click on

LLUSD gear
Ribbon is cut for the LLUSD Associate of Science dental hygiene program in Palm Desert

The Loma Linda University School of Dentistry (LLUSD) held a ribbon-cutting Monday afternoon, November 28, to celebrate the opening of its dental hygiene Associate of Science degree program at Pointe Monterey Business Park.

Loma Linda University President Richard Hart, MD, DrPh, welcomed the attendees among whom were administrators from the College of the Desert and representatives of state and local government, the public, and faculty from Loma Linda University and its School of Dentistry.

School of Dentistry Dean Charles Goodacre, SD’71, MSD, specially recognized several people for their essential contributions to the program’s development—among them, Department of Dental Hygiene Chair Kristi Wilkins, DH’80, MA; Associate Dean for Strategic Initiatives and Faculty Practices Joseph Caruso, SD’73, MS’75, MPH; and LLUSD alumnus Bryan Marshall, SD’83, owner, Alliance Healthcare Development and Construction, who encouraged his longtime friend, James Fullmer, owner/developer Pointe Monterey Business Park complex, to hold a place for the Loma Linda associate of science degree program and contribute $90,000 toward the facility’s elaborate build-out.

“The goal of providing this eastern desert community with increased access to dental care and oral health training is exciting,” says Wilkins, adding that the program will include a dental clinic offering care for under-served groups.

The eight young women who comprise the program’s initial class were all on hand to assist visitors with a tour of the 10,411-square foot, state-of-the-art-space at 34-280 Gateway Drive.

In his remarks, Mayor Pro Tem Robert A. Spiegel observed that “Palm Desert has a proud history of being the Coachella Valley’s foremost destination for higher learning” and that this new program is “a wonderful thing” for the community. Spiegel noted that “local students who aspire to become dental hygienists will be able to study and train close to home,” and that “area residents will also enjoy better access to dental and oral health care through the program’s new public clinic.”

On behalf of the California State legislature, California Senator Bill Emmerson, SD’80, MS’82, presented the hygiene program with a framed copy of Joint Member Resolution No. 617, in which the legislators agree to “draw special attention of the public to…the Loma Linda University Dental Hygiene Program and Clinic in Palm Desert, and point with great pride to the outstanding opportunities it will provide to its students well into the future.”

(Continued on page 31)
Late afternoon view of Loma Linda University School of Dentistry’s dental hygiene Associate of Science degree program housed in 10,411 square feet of the Pointe Monterey Business Park, at 34-280 Gateway Drive, in Palm Desert.

Joni Stephens, DH’69, EdS, MS, professor, Department of Dental Hygiene, Kristi Wilkins, and Dr. Caruso celebrate the success of so much effort.

California State Senator (and LLUSD alumnus) Bill Emmerson and School of Dentistry Dean Charles Goodacre display the California Legislature’s Joint Member Resolution (No. 617) commending the School for opening its dental hygiene Associate of Science degree program in Palm Desert.

Several of the seventeen clinical stations that grace the clinic floor of Loma Linda University School of Dentistry’s new dental hygiene Associate of Science degree program in Palm Desert await patients.

Janeen Duff, DH’81, MA, assistant professor, Dental Hygiene and clinical site coordinator; David Brodeur, SD’71, MPA, assistant professor, Restorative Dentistry and site attending dentist; and Debra Zawistowski, HY’05, assistant professor, Dental Hygiene

The admissions desk for the new dental hygiene program clinic is decorated with holiday bouquets.
This seminar will trace the evolution of periodontics from many points of view. The role of the periodontist and his/her relationship with the restorative dentist will be traced from its past to its present focus on teamwork and constant communication. The role of new technology in the twenty-first century and its importance in changing the way we treat patients will be discussed and contrasted with past modalities of treatment. The growing interrelationship of periodontics and its relation to systemic disease will be discussed from the point of view of increasing contact and communication with our physician colleagues in order to provide better health care for our patients. Finally, the importance of basing our treatment on sound scientific principles and the use of evidence based treatment will be traced from the era of empirical treatment to the present use of systemic reviews and meta-analyses to determine the best course of treatment.

At the end of this symposium, the attendee will have:

- a better understanding of the crucial role of interdisciplinary treatment planning in modern periodontics
- a better understanding of the use of CBCT and other computer aids in implant placement
- a better understanding of the connections between the various forms of periodontal disease and other systemic diseases such as diabetes, cardiac disease etc.
- recognition of the importance of evidence based dentistry in modern periodontics
- a better understanding of where we were fifty years ago and where we are now.

**Course Co-Director**

**Jeffrey M. Henkin, DDS, MS**  
Department of Periodontics  
Director, Advanced Specialty in Periodontics  
Loma Linda University School of Dentistry

**Yoon Jeong Kim, DDS, MS**  
Associate Professor, Department of Periodontics  
Diplomate, American Board of Periodontology  
Loma Linda University School of Dentistry

**Course Co-Director**

**Charles J. Goodacre, DDS, MSD**  
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**Thomas J. Kepic, DDS, MSD**  
Director, American Board of Periodontology  
President, California Society of Periodontists

**Allan H. Charles, DDS**  
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**Joan Otomo-Corgel, DDS, MPH**  
Secretary/Treasurer, American Academy of Periodontology  
Private Practice, Los Angeles, California

**R. Leslie Arnett, DDS, MS**  
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Predoctoral Periodontics  
Loma Linda University School of Dentistry

**Nikola Angelov, DDS, MS, PhD**  
Professor, Department of Periodontics  
Director, Predoctoral Periodontics  
Diplomate, American Board of Periodontology  
Loma Linda University School of Dentistry

**History of the Advanced Specialty in Periodontics Program at Loma Linda University**

**Systemic Perio: Where Is the Link?**

**Computer Planning for Implant Placement**

**The Evolution and Importance of Evidence-Based Dentistry in Periodontics**

**The Evolution of the Role of the Restorative Dentist and the Periodontist in Providing Comprehensive Patient Care**

**Location:** Ontario Airport Hilton  
700 N. Haven Avenue  
Ontario, California 91764

**Dinner and program:** 6:00 p.m.  
$60 per person

**Sunday, April 1, 2012**

9:00 a.m. — 4:45 p.m.  
Register at 8:30 a.m.  
$195 DDS  
$175 AUX

Provider is authorized to confer 8 hours of California continuing dental education credit. AGD Code 490
The interdisciplinary treatment planning process

Jeffrey M. Henkin, DDS, MS

The development of a treatment plan that meets all the patient’s needs requires knowledge of all branches of dentistry. Even though the restorative dentist is usually the professional who creates a successful treatment plan, input from all dental specialties is of supreme importance for producing a plan that addresses all causes of a patient’s problems. This is especially important from the standpoint of the periodontist, since the success of nearly all dental procedures requires a healthy periodontium.

A successful treatment plan requires the systematic acquisition of information about the patient and the use of this information to provide a comprehensive list of treatment goals based on phases of treatment, priorities, and targets. One has to sit back and think about what the goals are, and what treatment modalities will be required (and in what order), to achieve the desired outcome. In developing a treatment plan, practitioners should spend 95 percent of their time thinking and 5 percent on treatment implementation.

There have been many methods of deciding what type of treatment a patient will receive. The most common type has been based on what is called treatment by incident, or “toothology,” in which dental problems were identified based on a narrow, solely tooth-based priority predicated on immediate needs such as pain or missing teeth. This type of planning leads to an incomplete list of priorities and a disjointed and non-comprehensive approach to dental care.

In recent decades, a much more scientific and organized approach to dental treatment planning has acquired prominence. This method of developing a successful plan is based on phases of treatment. Although the patient’s chief complaint must be addressed first whenever possible, at the earliest available time a comprehensive examination should be performed. This examination must include a comprehensive review of the patient’s medical and psychiatric history, complete periodontal charting and analysis, a radiographic analysis (utilizing good quality diagnostic films and/or cone beam images), a thorough occlusal analysis (including the need for orthodontics), and a tooth-by-tooth restorative exam that will help determine the overall restorative prognosis.

This comprehensive plan should include consultations from all involved dental specialties, even though, in most cases, the overall responsibility for the total treatment regimen remains with the restorative dentist.

The advantages of planning by priorities include:

• an organized list of treatment after the chief complaint is addressed.
• treatment based on a problem list that is based on organized diagnoses.
• a flexible and reliable guide to personalized treatment.
• an opportunity for the dentist to explain to the patient at the start of treatment what procedures are needed, how long the treatment will take, and what the cost will be. (This is conducive to patient confidence and retention.)
• enhanced patient communication as well as much greater referral communication among the dentists involved in treating the patient.
• an orderly informed consent process.

Other important reasons for working by phases and priorities include the ability to manage time periods within and between phases. This helps patients anticipate when certain fees will be required so that they can budget accordingly. Certain phases of treatment will involve particularly expensive procedures. With a clear procedure schedule, dentist and patient can develop an affordable treatment payment plan. Dividing treatment into logical phases enables the patient more easily to understand why the treatment plan is a dynamic, flexible document that may require periodic revision.

