

ONE HUNDRED AND FIFTEENTH YEAR



LOMA LINDA UNIVERSITY

two thousand and twenty-one



CONFERRING OF DEGREES  
School of Dentistry | Loma Linda, California

## Message from the President



Congratulations to the Class of 2021. One of the greatest joys experienced by our campus community is the opportunity to celebrate your academic excellence and personal achievements. This 115th commencement season, though different due to the pandemic, marks the culmination of your study and professional preparation and has equipped you to meet the great challenges of life. You and those who have supported you are to be commended.

Now you are an alumnus of this historic institution. I urge you to always model in your personal and professional life the excellence and vision, the courage and resilience, the passion and compassion that continue to shape and enhance Loma Linda's global reputation and legacy. As you move beyond this weekend to the world of work or the pursuit of advanced degrees, I know that your commitment to our mission and values will be evident as your knowledge and skills are used to "continue the teaching and healing ministry of Jesus Christ—to make man whole."

Go with confidence wherever your dreams may lead you—questioning, learning, and challenging - as you change our world for the better. I wish for you a satisfying and successful journey as you serve in the name and spirit of our gracious God.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Richard H. Hart". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Richard H. Hart, MD, DrPH

# 2021 Events of Commencement

May 28-30, 2021

## **BACCALAUREATE – School of Medicine**

*Speaker: Randy Roberts, DMin*

Saturday, May 29, 9:00 AM, University Church

*Covid-19 modifications will be followed: limited guests, social distancing, face masks, and pre-registration required.*

## **BACCALAUREATE – Schools of Dentistry and Pharmacy**

*Speaker: Randy Roberts, DMin*

Saturday, May 29, 11:45 AM, University Church

*Covid-19 modifications will be followed: limited guests, social distancing, face masks, and pre-registration required.*

## **School of Medicine, Conferring of Degrees**

*Speaker: Bradley Cole, MD*

Sunday, May 30, 8:30 AM

*Drive-thru (1 car per graduate)*

*Stagelcheck-in @ Centennial Complex / drive-thru @ Woods Walkway.*

## **School of Pharmacy, Conferring of Degrees**

*Speaker: Michael S. Maddux, PharmD, FCCP*

Sunday, May 30, 1:30 PM

*Drive-thru (1 car per graduate)*

*Stagelcheck-in @ Centennial Complex / drive-thru @ Woods Walkway.*

## **School of Dentistry, Conferring of Degrees**

*Speaker: Karl Haffner, PhD*

Sunday, May 30, 5:00 PM

*Drive-thru (1 car per graduate)*

*Stagelcheck-in @ Centennial Complex / drive-thru @ Woods Walkway.*

*Events will be streamed live at the Loma Linda University Commencement Website*

# 2021 Events of Commencement

June 11-14, 2021

## **BACCALAUREATE – Schools of Allied Health Professions and Public Health**

*Speaker: Karl Haffner, PhD*

Saturday, June 12, 9:00 AM, University Church

*Covid-19 modifications will be followed: limited guests, social distancing, face masks, and pre-registration required.*

## **BACCALAUREATE – Schools of Behavioral Health, Nursing, Religion & San Manuel Gateway College**

*Speaker: Karl Haffner, PhD*

Saturday, June 12, 11:45 AM, University Church

*Covid-19 modifications will be followed: limited guests, social distancing, face masks, and pre-registration required.*

