



TODAY

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INTERNATIONAL DISASTER RESPONSE

LLU International Behavioral Health Trauma Team members await word from Haitian behavioral health team they trained

By Larry Kidder

Images of the unspeakable devastation and suffering in Haiti, resulting from the magnitude 7.0 earthquake that rocked Port-au-Prince, the capital, and surrounding areas on January 12, 2010, have been a primary feature of the news since the disaster occurred.

As international agencies mobilize to help the tiny nation that shares its island with the Dominican Republic, Loma Linda University is sending teams and supplies to help the nation of Haiti.

The LLU International Behavioral Health Trauma Team (IBHT), is awaiting word from a Haitian behavioral health disaster response team that it trained back in 2004.

In May 2004, Haiti and the Dominican Republic were hit by catastrophic flooding and resulting mudslides. The behavioral health team from Loma Linda University traveled to Haiti in June 2004 to train a team of mental health professionals to deal with the current and future disasters.

Beverly Buckles, DSW, chair and professor in the LLU department of social work and social ecology, and co-chair of the IBHT, believes that the IBHT was very successful in building capable behavioral health disaster response teams in both countries.

"We've e-mailed ADRA-Haiti, wondering how the team in Haiti is holding up," Dr. Buckles says. "If they ask us to come back to Haiti, we'll certainly try to find a way to help them out."

The LLU behavioral team is co-chaired by William Murdoch, MD, medical director of the LLU Behavioral Medicine Center, director of the Behavioral Medicine Institute, and chair and professor of psychiatry, LLU School of Medicine.

The IBHT worked closely with social workers, psychiatrists, psychologists, and marriage and family therapists from federal agencies and non-government organizations (including World Vision and the Red Cross), as well as the United Nations, to develop a network and coordinated plan to deal with the psychological problems that occur immediately and over time in conjunction with a major disaster.

"Our team targets regions of the world where disasters tend to occur on a fairly regular basis," Dr. Buckles explains. "We favor those areas where the infrastructure is still in a state of development and may be less resilient in a major disaster." The team prefers to be proactive, rather than reactive, in the face of disasters.

The trips to the Dominican Republic and Haiti in 2004 are two of more than 30-plus international responses by IBHT. The team responded to major mudslides in both countries, providing clinical services, as well as education of a local team, to deal with future disasters.

"The mental health team in Haiti will have its hands full for the next several months," Dr. Buckles points out. "Thousands of people are currently suffering from acute stress disorder and are in a state of shock."

In such a situation, the first order of business



A member of the Haitian behavioral health disaster response team, trained by Loma Linda University International Behavioral Health Trauma Team, works out in the open with victims of a landslide that buried an entire village in 2004. The LLU team provided supervised field training to the Haitian behavioral health disaster response team. Their training is being tested in the current earthquake disaster.

for mental health experts is to lend support to victims, helping them to address their immediate needs, loss of contact with loved ones, and a myriad of other difficulties.

"After 60 days, the post-traumatic stress cases will begin to appear," Dr. Buckles continues. "Our team in Haiti will become increasingly visible as they begin to deal with any long-term mental health issues."

Those who have recently suffered a major loss or trauma prior to the recent earthquake are now the most vulnerable. "Everyday life is hard for many of the Haitian people," Dr. Buckles

points out. "For them, the earthquake may be only the latest blow, adding insult to injury."

IBHT members just returned from El Salvador, where they trained a team of more than 60, with mental health representatives from the United Nations, World Vision, the Red Cross, governmental education and mental health departments, and other non-government agencies.

During mudslides in El Salvador in November 2009, as many as 25 percent of those who died were Seventh-day Adventist Church members.

Dr. Buckles and her fellow IBHT members will be closely monitoring the situation in Haiti as it develops. "A major positive for the Haitian people is their strong religious faith," she comments. "People are amazingly resilient—even in the face of a major catastrophe."

She also has faith in the Haitian team. "We worked closely with them to develop a plan to help coordinate the international and non-government-organization responses." She adds, "We only hope that they are not stretched too thin to implement the plans they worked so hard to develop."

Dr. Buckles smiles, "I hope they remember that they always have friends in Loma Linda who are ready to support them in this difficult time. The nation of Haiti and its people are certainly in our thoughts and prayers."

LLU PRESIDENT SPEAKS OUT ON HAITI

LLU responds to the crisis in Haiti

By James Ponder and Dustin Jones

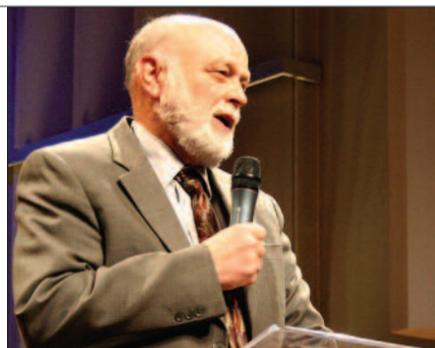
Shortly after the devastating 7.0 earthquake that rocked Haiti on Tuesday, January 12, 2010, officials of Loma Linda University (LLU) began to investigate how the university can best assist the government and people of that Caribbean nation in rebuilding their lives.

"There is a small Adventist hospital and an Adventist university in the western suburb of

Port-au-Prince," says Richard Hart, MD, DrPH, president of LLU. "All of the hospital buildings and most of those at the university are intact. No LLU students or staff were at either of those places at the time of the earthquake."

Hopital Adventiste d'Haiti (HAH), a 70-bed facility built in 1978, is serving as a clinical center for the nation. In 2003, the hospital joined Adventist Health International, an international organization based at LLU.

Please turn to page 2



Richard H. Hart, MD, DrPH, president and CEO of Loma Linda University, updated students on the continuing crisis in Haiti after a 7.0 magnitude earthquake rocked the island nation on Tuesday, January 12, 2010.

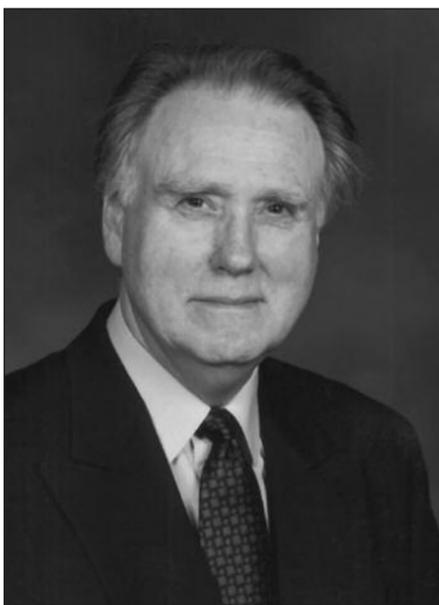
SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST CHURCH

Church president to be honored

By Richard Weismeyer

During worship services in the Loma Linda University Church on Saturday, January 23, 2010, General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists president Jan Paulsen, DTh, will be honored. Not only will he receive a special honor from Loma Linda University, but he will also be presented with a 446-page *Festschrift* (a book honoring a respected person), containing essays written by 28 Adventist scholars.

The occasion for this special tribute to the General Conference president is his recent 75th birthday. This seems to be a fitting moment to express the appreciation of the world-wide church in a tangible way.



Jan Paulsen, DTh
President, General Conference of
Seventh-day Adventists

The book, titled *Exploring the Frontiers of Faith*, contains studies on a range of topics including theological, historical, ethical, and educational. Most of the authors, who all share with the honoree a strong European connection, have at some time in the past come to know Dr. Paulsen personally—as his teacher, student, or colleague. All essays are in the English language.

The project to create this tangible token of world-wide appreciation for the long and outstanding service of Dr. Paulsen and his wife, Kari, to the Adventist denomination, was initiated by Borge Schantz, PhD, a retired church leader and missiologist who resides in Denmark and has long known Dr. Paulsen as colleague and friend. At his request, Reinder Bruinsma, PhD, a retired church administrator from the Netherlands, joined him in the editorial task.

The book has been printed and published in English through the Advent Verlag in Lüneburg, Germany, the main German-language publishing house in the Adventist Church, in an edition of 2,500 copies. Some financial support from a number of denominational entities and a few individuals has helped to bring the project to completion.

A special feature of the book is its final section, a congratulatory list with the names of nearly a thousands persons (mostly church workers) from around the world who wanted to congratulate Dr. Paulsen with reaching this milestone in his life, and thanking him for his lifelong dedication to the Adventist Church.

The book will be available to the general public through the Adventist Book Centers. It will retail for approximately \$25.

LLU responds to the crisis in Haiti ...

Continued from page 1

Scott Nelson, MD, an LLU-trained orthopaedic surgeon based in the Dominican Republic, arrived in Port-au-Prince on January 14 with a surgical team to provide surgical services at the hospital.

As Dr. Nelson began making his way to the hospital, he stopped at several parking lots full of injured and offered assistance. Dr. Nelson arrived at the hospital on Friday, January 15, and confirmed that the hospital is one of the few in Haiti that is structurally sound.