Why is this method of organization so important? The following points emphasize reasons for using phases and priorities:

• By keeping goals visible to the dentist and the patient, the dentist is able to follow segments of treatment that are based on short, medium and long-term goals.
• Experience (or lack of) requires the practitioner to follow an organized checklist so that critical steps are not left out. (This is especially important for new practitioners.
who may not have many years of clinical experience and expertise on which to base their decisions. For example, it is common for the less experienced dentist to either underprepare or overprepare preparations, not realizing that surgical crown extension procedures may be required, or diagnose hidden endodontic problems.

- Because nothing in a biologic system is 100 percent foolproof, frequent rechecking of procedures can identify problems early and allow for easy correction.
- Marketing of treatment, by involving the patient in the treatment process in an educated manner, leads to a more informed and understanding patient.
- Possible legal actions may be averted by allowing for changes in the treatment plan with the understanding and approval of the patient.

By following the blocks and segments of treatment, the dentist is required to constantly re-evaluate treatment goals, think in a disciplined and organized manner, and maintain a clear grasp of the goals of therapy.

Phases of treatment:

The patient's chief complaint needs to be addressed first, and the minimum that needs to be done is based on the minimum needed to address the problem and the liability, both ethical and legal, that will resolve the patient's urgent and pressing needs. After the chief complaint is successfully addressed, the comprehensive exam follows and a definitive treatment plan is developed.

Typically the phases of treatment are divided in the following manner:

Phase I. Elimination of Active Disease
Phase II. Initial Restorative Phase
Phase III. Surgical phase
Phase IV. Final prosthetic phase
Phase V. Long-term maintenance therapy and constant re-evaluation

Phase I. Elimination of Active Disease

Elimination of active disease includes the following interventions:

- Emergency therapy
  - Alleviation of pain
  - Drainage of abscesses/antibiotic therapy
  - Repair of defective prostheses
  - Treatment of traumatic lesions
  - Relief of TMJ symptoms
  - Gross debridement for diagnostic purposes

- Oral hygiene instruction
- Scaling and root planing, recontouring (margination) of existing restorations
- Extraction of hopeless teeth
- Caries control with temporization if indicated
- Root canal therapy
- Management of oral pathologic lesions including removal of tumors and lesions
- Re-evaluation

The importance of an oral evaluation at the end of each phase of treatment cannot be overstated. This review gives the dentist the ability to see if the initial steps in treatment are successful, whether other steps may be required, and whether patients have the ability to perform the needed changes in their oral hygiene program.

What are the questions that should be asked to adequately evaluate the goals of Phase I?

- Is the patient comfortable? (Was the emergency treatment successful?)
- Is home care under control?
- Are there changes in the initial signs and symptoms of disease?
- Is probing depth, bleeding on probing, mobility, and discomfort reduced or eliminated?
- Are other adjunctive therapies needed?

Phase II. Initial Restorative Phase

- Operative/restorative procedures
- Initiation and completion of endodontic therapy
- Post and core placement
- Preparation and temporization
- Interim removable partial dentures or appliances
- Changes in vertical dimension of occlusion
- Orthodontic treatment started
- Strategic extractions
- Reevaluation

Phase II reevaluation should answer the following questions:

- Is the patient comfortable?
- Was modification of interim removable partial dentures or appliances successful?
- Is the vertical dimension of occlusion at the correct level?
- Is home care under control?
- Were modifications to occlusal morphology and temporary restorations successful?
- Are there changes in the initial signs and symptoms of disease?
- After charting is there improvement in the probing
frequently. During this phase communication between the restorative dentist and the dental specialist is vital to prevent the patient being “lost” between the two offices. Procedures that are performed during these visits include:

- Prophylaxis
- Scaling and root planing
- Caries checks and routine radiographs (at recommended intervals)
- Checks for parafunctional habits and wear of restorations
- Assessment of occlusal stability
- Assessment of orthodontic retention if indicated

In this time of economic stress on both dentists and patients, we are seeing a decrease in patients receiving complete exams, up-to-date radiographs, and important consultations with other dental and medical practitioners. It is the responsibility of all practitioners not to cut corners in these vital areas for purely economic reasons. This is a dangerous precedent and must be challenged each time it is noticed. Both patients and dentists will benefit by having their dentists perform a complete and accurate assessment of their problems.

Reevaluation during Phase III should include the following:

- Eliminate any remaining etiologic factors.
- Reestablish physiologic architecture and contours in the bone and gingiva.
- Reestablish maintainable probing depths, adequate zones of attached gingiva, and reduction of recession defects as needed.
- Prepare all tissues for the final prosthetic phase.

Phase IV. Final Prosthetic Phase

In the final prosthetic phase, definitive restorative treatment is finalized and completed.

- Final preparations
- Final impressions
- Cementation of fixed partial dentures
- Delivery of removable prosthesis
- Finalization of orthodontic and periodontal treatment

Phase V. Long-term Maintenance Therapy

While the maintenance phase of treatment planning is often excluded from a total treatment plan, in fact it is the most important phase of treatment. Success or failure of even the most organized and sophisticated treatment depends on patients’ commitment to the oral hygiene regimen they are taught and the ability of dentists to motivate patients to schedule regular follow-up visits. Small problems that occur in the best of cases may be routinely treated, if they are caught before they become major case affecting disasters.

The importance of constant reevaluation after treatment is complete cannot be overemphasized. Initially, hygiene recall visits at frequent intervals (1-3 months) are usually performed. Later hygiene recalls must be individualized to each patient’s level of oral hygiene. Some patients may be seen at six-month intervals while other patients who are having trouble maintaining adequate oral health must be seen more frequently.
Interdisciplinary treatment planning quiz

Circle the letters of the correct answers.

1. The process of treating patients by phases does not require the patient to be informed about the time needed for each phase of treatment.
   a. True
   b. False

2. Routine maintenance visits after completion of treatment should always be at three month intervals.
   a. True
   b. False

3. The goal of Phase I treatment is the elimination of active disease by performing definitive periodontal surgical procedures.
   a. The first statement is true and the second statement is false
   b. The first statement is false and the second statement is true.
   c. Both statements are true
   d. Both statements are false

4. Periodic reevaluations of a patient’s status should be done at the end of Phase I and the end of Phase V only.
   a. True
   b. False

5. The patient should always be told that their treatment plan is final and cannot be changed.
   a. True
   b. False

6. The restorative dentist is usually the practitioner in charge of a patient’s treatment.
   a. True
   b. False

7. The comprehensive exam must include a complete oral examination including a comprehensive review of the patient’s medical and psychiatric history, complete periodontal charting and analysis, a radiographic analysis utilizing good quality diagnostic films and/or cone beam images, and a thorough occlusal analysis.
   a. True
   b. False

8. The most important phase of treatment is the final prosthetic phase.
   a. True
   b. False

9. A complete exam is not needed when only one tooth is being replaced.
   a. True
   b. False

10. A treatment plan should not be used as a marketing tool but only to provide a guideline for the dentist in treating a patient.
    a. True
    b. False

Name ___________________________________________ DDS/DH Lic.# ________________________________
Date ________ Mailing address ___________________________ / / ____________________________
Phone ____________________________ Street __________ City __________ State __________ Zip code __________

After answering the questions and completing this form, mail the entire sheet (or photocopy) to:

Loma Linda University Continuing Dental Education, 11245 Anderson Street, Suite 120; Loma Linda, CA 92354 or you may fax completed form to (909) 558-4858

For questions please call: (909) 558-4685

Cost $25.00 Please circle: MASTERCARD VISA DISCOVER Credit Card No: __________________________
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Note: Loma Linda University School of Dentistry is authorized to confer 2 hours of California continuing dental education credit for this home study course.
The year was 1960. The College of Medical Evangelists School of Dentistry had a new dean, Charles T. Smith, DDS, who succeeded founding dean G. Webster Prince, DDS, and was about to acquire (1961) a new name: Loma Linda University School of Dentistry or LLUSD.

It was a time of rapid development that included the introduction of advanced professional education programs. Dr. Smith was continuing the trend initiated in 1960 with what we now know as the Advanced Specialty Education Program in Orthopedics.

Gerald Mitchell, DDS, the ultimate southern gentleman and founding chairman of the Department of Periodontics, best remembered by his students for his ongoing emphasis on the use of the “Porte Polisher” to enhance efforts in “home cayeh,” stepped down in 1963. His departure left a void in the department, because there was no available Seventh-day Adventist periodontist to fill the position. In the interest of administrative stability, the discipline of periodontics joined endodontics under the purview of the Department of Oral Medicine. Edwin M. Collins, DDS, chaired this department serving the School simultaneously as assistant dean for research and finance.