## **School of Nursing, Conferring of Degrees**

*Speaker: Marilyn Herrmann, PhD*

Sunday, June 13, 8:00 AM

*Drive-thru (1 car per graduate)*

*Stagelcheck-in @ Centennial Complex / drive-thru @ Woods Walkway.*

## **School of Public Health, Conferring of Degrees**

*Speaker: Richard H. Hart, MD, DrPH*

Sunday, June 13, 12:00 PM

*Drive-thru (1 car per graduate)*

*Stagelcheck-in @ Centennial Complex / drive-thru @ Woods Walkway.*

## **School of Behavioral Health & School of Religion, Conferring of Degrees**

*Speaker: Randy Roberts, DMin*

Sunday, June 13, 3:30 PM

*Drive-thru (1 car per graduate)*

*Stagelcheck-in @ Centennial Complex / drive-thru @ Woods Walkway.*

## **San Manuel Gateway College, Graduation**

*Speaker: Zane Yi, PhD*

Sunday, June 13, 6:00 PM

*Drive-thru (1 car per graduate)*

*Stagelcheck-in @ Centennial Complex / drive-thru @ Woods Walkway.*

## **School of Allied Health Professions, Conferring of Degrees**

*Speaker: Dilys Brooks, MDiv*

Monday, June 14, 7:00 AM – 7:00 PM (throughout the day by department)

*Drive-thru (1 car per graduate)*

*Stagelcheck-in @ Centennial Complex / drive-thru @ Woods Walkway.*

*Events will be streamed live at the Loma Linda University Commencement Website*

# University Administration

## **President**

Richard H. Hart

## **University Officers**

Rachelle B. Bussell, senior vice president for advancement; Ronald L. Carter, provost; Karl Haffner, vice president for student experience; David P. Harris, vice president for information systems; Rodney D. Neal, senior vice president for financial affairs; Michael R. Samardzija, vice president for research affairs.

## **Deans of the Schools**

Craig R. Jackson, School of Allied Health Professions; Beverly J. Buckles, School of Behavioral Health; Robert A. Handysides, School of Dentistry; Tamara L. Thomas, School of Medicine; Elizabeth A. Bossert, School of Nursing; Michael D. Hogue, School of Pharmacy; Helen Hopp Marshak, School of Public Health; Leo S. Ranzolin, Jr., School of Religion

# Significance of Academic Regalia

## ORIGINS

The origins of academic dress date back to the twelfth and thirteenth centuries. The ordinary dress of the scholar, whether student or teacher, was the dress of a cleric. Long gowns were worn and may have been necessary for warmth in unheated buildings. A statute of the University of Coimbra in 1321 required that all “Doctors, Licentiates, and Bachelors” wear gowns. In England, in the second half of the fourteenth century, the statutes of certain colleges forbade “excess in apparel” and prescribed the wearing of a long gown. In the days of Henry VIII of England, Oxford and Cambridge first began prescribing a definite academic dress. The assignment of colors to signify certain faculties was to be a much later development—in the late nineteenth century—and one that was to be standardized only in the United States. European institutions have always had great diversity in their specifications of academic dress. In contrast, American colleges and universities opted for a definite system that all might follow. The American Council on Education periodically reviews and updates the code for academic costumes for American universities.

## COLORS

Gowns for the bachelor’s or master’s degree are untrimmed. For the doctor’s degree, the gown is faced down the front with black velvet; three bars of velvet are used across the sleeves. These facings or crossbars may be of velvet of the color distinctive of the discipline to which the degree pertains. Red, one of the traditional colors of the church, went to theology. Green, the color of medieval herbs, was adopted for medicine; and olive, because it was so close to green, was given to pharmacy. Golden yellow, standing for the wealth that scientific research has produced, was assigned to the sciences.

The hoods are lined with the official color or colors of the college or university conferring the degree; more than one color is shown by division of the field color in a variety of ways. The color of the binding or edging of the hood indicates the subject to which the degree pertains.

The colors associated with the different disciplines are as follows:

Arts, Letters, Humanities .....	White
Business .....	Brown
Dentistry .....	Lilac
Education .....	Light Blue
Law .....	Purple
Library Science, Information Management .....	Lemon
Medicine .....	Green
Nursing .....	Apricot
Pharmacy .....	Olive Green
Philosophy .....	Dark Blue
Physical Therapy .....	Teal
Public Health .....	Salmon Pink
Science .....	Golden Yellow
Social Work .....	Citron
Theology .....	Scarlet

Excerpted from E. Sullivan (© 1997), *An Academic Costume Code and an Academic Ceremony Guide*.