“Dr. Nelson is prepared to stay in Haiti for several months,” Dr. Hart shares. “We are committed to backing him up with resources, including diesel fuel to keep emergency power generators working.”

A report from www.alertnet.org, an online service of the Thomson Reuters Foundation, stated that the Adventist hospital is “the only functional hospital” in Port-au-Prince, and added that, “colleagues from Haiti are reporting that the hospital is completely full and that there is not enough medication.”

Loma Linda University is currently working with two humanitarian organizational entities—SIGN-Post in Washington, and CURE International in Pennsylvania to help assist HAH.

“LLU’s response has been in three areas—fundraising, deployment of human resources, and acquisition of select equipment and supplies,” says Jerry Daly, MSLS, assistant vice president for global outreach.

Both SIGN-Post and CURE have secured the means to transport equipment and personnel into the region on relief aircraft. CURE has identified the Adventist Hospital as one of three sites where they are working and as a result, some of the stream of now flowing supplies and medicines into Haiti can go to support HAH.

On Thursday, January 14, a website at LLU was created to accept donations for Hopital Adventiste d’Haiti. Currently, more than \$45,000 has been raised for this cause.

Andrew Haglund, MS, assistant professor of geoinformatics, spoke with several local church groups and is assisting in gathering additional funding for the hospital.

Mr. Haglund, along with Mike Fishell, MD, and Chris Vannucci, a physician assistant, left for Haiti on Tuesday, January 19. Once on the ground, this group will help determine what is needed for a shipment to arrive later in the week.

On Thursday, January 21, Chris Jobe, MD, an orthopedic surgeon at LLU, his wife, Melanie,

LOMA LINDA UNIVERSITY PEOPLE

Norwegian filmmaker joins office of university relations staff

By Dustin R. Jones

Cosmin Cosma, MA, has recently joined the staff of Loma Linda University relations. During the past five years, Mr. Cosma has worked for the Norwegian Broadcasting Corporation in Norway as a news cameraman and editor. This work included daily news production, current affairs, and children’s television production. Additionally, he brings extensive experience in documentary filmmaking, short films, and live studio broadcast production.

Mr. Cosma received his bachelor’s degree in digital media technology from Pacific Union College (PUC), Angwin, California, in 2001.

In 2004, he graduated from Bond University, Australia, with a master’s degree in film and television production.

“During my years at PUC, I fell in love with California and I have always wanted to come back and live here,” says Mr. Cosma. “When a

job surfaced here at Loma Linda University, I seized the opportunity and decided to move from Norway to California.”

Mr. Cosma’s most recent work features the Sherpa people in Sogn, Norway. Along with another journalist, Mr. Cosma met with a group of workers from the Himalayas who come every year to work with stones in the area. The group is doing an impressive job restoring old stone buildings, stone fences, and roads with techniques that had been forgotten long ago in Norway.

The mini-documentary, featured in a regular show, “Sights from Norway,” was broadcast Thursday, January 7, 2010, and captured 431,000 viewers, almost 25 percent of the Norwegian market share.

“I am looking forward to showing others the important work that is being done by LLU and LLUMC through exciting and interesting documentary films,” says Mr. Cosma.



Cosmin Cosma, MA, shoots some video while on location in Stadt, Norway.

and DuWayne Carlson, MD, an orthopedic surgeon from Lincoln, will be traveling to Haiti, bringing additional supplies. Melanie speaks French fluently and will serve as a translator.

LLU’s response to the crisis in Haiti has not been alone. Whittemore Enterprises in Ontario, generously opened their offices on Saturday and put together three battery-driven Stryker reciprocal surgical saws, two amputation sets of instruments, and numerous hand saws plus some other necessary orthopedic instruments. These instruments were sterilized at Loma Linda University Medical Center and are being hand-carried to HAH.

In addition, a much-needed sterilizer has been crated and delivered to MedShare in San Leandro. This equipment, along with packed gloves, gauze, and other useable supplies, will be flown to Haiti by CURE and delivered to the hospital.

Many individuals, both alumni, faculty, and staff of Loma Linda University and its entities have inquired as to what skills are needed and how best to help. In addition, individuals from the community and from across the United States have contacted LLU. The Global Health Institute at LLU is collecting these names and organizing what skills would be best suited to assist at the hospital. Once the first team from LLU arrives in Haiti on January 19, and reports back, there will be a clear understanding of the specific

needs at HAH and how LLU might help.

Individuals who would like to donate to the relief effort of HAH are invited to visit the website at www.llu.edu or to contact the LLU office of philanthropy at 24519 Redlands Boulevard, Suite A, Loma Linda, CA 92354. The phone number is (909) 558-5010. Please make checks payable to: Loma Linda University—Haiti Earthquake.

DONATE TO THE LLU HAITI RELIEF FUND

Individuals who would like to donate to the relief effort of Hopital Adventiste d’Haiti are invited to visit the website at www.llu.edu.

You can also contact the LLU office of philanthropy at 24519 Redlands Boulevard, Suite A, Loma Linda, California 92354. The phone number is (909) 558-5010. Please make checks payable to: Loma Linda University—Haiti Earthquake.

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LOMA LINDA UNIVERSITY
CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL

BALL EVENT

BALL announces banquet speaker

By Richard Weismeyer

The Black Alumni of Loma Linda and La Sierra Universities will present David Williams, PhD, Florence and Laura Norman Professor of Public Health at Harvard University School of Public Health and professor of African and African-American studies at Harvard University, as guest speaker at the 27th annual BALL scholarship fundraiser and banquet slated for February 20, 2010, at the Downtown Marriott hotel in Los Angeles.

Dr. Williams, who holds a master's degree in public health from Loma Linda University and a doctor of philosophy degree in sociology from the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, is an internationally recognized authority on social influences on health.

He is the author of more than 150 scholarly papers in scientific journals and edited collections, and his research has appeared in leading journals in sociology, psychology, medicine, public health, and epidemiology.

He has been involved in the development of health policy at the national level in the United States. He has served on the Department of Health and Human Services' National Committee on Vital and Health Statistics and on six panels for the Institute of Medicine of the National Academy of Sciences. He has held elected and appointed positions in professional organizations, such as the American Sociological Association, Academy Health, and the American Public Health Association.

For ticket information on attending the BALL banquet, please call the office of the vice president for community partnerships and diversity at extension 44787.

IN THE NEWS

LA Times mentions LLU in articles on vegetarian diet

By Heather Reifsnyder

The Los Angeles Times featured several articles on different aspects of eating a vegetarian diet in a November issue. To give readers more information, the paper referenced a website maintained by LLU School of Public Health department of nutrition at <www.vegetariannutrition.org>. This is the homepage for LLU's International Congress on Vegetarian Nutrition, the world's leading scientific international conference on the vegetarian diet.

The newspaper also published a vegetarian food pyramid, which was adapted from the pyramid Loma Linda University created in 1997 for the 3rd International Congress on Vegetarian Nutrition. LLU's pyramid with an explanatory brochure can be downloaded at <www.vegetariannutrition.org/resources>.

The Times also mentioned that among Seventh-day Adventists, those who are vegetarian have lower risks of certain diseases than those who eat meat.

LLU RESEARCHER

LLU graduate student researches Catalina Island rattlesnakes

By James Ponder

The *Los Angeles Times* recently highlighted the work of Carl Person, a doctoral candidate in the earth and biological sciences department at Loma Linda University, who is attempting to find out why Catalina Island's endemic rattlesnakes differ in so many ways from their mainland cousins.

"Catalina Island rattlesnake may be a new subspecies," proclaims the headline of a November 28, 2009, article by Louis Sahagun. Mr. Person is intrigued, yet skeptical. "We still don't know," he says. "There are many variables."

By examining DNA extracted from blood and skin samples, Mr. Person will discover whether the island's only venomous reptile is a subspecies of the Southern Pacific rattlesnake, *Crotalus o. heller*, or a previously unknown species.

"These are interesting animals," he asserts. "Little if anything is known about their natural history or taxonomic status; yet significant differences exist between them and related snakes. Their babies look different from mainland snakes. They're lighter and redder in color, and have only one stripe across the face instead of two. Also, the adults don't rattle nearly so readily as rattlesnakes typically do. When provoked, they attempt to escape or strike without warning."

The lack of scholarly literature on the animals led Mr. Person to contact the Catalina Island Conservancy—the organization that cares for

88 per cent of Catalina's 42,000 isolated acres of sweeping valleys, rocky hillsides, oak-covered plateaus, and rugged coastline—to learn about the island's endemic reptiles.

"I spoke with Julie King, the head biologist for the conservancy," Mr. Person notes. "When she said nobody has done any kind of work on the snake population of the island, I became very excited, and asked if she would capture some of the wild snakes when people call in to have them removed."

Ms. King said yes, and right now, five of the Catalina Island natives call the venomology lab in the basement of Mortensen Hall their home. That makes Carl Person their caretaker, and frankly, he couldn't be happier.

