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# More than 3,000 attend Loma Linda University Health Vision 2020 Groundbreaking Event

By Briana Pastorino

**L**oma Linda University Health (LLUH) has officially broken ground on the hospital complex that will house the new adult hospital and expanded Children's Hospital.

More than 3,000 people looked on as the shovels hit the dirt at the community groundbreaking event Sunday, May 22.

During the program, Richard H. Hart, MD, DrPH, president, LLUH, recapped the history of the organization saying, "This institution was built through stages by visionary leaders who took the realities of their day and molded them into a strategy for the future.

"Our hospitals are where our beliefs are put into action," Hart continued, "where our knowledge, our expertise, and our compassion come together to restore lives and families."

Hart also announced the new hospital complex will be named after Dennis and Carol Troesh, who donated \$100 million toward the philanthropic campaign benefiting the new hospital, Vision 2020: The Campaign for a Whole Tomorrow.

"The new Loma Linda University Medical Center and expanded Children's Hospital, which will be on the Dennis and Carol Troesh Medical Campus, will be an immediately recognizable icon for our region," Hart said. "More importantly, it will exemplify the best in medical expertise and compassionate whole person care as we transform lives in this region and around the world toward a healthier tomorrow."

Rachelle Bussell, CFRE, senior vice president of advancement, LLUH, broke the news that more than \$225 million

has been raised toward the \$360 million goal of the campaign. "Vision 2020 is the catalyst that brings together our vision for a whole tomorrow," she said.

The new hospital complex, which will open its doors to the community in 2020, has been designed by architectural firm NBBJ to embrace a healing environment, from wellness gardens that support physical, social, and spiritual health, to patient rooms that promote patient and family healing, nursing stations that encourage collaboration, and community spaces filled with natural light.

"The design promises to set a new standard for health care and hospital architecture," said Richard Dallam, FAIA, partner in charge of the project at NBBJ.

"As the health care industry transitions from a treatment-based model to one focused on preventive health," Dallam added, "it's a privilege to partner with an organization such as Loma Linda University Health, which, like us, has practiced advanced-care models for decades."

Dallam noted that the design of the new hospital will further enhance health for patients in Southern California and beyond by connecting them and hospital staff to the natural environment, the wider community, and God—all in support of Loma Linda's motto, "To Make Man Whole."

Kerry Heinrich, JD, CEO, LLU Medical Center, spoke of the new discoveries that will be made behind the walls of the new hospital facility, advancing medical care.

Standing 16 floors and spanning a distance longer than a football field,



Shovels hit the dirt during the official groundbreaking ceremony at Loma Linda University Health Sunday, May 22. Taking part were, from left: Scott Perryman, LLUCH administrator; Jere and Marian Chrispens, co-chairs, campaign steering committee; Trevor Wright, COO, LLUMC; Lyndon Edwards, senior vice president adult hospital services, LLUMC; Kevin Lang, CFO, LLUH; Richard Hart, president, LLUH; Lowell Cooper, chair, LLUH Board of Trustees; Kerry Heinrich, CEO, LLUMC; Rachelle Bussell, senior vice president for advancement, LLUH; Mary Ann Xavier, chair, LLUCH Foundation Board; Rhodes Rigsby, mayor, City of Loma Linda; Carol Troesh; Dennis Troesh; Roger Hadley, dean, LLU School of Medicine; and Richard Chinnock, chief medical officer, LLUCH.

this facility, Heinrich said, "will be an instantly recognizable icon. More importantly, it will stand as a beacon of hope for all of us, and especially those who are facing their darkest hour."

The hospital will not only be the tallest building in San Bernardino County, but it will also be considered one of the safest in the state.

The project is implementing a first-of-its-kind vertical earthquake isolation system which separates the building from the ground using more than 500 vertical shock absorbers—a large-scale

version of a modern car suspension system. Working hand-in-hand with a lateral earthquake isolation system of sliding bearings and dampers, the design will protect patients and staff from injury while keeping the hospital operational following a potentially catastrophic magnitude 7.9 earthquake on the nearby San Andreas Fault.

The Campus Transformation Project will result in the first major building in the world to implement this state-of-the-art 3-D earthquake protection technology.



More photos on pages 6 and 7

More than 3,000 members of the Loma Linda University Health family and surrounding communities were on hand to celebrate the groundbreaking for the new adult and Children's Hospital towers. Food trucks lined the Medical Center entrance and a number of activity tents—most designed with children of all ages in mind—provided activities ranging from a teddy bear clinic to a miniature hockey rink.

## Many Strengths. One Mission.

LOMA LINDA UNIVERSITY HEALTH : LOMA LINDA UNIVERSITY | SCHOOL OF ALLIED HEALTH PROFESSIONS | SCHOOL OF BEHAVIORAL HEALTH | SCHOOL OF DENTISTRY | SCHOOL OF MEDICINE | SCHOOL OF NURSING | SCHOOL OF PHARMACY | SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH | SCHOOL OF RELIGION | LOMA LINDA UNIVERSITY MEDICAL CENTER | UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL/ADULT SERVICES | LOMA LINDA UNIVERSITY CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL | LOMA LINDA UNIVERSITY MEDICAL CENTER-EAST CAMPUS | LOMA LINDA UNIVERSITY BEHAVIORAL MEDICINE CENTER | LOMA LINDA UNIVERSITY SURGICAL HOSPITAL | LOMA LINDA UNIVERSITY MEDICAL CENTER-MURRIETA | HIGHLAND SPRINGS MEDICAL PLAZA

## Sold-out LLUH Women's Conference inspires attendees to 'Be the Artist of Your Life'

By Nancy Yuen

Women from all walks of life, including 9-1-1 operators, teachers, and health care providers, ranging in age from their early 20s to experienced workers and retirees, were among the diverse group of 1,000 women who attended the Loma Linda University Health Women's Conference at the Riverside Convention Center.

Many had requested the day of May 5 off from work months in advance so they could attend the 2016 conference, "Be the Artist of Your Life."

During the conference, which sold out quickly after online tickets were made available, attendees chose from dozens of break-out sessions, each providing wisdom to help them "live it."

"There was a presentation by a florist whose creative displays have adorned presidential inaugural balls," says participant Linda Domeny, "and a chronic pain specialist shared knowledge he learned while working with more than 100,000 patients. For me, a highlight of the conference was the complimentary health testing that was available to all participants."

"This event is all about being smart, healthy, and confident women," says Beverly Rigsby, MBA, service line director, OB-GYN women's services, Loma Linda University Medical Center. "We want every woman to have the power to live a healthy and successful life, and we hope the information and tools provided during the conference will inspire them to be their absolute best."

During conference breakout sessions,



Melissa Kidder, MD, chair, department of obstetrics and gynecology, Loma Linda University Health, answers questions at the "Ask the OB-GYN" booth during the 2016 Loma Linda University Health Women's Conference.

experts shared the latest techniques in facial rejuvenation, creative ways to look younger, anti-aging tips for your teeth, how to get the most information from your breast screenings, and the art of working with your personality, among many others.

"There were so many great topics to choose from," says Domeny. "I appreciated the opportunity to ask the presenters questions, and I took away tips and tools I will share with family and friends."

During the day, creativity abounded as women took brushes to canvas, painting landscapes taught by an artist from the Purple Easel.

There were booths and exhibits to visit with samples and giveaways, one-on-one time with experts from dentistry to OB-GYN, self defense to physical therapy, and health testing. There was also time to dine and shop.

The day began and ended with keynote presentations that highlighted the conference theme. In the morning Dewitt Jones, one of America's top professional photographers, shared insights he learned during the two decades he worked for National Geographic. "Don't stop with the first impression, the first photograph," he urged as he showed several series of images on large screens—from flowers to sunsets

to people. "Pausing, being open to the unexpected can take an assignment from good but ordinary, to magnificent."