# University History Highlights

Loma Linda University is part of the Seventh-day Adventist system of higher education that adheres to and promotes its vision—“Transforming lives through education, health care, and research”—and its motto—“To make man whole.”

Loma Linda University traces its beginnings back to 1905, when—through a series of divine providences—the University, starting as a nurses’ training school, was founded at Loma Linda, California, by the Seventh-day Adventist Church. The School of Nursing began in 1905. In 1909, the College of Medical Evangelists received its charter as a medical school with the express purpose of preparing physicians who could meet the needs of the whole person. Both schools emphasized the need for healthful living as a part of medical care—a revolutionary concept in 1905.

The University has steadily expanded its programs to meet the demands of a global environment. The original schools—Nursing and Medicine—have been joined by the Schools of Allied Health Professions, Behavioral Health, Dentistry, Pharmacy, Public Health, and Religion; and the Faculty of Graduate Studies. All the school programs are accredited by their respective accrediting bodies.

- 1905 Loma Linda Sanitarium and Nurses’ Training School (renamed School of Nursing in 1924)
- 1909 Institution named College of Medical Evangelists (CME), which included School of Medicine
- 1937 School of Medical Technology established
- 1941 School of Physical Therapy established
- 1948 School of Tropical and Preventive Medicine (reorganized as School of Public Health in 1967)
- 1953 School of Dentistry established
- 1954 Graduate School established (restructured as Faculty of Graduate Studies in 2005)
- 1961 College of Medical Evangelists renamed Loma Linda University
- 1962 Voted to consolidate the Schools of Medicine and Nursing on the Loma Linda campus
- 1964 School of Public Health established
- 1966 Schools/Programs consolidated as the School of Health Related Professions, now known as School of Allied Health Professions
- 1967 Loma Linda University campus merged with La Sierra College
- 1968 Loma Linda University Hospital dedicated; renamed Loma Linda University Medical Center in 1970
- 1990 Loma Linda and La Sierra campuses became two separate universities
- 1997 Loma Linda University and Medical Center corporately linked together through Loma Linda University Adventist Health Sciences Center—LLUAHSC
- 2002 School of Pharmacy established
- 2003 School of Science and Technology (restructured as School of Behavioral Health in 2012)
- 2005 Faculty of Graduate Studies restructured (reorganized in 2018)
- 2005 LLU centennial celebration
- 2007 School of Religion reorganized
- 2012 School of Behavioral Health established
- 2015 Corporation name changed from Loma Linda University Adventist Health Sciences Center (LLUAHSC) to Loma Linda University Health (LLUH)
- 2018 Faculty of Graduates Studies reorganized



Today the original 1905 property is part of an expanding health sciences campus operated under the jurisdiction of Loma Linda University Health—which includes six Loma Linda University-named medical facilities: Medical Center, Children’s Hospital, Medical Center-East Campus, Surgical Hospital, Behavioral Medicine Center, and Medical Center-Murrieta; ten LLUH institutes; three LLUH-related research centers; and various school-related research centers.

After more than a century of service, the University remains committed to the vision of its founders and is sustained by its close association with the Seventh-day Adventist Church. The University is recognized as a leader in the field of health sciences education, research, and service—locally and internationally.

Through divine providence and guidance, Loma Linda University continues to fulfill its mission: To prepare health professionals to continue the teaching and healing ministry of the Master Teacher and Great Physician, Jesus Christ.





# Criteria for Institutional Awards

Loma Linda University Health (LLUH)

Loma Linda University (LLU)

## **Lifetime Service Award (LLUH)**

Awarded in recognition of an individual or organization that uniquely advances and/or transforms the strategic direction of LLUH or its entities in education, research, services, and/or philanthropy—locally and/or globally. The recipient should have noteworthy institutional service of ten or more years and be recognized both within and external to the organization.