"Aren't they beautiful?" he gushes, beaming like a proud papa. "We have two adults, one sub-adult, and two babies."

Mr. Person sets one of the adult males in a large box. True to form, the snake hardly buzzes except for two quick shakes, then tucks his tail under his belly and extends his tongue menacingly and deliberately. The tongue-thrust gesture, Carl says, means the animal is highly agitated and ready to strike.

Striking is on the mind of another snake, too. This one, the sub-adult, doesn't rattle at all. Instead, he lunges forward in a warning strike, startling his observer.

Next, Mr. Person opens two boxes containing two baby snakes. One is from Catalina Island; the other from the mainland. The differences



Carl Person, a Loma Linda University graduate student, is hoping to determine, through taxonomic analysis, whether the endemic Catalina Island rattlesnake is a subspecies of known mainland varieties.

are subtle, yet it's easy to see the two snakes are far from identical.

Mr. Person fishes a large yellow snake—a mainland Southern Pacific male he and fellow graduate student Gerad Fox captured at the Carrizo Plain last summer—from a glass cubicle. The snake is annoyed; he's hissing mad and rattling ferociously. Although he's related to the Catalina Islanders, his behavior doesn't show it.

To further highlight the contrast, Mr. Person produces a typical Southern Pacific snake from the Mojave Desert. This one's much darker in the face and neck, and there are two stripes on its face. Even so, visual and behavioral cues are inadequate to establish the Catalina Island population as a separate subspecies or endemic new variety. To determine if they are, he'll review taxonomic and venomologic data from studies underway in the lab.

"We're going to evaluate DNA samples from the island rattlesnakes and compare the findings with those from mainland snake populations," he says. "We're also going to conduct a proteomic analysis of their venom."

Mr. Person is careful to point out that the issue is complicated by the fact that another species of rattlesnake shares the same common name as the animals in his study.

"There are two Santa Catalina Islands with rattlesnakes named for them," he notes. "The other one is off the southern tip of the Baja peninsula in Mexico."

Rattlesnakes from that island—known as *Crotalus catalinensis*—are important from a phylogenetic standpoint since they are one of only two rattlesnake populations that naturally lack rattles. Snakes from our Catalina Island, the one off Long Beach and San Pedro, do have rattles, but rarely use them. "It's important not to confuse the two groups," Mr. Person states.

This is important because, if the local Catalina Island snakes turn out to be a subspecies, they may qualify for endangered species protection.

"I suspect," Mr. Person speculates, "that their closest mainland counterparts—from which they may have descended—are in the Transverse Ranges of Southern California. They probably migrated to Catalina during the last ice age."

William K. Hayes, PhD, professor of biology at LLU, is excited about this groundbreaking research, although also cautious concerning the outcome.

"As one of the world's 25 biodiversity hotspots," Dr. Hayes observes, "California hosts one of the most threatened reservoirs of plant and animal life on Earth. Today, we are fortunate to have tools like those involving DNA that help us gain clearer insights on the history of animal populations and species. The research that Carl will undertake is exciting because it adds to our understanding of biodiversity and an often-misunderstood creature, though I would be surprised if the Catalina rattlesnakes prove to be a unique taxonomic group."

"I'm just as excited," Dr. Hayes adds, "that we may have the opportunity to put radio-transmitters in some of the snakes and learn more about their behavior, ecology, and interactions with humans."

If funded, this phase of the work would be conducted by another graduate student, Aaron Corbit, who is presently studying Red Diamond rattlesnakes in Loma Linda. Mr. Person and Mr. Corbit are go-getters, having the enthusiasm and energy to get this work done.

Mr. Person reports the first step in his testing procedures will involve isolating three genes in the snake's mitochondrial DNA.

"By looking at ATPase 6, ATPase 8, and Cytochrome B," he says, "we should be able to tell approximately how long they've been on the island, and whether there has been any ongoing gene flow with the mainland species. I sincerely doubt there has been, but we won't know for sure until we see the results."

"The second step," he continues, "is to isolate the Saurian SINES, an indicator of their true relation to the other forms—a DNA fingerprint. In other words, this will tell us whether they're a subspecies, or not."

Without resorting to further genetic jargon, Mr. Person concludes in words the average reader can understand, even if they don't share his sentiments.

"The field work is the best part of this study," he says with a huge grin. "It involves going to wilderness locations and catching snakes. How could it possibly get any better than that?"



Back off! Although holding his tail perfectly still, the posture and thrusting tongue of this male Catalina Island rattlesnake—held aloft on a snake hook by Loma Linda University graduate student Carl Person in the venomology laboratory inside Mortensen Hall—signal aggressive intent just the same. Variations in behavior and appearance of the Catalina Island natives raise questions, which Mr. Person hopes to answer.

FACULTY EXCELLENCE

Clinical ethics director receives award, publishes volume, and authors articles

By James Ponder

As if directing the clinical ethics program at Loma Linda University Medical Center and serving as professor of bioethics at Loma Linda University weren't enough to keep him more than busy, Robert D. Orr, MD, CM, recently received a prestigious award, wrote a groundbreaking book, and contributed articles to two important journals.

According to the Christian Medical and Dental Association (CMDA), Dr. Orr was chosen to receive the organization's Servant of Christ Award for 2009 because he exemplifies the highest ideals of Christian service in the context of the clinical environment.

The CMDA established the award in 1972 "to honor those whose careers have blended well the attributes of a commitment to Christ and service to others, and those who have demonstrated a remarkable commitment to excellence in the field of missions, research, patient care, or medical ethics."

In presenting the award at the CMDA's annual meeting in Asheville, North Carolina, last fall, Bruce McFadjen, MD, president of the organization, noted that Dr. Orr "has co-authored two books, co-edited three others, contributed 11 book chapters, and more than 100 articles related to clinical ethics, the ethics consultation process, and issues in terminal care." He also pointed out that Dr. Orr served as the first scholar in residence at the Kilns, the restored home of C.S. Lewis in Oxford, England.

While in Oxford, Dr. Orr completed the first draft of his new book—*Medical Ethics and the Faith Factor: a Handbook for Clergy and Health-Care Professionals*—which was published in 2009 by William B. Eerdmans Publishing Company of Grand Rapids, Michigan, and Cambridge, United Kingdom.

In the preface to the book, Dr. Orr presents the need for a moral, spiritual, and ethical yardstick for evaluating complex situations.

"Chaplains, pastors, priests, rabbis, and other people of faith, along with health care professionals, frequently interact with individuals and families who are facing life-threatening illness, chronic illness, or disability," he writes. "The conversations stimulated by such life events and conditions may include crucial questions of faith, God's will, the meaning of life and death, and eternity. However, these conversations often include questions that make clergy and other people of faith distinctly uncomfortable—questions they are not typically prepared to answer."

Dr. Orr's book doesn't attempt to provide definitive answers to every conceivable ethical dilemma so much as it seeks to establish a framework for thinking about the practical application of faith-based ethics in the challenging environment of the real world.

Response from Dr. Orr's peers has been swift and affirmative. "This is a splendid book," notes Stephen E. Lammers, co-editor of *On Moral Medicine: Theological Perspectives in Medical*. Please turn to page 9



Bruce McFadjen, MD, president of the Christian Medical and Dental Association, presents the organization's Servant of Christ Award for 2009 to Robert D. Orr, MD, CM, director of clinical ethics at Loma Linda University Medical Center, and professor of bioethics at Loma Linda University. The award was given to Dr. Orr for his commitment to Christ and service to others, at the organization's annual meeting in Asheville, North Carolina, last fall.

SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH EVENT

Campus invited to Healthy People 2010 conference in March

By Heather Reifsnnyder

The Loma Linda University and LLU Medical Center communities are invited by the School of Public Health to attend Healthy People 2010, a conference focused on lifestyle and chronic disease. It convenes March 9 and 10 following the close of the School of Medicine's Annual Postgraduate Convention.

The conference offers 12.5 continuing professional education units for medical doctors, doctors of osteopathy, physicians assistants, nurse practitioners, registered nurses, certified health educators, and registered dietitians.

With a theme of crisis and opportunity, the conference is based on the idea that the opportunities for addressing chronic disease in this nation are just as big as the crisis itself. It is a place for health care, public health, and other community leaders to reframe the conversation on improving health now.

Speakers include Dean Ornish, MD, of the University of California at San Francisco; Jonathan Fielding, MD, MPH, MBA, director and health officer at the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health, as well as professor at UCLA; Linda Rudolph, MD, MPH, deputy director of the California Department of Public Health's Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Promotion; and Sheldon Greenfield, MD, executive director at UC Irvine's Center for Health Policy Research, and professor at UC Irvine.

Early-bird registration (available through March 3), is \$150—25 percent off the on-site price of \$200. Continuing education is an additional \$45 through March 3 and \$60 thereafter.

To register or for more information, visit <www.healthypeopleconference.org>.

Registration is also available by phone at (800) 732-7587.