The conference ended on a powerful message, "The Beauty of Being You," shared by Jess Weiner during the afternoon keynote. Weiner shared stories of her childhood, watching TV and searching for someone to identify with. Her personal journey led her to create "Talk to Jess," a company that collaborates with brands to help them understand and better connect with women, girls, and families in their audience. Her keynote message inspired attendees to think of themselves with confidence and pride instead of being defined by others.

Trevor Wright, MHA, chief operating officer, Loma Linda University Medical Center, attended the event for the first time and came away impressed with the level of participation from Loma Linda employees—not only the clinical staff handling the screenings but also physicians giving breakouts and the number of volunteers helping make the event run smoothly. "I appreciate everyone's participation and interest in giving back," says Wright. "Our physicians and employees are making a difference in the lives of women in our community."

Presenting sponsor for the 2016 Women's Conference was Riverside Community Health Foundation. Premiere sponsors were Stronghold Engineering and N. Rancho Cucamonga Dental Group and Orthodontics. Breakout session sponsors were LifeCell, Vista Medical, Loma Linda University department of psychiatry, Loma Linda University Surgical Hospital metabolic and bariatric surgery, Linda Valley Senior Living, Hologic, Molina Health-care, and Cambridge Hospice.

## Daniel Samano's two big home runs

By James Ponder

If you plan on congratulating Daniel Samano on his graduation from Loma Linda University School of Medicine (LLUSM) on Sunday, May 29, you may have to stand in line for quite some time.

That's because Samano expects more than 60 people to show up, including: his wife, Carolina; his mom and stepfather, Lupita and Pablo Gomez; an assortment of cousins and other family members; and several members of the faculty and staff of Calxico Mission School (CMS)—most notably his first-grade teacher, Zita Robinson.

There are two reasons for Samano's outsized entourage. First, no one in the 79-year history of CMS has ever received an MD degree from LLUSM before.

Second, none of the 641 graduates of Si Se Puede and other Loma Linda University pipeline programs has ever done that either. Si Se Puede, which started in 2005, translates from Spanish as "Yes you can!"

To use a baseball analogy, that's like hitting two grand-slam home runs in the ninth inning to win the game for the home team.

His journey toward medicine began 26 years ago when he was four months old. That's when his mother, Guadalupe—"Lupita" to family and friends—crossed the border from her home in Mexicali to land a job cleaning bathrooms at CMS. One year later, the then-single mom got a promotion.

"Because she had an associate's degree in secretarial science, she was promoted to school secretary and receptionist," Samano reveals. "She's held



Daniel Samano, center, receives hugs from his wife, Carolina, left, and his mother, Lupita Gomez, right.

that position ever since."

Samano practically grew up at CMS, attending there from kindergarten to 12th grade. Susan Smith, MA, principal of the school, says that in an educational institution noted for exceptional students, Samano stands above the crowd.

"Calxico Mission School has always had students whose extraordinary qualities are made known early in their academic lives," Smith observes. "These children stick to their goals and reach for the stars."

"Daniel Samano," she continues, "walked the halls of this school from 1995 to 2008," pointing out that when he started kindergarten at the age of 5, he couldn't speak English.

"Danny was a cute little boy!" Smith adds. "Growing up, he was extremely bright, independent, and focused. His

teachers enjoyed having him in class and encouraged him to strive for excellence in every aspect of his education."

Samano's junior year at CMS proved to be a turning point. Encouraged by the fact that Samano was tutoring his classmates in general chemistry, and taking anatomy and physiology with the seniors, Zaida Barr, his science teacher, suggested he consider making medicine his career.

It wasn't the first time the thought had crossed his mind. But just as not every child who dreams of growing up to be President of the United States actualizes that later in life, many "wannabe doctors" grow up to do something else. But when Barr told Samano about the Si Se Puede program at LLU, he decided to give it a try.

Si Se Puede, subsequently renamed in

2012 as the Summer Gateway Program, brings students from underserved minorities and underprivileged families to Loma Linda University for two weeks and introduces them to a variety of health career options. The hope, of course, is that some of them will aspire to humanitarian service through the healing arts.

When Samano arrived on campus in the summer of 2007, he met Juan Carlos Belliard, PhD, MPH, vice president for community partnerships and diversity, and director of the Institute for Community Partnerships. The two soon hit it off and Belliard became a mentor to Samano, encouraging him to follow his dream.

When Samano returned to CMS his senior year, he had made up his mind to become a physician. "Daniel turned into a young man," Principal Smith interjects. "He graduated at the top of his class in 2008 and was given the award of excellence by his teachers."

Belliard made a point of keeping in touch with Samano after he matriculated to La Sierra University for his undergraduate studies, and later when he entered LLUSM in 2012. It isn't much of a stretch to say that Belliard is one of his biggest supporters.

"Daniel's a trailblazer," Belliard asserts. "He's always made time to mentor others and has not forgotten where he came from and his responsibility to give back."

Romance was also in the making one fortuitous afternoon in 2013 as Samano waited in line to cross into Mexicali from Calxico. Much to his liking, the attractive young lady directly in front of him turned around to ask if he had any idea how much longer they were likely to wait.

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## Loma Linda University Health helps community discover 'Your Best Pathway to Health'

By Nancy Yuen

An online search for the phrase “a hurting world” returns 1.34 million results, many connecting religion to humanity.

The meaning of these words became visible recently when, from April 27 to 29, 8,537 uninsured and underinsured persons in need of health care visited Your Best Pathway to Health (YBPH)—Los Angeles.

The three-day mega clinic was held at the Los Angeles Convention Center. Hundreds of volunteers from Loma Linda University Health helped staff it.

The goal was to offer free, comprehensive health care to as many people as possible. Specialties included cardiology, dentistry, infectious disease screening, orthopedics, physical therapy, vision care, and women’s health (OB-GYN).

On-site services included cardiac stress testing, radiography, ultrasound, vision screening, and clinical lab tests. Each participant also received personalized lifestyle coaching in areas such as smoking cessation, weight loss, and nutrition.

In early 2016, YBPH organizers asked Loma Linda University Health to provide as many volunteers as possible to meet the estimated 3,000 who would be needed to staff the event, which would be held nearly 60 miles from Loma Linda University Health.

Two informational sessions were held at Loma Linda University Health in January, one for faculty and staff, and a second for students.

Faculty, students, and staff from throughout Loma Linda University responded. On clinic days, groups organized by the Schools of Allied Health Professions, Behavioral Health, Dentistry, Nursing, and Public Health joined volunteers from the departments of OB-GYN, pharmacy, clinical lab, and surgery as well as staff from the Institute for Community Partnerships and Community-Academic Partners in Service.

They and volunteers from Loma Linda University Church were among the more than 4,400 individuals who traveled to Los Angeles by Metrolink, in personal vehicles, and on chartered buses and vans, leaving as early as 5 a.m. to arrive at the Convention Center and be in place by 7 a.m., when the doors opened.

Nurse practitioner student Sandra Edpao worked in the primary care section, focusing much attention on educating the patients about issues such as diabetes, hypertension, and healthy eating.

“It was definitely rewarding to see patients’ faces light up as they learned new tips and information that will benefit their health and ultimately enhance their quality of life,” Edpao says. “All of our patients expressed deep appreciation for our care, and there were

many poignant moments for patients and providers alike. I felt honored to have had the opportunity to serve, teach, and inspire hope within these people who operate their lives with so little.”

“So many times when we think of providing service we think of traveling far away,” says Juan Carlos Belliard, PhD, MPH, director, Institute for Community Partnerships. “This event provided a powerful opportunity to make our students aware of the great need that exists in our own neighborhoods, close to where we live, work, and study.”