## **Honorary Doctorate (LLU)**

Presented in recognition of extraordinary achievement in such fields as science and technology, the arts and humanities, business and public service; or in recognition of outstanding contributions to the welfare and/or enrichment of the University, the state, the nation, or the world. Further, this honorary degree is awarded to bring recognition to the individual(s), to expose students and faculty to distinguished citizens and leaders, and to make an institutional statement as to Loma Linda University's values. Two honorary doctorate degrees may be awarded—a Doctor of Humane Letters (L.H.D.) for excellence in scholarship and creative arts and a Doctor of Humanitarian Service (D.H.S.) for distinguished contribution to society.

## **University Alumnus (na) of the Year (LLU)**

Presented to an alumnus/na whose accomplishments exemplify the aims and aspirations of Loma Linda University. The honoree must have been distinguished in humanitarian service or in academic pursuits, including peer-reviewed research and/or education; and must have maintained spiritual commitment.

## **Meritorious Service Award (LLUH)**

Presented to one who has had no official connection with the LLUH entities. Awarded to someone whose public attainments and commitment to excellence have contributed to the endeavors of the Church and/or have contributed to mankind in a manner which is congruent with the mission of Loma Linda University Health.

## **Distinguished Academic Award (LLUH)**

Presented to a faculty member, administrator, clinician or staff member selected for having made outstanding contributions to Loma Linda University Health's academic mission. A person so honored, is generally well known and recognized on campus and has served with distinction for a minimum of ten years.

## **Distinguished Service Award (LLUH)**

Presented to a faculty member, administrator, staff member or member of the Board of Trustees, selected for having made outstanding contributions to LLUH in service areas. A person so honored is generally well known and recognized on campus and has served the institution with distinction for a minimum of ten years.

## **Distinguished Humanitarian (LLUH)**

Presented to those who have made outstanding contributions to Loma Linda University Health and its various institutions and programs.

### **Distinguished Investigator Award (LLUH)**

Recognizes an individual whose commitment to research exemplifies LLUH's mission; and whose work has had significant impact not only on the program at Loma Linda University, but also in the larger national/international community. The recipient should have a minimum of ten years of service as a researcher at Loma Linda University. He or she should also have been awarded significant external research funding, should have extensive scientific publications, should have been cited in other publications, and should be conducting research consistent with the mission of Loma Linda University Health.

### **Global Service Award (LLUH)**

Presented to an individual whose commitment to global service exemplifies LLUH's worldwide mission through health care, education, and/or research. The recipient should have a minimum of ten years of service internationally within the Seventh-day Adventist system and/or through other nonprofit organizations; or a minimum of ten years of service at Loma Linda, with significant impact on behalf of the institution's global outreach and service.

### **Community Engagement Award (LLUH)**

Presented to an individual or organization whose commitment to local community through respectful and reciprocal engagement exemplifies LLUH's mission through practice, education, and/or research. The recipient should have a minimum of five years of service within LLUH, with significant impact on the local community through meaningful community partnerships; or a minimum of five years of community engagement work within the Adventist system and/or through other nonprofit organizations.

*Loma Linda University Health  
and  
Loma Linda University  
Honorees*

## Charles F. McMillan—*Doctor of Humanitarian Service (2020-2021)*



Director, Los Alamos National Laboratory  
and President of Los Alamos National  
Security, LLC (2011-2017)

*B.A. Columbia Union College 1977*

*Ph.D. Massachusetts Institute of Technology 1983*

*DOE Secretary's Exceptional Service Award 2017*

*NNSA Administrators Distinguished Service  
Gold Award 2017*

*Senate Tribute to Dr. Charles McMillan,*

*Congressional Record Vol. 163 No. 199 2017*

*DOE Award of Excellence for Holographic  
Imaging Diagnostics 1994*

Dr. Charles McMillan grew up in an environment of inquiry. The dinner table was often the site of animated discussion where his dad, also a physicist, would pose questions that Charles and his three sisters would discuss and seek to answer. His dad rarely, if ever, answered his own questions. Charles' mother, a school teacher, likewise stimulated a keen interest in reading and learning.