Around 1962, Richard C. Oliver, DDS, MS’62, had become associated with LLUSD following a one-year postgraduate course in periodontics at the University of Southern California School of Dentistry and a one-year study leave as a Fulbright scholar under Harald Løe, Dr Odont, in Aarhus, Denmark. During this time Dr. Oliver became acquainted with Jan Egelberg, Dr Odont, PG’80, a dental researcher in Malmö, Sweden. This connection would prove to be highly beneficial to the future LLUSD graduate periodontics program.

In 1962 Dr. Oliver received a Master of Science degree in periodontics from the Loma Linda University School of Dentistry through the Loma Linda University Graduate School. Subsequently, and with the support of Drs. Smith and Collins, he became the driving force in the establishment of what we now know as the Advanced Specialty Education Program in Periodontics. From its launch in 1964, it was Dr. Oliver who directed the program for its first decade.

The Advanced Education Program in Periodontics offered two professional options: a two-year program leading to a professional Certificate of Completion, and a three-year program leading to a Master of Science degree following completion of research and the writing and defense of a thesis. The degree was offered through the LLU Graduate School where Paul Stauffer, PhD, was then dean.

The first two graduates from the new program were Donald F. Adams, DDS, MS’67, and R. Leslie Arnett, DDS, MS’68, professor, Department of Periodontics. The two first met while students at the USC School of Dentistry. Coincidently, their fathers, Frank Adams, DDS, and Roy Arnett, DDS, were then the only two periodontists in Pasadena. After completing dental school, their sons, Don and Les, respectively, each served two years on active duty with the U.S. Naval Reserve. Les even began practicing periodontics part time with his father on a preceptorship basis while still on active duty. Dr. Collins asked the young Dr. Arnett to join the LLUSD periodontal faculty even before Les started his formal graduate studies. Dr. Don Adams continued practicing privately and teaching until he was appointed director of the postdoctoral periodontal program at the Oregon Health Center University as well as becoming president of the American Academy of Periodontology. In 2011 he was honored with the AAP “Gold Medal.”

When the Loma Linda University School of Dentistry began its Advanced Specialty Education Program in Periodontics, the Inland Empire was not overpopulated with periodontists. Consequently, the Department of Periodontics faculty, both predoctoral and postdoctoral, was comprised primarily of part-time teachers who commuted from Los Angeles, San Diego, Palm Springs, and anywhere that qualified periodontists could be found and convinced that the drive to LLUSD really wasn’t “that far.” Amazingly, most of these part-time periodontal faculty members came from faith communities other than Adventist,
Directors, Advanced Education Program in Periodontics—a portrait timeline

Dr. Richard C. Oliver, 1965-1975


Dr. Jukka Ainamo, 1977-1978

Dr. Rolf Nilveus, 1987-1989

Dr. Ulf Wikesjö, 1990-1996

Dr. Max Crigger, 1996-2002

Dr. Tord Lundgren, 2003-2006

Dr. Bernard Gantes, 2006-2007

Dr. Jeffrey Henkin, 2007-present
and they frequently assumed tasks and responsibilities usually performed only by fulltime faculty.

In 1975 Dr. Oliver left the School to serve as dean of the University of Southern California School of Dentistry, a position he held for two years before becoming dean of his alma mater, the University of Minnesota School of Dentistry.

It wasn’t until 1976 that the Department of Periodontics once again became a stand-alone entity independent of Oral Medicine. The department acquired a chair when Robert Kiger, SD’70, MS, returned from completing his periodontal training at the University of Oregon in Portland.

Upon Dr. Oliver’s departure from LLUSD, and at Dr. Kiger’s invitation, Dr. Jan Egelberg, assumed the directorship of the Advanced Specialty Education Program in Periodontics for the first year, followed by the consecutive one-year terms of Knut Selvig, Dr Odont, and Jukka Ainamo, Dr Odont, as well as other Scandinavian researchers later here on sabbatical leaves.

As the Department of Periodontics postdoctoral program grew and matured, it increasingly emphasized research. In 1978 Dr. Egelberg was again sought out by then Dean Judson Klooster, DDS, to direct the program and its newly formed Division of Research. Dr. Egelberg continued in these two positions until 1987. Under his leadership, published periodontal research grew in quality and quantity, putting LLUSD “on the map” nationally and internationally.

Dr. Egelberg’s efforts ultimately led to the establishment of the School’s Center for Dental Research currently headed by Yiming Li, DDS, PhD, MS, that oversees both postdoctoral research and the expanding predoctoral and dental hygiene research programs. For decades the predoctoral and dental hygiene table clinics have been disproportionately successful at the annual California Dental Association and American Dental Association student research competitions (see page 16).

The number of individuals who served as director over the course of the periodontics program’s life is many and varied. Each director, either of U.S. or international origin, has left a unique mark on the program and the School of Dentistry.

Fifty years have passed since the 1962 initiation of the Advanced Education Program in Periodontics. By Commencement 2012, LLUSD will have graduated 105 periodontists. There have been many changes in our world, our nation, our state, the Inland Empire, the School, and the Advanced Specialty Education Program in Periodontics. In 1960 there would have been no way to predict all of the changes we have experienced in each of these areas. Within the specialty of periodontics, who in 1960 could have predicted the widespread use of endosseous implants and their many and varied uses, as well as the extensive development of soft tissue and osseous grafting? In addition the development and multiple uses of radiographic aids was beyond the conceptual horizon of 1960s-era periodontics.

Currently, in addition to the professional certificate, and an optional Master of Science degree, the Advanced Specialty Education Program in Periodontics offers an optional Master of Science in Dentistry (MSD) degree that requires research and completion of a publishable paper based on that research. The MS is awarded through the Faculty of Graduate Studies while the MSD is awarded by the School of Dentistry.

LLUSD’s graduate periodontics program has come a long way in the past 50 years. Where will it be in the next 50? Who knows? What we do know is that our graduate program currently trains periodontists who will be capable of leading the profession into that new era.

As we stood upon the shoulders of those who preceded us, we hope that we have and will provide strong shoulders to support those who follow us in making further advances.

(Concluded from page 22)

Starting next fall, the program will accept 28 students annually; Full-time students may take their prerequisite courses at College of the Desert or another college-level institution and qualify to enroll in the hygiene program in as little as one year. After that, it takes seven academic quarters (21 months) of full-time study to complete the program, guided by a teaching staff of seven Loma Linda University faculty—including a full-time dentist and board-certified hygienists.

Students will be eligible to take the National Dental Hygiene Board written examination after six quarters in the program and to sit for the clinical State and/or Regional licensing examinations at the conclusion of their dental hygiene training.

The program’s home in the Pointe Monterey Business Park is located less than a third of a mile from Interstate 10, in a triangle formed by Dinah Shore Drive, Gerald Ford Drive and Monterey Avenue.

The School of Dentistry, and the Department of Dental Hygiene in particular, is grateful to several foundations,, corporations, and individuals who contributed to the new program and/or its grand opening: Delta Dental; LLU Dental Group Inc.; The Palm Springs Aerial Tramway; The Patterson Foundation; The Wal-Mart Foundation; Tri-County Dental Society; Justin Bower of GlaxoSmithCline; and Ken Hodgkins, SD’75A, of Desert Dental Specialty Group.

Contributing to the event was the musical artistry of Lindsay Liu (DH class of 2012) on the piano and Nicole Handysides playing the harp.
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<td>TMD Symposium - Is My Headache Due to My Husband or TMD?</td>
<td>Alumni Student Convention Course: February 9, 2012</td>
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<td>32nd Annual Anesthesia Symposium</td>
<td>Alumni Student Convention Course: February 12, 2012</td>
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<td>Essence of Anterior Implant Esthetics</td>
<td>Alumni Student Convention Course: February 12, 2012</td>
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<td>Infection Control &amp; CA Dentist Practice Act</td>
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<td>Offensive Dentistry</td>
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<td>Common Pediatrics Medical Complications &amp; Impact on Dental Practice</td>
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<td>CAD/CAM Fabricated Complete Dentures: From Concept to Reality</td>
<td>April 15, 2012</td>
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<tr>
<td>The Hottest Topics in Dentistry Today</td>
<td>April 22, 2012</td>
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To register and for more information, call LLUSD Continuing Dental Education at (909) 558-4685 or visit www.dentistry.llu.edu.
Dr. Arthur A. Dugoni Faculty Award goes to Dr. Neal Johnson

Neal Johnson, PhD, SD’08, associate professor, Department of Oral Diagnosis, Radiology, and Pathology, is the most recent recipient of the $5,000 annual Dr. Arthur A. Dugoni Faculty Award.

The endowment and scholarship were developed by the California Dental Association in honor of Dr. Dugoni’s remarkable accomplishments in organized dentistry and many contributions to dental education in California, and to support individuals who contribute to the scholarly and creative activities of California dental schools through direct contact with students.

After reviewing a pool of applications and letters of recommendation, the CDA’s Scholarship Committee chose Dr. Johnson for this year’s award. He is grateful for a very complimentary letter to the Committee written on his behalf by Ronald Dailey, PhD, executive associate dean, that he suspects was instrumental in his selection.