Among the thousands of volunteers

were church members who met at the Olympic Korean Seventh-day Adventist Church where they prepared sack breakfasts for the volunteers.

Tony Yang, director of marketing, School of Medicine, and pastor of the English ministry at Olympic Korean Seventh-day Adventist Church, was among the volunteers.

“It was easy to focus on the ‘what’—our task of packing 1,600 meals each day,” he emphasizes. “But as I saw how many people the clinic was helping, God helped me to see the ‘why.’ The meals were a small way to give the volunteers strength and energy to do their work. And through their healing ministry, lots of people saw Jesus. That’s what it’s all about, and it made it all worthwhile.”



Before leaving the event, participants met with volunteers who provided lifestyle counseling. Here Sara Kashian, a student in the department of nutrition and dietetics, School Allied Health Professions, counsels a participant.

## Annual Children’s Day teaches kids about health care in a fun, safe environment

By Briana Pastorino

More than 1,400 kids and their chaperones from the community filled the campus lawn

during the 31st annual Children’s Day, presented by Farmer Boys, at Loma Linda University Children’s Hospital (LLUCH) Wednesday, May 4.

The free event, designed for kids ages

3 to 8, was well attended by at least 11 schools and day cares in the Inland Empire. Every year since 1985, Children’s Day has been providing hands-on learning activities to give kids non-threatening exposure to a hospital setting.

Organized by LLUCH’s child life department, the event offered various booths designed just for kids, including:

- ♦ Teddy bear clinic: kids were encouraged to bring their own doll or teddy bear for a “check up.”
- ♦ Stitch station: kids learned about having stitches. They were given an opportunity to be the “doctor” placing the stitches on a paper person.
- ♦ Pretend finger casting: provided by

Loma Linda University Children’s Hospital child life department.

- ♦ Fire safety: provided by the department of environmental health and safety, kids learned how to extinguish a fire using water and fire balloons.
- ♦ LLU School of Dentistry provided tips and demonstrations on dental health.
- ♦ LLUCH pediatric transport team shared the lifesaving measures used to transport babies and kids to and from the hospital.
- ♦ Sports injury awareness, and automobile and car seat safety with Safe Kids.
- ♦ Dr. Hayes’ venomous creatures: Bill Hayes, PhD, held a show and tell session with his array of creatures including rattlesnakes, lizards and more.



One young guest at Loma Linda University Children’s Hospital’s 31st annual Children’s Day, presented by Farmer Boys, took advantage of the teddy bear clinic and used a real stethoscope to listen to the “heartbeat” of his stuffed animal.

## LLU alumna appointed as Florida surgeon general

By Heather Reifsnyder

An alumna of Loma Linda University, Celeste Philip, MD, MPH, is now surgeon general for the state of Florida and its 20 million residents. Following her appointment in March as interim surgeon general, Gov. Rick Scott made her position permanent May 18.

In announcing her appointment,

Scott lauded Philip’s proactivity in making a statewide tour to meet with community health leaders and her efforts to combat the possible spread of the Zika virus.

Philip is also president-elect of the American Heart Association’s Greater Southeast Affiliate and serves on the Health Initiatives Committee Advisory Group to the Florida Board of Governors.

Another recent honor for Philip was her naming as 2016 Florida Outstanding Woman in Public Health by the University of South Florida College of Public Health.

Gov. Rick Scott said at the time, “Dr. Celeste Philip has dedicated her career to improving the health and wellness of our state so Florida can be the healthiest place for all our families and visitors.”

Philip graduated from Loma Linda University in 2001 with her master of public health degree in maternal and child health, and again in 2003 with her MD degree.

She received her bachelor’s degree from Howard University. She holds certifications from the American Board of Preventive Medicine and the American Board of Family Medicine.

Philip has held numerous positions at the Florida Department of Health including deputy secretary for health and deputy state health officer for Children’s Medical Services.

She previously worked for the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Loma Linda University congratulates Surgeon General Philip.



LLU alumna Celeste Philip, MD, MPH, has been appointed surgeon general for the state of Florida.

## ECMO open house displays new CARDIOHELP technology to help critically ill children survive

By James Ponder

Physicians, nurses, administrators, employees, and patients of Loma Linda University Children's Hospital (LLUCH) turned out in droves to welcome the latest in 21st century lifesaving technology—the CARDIOHELP System, a suitcase-sized heart-lung bypass machine—at the ECMO open house on Wednesday, March 23, in the Stater Bros. Activity Center.

As hundreds of guests admired the new machinery and enjoyed refreshments, Farrukh Mirza, MD, medical director of the ECMO program, explained that the acronym stands for extracorporeal membrane oxygenation and describes a lifesaving technique for providing cardiac and respiratory support to patients whose hearts and lungs are struggling.

“CARDIOHELP is a new state-of-the-art machine for providing heart and lung support for critically ill children who have a high likelihood of not surviving with standard medical ICU therapies,” Mirza noted.

Aloha Malit, ECMO coordinator, says that while ECMO therapy “will not cure a patient, it gives him or her the time needed to heal. ECMO is generally used until the heart or the lungs recover enough to provide adequate oxygen and blood supply. Patients sometimes receive ECMO support for days or weeks awaiting organ recovery.”

She adds that LLUCH has been using ECMO therapy since the mid-

late 1990s and is now employing it for both neonatal and pediatric patients,

While Mirza maintains that the CARDIOHELP System is no different from earlier ECMO equipment in terms of basic concepts, he points out that it differs significantly in terms of size and portability. Billed as the world's smallest and lightest bypass machine, the unit is designed to be useful when transporting patients by ambulance or helicopter in emergency situations.

Another improvement is safety. With CARDIOHELP, employees will no longer have to tiptoe around what

Mirza called “a chaotic mess” of tubes and wires associated with conventional ECMO technology. Nor will patients be in as much danger of having some of those tubes and wires accidentally disconnected. “This machine makes it more orderly,” he observes.

Malit says the ability to take the unit onboard a helicopter or ambulance represents a major step forward for times when the staff needs to keep track of a number of vital functions while transporting a patient.

“The CARDIOHELP System monitors important blood parameters,

including venous oxygen saturation, hemoglobin, hematocrit, and arterial and venous temperature,” she notes.

Malit is impressed that while the unit can be connected to the transport vehicle's onboard power supply, it also has an integrated rechargeable battery that provides a minimum of 90 minutes of operating time on its own. The internal power supply will enable therapy to continue unimpeded while a patient is being wheeled from the transport vehicle to the hospital, as well as during other procedures that may require them to travel to other locations.

Malit says the new system is not complicated to use.

“The CARDIOHELP System is operated via an easy touch screen with user guidance,” she points out, “and a rotary knob to allow medical personnel with minimal life-support experience to safely use the unit after suitable training.”

Near the conclusion of the event, Mirza and Malit were joined by Scott Perryman, MBA, senior vice president and administrator, Richard Chinnock, MD, medical director, Shamel Abd-Allah, MD, head of the pediatric critical care medicine division, and Douglas Deming, MD, head of the neonatology division, in a brief presentation on the importance of the new technology to the future of vulnerable pediatric patients in the Inland Empire and beyond.

Mirza concluded his brief remarks with comments that echoed the sentiments of his colleagues. “We are excited to have this new technology,” he said, “which means we can continue to provide ECMO support, but it will be a lot safer and in some ways, easier and faster.”



Farrukh Mirza, MD, (left), medical director of the ECMO program at Loma Linda University Children's Hospital, poses with Douglas Deming, MD, head of the neonatology division, and Aloha Malit, ECMO coordinator, at the March 23 ECMO open house.