STUDENT EXCELLENCE

Public health students place second in poster contest

By Heather Reifsnnyder

Students from the global health department at Loma Linda University School of Public Health created a poster that took second place in the American Public Health Association (APHA) Committee on Affiliates poster session during the APHA annual meeting, held in November in Philadelphia.

The poster grew out of a class project worked on by seven students—Adiel Uzabakirih, Anthony Bui, Avani Desai, Jennica Billins, Markisha Key-Hagan, Nkiruka Ojukwu, and Suzane Simon David—under faculty advisor Sharon Rushing, MPH. They also did the project with the guidance of Cynthia Rollins, MA, fund development manager for Loma Linda University's Social Action Community

Health System (SACHS), which the project was about.

Through a community assessment, the students discovered that many residents surrounding the SACHS clinics in San Bernardino were unaware of the low- or no-cost clinics' existence, and many existing patients didn't realize the full range of services available. The students created a promotional campaign that consisted of radio and TV commercials and an informational DVD.

Ms. Desai, Billins, and Ojukwu were in Philadelphia to present the poster, titled "Community promotional awareness campaign of low-cost primary care safety net clinic for medically underserved bilingual population in Southern California: A comprehensive approach."

STUDENT EXCELLENCE

Public health graduate receives recognition in national newsletter

By Heather Reifsnnyder

Master of public health graduate Tina Pruna, who recently completed her field practicum in the west-African island nation of São Tomé and Príncipe, took a photo during a health education session that caught the attention of the Association of Schools of Public Health (ASPH). The association chose her picture as the December Photo of the Month for its electronic newsletter.

The photo, with the tagline "What do you think?", shows a group of women in the community of Mulundu discussing pregnancy risk factors with each other during a series of courses on maternal and child health taught by the NGO Adventist Development and Relief

Agency, with which Ms. Pruna did her practicum.

"Working in São Tomé and Príncipe was probably one of the most eye-opening and challenging experiences I've ever had," Ms. Pruna says. "I don't know how much women learned from my curriculum, but when I would go to communities with the health educators and see women and men alike asking questions and showing interest, all the hard work was worth it."

Ms. Pruna graduated in December 2009 with a master of public health degree in both global health and maternal child health. She hopes to work in Latin America doing development work for a nonprofit organization.

Former students and staff from Upper Columbia Academy and Yakima Valley Academy are invited to an area-wide alumni reception on Saturday night, January 23, 2010, at 6:00 p.m. in the Loma Linda University Church Fellowship Hall in Loma Linda.

All alumni are invited to a sundown worship with the Upper Columbia Academy Octet, a light supper, and lots of visiting. Please RSVP to <alumni@uccaa.org> or call (509) 981-9318.

YEAR IN REVIEW

It was a good year for Loma Linda University ... 2009 in review

By Richard Weismeyer

This past year of 2009 has seen many major examples of progress and growth on the campus of Loma Linda University, in spite of a sagging economy. Following are some 2009 milestones ...

January

Loma Linda University Heart & Surgical Hospital opened its doors for its first patients on Wednesday, January 7. The 28-bed, 66,000-square-foot hospital, is Loma Linda's newest hospital in its system.

Loma Linda University, Loma Linda University Medical Center, and the Loma Linda University Church joined together to sponsor a week of renewal beginning on January 10. The theme of the week of renewal was "A God Worth Knowing."

The "Come Unto Me" sculpture gracing the entrance of Loma Linda University Medical Center was unveiled on Monday, January 12. The sculpture was created by Victor Issa and made possible by a commitment from Dr. and Mrs. Herbert Domke which enabled the project to become a reality.

The January 15 issue of *Nursing Professionals* magazine ranked Loma Linda University Medical Center as one of the top 100 hospitals to work for in the United States.

Loma Linda University School of Public Health's tobacco training program in Cambodia presented certificates to 14 students from Laos and Cambodia during ceremonies held in Phnom Penh.

Loma Linda University Children's Hospital became the nation's first hospital to be awarded the designation "baby-friendly" from Baby-Friendly USA, the national authority of the Baby-Friendly Health initiative in the United States. The award was presented on January 30.

February

The School of Pharmacy has undertaken an initiative to provide transportation to faculty and staff that uses fewer fossil fuels and encourages exercise. The initiatives include a hybrid car, bicycles, and electric carts.

The Big Air Kids' Fair brought flying motorcycle aerialists for children at Loma Linda University Children's Hospital on February 11.

Hospitalized patients who were able to spend time outdoors enjoyed front-row seating while others watched from the upper-story windows.

March

The School of Pharmacy celebrated its six-year accreditation by the Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education on March 2. The School is now fully accredited to educate pharmacists through June 2013.

The School of Medicine's annual Alumni-Post-graduate Convention was held from March 4 to 9. Attendees were treated to a wide spectrum of medical topics.

The School of Public Health Healthy People 2009 conference held on March 10 and 11 highlighted how a healthy lifestyle can prevent and address obesity and type-2 diabetes.

Six Loma Linda University graduates perished in a plane crash in Butte, Montana, on Sunday, March 22. On board were three families and the pilot—a total of 14—who all perished in the accident.

April

The 16th annual Children's Hospital Foundation Gala raised \$750,000 for LLU Children's Hospital on Sunday, April 5. The theme of the event was "Miracles in the Marketplace."

Loma Linda University Heart & Surgical Hospital reached an important landmark on April 8 when D. Duane Baldwin, MD, urologist, completed the 500th surgical procedure at the new hospital.

The School of Allied Health Professions 13th annual alumni homecoming and continuing education convention kicked off on Thursday, April 16.

The 15th anniversary of Sir Run Run Shaw Hospital took place on April 28 and 29 in Hangzhou, China. The event underscored Loma Linda University Medical Center's vital contributions to health care in China.

May

Loma Linda University Children's Hospital celebrated its 24th annual Children's Day on March 13. Approximately 1,200 children attended the event.

Commencement ceremonies were held on

Sunday, May 24, for the Schools of Medicine, Pharmacy, and Dentistry.

June

A \$100,000 grant was awarded to the School of Pharmacy to sponsor the new pharmacy in the simulation center located in the Centennial Complex. The award was presented to the school by the J. M. Long Foundation.

An honorary doctorate was awarded to San Bernardino mayor Patrick Morris during School of Public Health graduation ceremonies on June 14. Commencement services were held for four other University schools including the Schools of Allied Health Professions, Nursing, Science and Technology, and Religion.

July

On July 16, members of multiple American Legion local chapters visited Loma Linda University Children's Hospital and presented "Josh kits" to patients in the hospital. The kits consist of a specially constructed plush golden retriever and a book titled *I'll Be OK*.

A star-studded event, the New York-based "Celebrity Autobiography: In Their Own Words," took center stage to benefit Loma Linda University Children's Hospital. The event raised \$20,000 for the hospital.

August

Several thousand Loma Linda University Adventist Health Sciences Center employees attended the annual All-Star Appreciation Night at the Arrowhead Stadium on August 4. The Inland Empire 66ers took a 5-to-3 beating at the hands of the Rancho Cucamonga Quakes.

September

A book by School of Public Health assistant professor Dora Barilla, DrPH, released in September, detailed her family's journey from its darkest days to hope and healing on the other side. Her book details a devastating collision between a tour bus and a firetruck that almost took Dr. Barilla's firefighter husband's life.

K-FROG radio and Stater Bros. Charities hosted the 8th annual Stater Bros. Charities K-Froggers for Kids Radiothon. The event raised more than \$365,000.

October

Sunday, October 11, saw the grand opening of the Highland Springs Medical Plaza. The new facility is a collaborative partnership by four Inland Empire health care providers—Loma Linda University Medical Center, the Faculty Practice Plan of the LLU School of Medicine, Redlands Community Hospital, and Beaver Medical Group.

Grand opening ceremonies were held on October 28 for the new Loma Linda University Centennial Complex. All eight schools in the university share the complex, making it unique on the Loma Linda campus.

The School of Medicine celebrated its centennial from October 28 to 31. Highlighting the event were acclaimed journalist Lisa Ling; author Lee Strobel; a special Sabbath school service featuring Wynn De Boever, a heart team patient in 1974 in Saigon, South Vietnam; and Olympic medalist Bryan Clay.

A special program celebrating the legacy of Baby Fae was held in the Loma Linda University Church on October 31. The event featured a conversation with Leonard L. Bailey, MD, distinguished professor of surgery; his wife, Nancy; and Teresa Beauclair, the mother of Baby Fae. A premiere half-hour version of an hour-and-10-minute documentary, "Stephanie's Heart," was shown.

November

Nearly 5,000 individuals gathered in Arrowhead Credit Union Park in San Bernardino on Sunday, November 8, for the annual bicycle give away, sponsored by Loma Linda University Children's Hospital. Approximately 1,000 children received bicycles at the presentation.

The Jamaican governor-general, the Honorable Sir Patrick Allen, and his wife, Lady Patricia Allen, were guests of Loma Linda University on November 9.

The School of Public Health hosted a breakfast forum November 23 about the challenges of public health preparedness related to the H1N1 influenza virus. Approximately 140 individuals attended the event.