A native of Barbados, Dr. Johnson has a passion for helping students learn, and he loves to acquire new ways to assist students with their learning.

Dr. Johnson’s desire to learn seems almost congenital. He was from his first memories driven to assimilate knowledge. He is the first person in his family to earn a college education, surmounting considerable hardship by sleeping for months on the floor of a rented room in Kingston Jamaica, while earning the Bachelor of Science degree he received in Medical Technology from Northern Caribbean University in 1996. (His parents, now both nurses, followed him with college degrees.)

Following graduation, Dr. Johnson remained at Northern Caribbean University for three years as an instructor in the school’s Department of Medical Technology and director of its Clinical Practicum to teach such subjects as hematology, immunohematology, immunology, and chemical pathology to undergraduate students while organizing student clinical internships at various hospitals in Jamaica.

Dr. Johnson entered a Loma Linda University Graduate School doctoral program in 2000. As a graduate student, he supervised the research of Masters students in microbiology and taught the subject to second-year medical students before receiving his PhD in Microbiology and Molecular Genetics in 2004.

With his doctorate in hand, Dr. Johnson joined the Loma Linda University School of Dentistry in the Department of Oral Diagnosis, Radiology, and Pathology, teaching microbiology, immunology, and pathology to students in the School’s various programs.

What was out of the ordinary about Dr. Johnson’s initial presence on the School’s faculty was that he simultaneously enrolled as a first-year dental student and graduated with his Doctor of Dental Surgery degree in 2008.

Previous to his Arthur A. Dugoni Faculty Award, Dr. Johnson has twice been honored with the Loma Linda University Chancellor’s Award (2004, 2008), has received the Pierre Fauchard Award for Leadership (2007), was inducted into the Omicron Kappa Upsilon Honor Society (2008), and is author on articles published in five different peer reviewed scientific journals.

Beyond his teaching duties, Dr. Johnson participates in recruiting trips on behalf of the School, chairs the School’s research committee, sits on the board of the Center for Dental Research, and serves as a particularly probing referee during the judging of the annual student research project presentations.

Most recently, Dr. Johnson was elected chair of the School’s Faculty Council and appointed to Loma Linda University’s Faculty of Graduate Studies.
Dr. Mahmoud Torabinejad, most cited endodontic author

The first comprehensive study of the most-cited articles published in journals dedicated to endodontics appeared in the September 2011 Journal of Endodontics—a significant index for determining what articles in endodontic journals have exerted the most impact on the field.

The author most cited was Mahmoud Torabinejad, DDS, MS, PhD, professor and director, Advanced Specialty Education Program in Endodontics, lead author of 12 articles and co-author of four others of the 100 top-cited articles. As a consequence of Dr. Torabinejad’s position on the Loma Linda University School of Dentistry faculty, of the 17 leading institutions that were responsible for the 100 top-cited articles, LLUSD placed first, with 12 articles, followed by the University of Umeå, Sweden with nine and the University of Zurich, Switzerland and the University of North Carolina with five each.

Far from his birthplace, Dr. Torabinejad, seems comfortably at home in his fourth floor office of Prince Hall. On the wall hangs an attractive plaque with more than 100 attributes of God inscribed upon it. Dr. Torabinejad easily translates them: “He’s the only God.” “Somebody who forgives.”

“He guides you.” Central to the plaque’s descriptions is the Muslim name for God: Allah. “He’s your God and my God,” he says quietly. Adjacent to this plaque is an award of appreciation, Muslim name for God: Allah. “He’s your God and my God,” he says. To enter higher education, he competed with 14,000 other applicants for 404 openings. He recalls his scores on Iran’s SAT-equivalent test. Among 404 acceptances, he was number 176. Influenced by an uncle who was a dentist, he chose dentistry. At the end of six years, he graduated in 1971, number one in his class at the University of Tehran, “toughest” of Iran’s five dental schools. By the time he had completed dentistry, he knew he wanted to teach and pursue research.

His search for advanced training in endodontics led Dr. Torabinejad the next year to enter the University of Illinois, where he earned certification in oral pathology. “Oral pathology,” he explains, “is a good basis for most clinical disciplines, and a good basis for endodontics and the research I was pursuing.” Moving to Seattle in 1974, he completed a master’s in dentistry at the University of Washington, received a certificate in endodontics, and welcomed Ashi from Iran as his bride.

Soon, while in research and teaching at Harvard University (1976-77), Dr. Torabinejad met Leif K. Bakland, SD’63, Ronald E. Buell Professor of Endodontics, at an endodontics meeting in Houston. That encounter would lead him to choose Loma Linda University from among several schools that were recruiting him for a teaching/research position. That decision led to the development of a deep bond with Dr. Bakland as a colleague. “He is like my own brother,” says Dr. Torabinejad.

His next-door office colleague, Robert Handysides, SD’93, chair, Department of Endodontics, calls Dr. Torabinejad “the consummate educator as well as a globally recognized leader in the field of endodontics,” adding, “His passion for endodontics is contagious. I am honored to be able to work so closely with him.”

Enjoying collegial ties with both practicing dentists and students—Dr. Torabinejad directs many residents’ research projects—has not prevented Dr. Torabinejad from maintaining family and professional connections in his homeland. His mother, now 84, welcomes his visits. Dr. Torabinejad has found a promising patient population in Iran for clinical research purposes. “At LLUSD, we have a fluid patient population,” he explains. “In Iran, we have access to a more stable population,” important for longitudinal studies. With his encouragement, the Mahmoud Torabinejad Clinical Research Center is now operating in Isfahan, Iran. He and LLUSD Dean Charles Goodacre, SD’71, MSD, were present when the Center opened in March 2011.

Offered positions in many places, this author of two textbooks (including one the world’s most popular endodontic textbook) has achieved eminence as a teacher and scholar. Why does he remain at LLUSD? Because of the environment, he says, especially its values and objectives.
Transitions: New but familiar leadership

The School of the Dentistry Administrative Council has appointed Heidi Christensen, SD’83, MS, a long-term member of the LLUSD faculty, to serve as department chair in the Department of Oral Diagnosis, Radiology, and Pathology (ODRP). She replaces Dr. Lane Thomsen, SD’60, two-time department chair for twenty of his 29 years of leadership at Loma Linda University School of Dentistry. Dr. Thomsen has stepped down to pursue a new balance in his life. He will continue teaching and private dental practice.

When she began undergraduate studies at Pacific Union College in 1975, Dr. Christensen was unsure of where her career path would lead. Acting on a friend’s suggestion that she would find dentistry to be a meaningful career, she completed her biochemistry degree and entered LLUSD’s class of 1983. After graduation Dr. Christensen practiced privately for the next six years, then spent a three-year hiatus reconsidering her career choice.

In 1992 she returned to dentistry, joining Judy Strutz, SD’85, in a private practice. Soon thereafter, she accepted an appointment in the Department of Oral Diagnosis, Radiology and Pathology, supervising students in the oral diagnosis clinic one day a week. Realizing that her more joyful days were the ones spent teaching, and that a career in academics was where she belonged, Dr. Christensen accepted the School’s encouragement and support to pursue a master’s degree in Dental Diagnostic Sciences at the University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio, Texas. The extensive specialty training covered all facets of diagnostics, providing expertise in pathology, radiology, facial pain, and special needs dentistry.

When Dr. Christensen returned to teach at LLUSD in 1997, she participated with Dean Charles Goodacre, SD’71, MSD, in the American Dental Education Association Leadership Institute in 2003 and 2004. Taking a leave of absence in 2005, Dr. Christensen moved to Nashville, Tennessee, in support of her husband’s graduate studies in biomedical engineering at Vanderbilt University. While he was immersed in his education, she taught at the Meharry Medical College School of Dentistry, putting into practice her recent leadership training as chair of Oral Diagnostic Services, a position she maintained until her departure in 2008.

Dr. Christensen has found that both academic dentistry and administration are satisfying career pursuits. She enjoys, as she puts it, all parts of academic dentistry, including the meetings and paperwork. In addition, she is drawn to “the rhythms of teaching,” with new students starting in the fall, exhibiting change from insecure novices to more confident student dentists treating patients in the clinic until they ultimately graduate to pursue their own careers. She also finds that “working with a patient can be like solving a mystery, bringing many diverse bits of information together to make a diagnosis, while developing the treatment plan is like putting a puzzle together.” This perspective has driven her passion for oral diagnosis and radiology.

Her colleague, Susan Richards, SD’84, associate ODRP professor, notes Dr. Christensen’s unusual ability to achieve a balance in her professional performance as educator and administrator, particularly important in a department which carries a heavy teaching load. As a teacher, Dr. Richards says, “Dr. Christensen is not a ‘push over,’ but she has a big heart.” She is notably organized, preparing her courses so that students have all the resources they need to become good practitioners. Leading the department, Dr. Christensen’s scope of understanding every function of the department and commitment to promoting each function promises that nothing will be neglected.