## President Hart leads work bee to uncover original Loma Linda Sanitarium steps

By Larry Kidder

More than 50 volunteers were on hand Sunday, May 1, for a work bee organized by Richard Hart, MD, DrPH, president of Loma Linda University Health.

The purpose of their efforts was to uncover remnants of the original stairway leading from the Loma Linda train depot to the Mound City Hotel, built in 1887—which became the Loma Linda Sanitarium in 1905.

The work bee began at 7 a.m. with a pancake breakfast. Hart had asked the deans of the residence halls to serve and several flipped pancakes

for the volunteers.

The work began as the volunteers made their way gingerly down the steep embankment, ready with work gloves, shovels, pick axes, and a variety of other tools. The group worked until about 11 a.m. and uncovered most of the hillside, discovering interesting artifacts along the way.

While the wood had long ago disappeared, square nails and rock pilings presumably at the base of support beams were discovered. A pint bottle from the Loma Linda Dairy was also uncovered, as well as a glass syringe.

The largest find, a pool for a fountain visible in the some of the historic

photos, brought the most excitement to the group.

Richard Schaefer, historian for Loma Linda University Health, gave some context to the stairs for those at the pancake breakfast.

The original stairs led straight up from the railway station to the top of the “hill beautiful,” literal translation for the name Loma Linda. Pepper Street, which has since been replaced by Anderson Street and rerouted somewhat, was lined with pepper trees and ended near the base of the staircase.

Approximately 30 steps took visitors to the first landing, where a bench with a shade allowed them to catch their breath if needed. At that point, the stairs split, with a garden in the middle. Two stairways of 30 steps each brought climbers to the second landing, where another

shade protected a fountain and pool.

The final 30 stairs led to the base of the Sanitarium grounds. More stairs brought them to the entrance. Perhaps by that time, visitors realized that exercise was considered a vital part of the treatment they would be receiving, and that Loma Linda Sanitarium was far more than a relaxing spa.

Visible across the valley, the stairs were bordered by pepper trees and ground cover. Later, two rows of palm trees were planted on either side; those palms remain to this day, providing a visual reminder of the iconic staircase.

“We had a good day,” Hart smiles. “I'm so pleased with the support of our Loma Linda University Health family in coming out so early on a Sunday morning to unearth some of our history.”

Hart particularly enjoyed finding the historic relics and the remains of the fountain. “To actually hold parts of the fountain, or the square nails, or the milk bottle, brings our history alive,” he adds.



Richard Hart, MD, DrPH (navy blue shirt and hat), LLUH president; Kerry Heinrich, JD (light blue shirt and hat), LLUMC CEO; and other administrators discuss their progress with Ron Carter, PhD (light gray shirt, back to camera), LLU provost.

## Daniel Samano's two big home runs ...

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Her name, it turns out, was Carolina Sandoval, and when Samano told her they would probably be there another hour-and-a-half, they struck up a conversation.

“I told her I was in medical school in California,” Samano reports with a twinkle in his eye, “and she said she was studying psychology at Universidad Autonoma de Baja California in Mexico, our mutual home town.”

As the line and the conversation moved forward, Carolina mentioned that she has a cousin studying to be a nurse “on the other side,” a term Mexicans often use to refer to the United States.

To their complete surprise, the cousin was one of Samano's former classmates from CMS. The serendipitous discovery surprised them both and put Carolina at ease.

Samano warmed to the opportunity, and by the time they crossed the border, he had deftly gotten her phone number. A new reality was born in each of their lives and they married two years later on November 1, 2014.

Today, Carolina Samano works as a psychologist at the Institute for Behavioral Health in Redlands, while her husband gets ready for his next assignment, a family medicine residency with Kaiser Permanente in nearby Fontana.

## New blog shines light on health policy and leadership topics

By Nancy Yuen

On June 9, California's End of Life Option Act will take effect.

What does this mean to Loma Linda University Health, its nearly 1,700 faculty physicians, resident physicians and fellows, and the hundreds of thousands of patients who rely on Loma Linda for care? What is the law and how will it impact residents of California?

A careful study of the topic of physician assisted dying is one of the posts recorded in Health Policy Connection, a blog created this year by the Loma Linda University Institute for Health Policy and Leadership (IHPL). The essay, titled "California's new law for terminally ill patients," was authored by Philip M. Gold, MD, and Gina Jervey Mohr, MD, faculty physicians at Loma Linda University Health.

"Health Policy Connection was designed to facilitate information sharing," says Gerald Winslow, PhD, director, IHPL, "and generate lively discussions in the area of health policy and leadership. The blog posts are from our own Institute staff, faculty from schools

within Loma Linda University, and our IHPL fellows as well as external partners such as colleagues in the Adventist Health Policy Association."

Other blog entries are "Immunizations: Invisible benefit when present but visible harm when absent," by Wonha Kim, MD, MPH, assistant professor of pediatrics and of preventive medicine, School of Medicine, and associate director, IHPL; and "Opioid abuse, headlines and policy," by Gregory Olson, DDS, MS, associate professor, Loma Linda University School of Dentistry.

"Posts contain an overview and history of the issue being examined," says Jung. "They may highlight opposing viewpoints. In the post, "California's new law for terminally ill patients," Philip M. Gold, MD, and Gina Jervey Mohr, MD, faculty physicians at Loma Linda University Health, provide compelling cases for and against the enactment of California's End of Life Option Act."

Not only are the posts of interest to those who would like to become better informed, they include links and references helpful to anyone interested in health policy topics.



Health Policy Connection is published by the Institute for Health Policy and Leadership. Pictured, from left: MaryJane Rasnic, MSA; Andrejs Galeniaks, MPH, MArch; Gerald Winslow, PhD; Helen Jung, DrPH, MPH; and Wonha Kim, MD, MPH.

"We encourage those concerned with health policy and leadership to visit our blog often," says Winslow. "We also encourage readers to reach out to us with

ideas on policy topics they would like to see addressed."

The blog may be found at [ihpl.llu.edu/blog](http://ihpl.llu.edu/blog).

## Integral coursework for Loma Linda University senior class health care students focused on disaster events

By Susan Onuma

When tragedy struck in San Bernardino, California, on December 2 of last year, Loma Linda University Medical Center medical staff had triage tents, crash carts, medical supplies and healthcare personnel ready to treat mass casualties. This response was put together in 18 minutes. This was not by chance. It was not by accident.

Students from Loma Linda University Schools of Medicine, Nursing, Allied Health, Behavioral Health, Pharmacy and Dentistry participated in an innovative, interprofessional educational experience, May 9-13, 2016.

The course "Multidisciplinary Response to a Critical Event/Disaster: An Innovative, Interprofessional Educational Experience," has been developed to train health care professions students in the response to "critical events," that is, disasters such as the mass shooting that brought San Bernardino into the nation's spotlight last December.

Tae Eung Kim, MD, associate professor and associate medical director, department of emergency medicine for Loma Linda University School of Medicine, and director of the course, said,



Instructor Ehren Ngo, MS, demonstrates the method for safely moving an injured patient during the 2016 LLU School of Medicine Interprofessional Critical Event Response Course recently held at the Centennial Complex.

"The course is quite unique. We are the only university of health care professions in the nation to hold a course like this, particularly one that is interdisciplinary in nature involving students from the different schools, with medical students learning with nursing students, as well

as with students from pharmacy, dentistry, behavioral health and the allied health professions."

During this event, students learn skills to be effective responders in mass casualty and disaster events as part of their educational curricula.

Through six different critical event/disaster simulations, students learn to recognize potential critical events/disasters and are able to implement initial appropriate actions.

The principles of critical event/disaster management, and the complex communication needs for a critical event/disaster are demonstrated through appropriate and effective critical event/disaster communication skills within each team. Appropriate communication steps are identified; information to be reported, correct reporting authority, and alternative modalities are practiced.