December

The School of Public Health inaugurated a new state of health geoinformatics education center on December 7. The new space in the Centennial Complex doubles the capacity of the former lab and features the latest advances with which to teach students to use geospatial thinking and technology to aid in solving health problems.



Major donors cut their ribbons alongside Loma Linda University past and present administrators, signifying the official opening of the new Centennial Complex. The grand opening celebration took place on October 28, 2009, commemorating the first building on campus where students from all schools mingle for classes.

FACULTY OUTREACH

Ophthalmology physicians go a long way to bring eye care to patients

By James Ponder

Distance is apparently no obstacle for two Loma Linda University Medical Center ophthalmologists who believe in putting the global in global health care.

Julio Narvaez, MD, and Kelly Keefe, MD, recently traveled to the Micronesian island of Pohnpei, and the Central American nation of Guatemala, respectively, to bring vision care to people who desperately need it.

When Dr. Narvaez heard about the eye care needs of people on the island of Pohnpei (formerly Ponape), he joined forces with



Kelly Keefe, MD, an LLU ophthalmologist, interacts with some of the Guatemalan people she saw in a clinic there while working under the auspices of Helps International.

Canvasback Missions, Inc., a non-profit 501(c)3 organization founded in 1981 to provide needed health care and education to people living on the remote Pacific islands.

The other ophthalmologist on the trip was a northern California physician by the name of Jeffrey Ing, MD. Together, he and Dr. Narvaez spent two weeks performing cataract surgeries and other procedures on Pohnpei.

"We were in surgery six to eight hours per day the entire time we were there," Dr. Narvaez recalls. "The biggest challenge was that the typical cataracts we encountered there were very advanced, and therefore, technically quite challenging to operate on."

In the United States, cataract patients usually receive treatment in the early stages. "In Pohnpei, however, they have to wait until a volunteer team comes to the island," he observes. "As a result, the density of the cataracts is extreme."

Dr. Keefe's recent mission trip to Guatemala is one of seven she's made under the auspices of Helps International, a U.S. 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation which partners with individuals, businesses, corporations, and local and national governments to alleviate poverty in Latin America.

"For the last couple of years," Dr. Keefe says, "we've taken Loma Linda residents to experience more complex cataract surgery in the Third World. We've also taken high school students interested in medicine and/or humanitarian work. I even took my daughter last year. She's been helping us with the packing of medical supplies for the last five years, and it was fantastic to have her go with us as a high school senior! She's 18 now and a pre-med student at Harvard."



Loma Linda University Medical Center ophthalmologist Julio Narvaez, MD, enjoys a rare break from the operating room on the island of Pohnpei in the Micronesian chain. Dr. Narvaez volunteered his services to help islanders with a host of eye problems including cataracts and glaucoma.

Dr. Keefe feels that the need for medical care in Guatemala can hardly be overstated. "Sometimes there's a line of patients a mile long," she notes. "Some of them have walked for three or four days to see us, often with no food or water."

Not all patients come to receive help for eye conditions. "People come for dental and hernia care as well as ophthalmology," she says. "In some cases, patients are able to walk away on their own power. Sometimes, it's the first time they've been able to walk in years!"

Dr. Narvaez says that although Pohnpei is geographically remote, the team was able to access the finest medical information in the world via the Internet.

"We performed a very complicated glaucoma surgery," he reports. "This particular case required a complex and rarely performed procedure, so we accessed the *Medline* database online, and found information detailing how to connect a silicon tube to a previously placed scleral buckle for retinal detachment. It worked
Please turn to page 10



Back at work in Loma Linda, Julio Narvaez remembers his recent mission trip to the remote Pacific island of Pohnpei with great satisfaction. "It was really fun," he insists. "If we don't go, some of the people there will continue to face blindness."

STUDENT OUTREACH

Nutrition students travel to Honduras

Contributed report

A Honduran village was the beneficiary of theoretical and practical nutrition teaching for 10 of the 16 days of Christmas break.



Julianne Penner enjoys the opportunity to hold a Honduran child.

Student dietitians from the School of Allied Health Professions, Julianne Penner and Lindsay Westbrook, traveled to the gentle, pine-covered mountains surrounding El Suyatal, an hour and a half drive from the nearest airport.

This was Ms. Penner's second trip to the Central American Bible School (CABS). She and fellow student dietitian, Leah Drouin, spent the week of spring break 2009 teaching nutrition to students at the new school.

The first students had been accepted in the fall of 2008 for the February to December academic term. The focus of the curriculum ranges from agriculture to hydrotherapy, evangelism, nutrition, lifestyle, and the Bible.

The CABS is modeled after the European Bible School (EBS) in Norway. The fall of 2007, Ms. Penner attended EBS for one semester, where she received a certificate in evangelism and mission service. The practical application of the program involved seven weeks in Tanzania for Ms. Penner and her international classmates from Canada, Denmark, France, Germany,

Italy, Kenya, Norway, Sweden, and Switzerland. Divided into two teams, Ms. Penner's team spent 10 days of "bush week" in very primitive conditions teaching and preaching.

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

Days were full and highly rewarding, in spite of no electricity and water running sometimes. Ms. Westbrook says she "enjoyed putting the nutrition/lifestyle principles we've been learning into practice." Ms. Penner appreciated the "enthusiastic faculty and villagers thirsty for health information." She "could feel the presence of God's Spirit working with these people."

While absorbing the beauty of the countryside, the eagerness of the villagers to learn, and the peaceful pace of the surroundings, she could only say, "It is a privilege to use the health message as the right arm of the Gospel. It must be the epitome for teaching the route to a beautiful life here and eternally." She finds the model from the Central American Bible



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

School to be exemplary for her career course. The population appeared openly eager to accept lifestyle change, often a pathway to acceptance of the Gospel.

Ms. Penner and Ms. Westbrook see many similar trips in their future.

LOMA LINDA UNIVERSITY PEOPLE

Mr. Historian's wild ride, or how to survive when Dick Schaefer takes the wheel

By James Ponder

Think you know Dick Schaefer? I thought so, too, until Loma Linda University's resident historian—who also serves as president of the Loma Linda Chamber of Commerce—invited me to join him on a day trip to Painted Canyon, in the California desert near Mecca.

If you've seen him strolling around campus in a suit and tie, you know that Dick's the very image of dignified decorum. The effect is only heightened on days when he carries an umbrella to protect his scalp from solar radiation. His scholarly persona seems grossly incongruent with that of a wild-eyed off-road enthusiast. The thought of him going for broke down a desert road seemed inconceivably absurd, yet intriguing. Would he at least bring the sun umbrella?

The offer could hardly have come at a better time. After weeks of wintry weather, Southern California was basking in sunshine the first Sunday of 2010. It wasn't hot, but skies were blue, and the day fairly begged for adventure.

I invite my wife Nery (pronounced Neddy) and our pal Ken Solanky, an application analyst in the customer care center at LLU Health Care, to come along. They like the idea, so off we trundle to meet Dr. Jekyll—or is it Mr. Hyde?

It's a good thing Nery and Ken—or "Spanky," as he's been known since a classmate thought he needed a moniker that rhymes with his last name—have come along. Once we turn off the asphalt and head toward Painted Canyon, it takes all four of us—Dick, Nery, Spanky Solanky, and yours truly—to keep Dick's massive four-wheeler from bouncing off the highway.

As we bob up and down, back and forth, Dick discusses geology. "See those up-thrusting rocks

with shorn-off tops?" he asks, pointing to a group of upended stones. "Looks like the rock strata got pitched upward by violent upheaval."

"You mean like we just did?" I ask, casting a wary eye on the twisted trail.

A washed-out desert road with dips and boulders the size of small eastern states is hardly for the faint of heart. It's a combination roller coaster, anxiety inducer, and chiropractic adjustment all in one.

For his part, Dick Schaefer remains the picture of serenity. With cowboy hat firmly ensconced on his head, and hands wrapped tightly around the wheel, he studies the road with the gaze of a seasoned four-wheeler.

Suddenly, the road makes a sharp jab to the left and Dick slows down. "We'll park over there," he says, nodding toward a dirt parking area at the entrance to a large, box canyon. "They use this area in television commercials for luxury cars. They park the cars over there in front of those massive rock walls."

"This ain't no place for a luxury car!" I mutter under my breath.

Ken, Nery, and I can't wait to get outdoors. We're eager to clamber over boulders and hike the gorge. By the time we unload, Dick's half a hundred yards ahead.

The scrunch, scrunch, scrunch of gravel under our boots punctuates the cloistered silence. The ravine—which is maybe three hundred feet wide at the parking lot—narrows imperceptibly until it reaches a point, perhaps two-fifths of a mile away, where a side canyon enters from the left. Dick is leaning against a stand of boulders 30 feet high when we arrive at the junction.