Charles demonstrated his keen scientific aptitude in his undergraduate studies at Columbia Union College, where he studied physics and math and pursued music as well. Following his graduation from MIT, he pursued a distinguished career in experimental physics in two of the top National Laboratories in the United States, finally achieving one of the highest positions in the field, the director of the Los Alamos National Laboratory. Under his leadership, the Laboratory continued to innovate new techniques and tools to ensure that this nation's deterrent remained safe, reliable, and effective. In retirement, Dr. McMillan continues to serve the national security enterprise on various boards and review committees.

He is passionate about promoting interest and excellence in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) education in cultivating the talent necessary to sustaining that role in the future. This has led him to be a valued instructor in Loma Linda's EXSEED program to enhance STEM education by primary and secondary school teachers.

An accomplished musician, he plays piano, organ, and recorder. He finds joy in playing great organs in Europe and studying their history. He has a wide range of interests and a deep curiosity that make him a fascinating conversationalist. He resides in Los Alamos, with his wife Janet, with whom he reared three children.

Because of his outstanding achievements, his service to this country and contributions at the highest levels, and his passion in promoting excellence in science, technology, engineering and mathematics education, envisioning a greater future, Loma Linda University is pleased to confer on Dr. Charles F. McMillan the 2020-2021 DOCTOR OF HUMANITARIAN SERVICE.

## James L. Gulley—*University Alumnus of the Year (2020-2021)*



Attending Physician, Center for Cancer Research, National Cancer Institute, National Institutes of Health  
Director, Clinical Trials Group and Senior Investigator (Tenured), Laboratory of Tumor Immunology and Biology  
Director, Medical Oncology Service / Chief, Genitourinary Malignancies Branch, Center for Cancer Research, National Cancer Institute, National Institutes of Health

*B.A. Southern Adventist University 1987*  
*Ph.D. Loma Linda University 1994*  
*M.D. Loma Linda University 1995*  
*Fellowship, Medical Oncology, National Cancer Institute 1998-2000*  
*Senior Clinical Fellow, Laboratory of Tumor Immunology and Biology, Center for Cancer Research, National Cancer Institute, National Institutes of Health 2000-2001*

*Hubert H. Humphrey Award for Service to America 2018*  
*Presidential Early Career Award for Scientists and Engineers 2010*  
*Diplomat, American Board of Internal Medicine (1999) and Medical Oncology (2000)*

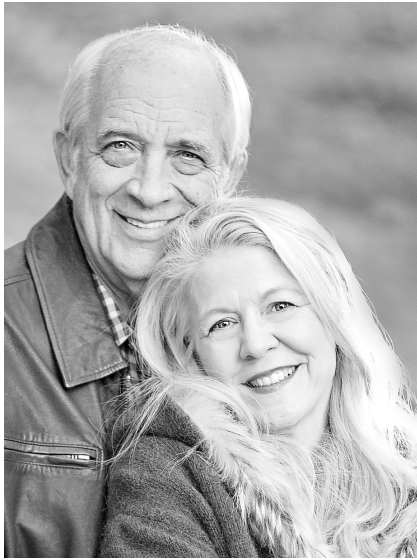
Dr. James Gulley is an internationally recognized expert in immunotherapy for cancer. He graduated from Loma Linda University with a PhD in microbiology and an MD in 1995. As part of this eight-year MD/PhD Medical Scientist Training Program, he completed a dissertation on tumor immunology. He completed his residency in Internal Medicine at Emory University in 1998, followed by a Medical Oncology fellowship at the National Cancer Institute (NCI).

Dr. Gulley serves within the Center for Cancer Research (CCR) of the National Cancer Institute as Chief of the Genitourinary Malignancies Branch (GMB), the Director of the Medical Oncology Service (CCR), and also Head of the Immunotherapy Section within the GMB. He has been instrumental in the clinical development of multiple immunotherapeutic agents and has led multiple first-in-human immunotherapy studies through phase 3 clinical trials. He was the coordinating Principle Investigator of an international trial of avelumab that led to regulatory approval. He also leads a number of rationally designed, cutting edge combination immunotherapy studies.