Also during this training course, critical event/disaster safety principles instruction is provided to help students understand the incident command system, and the purpose of an institutional disaster operations plan and their potential roles in them as caregivers/responders. Students are taught to use the knowledge of one's own role and of other professions' roles to appropriately respond to the critical event/disaster scenario all, in a climate of mutual respect and shared values.

"The University has been conducting this course for the past 12 years, well ahead of last December's shootings," stated Kim.

## Advancement team wins gold, silver, and bronze at HPRMA awards luncheon

By James Ponder

Members of the Loma Linda University Health advancement team received a plethora of honors at the HPRMA Golden Advocate Awards luncheon, which was held Thursday, April 28, at the Rio Hondo Event Center in Downey. This year's winners from Loma Linda University Health were:

### Gold

- Molly Riter for the PossAbilities' Road to Rio Sports Luncheon

- Advancement Films for the "Life on the Line" video production

### Silver

- Aline Leite and Rebecca Grissom for Planned Giving collateral
- Media Relations Team for Response to San Bernardino Shooting
- Shaina Shieh for Health and Wellness Calendar
- Tiffany Robinson for the Women's Conference event
- Tiffany Robinson for the Women's Conference promotional materials
- Nancy Yuen for the "This is the Very Place" Annual Report

### Bronze

- James Ponder, Nancy Yuen, and RaeChelle English for Wholeness Research

Created by the Healthcare Public Relations and Marketing Association to honor the finest in health care advertising, marketing, and public relations, the awards offer professionals in those fields the opportunity to showcase their work and celebrate their accomplishments.

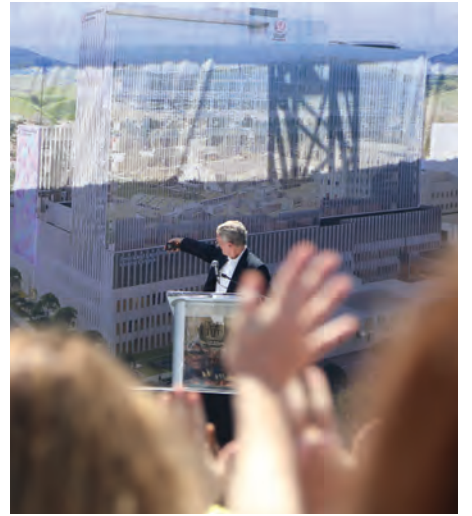
Right: some of the HPRMA awards are displayed.



# Sunday, May 22, 2016: a historical day in



# photos at Loma Linda University Health



## Behavioral Health team sets research aside to intervene for the people of Sierra Leone

By James Ponder

A team of researchers from Loma Linda University School of Behavioral Health laid their research aside last August to deliver an intervention for the traumatized citizens of the African nation of Sierra Leone.

According to Susanne Montgomery, PhD, associate dean for research at the school, the decision to deliver the intervention came out of the recognition that the residents of Sierra Leone are a very traumatized people.

"Life has been extremely difficult for the people of Sierra Leone in recent years," she explains. "Not long after their 11-year civil war ended, the Ebola crisis hit. It couldn't have come at a worse time since many of the country's health clinics were wiped out during the war. To make things worse, there is only one mental health specialist in the whole nation."

Montgomery says that when the Ebola virus arrived in Sierra Leone, the government was so afraid of transmission that it shut down all the hospitals in the country for regular care, including Waterloo Hospital, which is operated by Adventist Health International. She adds that three Waterloo staff members contracted Ebola and two nurses died from the disease.

Although Waterloo Hospital eventually was one of the few allowed to reopen for regular care, staff members felt horrible about their inability to serve Ebola patients. "The ones who survived had horrible guilt feelings mixed with their own fear regarding Ebola," she says. "They had to turn away gravely ill patients based on government directives because bringing them into the clinic would mean other people might get Ebola and die, too."

When Loma Linda researchers arrived in Sierra Leone in August 2015, it quickly became apparent that if they really wanted to make an impact on the health of the small nation, they would have to address the mental health needs of the population first. Montgomery recalls the moment when Beverly Buckles, DSW, dean of the school, announced a change in plans.

"Beverly Buckles said we have an ethical obligation to treat the stress levels of these people before we begin any research study," Montgomery recalls.

To do that, the four-person team led by Buckles worked with Waterloo Hospital staff and the Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA) to recruit a group of 40 volunteers from the local community, which they organized into two groups of 20 each. Using a tool called CRM—the acronym stands for community resiliency model—they first delivered the program as an intervention to help participants deal with their own stress and anxiety before training them, at a later session in January 2016, to train other trainers in implementing the CRM intervention to reduce the after-effects of trauma in their respective communities.

"If you have a certain number of traumatic life events happen in a short period of time," Montgomery notes, "they will highly impact your health. People who have been in situations of protracted stress can't make good decisions because their energy is consumed with trying to survive. Given all that happened, it is actually normal to react that way. After awhile, many experience sharp increases in their levels of anxiety and depression.

It's biology, not weakness. We are built that way to help us survive.

"The CRM program," she continues, "resets the natural balance of the nervous system after it has been upset by traumatic events. We focused our efforts on teaching people the skills they need to reduce their own stresses and increase their resiliency."

Before delivering the intervention, the team found that 38 percent of the group was suffering from post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) in the clinical range while clinical levels of depression and anxiety were at 46 and 29 percent respectively.

At the end of the intervention, the

team re-tested all 40 members of the two groups and found that the CRM tool had produced dramatic improvements in participants' abilities to cope.

"What we found was a significant decrease in anxiety, depression, and PTSD in the clinical range," Montgomery reports. "PTSD in the clinical range decreased from 38 to 33 percent, clinical depression fell from 46 to 22 percent, and clinical levels of anxiety declined from 29 to 18 percent."

With the interventions successfully over, the Loma Linda team then trained some of the participants to train others. Buckles, Montgomery and the other members of the team returned to Sierra

Leone in February to train 25 of the original 40 graduates to become trainers themselves.

"It took four-and-a-half days of working inside a small building with a slab floor and plastic walls," she recalls. "It was very hot and humid in there—95 degrees Fahrenheit with between 90 and 100 percent humidity—but each one of those 25 people completed the training and agreed to deliver the CRM skills to 30 more people to help them reduce their stresses. Indeed, just two short months after this, the training participants had already shared the skills they learned with more than 300 of their friends, family members, and neighbors."

As for the research study—"the Sierra Leone capacity building study"—Montgomery says it is one of

*Continued next page*

### A special feature of *Campmeeting in August*

presented by Loma Linda University Church and Calimesa Seventh-day Adventist Church

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- Buy tickets at iTickets (800) 965-9324 or [itickets.com](http://itickets.com)
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- Questions? Call the Concert Line (909) 795-4960

Calimesa Community Concerts • 30th Season



## The Red Zone: firsthand account of a surgeon who risked all during Liberia's Ebola crisis

By Courtney Haas

Loma Linda University School of Medicine's class of 2016 will host a special presentation on the 2014 Ebola crisis in Africa. The talk will take place Saturday, May 28, at 4:30 p.m. in the Centennial Complex's Damazo Amphitheater.

Gillian Seton, MD, the School of Medicine 2016 commencement speaker, will share her story of working as a deferred mission appointee at Cooper Seventh-day Adventist Hospital in Monrovia, Liberia.

Seton began her journey early in 2014 shortly before the Ebola outbreak. No sooner had she started settling in when the virus rapidly spread throughout Liberia and several neighboring countries, totaling more than 28,000 suspected, probable and confirmed cases of Ebola, of which 10,678 were in Liberia.

Despite the opportunity to pack up

and leave, Seton declined recommendations to return to the safety of the U.S. Instead she fought to keep the hospital operational. She insisted on staying even

when the decision was made to close the hospital doors to the public.