"This is where I saw the painting," he says,



A scraggly desert bush arises from the sculpted siltstones of Painted Canyon in this photograph taken by Ken "Spanky" Solanky on Sunday, January 3, 2010. Dick Schaefer, Loma Linda University's genteel historian, hosted the trip, which turned into a bounce-a-thon of epic proportions as a foursome of adventurers jostled their way into the heart of the California desert near Mecca.

pointing to a spot halfway up the rock face. Since Ken and I are both excited about Native American rock art, we scramble up the boulder pile to see the pictograph. Since she isn't, Nery regards the whole endeavor with the good-humored tolerance of a schoolmarm stifling the giggles to indulge the boys in her charge for their penchant for chasing frogs.

Regardless, we don't see any signs of human noodling except a bit of recent graffiti. "There's nothing here," I call over my shoulder to Dick.

A moment later, the scholarly historian of LLU is standing beside us. He scrutinizes the massive rock face for several agonizing moments before a tinge of red ochre an arm's length away catches his eye. "There it is!" he exults.

Ken and I strain for a better look. No doubt about it, a handful of lines—partially obliterated by eons of scouring wind—are barely visible. The color is similar, but not identical, to the muted reds I've seen inside Painted Cave near Santa Barbara.

The four of us meander back down the canyon

toward the truck. Dick says he wants to take us to a place that looks like the surface of the moon. None of us question how he knows what the moon looks like—after all, he is a historian—so we pile in and buckle up.

Good thing! A mile or two later, he turns the jostling vehicle onto a narrow stretch of road not much wider than a pregnant rattlesnake. The truck pitches and yaws along the treacherous trail, slowing as Dick eases it into a chasm the size of a swimming pool. All we can do is roll with the punches.

We arrive without major injuries to discover that, sure enough, the landscape does resemble the moon. While Dick and Ken snap dozens of pictures, Nery and I marvel at crumbly bentonite mounds scattered here and there. A bleached coyote skull sits atop one of them. The effect is serene, silent, and surreal.

An hour later, Dick says we better leave before nightfall makes the road unbearably difficult. "Not that it isn't already," I reply. About then, it hits me: this is my chance to see if Dick really knows his stuff. I'm going to do my best to throw the polished historian a curve. If he fails, no one will be the wiser.

"Name one member from the graduating class of 1905 in the LLU School of Nursing," I taunt him, trying to hide the smirk in my voice. "Let me think," he replies.

"Aha," I think to myself. "I've got him on the ropes. I've stumped the historian!"

No such luck. A moment later, Dick recalls the names of Meda Kerr and Lavina Baxter, and insists they were both members of the first graduating class. "It was the class of 1907," he corrects, "not 1905. The program started in '05, but the first class graduated two years later."

With that, he proceeds to inform us that Miss Kerr was the first ever Loma Linda graduate to become a foreign medical missionary—she went to Argentina—and that Miss Baxter eventually became a physician.

Nery and Spanky can hardly restrain the snickers. As for me, I just learned an important lesson: he may get his brains bounced to jelly on a desert road, but a historian is always a historian.

Even without his sun umbrella.



With the gaze of a seasoned four-wheeler, Dick Schaefer, resident historian of all that is Loma Linda University, steers a steady course for adventure on a desert road near Mecca, California.

WALK TO REMEMBER CHILDREN

'Lights for Little Lives' community walk honors children who died in 2009

By Larry Kidder

More than 100 members of the community set aside a few hours on New Year's Eve to remember the children who had died during the previous year.

The annual event, "Lights for Little Lives," was organized by the Unforgettables Foundation and provides grieving families and friends with one last opportunity to publicly remember their loved one during a given year.

The foundation, created by Tim Evans, former chaplain at LLU Children's Hospital, provides funding for funeral and memorial costs for families who are financially in need.

The community walk began at the Loma Linda Ronald McDonald House and ended at the Campus Hill Church, where a special memorial

service took place. During the service, pediatric physicians were recognized for their contributions to the lives of children. One young person received an award for his quick thinking in saving his younger brother's life by performing the Heimlich maneuver.

The program also featured a number of musical performances, including a special rendition of the song made famous by Nat King Cole, "Unforgettable." This song is symbolic of the sentiment behind the Unforgettables Foundation.

The Loma Linda University Church Young Musicians Ensemble, a youth orchestra made up of 25 string players, performed several numbers for the program.

A final tribute to children who have passed away was given when their names were read by foundation board members or their loved ones.



Members of the community gathered on New Year's Eve, December 31, 2009, to remember children who died during 2009. Sponsored by the Unforgettables Foundation, an organization that helps to fund the funerals and other costs of children who have died for families in financial need, sponsored the walk. The foundation was founded by former Children's Hospital chaplain Tim Evans in 1999.

Clinical ethics director receives award, publishes volume, and authors articles

Continued from page 5

Ethics. "Dr. Orr not only gives us a sophisticated account of clinical ethics, but also shows us how his account functions in many different types of real-life cases."

John Swinton, author of *Raging with Compassion: Pastoral Responses to the Problem of Evil*, commends Dr. Orr's treatise for charting the complex landscape of ethical challenges in today's care environment.

"Deep, practical, and theologically informed," Professor Swinton writes, "this book will be a blessing for clergy, health care professionals, and all who have a genuine interest in exploring how and why we might consider including theology as a central aspect of our ethical decisions in the strange world that is medicine."

Since returning to LLU from Fletcher Allen Health Care and the University of Vermont College of Medicine in the fall of 2009, Dr. Orr also published two articles on clinical ethics. The first one, "A process and format for clinical ethics consultation," was co-authored with W. Shelton. It appeared in *The Journal of Clinical Ethics* in 2009. "This is a major contribution about how to do ethics consultations," Dr. Orr observes, "and how to document the process." The second article, "Continuing Futile Support at Relative's Insistence," appears in the Fall 2009 edition of *Ethics & Medicine*.

Although *Medical Ethics and the Faith Factor* is the first solo book Dr. Orr has written, it is not his initial foray into the world of publishing by any means. He has co-written or co-edited the following other books on clinical ethics and related topics:

Life and Death Decisions—co-authored with D.L. Scheidermayer and D.B. Biebel—was published as a single volume, by NavPress of Colorado Springs, Colorado, in 1990. A two-volume, revised edition was released in 1996 by the same publisher, and a follow-up book—*More Life and Death Decisions*—was published

in 1997 by Baker Book House of Grand Rapids, Michigan.

With Fred Chay, Dr. Orr co-authored *Medical Ethics: A Primer for Students*, which was published by The Paul Tournier Institute, of Bristol, Tennessee, in 2001. The book was subsequently translated into Albanian and published in Pristina, Kosovo, in 2005.

Dr. Orr co-edited *Aging, Death and the Quest for Immortality* with C. Ben Mitchell and Susan A. Salladay, which was published by Eerdmans Publishing Company in the United States and Great Britain in 2004.

That same year, Kregel Publications, of Grand Rapids, Michigan, also published *Basic Questions on Healthcare*, a book Dr. Orr co-edited with D.P. O'Mathuna, S.D. Hensley, M.B. Adam, and J.F. Kilner.

With J. Kilner and J.A. Shelly, Dr. Orr edited *The Changing Face of Health Care*, which was simultaneously published by Eerdmans Publishing Company of Grand Rapids, Michigan, and Paternoster Press, of Great Britain, in 1998.

Dr. Orr's purpose in contributing so much to the literature of the burgeoning field of clinical ethics is explained in the close of the preface to *Medical Ethics and the Faith Factor*.

"It is my hope," he writes, "that the content and format of these discussions will assist people of faith as they seek satisfactory resolution of difficult ethical dilemmas. Perhaps they will gain a better understanding of the clinical situation. Even more important, I hope they will gain an understanding of the moral dilemma in light of the personal and religious beliefs of the patient, family, and professional.

"Most important of all, I hope the reader will come to a greater reliance on the leading of the Divine in the given situation. God bless."



The walkers stopped traffic along Anderson Street, though there wasn't that much traffic to stop on New Year's Eve. However, several newspaper reporters were on hand to record the event through photos and articles.



The Young Musicians Ensemble, a youth orchestra centered at the LLU Church, performed several numbers for the special service in the Campus Hill Church.

LOMA LINDA UNIVERSITY PEOPLE

Dedication service for medical students

By Richard Weismeyer

School of Medicine freshman dedication services will be held on Friday, February 12, at 7:30 p.m. in the Loma Linda University Church of Seventh-day Adventists.

Guest speaker for the event will be Randall Roberts, DMin, senior pastor of LLU Church.

The dedication services are a part of family day sponsored by the School of Medicine. Each year,

first-year medical students have a chance to bring their parents to class. Family day provides parents, many of whom have been supporting their daughters and sons through medical school financially and emotionally, with the opportunity to show their support in person.

Throughout the day, parents and students have the opportunity to share classroom experiences.

All interested individuals are invited to attend the Friday evening service.

VALENTINE'S DAY CONCERT

Take 6 to present Valentine's Day concert at Loma Linda University Church

Contributed report

In celebration of African American History Month, the School of Religion's humanities program presents two thoughtful, soul-stirring events as part of its "Art that Heals" lecture series: Dr. Cedric Dent and Take 6.