Another colleague, Dwight Rice, SD’96, assistant professor, anticipates Dr. Christensen’s potential impact on the department: “She’s definitely organizing and giving a new vision for the department.”
Drs. Rami, DDS, IDP’06, and Balsam, DDS, Jekki, both LLUSD faculty, could be called pioneers. They were the first in their respective families to leave Baghdad, Iraq, and—three years later—to achieve their objective: arriving in the United States. Subsequently they have welcomed their parents and all of their siblings to the land they chose to adopt as their own. That adoption has required considerable effort.

Born and raised in Baghdad, the Jekkis met at the University of Baghdad’s School of Dentistry. After dental school graduation, the couple married and established a practice in Baghdad. As part of their game plan of immigrating to the United States developed, they drove three years later with their infant daughter to the Iraq-Jordan border. Two firmly packed suitcases for each (a careful choice of clothing, family photos, and books) took on the appearance of a family on short holiday jaunt. They would spend three years in Jordan, where, lacking licensure to practice, they used their expertise in a dental office, serving essentially as dental assistants while awaiting word on the success of their vast paper work submitted to gain entrance to the United States. After a three-year sojourn in Jordan, the Jekki family arrived in the United States during the final days of 2000.

“It’s been a journey,” Dr. Rami says. “You don’t know anybody. You start a life from the beginning.” Again working as dental assistants, this time in San Diego, the Jekkis admit they were missing members of their close knit families. They coped by exploring their environment—the shops and the plethora of new technology available in their new setting. Coming as strangers, they were asking, “What do you say to people you meet and know nothing about them?” They found their new home living up to its reputation. “You see freedom,” they note. “People have their rights.”

Back in school for the courses that would prepare him to practice dentistry in the United States, Dr. Rami completed Loma Linda University’s International Dentistry Program. Both of the Jekkis accepted faculty positions. Concurrently Dr. Rami Jekki is pursuing the Advanced Specialty Education Program in Prosthodontics course, which he expects to complete in June 2012; Dr. Balsam Jekki is teaching in the IDP program. Their daughter, now 16, is an honor student at Redlands High School. Yes, she knows both Arabic and English, languages getting rather equal usage at home.

Their faculty appointments were unexpected by the Jekkis. But, as Dr. Rami comments on his choice to forego a more profitable private practice, “money isn’t everything in life.” Dr. Balsam finds considerable satisfaction in welcoming, nurturing, and teaching students who are experiencing the challenges of a different culture. In fact, her husband confides, “she sheds tears every time a ‘batch’ of students graduates.”

“I never thought I would be a faculty member in my life,” she says, then adds, “I cannot live without the students anymore.” Additionally, she has achieved skill with axiUm, the School’s dental institution management software. She recently joined Paul Richardson, SD ’72, MEd, associate dean, Clinic Administration, in giving lectures at a dental convention in Canada on the use of axiUm. “If you’re organized,” she says, “axiUm makes a lot of sense—it takes care of so much detail.”

August 25, 2011, marked another milestone in the Jekkis’ journey. In Los Angeles with 4,000 other immigrants, they attended a ceremony that admitted them to citizenship. “We wanted to come here for a better life,” says Dr. Rami Jekki. “We like the Christian environment.”

“This is my home,” the American Dr. Balsam Jekki affirmed. Being the first in their families to become citizens, the Jekkis are promoting their family members who are now in a similar process.
Sterilization Assurance Service

ORDER FORM     Date _________

Dr. Name (Last) ____________________ (First) ____________________
Name of office ____________________
Customer ID # (for current customers) ____________________
Address ____________________
City ____________________ State ________ Zip ________
Phone ( ) ____________________ Fax ( ) ____________________
E-mail ____________________

Sterilizer Type/Number/Model: ____________________
(Supplies for each sterilizer must be kept separate for identification purposes)
☐ Steam ☐ Chemical Vapor ☐ Dry Heat ☐ EO Gas ☐

Basic: 1) One test strip and one control strip in each test; 2) Return envelopes; 3) Monthly report; 4) Binder to keep reports; 5) Failure notification via telephone.

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Optional: 1) Certificate of Participation $12 $__________

Intensive: 1) Two test strips and one control strip in each test; 2) Prepaid return envelopes; 3) Certificate of Participation; 4) Report on each test; 5) Binder to keep reports; 6) Failure notification via telephone.

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Plus $8.00 shipping and handling fee per order.

☐ Check enclosed $ __________ payable to the SAS-LLU
☐ Charge: Total $ __________
   ☐ Visa ☐ MC Exp. Date __________
   Card number ___________ CVV# __________

Mail to: Sterilization Assurance Service
Loma Linda University School of Dentistry
24867 Taylor Street, Loma Linda, CA 92350
Telephone: (909) 558-8176 (909) 558-8794
Fax: (909) 558-0307 E-mail: sas@llu.edu
Web: http://www.llu.edu/university/Dentistry/Services
Lincoln Edwards, PhD, SD’09, Associate Professor, Center for Dental Research at Loma Linda University School of Dentistry, recently was awarded a $445,000 grant from the National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases (NIDDK) for the purpose of experimenting on a special breed of rats utilizing a novel compound known by the title S43126. The granted project is entitled, “Novel Imidazoline Compound as Antidiabetic Agent.”

From his fairly well lit dungeon office in the northeast basement corner of 75-year-old Edward Risley Hall, Dr. Edwards lives the glamorous life of the scientific researcher. Papers spill out of boxes on his office floor partially returned as they are from a sudden evacuation in December 2010 when burst water pipes caused the ceiling to collapse, inundate his 225 square foot work area, and form a shallow, artificial lake.

Dr. Edwards obtained his doctorate in pharmacology from Loma Linda University and then continued his studies at Case Western Reserve University (CWRU) where he completed a three-year Postdoctoral Fellowship in pharmacology and nutrition, before earning his Doctor of Dental Surgery degree at LLUSD.

While working with Dr. Paul Ernsberger, Associate Professor of Nutrition/Neuroscience/Pharmacology at CWRU, Dr. Edwards became interested in the signaling pathways coupled to the imidazoline receptors that appear to play a significant role in Metabolic Syndrome and type 2 diabetes.

Most dental professionals are aware that the high incidence of type 2 diabetes in the United States has a significant impact on periodontal disease. Copious evidence establishes the link between type 1 and 2 diabetes and periodontal disease. Diabetes is known to cause dysfunctional changes in blood vessels and the production of high levels of specific inflammatory chemicals (such as interleukins) that significantly increase the likelihood of periodontal disease and infection in general. High concentrations of triglycerides (which are common in type 2 diabetes) also appear to degrade periodontal health. Obesity, common in people with type 2 diabetes, may also predispose a person to gum disease. Stabilizing blood sugar in both type 1 and 2 diabetes sufferers may help reduce periodontal problems.

The recent grant will permit Dr. Edwards to pursue the development of imidazoline compounds as antidiabetic agents. These novel compounds have the potential to treat both insulin resistance and hypertension that tends to cluster with diabetes and are not associated with the serious side effects that are reported for current diabetic medications. Some of the funding will go toward the purchase of fatty Zucker rats bred to be a genetic model for research on type 2 diabetes and hypertension. These rodents are fully diabetic by 12 weeks of age and also have high blood pressure.

As the 2011 academic year begins, Dr. Edwards is teaching two physiology courses and one class in pharmacology that limits the time he can devote to research. But the new grant may provide him with a research assistant and thereby facilitate the more rapid march of his scientific efforts to better the lives of members of his own species.

Beyond having his research funded by the NIDDK, Dr. Edwards has been invited to address that institute as well as the American Society for Pharmacology and Experimental Therapeutics. He also has served as a grant reviewer for The American Heart Association Western States Affiliate and reviewed papers for the Journal of Public Health Dentistry, Comparative Biochemistry and Physiology, and Endocrinology & Metabolic Syndrome.

Dr. Edwards has several scientific journal articles and abstracts on his resume. Most recently (April 2010), the NIDDK awarded Dr. Edwards both a Certificate of Achievement and an Excellence in Research award “in recognition of an exemplary research presentation at the Marco Cabrera Poster Session of the Network of Minority Research Investigators 8th Annual Workshop” where Dr. Edwards won first place for best poster presentation in the Basic Science category.

Spiritual life is important to Dr. Edwards who has served for many years as an elder of the Redlands Seventh-day Adventist Church where he currently teaches Sabbath School classes as well as at the Kansas Avenue SDA Church in Riverside. He credits much of his success to the love and patience of his dear wife, Sandra, and his children: Alex, Ross-Andre, and Alexa.

Dr. Edwards believes that one should embrace every opportunity for training and learning. He adds, “It is only when we are well prepared that we can offer the greatest service to our creator God.”
Dental hygienists in China

When China this year graduated its first 15 dental hygienists, Leslie Arnett, DDS, MS’68, professor, Department of Periodontics, appropriately titled his March 13, 2011, commencement address at Sir Run Run Shaw Hospital, “Beginnings.”