Seton believed the value of remaining open outweighed the danger of

remaining in the country. With hard work, determination and grit provided by Seton and her local team of health care professionals, Cooper stayed open as a non-Ebola treatment facility, serving as the only such hospital facility in the entire country when all other hospitals were transformed into Ebola treatment centers.

Rewind to 2013, nearly three years ago, when the class of 2016 elected to adopt Cooper as its class project. Since that time, class members have done extensive fundraising, much of which went toward supporting the needs of the hospital during the peak of the Ebola outbreak. Since taking on the project, the class has raised more than \$60,000 and hopes to continue supporting the hospital even beyond graduation.

This Saturday afternoon event will be filled with stories of struggle and hope as Seton relives her experience and shares why she chooses to continue serving today.

To learn more about the class of 2016 project in Liberia and about this event, visit [medicine.llu.edu/current-students/cooper-sda-hospital](http://medicine.llu.edu/current-students/cooper-sda-hospital).



Loma Linda University School of Medicine class of 2016 will present a special event with commencement speaker Gillian Seton, MD, on May 28.

## Doctors perform unprecedented facial re-implantation surgery on 2-year-old toddler and dog bite victim

By Briana Pastorino

Mariah Salomon is like any other two-year-old—she loves to play and is very outspoken, although she may be a little shy at first.

Her mom, Veronica Peña, refers to her as “a little princess” who has everyone wrapped around her finger. And thanks to doctors at Loma Linda University Children's Hospital (LLUCH), everyone is still wrapped around her finger. ...

A team of specialized surgeons successfully re-implanted a portion of Mariah's face after she was attacked by a dog.

The incident occurred in August last year. The dog had removed a large portion of her face – from the top of her nose to the top of her lip, including part of her left cheek. Her story was shared at the 23rd annual Loma Linda University Children's Hospital Foundation Gala, presented by Hard Rock Hotel Palm Springs, on February 11.

Mariah Salomon was airlifted from a Coachella Valley hospital to LLUCH

where a team of specialists, including otolaryngologists Nathaniel Peterson, MD, and Paul Walker, MD, acted immediately to develop a plan to re-implant Mariah's face.

While not knowing if it would be successful, the doctors knew that attempting to re-implant Mariah's face was their only chance at giving her a bright future. They simply had to hope for the best and risk putting her under anesthesia, despite extensive blood loss caused by the initial injury.

“This was something that had to be completed in a matter of hours,” said Dr. Alfred Simental, chair, otolaryngology/head neck surgery.

The procedure, which took five hours of intensive work under a surgical microscope, is unprecedented for a patient so young.

Walker said the size of her facial injury was very unique. “Given her age,” he said, “and the size of the evulsion injuries successfully re-implanted on a patient this young.”



LLU Children's Hospital patient Mariah Salomon is expected to fully recover after she fell victim to a dog attack in 2015.

Peterson and Walker worked together to put the arteries back together on each side. They assisted each other, which

was key due to the size and difficulty. Post-surgery, the team relied on leeches

*Continued on page 10*

## Behavioral Health team sets research aside to intervene for the people of Sierra Leone ...

*Continued from previous page*

several research projects designed to assess the effectiveness of the CRM approach. “Besides delivering and studying the CRM intervention across different cultures and traumas, our CRM research program includes a biomarker study to validate self-reported stress reductions with objective biological measures,” she reports.

“The Sierra Leone study will be completed in July when we assess how the trained participants fared in delivering the program themselves,” Montgomery informs. “So far, however, we already have exciting results suggesting that our trainers are doing an awesome job of sharing their skills with the local population.”

When the results are tabulated, Buckles, Montgomery, and their

colleagues will start thinking of ways to integrate the CRM stress reduction program into the health care delivery system.

“The assumption,” she continues, “is that being able to identify patients at risk for high stress and low resiliency and then offering them a tested and proven method for reducing those negative indicators is likely to have desirable outcomes such as improved recovery times and reduced recidivism following hospitalization or illness diagnoses. We're excited about this!”

Montgomery concludes on a very upbeat note. “CRM was awesome and Sierra Leone was awesome. We felt we needed to do something for our brothers and sisters in Christ who have been through so much. We are very happy with the way it turned out.”



Citizens of Sierra Leone have been seriously traumatized by an 11-year civil war and the Ebola crisis. This man and boy pose with their teacher, one of 25 volunteers trained in anxiety and stress reduction by Loma Linda University researchers.

# Allied health's 50th anniversary gala is a golden time

By Heather Reifsnyder

Loma Linda University's biggest school is celebrating its 50th year of distinguished history in 2016. Since the founding of the School of Allied Health Professions in 1966, it has grown to boast nine departments and more than 50 degrees and programs.

"We challenge our students to become competent and compassionate professionals serving local and global communities," says Dean Craig Jackson, JD, MSW. "Whatever their specialty, Loma Linda University allied health alumni learn to promote a culture of service through compassion, integrity, and excellence."

On the evening of April 23, the school hosted a golden anniversary gala decorated in pinks, golds, and flowing beads, with entertainment by a men's trio, the Stratton Half Brothers, performing classic songs of yesteryear.

"Fifty years is considered a golden celebration, and this is the golden year for the School of Allied Health Professions," Jackson says.

Several members of the 50th—and founding—anniversary class of 1966 attended. The alumni pooled together to donate a check to the school of \$11,000, promising the amount would grow as more members of the class contribute.

Jackson thanked the class members of 1966 for their generosity and for making the evening historic with their presence.

Alumni of all generations, from near and far, attended the gala. One guest traveled from the Republic of Moldova,

a distance of more than 6,200 miles. The most senior alumnus in attendance—or rather, the most distinguished—was 83 years old.

Also in attendance were two of the school's deans—two, in fact of only three in the school's history. In addition to Jackson, present as a guest was dean emerita Joyce Hopp, PhD, MPH, whom Jackson specially recognized that night. Hopp was dean from 1986 to 2002. (Founding dean emeritus Ivor Woodward, PhD, passed away in 2008.)

Some alumni in attendance at the gala predate their education to the school's founding, such as Georgia Hodgkin, EdD, who graduated with her degree in nutrition and dietetics from Loma Linda University in 1963. Today, she is professor and associate chair, department of nutrition and dietetics, School of Allied Health Professions.

Development officer Natalie Kopp announced at the gala that the school is starting two new scholarship funds, one in honor of Hodgkin and one in honor of another longtime faculty member, John Lewis, PhD.

A dash for cash during the banquet allowed attendees to donate to one of these two new funds or another fund of their choice, and with sponsorships from Jackson, Hodgkin and Kopp, the dash raised more than \$9,000 for the School of Allied Health Professions.

Additionally, with a silent auction and opportunity drawing, the school raised another \$6,000 that night. All told, the evening total was \$26,000.

The school gave out a number of



Alumni pose at the photo booth.

awards that evening, including honoring Alumna of the Year Sandy Roberts, DMin, MA, who earned her degree in nutrition and dietetics in 1980 from the School of Allied Health Professions. Today, she is president of the Southeastern California Conference of Seventh-day Adventists.

"We are proud of Roberts, who followed her passion into ministry and utilizes her education with us in a unique way," Dean Jackson says.

Other distinguished alumni honored during the banquet were, by department:

- ♦ Tim Nakamura, department of cardiopulmonary sciences
- ♦ Paul Chiou, department of clinical laboratory science
- ♦ Abigail Namsang, department of communication sciences and disorders
- ♦ Timothy Bristol, department of

health informatics and information management

- ♦ Karen Pendleton, department of occupational therapy
- ♦ David Peterson, department of physical therapy
- ♦ Darin Rampton, department of physician assistant sciences, and
- ♦ Elizabeth Vrolijk Ordelheide, department of radiation technology.