Cedric Dent, PhD, member of the Grammy award-winning group Take 6, will present a lecture/recital on the "History of Gospel Music" on Saturday, February 13, 2010, at 3:00 p.m. in the Damazo Amphitheater in the Centennial Complex. This lecture is free and open to the public. Dr. Dent is a tenured professor of music at Middle Tennessee State University.

The award-winning group Take 6, along with Mt. Rubidoux Praise Team and Voices, will be in concert on February 14, 2010, at 6:00 p.m. at Loma Linda University Church on the campus of Loma Linda University.

Tickets for the concert are as follows: \$30.00 (\$25 for students); \$20 (\$15 for students), and \$100 gold tickets.

Tickets can be purchased at Loma Linda Campus Bookstore, Adventist Book Center, and Berean Christian Store in Redlands; Loma Linda University students can purchase tickets at the student services center.

Take 6 is setting a spiritually provocative standard. Their jazz-styled religious and secular acappella sound is grounded in a profound commitment to Christian ethos.

"We sing lyrics that always exemplify our spiritual and moral convictions," says David Thomas. Therefore, mixing the improvisational style found in African-American classical music and jazz with the soul-stirring authenticity of gospel and spirituals, the sextet testifies, preaches, scats, claps their hands, snaps their fingers, and sings



Take 6 is scheduled for a special Valentine's Day concert.

with a synergistic conviction inspired by "the One who directs the work in their lives, the One who has made Take 6 one of the success stories in American music," says Mark Kibble. In that sense, Take 6 is an example of American musical genius. Collectively, these African-American male role models are, as Dr. Cedric Dent says of

genius, a group possessing "an innate intellectual and creative ability."

For more information on the concert or Dr. Dent's lecture/recital, contact Ramona Hyman at <rhyman@llu.edu>, (909) 558-4536, or (909) 651-5097.

Ophthalmology physicians go a long way to bring eye care to patients ...

Continued from page 7

quite well in normalizing the pressure of the patient's eyes and preserving her vision."

Many of the patients Drs. Narvaez and Ing treated are quite elderly. "Some of these islanders live very long lives," he says. "It was our privilege to enhance their quality of life."

Language barriers don't stand in the way of the Helps International team. "There are 40 or 50 dialects spoken in Guatemala, but we speak in Spanish," Dr. Keefe reports. "The patients' family members or villagers help us translate. Patients are so trusting. They just lie there and trust us."

Although Helps International was established in 1984, the Helps eye team was organized 14 years ago by a retired ophthalmologist, who is also a former Navy pilot. Over the years, he has raised more than \$250,000 from local Rotary Club chapters, pharmaceutical companies, and other charitable groups to help people with cataracts in Guatemala.

The idea for Helps International began to take shape while the organization's founder was vacationing in Guatemala several years ago. "The poverty he saw touched him," Dr. Keefe reports, "and he decided to do something about it."

To ensure that monies raised to help the Guatemalan people do just that, all Helps International volunteers pay their own way. Besides medical missions, the organization is active in education, community, and economic development, and agricultural innovations designed to improve the quality of life in Latin America. Since so much of Guatemalan life depends on native forests, the group sponsors projects to promote preservation.

"The people burn wood to heat their houses and cook their food," Dr. Keefe explains. "Helps International is teaching them to use a stove designed by a Helps engineer that only burns two pieces of wood per day. It's extremely fuel-

efficient, and vents all the smoke to the outside. It lets them cook their tortillas and beans, yet helps preserve the forest at the same time.

"The group also builds many schools in Guatemala to teach them how to teach their own people," she continues. "The country can never come out of poverty unless they educate the people."

Dr. Narvaez notes that Canvasback Missions, Inc., is involved in similar projects in the outer islands of Micronesia. "The organization provides health and dental care, health education, immunizations, and training to upgrade job skills and empower local health workers to provide better care for their own people."

Drs. Narvaez and Keefe found enormous satisfaction in helping people in need.

"There was a little girl who was 6 years old," Dr. Keefe recalls. "She'd had cataracts since she was 2. It was probably nutritional in origin. After she had cataract surgery, it was amazing to watch her see her mom's face for the first time in four years. She smiled, then reached out and touched her. We all cried."

"It was really fun helping the folks on Pohnpei," Dr. Narvaez notes. "If we don't go there, some of the people there will continue to face blindness. Here in the U.S., if I'm not available to do eye surgery on an individual, there is access to other well-qualified physicians who will be able to help them. It's not that way over there."

Individuals in need of eye care may contact Dr. Narvaez or Dr. Keefe by calling LLUHC ophthalmology at (909) 558-2154. Persons interested in Canvasback Missions, Inc., or Helps International may contact them as follows:

- Canvasback Missions, Inc.**
www.canvasback.org (800) 793-7245
- Helps International**
www.helpsintl.org (800) 41-HELPS

RESEARCH

LLU receives dry bean incentive award

Contributed report

The department of nutrition in the School of Public Health has been granted an incentive award of \$10,000 from the Northarvest Bean Growers Association. Part of the association's Dry Bean Health Research Program, the award is an incentive to submit a grant to the National Institutes of Health for research on consumption of dry beans as protection from cardiovascular disease, obesity, colon cancer, gastrointestinal health problems, immune system concerns, and diabetes.

The proposal for the incentive award, drafted by assistant professor Gina Siapco, DrPH, was titled "Are dry beans protective against metabolic syndrome or type 2 diabetes? Examining

the relationship in a population with wider range of legume consumption."

The department of nutrition proposes to use Adventist Health Study-2 data to investigate the association between intake of dry beans and prevalence of metabolic syndrome, and to determine if dry bean consumption reduces the risk for type 2 diabetes. A secondary aim is to determine if eating dry beans is associated with relevant inflammatory biomarkers. A supplementary questionnaire and serum samples will be collected from those who report a diagnosis of type 2 diabetes. Analysis will be conducted to determine the outcomes. An R15 or R21 grant proposal will be submitted to the National Institutes of Health for its June 2010 deadline.

Reportable Crimes

The Crime Awareness and Campus Security Act of 1990 requires Loma Linda University to publish interim reports on campus crime activities. Listed below are the crimes reported for the months of October, November, and December 2009.

Type of Crime	Number of Crimes	Place of Crime
Vehicle burglary	6	Lot A (3) House of Thrift LLU Church Philanthropy parking lot
Grand theft auto	3	Lot X (2) Daniells Complex
Grand theft (other)	7	Centennial Complex School of Dentistry LLUMC (2) Lot A Lot G-east Prospect/Anderson
Burglary	1	LLUMC
Drunk in public	1	LLUMC
Assault	2	LLUMC (2)
Fraud	1	Loma Linda Health Center

You can assist the Department of Security in maintaining a safe and secure environment by notifying Security immediately at ext. 911 if you see or know about a crime taking place.

PHILANTHROPY

Motorcycle groups benefit Loma Linda University Children's Hospital

Contributed report

Each year the Eagle Riders, a group of motorcycle enthusiasts, plans a special event with proceeds donated to charity. The Riders chose Loma Linda University Children's Hospital as the recipient of their most recent fundraiser.

During the day-long event, Eagle Riders participated in a motorcycle run and entered opportunity prize drawings and contests. "We were blessed," says Dallas Ritter, Eagle Rider president, "with great weather and a safe day for riding. We are pleased we were able to raise \$1,000 for Loma Linda University Children's Hospital."

The Eagle Riders are members of the Fraternal Order of Eagles which was founded in 1898. Since its inception the organization has given more than \$100 million to support local and national charities.

"We chose Loma Linda University Chil-

dren's Hospital," says Mr. Ritter, "because of all of the wonderful things they do. Not only are they the world leader in infant heart transplantation, they care for kids with illnesses including cancer and diabetes. The hospital's child life specialists work to minimize fear and stress the patients may feel during hospitalization."

During the final busy days of the recent holiday season, a few hundred riders supported the Motorcycle Rider's Association (MRA) to bring cheer to kids at Loma Linda University Children's Hospital.

Joined by the Elsinore Valley Touring Riders, Chapparral Riders, Black Sheep, and many other motorcycle groups, they hosted a successful toy drive that raised \$6,200 and culminated in a visit to the hospital on Sunday, December 20.

"We look forward to this event all year," says Zareh Sarrafian, MBA, administrator for LLUCH. "It is fun to watch the smiles that



Tiffany Hoekstra, major gifts officer, Loma Linda University Children's Hospital Foundation, accepts a check for \$1,000 from the Eagle Riders.

Santa and the rest of the bikers bring to the children during their hospital stay."

The bikers met at Quaid Harley-Davidson in Loma Linda, and to the delight of the young patients, arrived at the front of Loma Linda University Children's Hospital at 1:30 p.m. to deliver an abundance of toys and good cheer.