Dr. Gulley serves on many national and NIH boards and committees as well as an advisor to the board of LLUH. He has been an investigator on more than 170 clinical trials and authored 325 scientific papers or chapters which have been cited over 7,500 times. He serves on a number of editorial boards and has made hundreds of scientific presentations at universities or national / international meetings. He was instrumental in helping to get FDA approval for avelumab for Merkel cell carcinoma and urothelial carcinoma and has received 8 NCI or NIH Director's Awards.

For his contributions to the health, safety and well-being of the nation through his professional endeavors and exemplary pursuits, Loma Linda University names Dr. James L. Gulley 2020-2021 *UNIVERSITY ALUMNUS OF THE YEAR*.

## Bill and Crystal Wyatt—*Meritorious Service Award (2020-2021)*



Owners, The Wyatt Group

The Wyatt Group, owned by Bill and Crystal Wyatt, have been serving their clients for over 50 years. They are a technical production company focused on delivering exceptional event experiences. In the early years, Bill designed and manufactured custom audio consoles and speaker systems. In addition to permanent theatre installations, he took these systems on the road for several years with such known performers as Sammy Davis Jr., Frank Sinatra, Andy Williams, Bobby Vinton, Henry Mancini, Sergio Mendez, Shirley MacLaine, Ann Margret, Glen Campbell, Kenny Rogers, Vicki Carr, Johnny Mathis, Ike and Tina Turner, The Jackson 5, among others. Crystal joined the company when their children were grown in 1996, and the two have been working as a team ever since with a focus on serving local businesses, 35% of which are philanthropic organizations.

The Wyatts have served Loma Linda University Health for over 30 years in a multitude of ways, including providing services for the following milestone and annual events -- Loma Linda University Centennial celebration, School of Medicine Centennial celebration, School of Dentistry 50 Year anniversary, Vision 2020 Reveal and Groundbreaking events, Children's Hospital Foundation Galas, Homecoming events, Employee Recognition Banquets, Commencements, as well as many conferences and other events. Through their dedication, excellence, service and generosity, Bill and Crystal have become part of LLUH in an integral and personal way.

Of them it has been said...

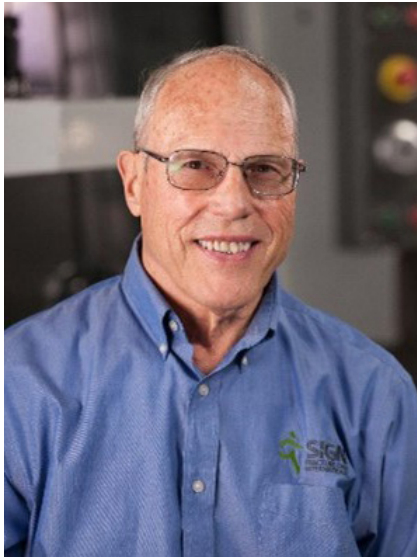
"They are dream-makers and advocates for our mission"

"No request is too small or large for Bill and Crystal; they give 200 % on everything and ensure that their work reflects the excellence that LLUH is known for"

Their actions and professionalism in everything they do to support our institution's many endeavors, reflects what they often say, "just remember, we are here to help with anything you need."

For their professional excellence, long-time service to this institution, and constant dedication that aligns with the mission of this institution, Loma Linda University Health is honored to present to Bill and Crystal Wyatt the 2020-2021 *MERITORIOUS SERVICE AWARD*.