The other recognition the school offers at homecoming is called the Rising Star Award, which is given to current students or alumni who have graduated in the past five years. The awardees were:

- ♦ Waleed Almutairi, department of cardiopulmonary sciences
- ♦ Nixon Corpuz, department of clinical laboratory science
- ♦ Lillian Williams, department of communication sciences and disorders
- ♦ Taejoon Lee, department of health informatics and information management
- ♦ Michelle Pecheck, department of nutrition and dietetics
- ♦ Katherine Puccio, department of occupational therapy
- ♦ Trevor Lohman, department of physical therapy
- ♦ Capt. Katie Leigh Lam, department of physician assistant sciences, and
- ♦ Kenton Fritz, department of radiation technology.

# Loma Linda University Health receives award for supporting its physicians

By Larry Kidder

There are many expectations placed on physicians. They are expected to be warm and compassionate, sympathetic listeners, healers and—in some cases—miracle-workers who work tirelessly to relieve the suffering of the world. But who supports the physician?

On April 13, Loma Linda University Health was recognized for excellence in its support of physician well-being. Barbara Couden Hernandez, PhD, director of physician vitality, was on hand at the annual Coalition for

Physician Well-being conference, held in Ponte Vedra, Florida, to accept the Medicus Integra award on behalf of the organization.

"The award is similar to a Magnet designation for excellence in nursing," Hernandez explains, "recognizing an organization for its attention to well-being as well as excellence in practice for physicians."

The Medicus Integra award specifically focuses on four key areas of organizational programming: physician resilience, the learning environment, business and quality, and culture.

She continues, "We are one of four

hospitals that received the award, and we consider this to be a significant honor."

Loma Linda University Health leaders have invested in physicians through a number of programs and administrative structures to enhance the workplace environment and incorporate

*Continued next page*

# Doctors perform unprecedented facial re-implantation surgery on 2-year-old toddler and dog bite victim ...

*Continued from page 9*  
for a week to assist with blood flow until Mariah's veins grew back.

The pediatric intensive care teams were also critical in keeping Mariah alive, keeping her on a ventilator to assist her breathing and replacing her blood volume many times over.

Three weeks after the accident Mariah was able to go home. Aside from some minimal scarring, Mariah is expected to have a full recovery and be able to have the life she was born to live.

"The nurse, doctors, everybody who helped her out—I'm very thankful for everything they did for her," said Peña. "I

think Loma Linda University Children's Hospital is the best hospital any parent could ask for."

While it is too early to tell if Mariah will get full sensation back, she is already beginning to get some movement back. Her sense of smell is intact, and she can eat and drink whatever she wants.

"Re-implanting Mariah's facial tissue was probably the most intrinsically rewarding case we have ever done," said Peterson.

The team hopes it will inspire other teams across the country to consider similar interventions.

Simental added, "This reminds us of the joy of why we went into medicine."

## Reportable Crimes

The Crime Awareness and Campus Security Act of 1990 requires colleges and universities across the United States to publish interim reports on campus crime activities. Listed below are the crimes reported for Loma Linda University Health for the month of April 2016.

Type of Crime	Number of Crimes	Place of Crime
Burglary Motor Vehicle	2	Lindsay Hall; Lot C
Auto Theft	1	Surgical Hospital
Burglary	2	South Parking Structure; North Parking Structure
Assault/Battery	3	Behavioral Medicine Center (3)
Threats Report	1	Faculty Medical Offices
Fire	1	Lot DP
Trespassing	1	Children's Hospital
Vandalism	1	South Parking Structure
Fraud	1	Emergency Department
Larceny/Theft	3	LLUMC Adult Hospital (2); Faculty Medical Offices

You can assist the Loma Linda University Health department of security in maintaining a safe and secure environment by notifying security immediately at extension 9-1-1 if you see or know about a crime taking place.

## Leadership from all five Adventist Health systems attend bioethics conference at LLUH

By Nancy Yuen

Leadership from all five Adventist health systems gathered at Loma Linda University Health recently to participate in Adventist Bioethics in the 21st Century: A conference for leaders in health care.

The Institute for Health Policy and Leadership joined with the Center for Christian Bioethics to host the day-long conference, which focused on meeting the practical needs of those who are providing bioethics leadership within the systems.

According to Gerald Winslow, PhD, director, Loma Linda University Institute for Health Policy and Leadership,

“The bioethics conference was fostered in part by a vision statement developed collaboratively by the leaders of the North American Division of Seventh-day Adventists and the mission vice presidents for the five Adventist health systems in North America.”

At the end of the conference, a survey of all attendees was taken; many stated that they appreciated learning about bioethics resources as well as the importance for funding.

Others appreciated the opportunity to work on case studies and to network with colleagues from other health systems.

All of the participants indicated strong support for holding future



In the photo, from left to right, Orlando Jay Perez, Keith Doram, Ann Roda, Walter Sackett and James Walters lead a panel discussing the “Collaborative Future for Adventist Bioethics.”

bioethics conferences on at least an annual basis. Information about upcoming Institute for Health Policy events

is available at [ihpl.llu.edu/news-and-events](http://ihpl.llu.edu/news-and-events). Plans are now being made for the next bioethics conference in 2017.

## Loma Linda University Health receives award for supporting its physicians . . .

*Continued from previous page*  
principles of whole person care.

Many of these programs and structures may not be obvious, but they contribute in significant ways to patient safety and satisfaction, as well as employee engagement.

For example, most well-functioning hospitals are characterized by patient safety policies and measurements, collaborative decision-making, continuing medical education, effective communication across the organization, and programming dedicated to enhancing resilience.

An initiative for supporting physician well-being began five years ago with the appointment of Hernandez as director of physician vitality. She previously worked for 20 years as an intensive care unit nurse, then went on to direct psychotherapy clinics and teach graduate-level courses in several mental health disciplines.

Her current role in supporting physicians consists of resilience education and programming, research, and consulting. She is available to support physicians and residents as they deal with the pressures and issues facing them—both on

the job and in their personal lives.

The efforts of Hernandez and the many other administrators and programs involved in physician resilience were recognized for excellence by the Medicus Integra award designation.

The Coalition for Physician Well-being, according to its website, is “an alliance of faith-based, mission-focused health care systems, hospitals, professional organizations, and individuals, organized for the purpose of learning, networking, resourcing, facilitating, consulting, research, and innovating.”

The coalition was organized in 2011 with an interest in promoting physician well-being. Member representatives come from Adventist Health System, Catholic Hospital Association, Hospital Corporation of America, Loma Linda University Health Care, and Lumunos.

Together, these organizations seek to promote the personal and professional fulfillment of physicians, supporting them in their family and professional relationships, encouraging teamwork and collaboration, and ultimately enhancing hospital culture while at the same time improving safety, quality, and humanity of patient care.

The coalition promotes well-being by “pursuing physician wholeness, which we understand to encompass physical, mental, social, and spiritual health, and which supports the embodiment of our work as a ministry of healing.”

“I was proud to accept the Medicus Integra award on behalf of Loma Linda,”

Hernandez shares. “We’ve spent a great deal of time defining and applying the principles of wholeness to our physicians, and now others have noticed.”

To contact Hernandez at the office of physician vitality, call 909-558-6780 or extension 66780, or email [bhernandez@llu.edu](mailto:bhernandez@llu.edu).



Barbara Couden Hernandez, PhD, center, receives the Medicus Integra Award. With her are Dianne McCallister, MD, left, CMO at Medical Center of Aurora, Colorado, and Ted Hamilton, MD, vice president of medical mission, Adventist Health System.