"The kids love to see the bikes ride past them at the front of the hospital," says Marcia Taylor of the MRA, "and they love to hear the roar of the engines. We cannot think of a better way to bring joy into their lives."



Santa's sleigh took on a different look as the Motorcycle's Rider's Association brought gifts to LLU Children's Hospital patients.

How Kirillos inspired an LLU professor to save more Middle Eastern children ...

Continued from page 12

assistant professor in the LLU School of Medicine—he's a full professor now—and medical director for the Assyrian Aid Society of America (AASA), a group representing the Assyrian, Chaldean, and Syriac communities.

Amid a whirlwind of challenges, Dr. Johna brought Kirillos and his mother to LLU Children's Hospital where infant heart specialist Leonard L. Bailey, MD, performed the operation that saved the boy's life.

Two years later, in the autumn of 2009, Dr. Johna is sharing how the satisfaction he found in saving the life of Kirillos has led, so far, to his involvement in more than 75 similar cases. "Twenty-four hours in a day are not enough!" he laughs.

Besides his work at LLU, he has a full-time practice at Kaiser, where he oversees the clinical rotation of LLU medical students. On top of that, his responsibilities with another organization, the Assyrian Medical Society, have ramped up tenfold since word got out about his success with Kirillos. There are many children with life-threatening needs in war zones of the Middle East.

"This work is addicting," he says. "The latest thing we're trying to arrange is for cardiac teams to fly to Iraq and perform open-heart surgeries for babies there."

His efforts have not gone unnoticed. Financiers and supporters in Europe, the United States, and the Middle East have linked hands with medical schools and health care providers like LLU and Shriners Hospitals in Los Angeles to save the lives of children touched by the tragedy of war.

The pediatric cardiac team from the University of Indiana is also stepping up to the plate

in a big way. Under the direction of Mark W. Turrentine, MD, a cardiology team recently flew to Kurdistan to see if sufficient infrastructure remains in that stable region of Iraq to allow open-heart procedures for children there. If the mission succeeds, it will enable pediatric heart patients living there to get the help they need without having to leave their homeland.

On the afternoon of November 7, 2009, two years after they left Faris in Iraq, Vivian and Kirillos wait inside the airport in their adopted Canadian hometown. Vivian looks resplendent in a white vest with black elliptical circles, and Kirillos looks, well, not exactly happy. He's wearing a brown jacket, but unlike his mother, Kirillos wears an impassive expression instead of a smile.

The problem isn't that Kirillos hasn't heard wonderful things about his father; it's just that he doesn't like some other guy taking over his responsibilities as the man in the family. He was too young and ill when he left Iraq to remember much of anything about Faris. He knows his voice from conversations over the Internet, but his feelings are conflicted. He isn't sure what to expect.

Vivian, on the other hand, is a study in excited anticipation. It hasn't been easy adapting to a new country, learning a new language and culture, and raising her son without a father; she has missed Faris more than she can say.

It shouldn't be long now! Five minutes ago, the announcer said the plane had landed, just a moment ago, a few disembarking passengers started trickling down the hall, and all of a sudden, there's a rush of people coming her way, oh, wait, can it be?

"FARIS!" she screams, running to embrace the man she adores. The family rushes into a long

embrace for the first time in more than two years. Faris and Vivian smile with an energy that could light up the Canadian outback. Kirillos coolly evaluates the situation with a stoic, resistant gaze.

In December 2009, Vivian tells Dr. Johna that after initially rejecting his dad and saying "I only want mom!" Kirillos has made friends with Faris. "They're buddies now," she says.

The whole family is adjusting very well. Faris and Vivian—who were both college-educated teachers in Iraq—are attending English classes. Faris is studying to pass the qualifying exams in English that will enable him to make a living in his chosen profession as a high school math teacher.

Kirillos is having a wonderful time. "He considers himself a Canadian," Vivian notes. He loves to play with his friends at the day care center. He's picking up English at a rapid pace from his pals, and from computer games, which

he also adores. A video clip shows the excited little boy jumping up and down with the universal exuberance of happy 4-year-olds everywhere on the planet.

Looking back over the traumatic events of recent years, the family is grateful to God for the series of extended miracles He orchestrated in their lives. They thought they would lose their son; instead, he's healthy and strong. They had no place to live; they found security, freedom, and opportunity in Canada.

Do they miss their family and friends in Iraq? Of course! But Vivian and Faris are amazed at the tremendous support their new nation has given them, and can't wait to contribute to the life and economy of their new home. It won't be long before one new contribution arrives: Vivian just announced she's pregnant with the family's second child!

Once again, Kirillos isn't quite sure what to think.



Tired from their journey, Vivian and Kirillos meet Samir Johna, MD (right), for the very first time at Los Angeles International Airport in 2007. Kirillos was born with a deadly congenital heart disease that couldn't be treated in Iraq. After reading an urgent plea posted by Vivian and her husband Faris on the Internet, Dr. Johna, an assistant professor at the Loma Linda University School of Medicine at the time, brought the baby to Loma Linda University Children's Hospital where cardiologists performed the open-heart procedure that saved his life.

FACILITY FACELIFT

Revamped Loma Linda Market and Campus Store host open house

By Heather Reifsnnyder

From samples of gourmet gnocchi in pesto cream sauce to Apple computers, the estimated 5,000 community members who attended the open house of the Loma Linda Market and Campus Store learned firsthand about the service lines and products the two facilities offer in their newly improved spaces.

“We want the surrounding community and all staff, students, and faculty to know that the market can be their source of healthy, nutritious food, and a fun place to shop,” says Ron Siagian, director of retail and services.

The open house featured product samples, chef demonstrations, and children’s cooking classes.

The market, remodeled in October, is carrying new products such as more gluten-free foods, cookware by the Culinary Institute of America, kitchen utensils by Norpro, and a large variety of new vitamins and supplements.

“This open house is just the beginning,” says manager Joshua Rowland. “We are making

changes every day, week, and month.”

One visitor to the open house said he has lived in Redlands for 50 years and never knew about the Loma Linda Market until he received a mailer about the event. Pleased with what he found, he plans to make the market a regular shopping destination for himself and his wife.

Some people have been similarly unaware of the variety of things available at the Campus Store, says manager Melodi Hamilton. One visitor to the open house had been doing her banking in the same shopping area but never realized the existence of the store.

“We are here for the community as well as the students and employees,” Ms. Hamilton says.

In addition to textbooks for LLU students, the Campus Store also offers cards and gifts, office and school supplies, children’s items, books for a general audience, and medical instruments. The store is also an authorized seller of Apple computers. Apple has agreed to extend the discounted education price on its products to the staff and faculty of all LLU entities.



A red ribbon slices in two, symbolizing the re-opening of the newly improved Campus Store and Loma Linda Market. Cutting the ribbon are (from left) Ron Siagian, director of retail and services, and Bob Frost, director of the Loma Linda University Foundation, surrounded by administrators and Chamber of Commerce members.

“In other words, an employee of the Medical Center can come and purchase an Apple computer and receive the special price that has been offered to our students,” says Mr. Siagian.

Recent changes at the Campus Store have included the relocation and expansion of the computer and medical instrument department,

and cards and gifts are also in a new area.

There were many vendors participating in the open house of the Campus Store and Loma Linda Market, from Konica Minolta to Pens, Etc. to the Drayson Center. In addition, LLU’s transportation and security departments helped make the day go smoothly for all.

UPDATE ON HEART SURGERY BABY

Iraqi pediatric heart patient and his mother reunited with his refugee father

By James Ponder

Remember Baby Kirillos, the Iraqi infant who traveled to Loma Linda University Children’s Hospital for open heart surgery in the summer of 2007?

When we last checked in with Kirillos and his family, their biggest concerns had been resolved,

but new worries were looming on the horizon. After his recovery from surgery, Kirillos and Vivian, his mom, flew to Canada to begin their lives in a completely new environment and culture. That’s the good part.

The scary part is that after militant hard-liners threatened the life of Faris for letting his wife and son come to America for the surgery, he

fled by night to a refugee camp in Syria while awaiting clearance to join his family in Canada.

The good news is a lot of wonderful things have happened since then. Before we bring you up to date, however, we need to revisit the highlights.

The trouble started in July 2006 when Kirillos was born with tetralogy of fallot, a heart ailment that couldn’t be treated in Iraq. Unfortunately, without surgery, 75 percent of babies born with

the condition die before the age of 4.

Kirillos’ parents flew into action. They prayed, consulted physicians, and knocked on doors, but when churches, mosques, and international relief agencies were unable to help, Faris and Vivian posted an urgent plea on the Internet.

After he read their message, Samir Johna, MD, rolled up his sleeves. At the time, Dr. Johna was

Please turn to page 11



Almost everyboy’s smiling as Faris (center) triumphantly rejoins his family inside a Canadian airport on November 7, 2009. The day just might be the happiest of the couple’s life so far. Kirillos (left), however, is not convinced. Vivian says that despite his initial ambiguity, the boy has subsequently accepted his father. “They’re buddies,” she is happy to report.



TODAY

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