The commencement marked the culmination of a program germinated by a trip in 2005 during which Dr. Arnett and his wife Linda, a dental hygienist, introduced basic scaling in dental prophylaxis procedures to a pair of dental assistants at the hospital’s clinic. Subsequently China’s sole dental hygiene program was developed.

Prior to the commencement, the Arnetts presented approximately 17 hours of continuing education for the dentists, assistants, and dental hygiene graduates in the hospital’s dental department before evaluating and clinically testing the students.

The graduation of this first group of dental hygienists made it possible for the hospital to enhance preparation of patients for organ transplants and orthopedic prostheses by reducing or eliminating contamination from oral sources.

The Arnetts plan to participate in further development and support of this program in early 2012 to enhance a “drop in the bucket” effort to promote a concept of prevention currently lacking in the country.

A second class currently studying dental hygiene consists of five dental assistants and ten recently graduated dentists. With the procedures of dental hygiene very limited in their previous dental education, the dentists pursuing this program will be better prepared than are most of their colleagues to deal with periodontal disease so prevalent in the country; and when they return to their practice, they will be sharing newly learned prophylactic procedures with their colleagues.

Introducing Krista Juhl

LLUSD is pleased to welcome Krista Juhl, MBA, as the director of marketing for the School of Dentistry. A graduate of Walla Walla University (BBA in marketing) and the University of Redlands Graduate School for Business Administration, Krista comes to the School with seven years of experience in the healthcare marketing field. Having worked on marketing campaigns, patient recruitment, and patient satisfaction initiatives for Adventist Medical Center in Portland, Oregon, and Loma Linda University Medical Center (East Campus), she is excited about expanding patient recruitment efforts for LLUSD’s clinics.

Tasked by Dean Charles Goodacre, SD’71, MSD, to create a strategic, data-driven marketing strategy for both the School of Dentistry and its clinics, Krista is currently working with the department of Health Geoinformatics at LLU School of Public Health, utilizing Environmental Systems Research Institute’s ArcGIS geodatabase management and analysis software program to conduct in-depth market research.

Her thoughtful enthusiasm for the School’s public outreach already has the LLUSD marketing team working on a variety of initiatives that include print, television, radio, web, social media, and referral marketing projects. On her own time, Krista likes to travel, read eclectically, and, for exercise, enjoys cycling with her husband.
Dean Goodacre honored in Ireland

Loma Linda University School of Dentistry Dean Charles Goodacre, SD’71, MSD, joined a select group of dentists who have been awarded the title Honorary Fellow of the Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland (RCSI), including Drs. Jan Lindhe, P. I. Branemark, Daniel von Steenberghe, and George Zarb.

Dr. Goodacre made presentations to the Royal College on October 28, 2011, in Dublin, near St. Stephen’s Green, on the topics “New Prosthodontic Applications for CAD/CAM Technology” and “Success and Failure in Restorative Treatment.”

At a conferring ceremony on Saturday night, October 29, Dr. Goodacre was inducted through the reading of a pledge, signing of the Fellowship book, and the presentation of the certificate of Honorary Fellowship by Dr. Gerard Kearns, dean of the Faculty of Dentistry, RCSI.

“It was a very special honor to receive such a distinction and to have several former students from my Indiana University days in attendance at the ceremony,” says Dr. Goodacre.

The Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland is an educational and scientific institution of surgeons, made up of Fellows and Members, that was founded to improve the quality of care for the surgical patient by setting high standards for surgical education and practice. The College currently has over 3,000 Fellows and almost 1,000 Members, including more than 2,000 Fellows in other countries.

Since it began in 1964 offering its highest honor, the Honorary Fellowship, to outstanding people, the College has bestowed the award to 26 individuals.

LLUSD founding dean found on eBay

Why would a 19.2 pound, 13 ¾- by 17 ½- by ¾-inch, 1960s-era bronze relief bust of the School of Dentistry’s founding dean, M. Webster Prince, DDS, appear on ebay a good decade into the millennium after it was cast?

Several weeks ago Brent Coffman, a nurse anesthetist who works in Boca Rotan, Florida, was perusing early Loma Linda memorabilia that was being offered on ebay when he noticed an auction for a bronze relief plaque of Webster Prince. He thought he recognized the plaque as one he used to see frequently in the late 1980s as he walked past the School of Dentistry on his way home from school at Loma Linda Academy.

Brent called his dad, William Coffman, SD’83, who practices privately in Yucaipa, California. As an LLUSD alumnus, past president (2001) of the American Academy of the History of Dentistry, member, since 1991, of the nine-member Loma Linda Historical Commission, past president (2002) of the Tri-County Dental Society, and a member of the Pierre Fauchard Academy since 2002, Dr. Coffman was very interested in this particular bronze.

He considered purchasing the piece, but then thought why not let the School handle it directly. When he called the School’s dean, Charles Goodacre, SD’71, MSD, at home to suggest it, Brian Goodacre, the dean’s class of 2013 dental student son, answered the phone. Recognizing its potential significant for the School, Brian surfed his way to the ebay seller and made the purchase for $55, plus $12.27 for shipping from Los Angeles to Loma Linda.

The Los Angeles headquartered A. J. Bayer Company that created the Prince plaque, a manufacturer of hand chased bronze since 1902, went out of business some years ago. Ironically, while the Webster Prince item sold for $55, a twelve-page trade catalog of the A. J. Bayer company’s portfolio from 1956, illustrated with many black and white reproductions of “memorial tablets, permanent bronze honor rolls, portrait memorials, historical markers, ecclesiastical tablets, public project tablets, commercial signs, [and] school identification plaques,” is offered (as of October 2011) by two online booksellers for $275.

Many curious School of Dentistry related minds have wondered when and how this object of a durable but waning art form, with such an obvious historical connection to the School, got away from Prince Hall and wound up being auctioned at a public venue.

George Koerber, SD’74, recalls seeing the bronze at the patient/public entrance to the School, just inside the large glass doors and on the wall to the right. But the year and occasion for which the bust was commissioned and unveiled remains an unanswered question.

If any Dentistry readers have knowledge that would solve this mystery, please email this office at: dhackleman@llu.edu
LLUSD directs pilot program for special needs kids

Loma Linda University Special Care Dentistry (LLUSCD) was awarded a $1.35 million dental care grant that resulted from the collaborative effort of LLUSD alumni Carla Lidner Baum SD’90 and Jane Ellis, SD’83. The First 5 Riverside grant funds a pilot program launched early in 2011 to provide developmentally disabled Riverside County children, from birth to age 5, with oral healthcare services. LLUSCD is responsible for the management and implementation of those services.

For the past eight years Dr. Ellis has been working closely with Dr. Lidner Baum, who for eleven years has worked tirelessly to acquire oral healthcare for “the least of these” in two Southern California counties. Applying for tobacco money generated by California Proposition 10 (a 50 cent tax per pack of cigarettes), Dr. Lidner acquired in the year 2000 her first grant ($900,000) and began to facilitate dental care for the toddlers and pre-school kids across the enormous geographic reach of San Bernardino County.

Over the subsequent decade, Dr. Lidner Baum was able not only to renew but receive increased amounts of funding each time she reapplied—$2.3 million, then $3.7 million, then $3.8 million (current funding). Dr. Lidner Baum believes that God cares so much about human suffering that He moves mountains every time she lifts a finger to help.

Several years ago Dr. Lidner Baum acquired another renewable, tobacco tax grant to provide the same types of services for Riverside County.

Then came the opportunity in 2010 to apply for a third grant to fund oral healthcare services for children 0-5 years of age who have developmental needs and whose physical challenges often require more costly and more difficult dental procedures.

All three of the grants directed by Dr. Lidner Baum provide their target populations of young children with a comprehensive set of dental services. These range from screenings to case management to any needed dental procedure (including dental anesthesia) to transportation (even overnight lodging when needed), and always the much needed prevention education for patients and parents.

The pilot program at LLUSCD for children with special needs, and the allocation and tracking of its funds utilization, is the responsibility of Judy Paw, MA, RDH, project manager of LLUSD’s Early Childhood Special Care Dental Program (ECSCDP).

First 5 Riverside, the Riverside County Children & Families Commission, is a division of the Riverside County Department of Public Social Services that awards grants to various service agencies who have met the terms of competitive application processes and who are recognized to be most capable of providing services to young children. “LLUSCD was determined to be highly deserving of these entrusted monies, and special needs children are now receiving extraordinarily high quality dental treatment services there,” says Dr. Lidner Baum. She mentions John Leyman, DDS, chair, Dental Anesthesiology, and Barry Krall, SD’90, assistant professor, Dental Anesthesiology, among the School’s skilled specialists who provide expert dental care to very needy children with special needs.