## Loma Linda University Health prepares for commencements . . .

*Continued from page 12*  
the LLU School of Public Health. Gillespie currently leads the pastoral staff at the Crosswalk Church in Redlands, California. He is also campus chaplain at Azusa Pacific University, as well as assistant professor in the LLU School of Public Health. In addition, he serves on the faculty at Azusa Pacific School of Nursing and La Sierra University

School of Divinity.

Gillespie served as chaplain at Loma Linda Academy, not far from the LLU campus, and as young adult pastor at LLU Church. Partly because of his interest in geographic information systems (GIS), Gillespie took a lead role in faith-community engagement at Loma Linda University Health before taking on his current roles.

Colin Bruce, PhD, MA, will share his insights with graduates of the School of Behavioral Health and the School of Religion. Bruce is senior advisor to the president of the World Bank Group, established in 1945 to assist countries in reconstruction and recovery following World War II.

Bruce represents the World Bank Group on a global committee

composed of heads of United Nations agencies tasked with addressing humanitarian world crises. He focuses on collaborative efforts that result in durable solutions.

Robyn Nelson, PhD, MS, will address graduates of the School of Nursing. A lifelong educator, Nelson has provided nursing leadership in collaboration with campus nursing teams at the five campuses in three states for West Coast University—with more than 3,000 clinical nursing students, 100 full-time faculty, and more than 240 adjunct faculty.

Currently, she serves as a member of the sub-change panel and site visitor for the Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC) Senior College and University Commission, as well as for the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education.

Nelson, a graduate of School of Nursing, taught National Council licensure examination (NCLEX) review classes for more than 25 years, co-authored Davis’s NCLEX-RN Success (third edition), and served as curriculum consultant to six California universities.



Timothy Gillespie, DMin, MDiv



Colin Bruce, PhD, MA



Robyn Nelson, PhD, MS

# Loma Linda University Health prepares for commencements

By Larry Kidder

Anticipation is raising the pulse of Loma Linda University's class of 2016, as well as the faculty, staff, family members, and friends who will cheer the graduates from the sidelines.

Approximately 1,500 graduates from programs across the spectrum of health care will march in eight commencement programs during the weekends of May 27-29 and June 10-12. Degrees granted will range from certificates to post-doctoral degrees.

For more information, visit [llu.edu/commencement](http://llu.edu/commencement). For a complete schedule of events on both commencement weekends, select "2016 Commencement Schedule" at the bottom of the web page.

## May 27-29 weekend events

Hoodings, pinnings, consecrations, and other special events will take place on Friday, May 27.

On Saturday, May 28, the baccalaureate service for the School of Dentistry and School of Pharmacy will begin at 9 a.m. at Loma Linda University (LLU) Church, on the corner of University Avenue and Campus Street. At 11:45 a.m., the School of Medicine will hold its baccalaureate.

In keeping with the spiritual emphasis of Loma Linda University to "continue the teaching and healing ministry of Jesus Christ," the baccalaureate services (which are welcoming to people of all faiths) provide an opportunity for graduates to reflect on their experience at LLU, as well as renew their spiritual focus. Faculty and graduates march in full regalia, and baccalaureate speakers focus on spiritual themes. Family and friends are invited to attend these inspirational services.

Sunday, May 29, will feature three outdoor commencement ceremonies on the lawn between Prince Hall, LLU Church, Coleman Pavilion, and the Good Samaritan sculpture.

The School of Medicine will lead off the commencement season at 8:30 a.m., followed by the School of Pharmacy at 1:30 p.m., and the School of Dentistry at 5 p.m.

## June 10-12 weekend events

The second commencement weekend, June 10-12, will begin with a special celebratory vesper program honoring the graduates on Friday, June 10, at 7 p.m. in the Loma Linda University Church sanctuary.

Baccalaureate services will follow the next day, Saturday, June 11, beginning at 9 a.m. at the LLU Church; this first service will focus on graduates of the School of Allied Health Professions and the School of Public Health. At 11:45

a.m., the School of Nursing, School of Religion, and School of Behavioral Health will celebrate their graduates during the last baccalaureate service of this season.

Sunday, June 12, will feature five commencement ceremonies, all held at LLU Drayson Center, located on Stewart Street just east of the Centennial Complex. Two back-to-back School of Allied Health Professions commencements will begin at 8 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. respectively. The first will celebrate graduates from a number of allied health programs, while the second will feature the physical therapy, occupational therapy, orthotics and prosthetics, and communication sciences disorders programs.

School of Public Health commencement will follow at 1 p.m., then the School of Behavioral Health and School of Religion combined commencement at 3:30 p.m., and the School of Nursing service at 6 p.m. bringing to a close the commencement season.

## Commencement speakers

Seven commencement speakers will address the graduates and their guests—three on Sunday, May 29, and the remaining four on June 12.

Gillian Seton, MD, will speak to School of Medicine graduates. While attending Walla Walla University in Walla Walla, Washington, Seton spent a year with the Adventist Colleges Abroad program, attending Newbold College in England. Also during her undergraduate education, she served as a student missionary for a year in Belize. When accepted into the LLU School of Medicine, she chose to take part in the deferred mission appointee program and graduated in 2008. Following a residency in surgery at the University of Utah in Salt Lake City, Seton continued her plans to serve as a missionary physician in a low-resource country.

In February 2014, Seton arrived at Cooper Adventist Hospital in Monrovia, Liberia. A short time later, the Ebola outbreak struck Liberia and several neighboring countries. Seton insisted on staying in Liberia despite personal risk, keeping Cooper Adventist Hospital open to care for non-Ebola emergencies in Monrovia.

Gerald Winslow, PhD, MA, will address graduates of the School of Pharmacy. Winslow is director of the LLU Institute for Health Policy and Leadership, as well as associate scholar at the Center for Christian Bioethics, part of the LLU School of Religion; professor in the department of ethical studies in the School of Religion and School of Public Health; and a member of the LLU Faculty of Graduate Studies.

Winslow has been teaching and

writing about Christian ethics for more than 40 years, focusing primarily on biomedical ethics. During the past 25 years, he has served Loma Linda University Health in a variety of roles, including several years as vice president for mission and culture. As an author, Winslow has written two books—"Triage and Justice" and "Facing Limits"—as well as more than 100 published scholarly articles in journals such as the Hastings Center Report, the Journal of Medicine and Philosophy, and General Dentistry. His current work focuses on the intersection of ethics and health policy.

Carol Gomez Summerhays, DDS, will share her remarks with LLU School of Dentistry graduates. Summerhays, the 152nd president of the American Dental Association (ADA), continues to run a private practice. Prior to her appointment to the ADA, she served as president of the California Dental Association (CDA). Her career includes four years in the U.S. Navy Dental Corps, where she was a lieutenant, as well as a private practice in San Diego.

In addition to ADA president, Summerhays has held positions as a board member of The Dentists Insurance Company, the CDA Foundation, and the Pankey Institute, as well as the Academy of General Dentistry.

Dilys Brooks, MDiv, MA, MS, associate chaplain of Loma Linda University, will address graduates of the School of Allied Health Professions during its two commencement services on Sunday, June 12.

Born in Jamaica, Brooks immigrated to the U.S. with her family. Following her graduation in 2005 from the Seventh-day Adventist Theological Seminary at Andrews University in Berrien Springs, Michigan, Brooks joined the LLU chaplain's office as associate chaplain. A commissioned minister, she has traveled throughout the United States, Canada, Africa, and Australia preaching the good news of salvation in Jesus, as well as teaching and singing.

Timothy Gillespie, DMin, MDiv, has been invited to address graduates of

*Continued on page 11*



Carol Gomez Summerhays, DDS



Dilys Brooks, MDiv, MA, MS



Gillian Seton, MD



Gerald Winslow, PhD



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