## Lewis G. Zirkle, MD—*Meritorious Service Award (2020-2021)*



*M.D. Duke University School of Medicine  
1966*

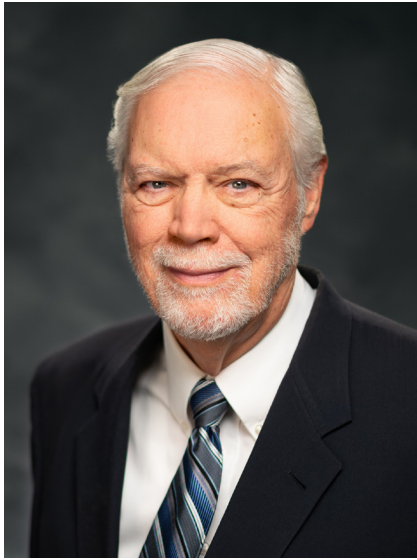
Dr. Lewis G. Zirkle has revolutionized the care of long bone fractures worldwide. The SIGN nail system he developed is not only an innovative top-quality implant, but includes a system for accountability, quality control and replenishing of supplies. This has changed the lives of thousands of people around the world, especially in locations where access to care is extremely limited.

The intramedullary rod and screw system developed by Dr. Zirkle for resource depleted countries is Food and Drug Administration approved, affordable, and most importantly, easy to use and highly effective. The results are almost immediate when compared to recovery with conventional orthopedic repairs done with plates and screws. It often allows patients to walk out of the hospital the day after surgery rather than waiting for weeks for the bones to heal.

Loma Linda University and Adventist Health International have now implemented the SIGN system for long bone fractures at multiple hospitals throughout developing countries, including in war-torn Afghanistan and Haiti after the 2010 earthquake. Dr. Zirkle's tireless efforts to assist patients without means to regain their health and productivity has blessed thousands. Using the SIGN System, 7,000 local orthopedic surgeons have treated more than 350,000 patients in low- and middle-income countries.

For his revolutionary and innovative contributions in service to humankind, and practice of medicine that aligns with this institution's motto – "To Make Man Whole," Loma Linda University Health is pleased to recognize Dr. Lewis G. Zirkle with the *2020-2021 MERITORIOUS SERVICE AWARD*.

## Jeffrey D. Cao—*Distinguished Academic Award (2020-2021)*



Professor of Pathology and Human  
Anatomy, School of Medicine, Loma  
Linda University  
Director, Sophomore Pathology Course,  
School of Medicine, Loma Linda University  
Laboratory Medical Director, East Campus  
Hospital / Highland Springs Clinic / LLU  
Surgical Hospital / Caroline Street Clinic  
Medical Director, Microbiology, Loma  
Linda University Hospital  
Surgical Pathologist and  
Hematopathologist, Loma Linda  
University Medical Center

*B.A. Loma Linda University 1967*

*M.D. Loma Linda University SM 1971*

*Iner Sheld-Ritchie Presidential Award, Loma  
Linda University School of Medicine Alumni  
Association 2014*

*Distinguished Service Award, Loma Linda  
University School of Medicine 2011*

*Outstanding Faculty Award, Loma Linda  
University SM Classes of 2009, 2008, 2007,  
2005, 2002, 2001, 2000, 1999*

*Teacher of the Year Award, Walter E.  
Mcpherson Society & Loma Linda University  
SM Dean's Office 2007, 1999*

Dr. Cao was born in San Francisco, California, in 1944 and lived most of his childhood in the San Fernando Valley, California, until 1960 when his family moved to La Sierra, California. Upon graduation from medical school, he went on to complete a one-year Internal Medicine residency and three years of Pathology residency at Kettering Medical Center in Dayton, Ohio. In 1975, he returned to Loma Linda University Medical Center for his final year of Pathology as the Chief Resident, and the following year he completed a Hematopathology fellowship. By 1980, he was certified in Anatomic and Clinical Pathology and in the subspecialty of Hematopathology.

While serving as Director of the Hematopathology Service at the Jerry L. Pettis Memorial Veterans Hospital in Loma Linda, California, he was instrumental in preparing the Clinical Laboratory for the opening of the hospital. In 1987, he transferred to the Department of Pathology at Loma Linda University Medical Center and became responsible for the Hematopathology service and the teaching program for Pathology in the School of Medicine.