Dr. Lidner Baum and Dr. Ellis are honored to be able to provide quality oral healthcare to so many children who would otherwise be unable to afford it.
Dr. Lloyd Baum’s long shadow

When Lloyd Baum, DDS, died on July 25, 2011, he left an indelible impression on the Loma Linda University School of Dentistry community where he spent a major portion of his professional career. His pioneering, innovative impact on the dental profession worldwide, however, was also unmistakable.

Born in Ashton, Idaho, on May 11, 1923, Dr. Baum pursued pre-dental studies at Walla Walla College, Washington, while enrolled in the Army Reserve. After completing dentistry at the University of Oregon in 1946 as one of its youngest graduates, Dr. Baum practiced briefly before serving on a flag ship in the South Pacific. His worldwide travels had begun. He saw Singapore, Shanghai, Tokyo, Borneo, Guam, Hawaii, Okinawa, Taiwan, and the Philippines during his World War II service in the U.S. Navy.

Learning in 1951 that plans for a dental school were underway at Loma Linda University, Dr. Baum agreed to pursue postgraduate education in restorative dentistry at the University of Michigan, to prepare for a faculty appointment. He spent a year on the faculty of the University of Southern California School of Dentistry before joining Loma Linda University’s fledgling institution, becoming one of its earliest clinical faculty. For the next 20 years Dr. Baum was a key teaching clinician in the School, where he earned a reputation as a superb role model of clinical resourcefulness and clinical precision in restorative dentistry and fixed prosthodontics. In addition to his full teaching load, Dr. Baum served at various times as a department chair, the director of clinics, and an assistant dean. Teaching was a natural fit for him. “I guess I kind of like to tell people what to do,” he observed recently with a smile.

Many times during his LLUSD appointment Dr. Baum arrived at the clinic ready to try out an innovation developed in the early morning hours at his basement machine shop. In 1949 it was a golden mallet developed with Dr. William Outhwaite, SD’65. Then there was a dent-cup, designed with raised ridges inside the cup to prevent material in the cup from dislodging. Later he would involve Dr. Outhwaite in making Goldent, a powdered gold, to be marketed as E-Z Gold. In 1958 he created a tungsten carbide drill driven by a single slot-car motor. Seeking to involve colleagues and students in his creative efforts, he developed with a student, Virgil Lau, SD’60, what became known as the Loma Linda parallelometer to facilitate drill alignment. Clelan Ehrler, SD’68, and Lawrence Seifert, SD’68, shared in development of a slot-car motor-driven slow speed hand press. And the “Baum Carver” (interproximal carver) became the second most popular hand instrument used in dentistry.

An indefatigable researcher and academician, Dr. Baum authored six dentistry textbooks that have been translated into several languages, as well as more than 100 articles in refereed scientific journals. In addition, he was a popular invited lecturer in more than 300 professional settings in the United States and other countries.

Becoming professor of restorative dentistry at The State University of New York at Stony Brooke in 1972, Dr. Baum played a key role for six years, organizing the restorative dentistry and fixed prosthodontics curriculum in the newly formed dental school on that campus. Before returning to Loma Linda, Dr. Baum also spent a year as professor of restorative dentistry at the University of Connecticut School of Dental Medicine.

Returning to the Loma Linda campus, Dr. Baum initiated the International Dentist Program, which accepted its first three students in 1985. Dr. Baum’s leadership and influence enriched this program until he retired from full-time service in 1993. The program now has more than 400 alumni who have benefited from his foresight and capable direction.

Yet another emerging dental school received Dr. Baum’s support when the University of Montemorelos in Mexico sought his consultation and supervision in developing a school of dentistry. The Dr. Lloyd Baum School of Dentistry...
Norman Bunker

Norman Bunker, SD’63, MS’65, was born in Pontiac, Michigan, on October 30, 1926, and spent much of his early life in the Northeast, where his father was a minister. In July 1945 Dr. Bunker joined the U.S. Army, where he served until November 1946.

While completing a master’s in marine biology in 1950 at Walla Walla College, Dr. Bunker met Jeanne Joers, who was also pursuing a marine biology master’s. The couple later married and spent time in the South Pacific collecting marine specimens. Returning to the States, they settled in Loma Linda, and the two became probation officers in San Bernardino. Leaving the probation department to enter the LLU School of Dentistry, Dr. Bunker graduated with the class of ’63. After completing a master’s degree in orthodontics in 1965, he established an orthodontia practice in Long Beach, where he lived until his retirement. He also maintained a second practice in Barstow, California. To make the weekly trip to Barstow easier, he became a pilot, owning and operating his own plane.

In the early 1980s while still maintaining his two practices, Dr. Bunker had a fishing boat built, and for six weeks each summer he and Jeanne commercially fished for salmon in Alaska. They also owned and enjoyed a Nordic Tug, which they kept in Long Beach for pleasure boating. After retirement Dr. Bunker became a docent at Aquarium of the Pacific in Long Beach, giving over 6,800 hours of service.

Dr. Bunker had been taking care of his wife, who was in failing health, when he died on November 22, 2011. He is survived by Jeanne Marie, his wife of over 60 years, and his sister-in-law Mary Lou Joers-Smith of Thousands Palms, California, the widow of Dr. Charles Smith.
Raymond Hall

Raymond G. “Dick” Hall Jr. was born in Sherman, Texas, on March 11, 1937. A 1955 graduate of Denison High School in Texas, Dr. Hall had furthered his education, earning a Baccalaureate degree in mathematics and biology at Union College, Lincoln, Nebraska, in 1959, a Master's degree in zoology at Walla Walla College, College Place, Washington, in 1961. With a National Institute of Health scholastic achievement award, he completed doctoral studies in physiology at Loma Linda University in 1968, where he taught basic science for 45 years.

Dr. Hall pursued post-doctoral research in molecular, cellular, and developmental biology at the University of Colorado in 1969-70 under a fellowship from the American Cancer Society. Returning to Loma Linda University to teach, Dr. Hall collaborated with colleagues on research projects, sat on numerous university committees, held membership in several professional societies, mentored graduate students, presented research findings at society meetings and in peer reviewed journals, and lectured to thousands of students in the Schools of Allied Health, Nursing, Dentistry and Medicine on various topics in physiology.

Dr. Hall organized and taught several specialty subjects in physiology that enriched the course offerings available for graduate students. For the past 25 years he was heavily involved in pre-doctoral and post-doctoral dental education and established a reputation for being passionate about education and about his students’ academic and personal concerns. He retired in February 2011, just eight months before his death in Loma Linda on October 14, 2011.

Dr. Hall is survived by Janice, his wife of 53 years; his son J. Bradley Hall, DMD, of Jacksonville, Florida; his daughters—Julie Webb of Upland, California, and Jacklyn Moon of Beaumont, California—seven grandchildren, and one great-grandchild.

Dr. Hall’s colleagues emphasize that his many years of dedicated service in educating young professional students at Loma Linda University have been highly valued.

Joseph Koliadko

Known as a “missionary” in his own community where he donated many hours of dentistry to the local clinic, Joseph Isaiah Koliadko, SD’58, died peacefully at home in Hopewell, Virginia, on June 10, 2011.

Born on March 25, 1925, in Chicago, Illinois, Dr. Koliadko served in the U.S. Navy during World War II as a pharmacist’s mate, becoming an expert at venipuncture. He expected to be deployed overseas but because of his venipuncture skills, the commanding officer froze his position, determining that his skills were essential for the patients at Saint Albans Naval Hospital.

Dr. Koliadko completed a medical technician’s course at Washington Adventist University in 1950 and worked for four years as a medical technicians before moving his family to California, where he entered LLUSD’s class of ’58.

Returning to his roots in Virginia, Dr. Koliadko first practiced in Jarrett, a farming community where many patients paid for dental care with chickens and eggs. Opening an office in Hopewell, Virginia, he practiced dentistry there until his retirement in 1992. Dr. Koliadko was active in community clubs and was also a strong supporter of the Seventh-day Adventist Church in Yale, Virginia, where he held many leadership positions.

His patients remember him as a compassionate and generous dentist. His family will remember him as a caring husband, father, and grandfather. Dr. Koliadko is survived by his wife of 62 years, Mildred Bendall Koliadko of Hopewell; his son, Joseph Jr., SD’81, and wife Carol (Helver), of Palmer, Alaska; his daughter, Charlene and her husband, Werner Wiedemann, SD’81, of Luray, Virginia; and five grandchildren.
LeRoy Nelson

Known throughout his life as Babe, LeRoy Irwin Nelson, SD’61, was born, March 16, 1931, in Longview, Washington. Much later, when graduating from Loma Linda University, the dean of the School of Dentistry announced a diploma for Babe Nelson even though the diploma read LeRoy.

Dr. Nelson had studied optometry at Pacific University in Forest Grove, Oregon, for a year, then received radiology training in the army, where he served from 1952 to 1954. At Walla Walla College he pursued a chemistry degree in preparation for entering LLUSD’s class of 1961.

After graduation from dental school, Dr. Nelson practiced for a year in Camas, Washington, before opening an office in Washougal, Washington, and putting down roots in that community. He planted gardens on his property, carved motorcycle trails for his son LeRoy Jr., bailed the front field for feed, and oversaw the care of a host of animals—dogs, goats, pigeons, and a favorite cow named Oreo. A staunch supporter of the Vancouver Seventh-day Adventist Church for 50 years, he helped to build the church sanctuary. He and his wife Ruth also participated actively in NASDAD events.

Dr. Nelson’s major focus, however, was dentistry. He was always happy to return from a vacation so that he could go back to work. In the evening he would be in his basement dental lab working on teeth. He presented a new way of casting crowns at the Washington State Dental Society, took specialty training in endodontics and TMJ treatment, and taught weekend courses in occlusal guide orthodontics.

Although he planned to work until the day he died, Dr. Nelson suffered from Lewy Body Dementia, a neurodegenerative disease that necessitated his retirement in March 2001. After a lingering illness he died on November 5, 2011. Mourning his death are his wife of 54 years, Ruth of Vancouver, Washington; and his children—LeRoy Jr., of Cornelius, Oregon, Bonnie Nelson, SD’88, chair of LLUSD’s Department of Pediatric Dentistry, Christi Oberg (Kerby) of Grand Terrace, California, and Janet Walden (John) of Columbia, Missouri—and five grand children.

Doug Patt

Douglas Wayne Patt, SD’74, died unexpectedly while pursuing his dream of retiring in Ecuador. Born on May 21, 1947, in Los Angeles, California, Dr. Patt lived in both China and India while his parents were in mission service. He graduated in 1966 from Vincent Hill School, a boarding school for the children of missionaries in the Himalayan Mountains of northern India (Mussoorie). Returning to the United States he completed pre-dental education at Andrews University in Berrien Springs, Michigan, before joining LLUSD’s class of ’74.

Practicing initially in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, Dr. Patt opened a successful dental practice in southwest Calgary in 1978. In 2000 he and his staff received the Alberta Blue Cross Dental Provider of Quality Service award. He semi-retired from dentistry in April of 2010, planning a move to Ecuador when he fully retired. His plans were cut short when he died on February 14, 2011, while visiting there.

An accomplished pianist, Dr. Patt often performed for church and many special occasions. His passion for nature was evident in gardening, planting trees, and landscaping. Dr. Patt’s generous, kind-hearted spirit will be greatly missed by his family, friends and colleagues. Surviving Dr. Patt are his son, M. David (Katie) of Calgary; daughter, Debra (Nathan) Schultz of Cochrane, Alberta; the mother of his children, Barbara Patt; his brothers, Steven (Susan) of Portal, Arizona, and Greg (Faye) of Marshville, N.C.; and a sister, Jacqui Patt of Trenton, Georgia.
William Seibly

William Seibly’s story emphasizes his academic propensities. Born in Yakima, Washington, on May 25, 1932, he completed pre-dental studies at La Sierra University and entered LLUSD’s third dentistry class. Four and a half years later, he became a part-time instructor. Six months later he was a full-time instructor.

Called “a born teacher,” he established ties at LLUSD that continued for 45 years. Former students kept in touch through the years by phone calls, letters, and emails. Moving through the ranks, Dr. Seibly became a full professor in July 1995. He continued to teach until retirement in 2009. Two years later, quite unexpectedly, he died at home on November 1, 2011.

His life-long commitment to the dental profession emerged in 1958 when Dr. Seibly and four dental school classmates drove to Texas, the first students to attend a NASDAD meeting. While there they presented continuing education courses. Later, wanting to add academics to his professional education, Dr. Seibly completed a doctorate in physiology at Loma Linda University in 1981, while teaching in restorative dentistry. He later taught in the School’s International Dentist Program. Among his honors was an appointment to the Pierre Fauchard Academy, an international honor dental organization for distinguished members of the dental profession.

Dr. Seibly will be missed by his LLUSD colleagues and students, and by the members of the Sabbath School class he taught at the Redlands Adventist Church. Family members mourning his death include his wife of 57 years, Sally (Newman), whom he met at La Sierra University; his five children: Mark of Brea, California; Rochelle Dunn of Sunland, California; Timothy of Santa Fe, New Mexico; Stephen of Redlands, California; and Andrew of Forest Lake, California. These children gave Dr. Seibly nine grandchildren and two great grandchildren, all of whom remember his dedicated teaching style, love of travel, and skilled photography.

The family has suggested that memorial gifts in Dr. Seibly’s honor be directed to the Office of Development for the Class of 1959 Service Learning Endowment.

Edwin Siemens

Because of failing health, Edwin A. Siemens, SD’61, was unable to attend the 50th anniversary of his LLUSD graduation at the Alumni Student Convention in February 2011. He died July 30, 2011, in Lynden, Washington, his home just across the Canadian border from Clear Brook, where he practiced dentistry.

Born in Hepburn, Saskatchewan, Canada, on January 28, 1927, Dr. Siemens grew up on the family farm, developing a strong work ethic and entrepreneurial spirit as he worked through summers of the depression era selling fresh produce to fund his tuition. He completed pre-dental studies at Walla Walla College before entering dentistry.

Upon graduation with the class of ’61, Dr. Siemens initially pursued a practice in Red Deer then returned in 1973 to teach for a year of teaching at the School of Dentistry. Later he would teach at the University of British Columbia and provide dental services in Canadian government prisons and at a reservation in Bella Bella, British Columbia. The major part of his career was spent at a practice in Clear Brook, British Columbia.

Dr. Siemens continued his pursuit of diligent work while establishing a reputation for making excellent homemade bread, attending to a fine garden, and playing various stringed instruments. Proficient at playing folk songs, hymns, and songs in German, Dr. Siemens used his talents in the service of his local Seventh-day Adventist Church until a serious accident eight years ago. His life ended with a heart attack occurring at a friend’s home.

Two daughters predeceased Dr. Siemens; Lynn died as a child in a farm accident and Pam died just a year ago after an extended illness. Irene, the mother of Dr. Siemens’ children, also predeceased him. Surviving are his wife of 37 years, Geri of Bellingham, Washington; his daughter Brenda Russell; two grandchildren, three step-children, and five step-grandchildren.
Lewell Smith, Jr.

E. Lewell “Lew” Smith, SD ‘59, achieved distinction at LLUSD when he was accepted as the youngest applicant to enter the School. He had come from Tennessee, where he was born on August 22, 1936, in Chattanooga, and where he had completed predental requirements at Southern College (now Southern Adventist University).

After three years of initial dental practice in Jacksonville, Florida (the youngest dentist to pass the Florida boards at that time), he was drafted to serve in the US Army as a dentist during the Vietnam War. In 1964 he resumed private practice, first in Sacramento, California, and later in Yuba City, California, where he practiced general dentistry and oral/maxillofacial surgery until retirement.

An avid sports enthusiast, Dr. Smith enjoyed water skiing, tennis, and golf for many years. After obtaining a pilot’s license, he also enjoyed flying his airplane.

Dr. Smith died on September 11, 2011, of complications following hip surgery. He is survived by his wife, Norma Jones; his sister, Reni Butler Saxon of Jacksonville, Florida; his daughters, Brenda Nichols of Stevensville, Montana, and Becki Lynn Knight of Florence, Montana, and two granddaughters.

Gordon Wimer

Just a week before his peaceful death at home on October 14, 2011, at the age of 78, Gordon Wimer, SD’61, was in his Borrego Springs, California, office dispensing dental care as usual.

Born in Calgary, Alberta, February 3, 1933, Dr. Wimer spent his early childhood with missionary parents in Hong Kong. Returning to the Northwest, he completed predental studies at Walla Walla College before entering the LLUSD class of ’61. Earlier this year he had joined classmates to celebrate the 50th anniversary of their graduation.

Opening a practice in Anaheim, California, Dr. Wimer soon determined that he didn’t want to live in the middle of a big city. He moved to the remote area of Borrego Springs in 1973 to become the only dentist for 70 miles around. It was a compatible fit for the dentist and the desert community. Every morning he put out seeds for quail and rabbits, every day he ministered to a grateful community that had been desperate for dental care. He loved his work and loved his patients.

Establishing a reputation for being generous to a fault, he raised the oral health level in his community, doing considerable charity work in his office. Devoted to his church, he provided HOPE channel satellites for several widows in the local Adventist church, served as its treasurer for 37 years, and participated in the Dean’s Circle at LLUSD.

Jan, his wife of 40 years, preceded Dr. Wimer in death. He was the devoted father of two children—Lisa Newman of Borrego Springs and Russ Wimer of Arkansas—and of four stepchildren, 11 grandchildren, and one great grandson.

Because he wanted no public service at the time of his death, his daughter Lisa posted a notice of Dr. Wimer’s death in the local post office, noting her father’s wish that all glory should go to God.
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