Throughout his academic career, Dr. Cao has received numerous awards for teaching, both from students and other entities that have consistently recognized him as an outstanding mentor and educator. On the national scene, he has also been heavily involved in educational associations for the teaching of Pathology, including serving as the Chair for the Medical School Course Directors Section of the Association of Pathology Chairs and as the President of the Group for Research in Pathology Education. For his work in education, he was inducted into the Medical Honor Society of Alpha Omega Alpha in 1998. Between 1997 to 2000, he was also an Item Writer and Editor for the Pathology section of the National Board of Medical Examiners. He has served on the continuing medical education committees for the American Society of Clinical Pathologists and the American Association of Medical Colleges.

A former student, now a colleague of Dr. Cao, has said, "I can only aspire to a fraction of his impact, and I am deeply indebted to him as both my former professor and now mentor and colleague."

For his long standing and valuable contributions to medical education, his steadfast mentoring of students and peers, and his unwavering commitment to promoting this institution's mission, Loma Linda University Health is honored to present Dr. Jeffrey Cao with the 2020-2021 *DISTINGUISHED ACADEMIC AWARD*.



## Ella Hasso Haddad—*Distinguished Academic Award (2020-2021)*



Emerita Professor, School of Public Health,  
Loma Linda University

*B.S. La Sierra College (now La Sierra  
University) 1957*

*M.S. Loma Linda University 1978*

*Dr.PH. Loma Linda University 1979*

*P. William Dysinger Excellence in Teaching  
Award, Loma Linda University School of  
Public Health 2014*

*Alumni of the Year, Loma Linda University  
School of Public Health 2005*

*Dean's Award, Loma Linda University 1979*

*Member, Delta Omega National Public Health  
Honor Society, Kappa Chapter 1979*

Ella Hasso Haddad was born in Baghdad, Iraq to a Seventh-day Adventist family whose roots were from the plains of Mosul, or biblical Ninevah - an ethnically and religiously diverse ancient land with a rich history and culture. With her husband Edmond, she returned to Beirut, Lebanon where they taught at Middle East College (now University) from 1966 to 1975. Ella and her family returned to the United States in 1975, giving her the opportunity to pursue a doctoral degree. After returning to Lebanon for a few years, the family came to Loma Linda in 1989, where Dr. Haddad joined the faculty of the Department of Nutrition in the School of Public Health—a position she has held since then.

Dr. Haddad has taught many academic courses in the School's nutrition program, as well as providing lectures for the Schools of Medicine and Dentistry. Her contributions have gone well beyond the classroom, with involvement in surrounding communities supporting multiple projects as practicum sites for nutrition students. She was instrumental in preparing the self-study documents for accreditation of the SPH nutrition programs in dietetic education in 1997 and 2002, and partnered with the School of Allied Health Professions (SAHP) in preparing the self-study documents for the joint nutrition accreditation in 2007.

In addition to her many teaching and administrative responsibilities, Dr Haddad has been active in the research of vegetarian nutrition and clinical feeding trials. She also supervised the laboratory work for sub-studies of the Adventist Health Study-2, a cohort study of 96,000 Seventh-day Adventists.

Ella strongly believes that nutrition education is the best way to help people live healthier lives and hopes she has contributed towards that goal, both in the Middle East and in the US. As a colleague remarked: "Dr. Haddad presents a striking contrast of being a well-rounded person as well as a 'renaissance' professional. She embodies the virtues of Christian professionalism, while being an unpretentious, but effective, faculty member."

For her significant contributions to the field of nutrition education and research, and her exemplary servant-leader commitment to academic excellence and the achievement of the mission of this institution, Loma Linda University Health honors Dr. Ella Hasso Haddad with the 2020-2021 *DISTINGUISHED ACADEMIC AWARD*.

## Jerome (Jerry) A. James—*Distinguished Service Award (2020-2021)*



Director, Student Finance, Loma Linda  
University

*B.S. Loma Linda University, La Sierra Campus  
1981*

Jerry James was born and raised in Loma Linda. Starting in 1972, he worked at Loma Linda University in a variety of areas, including the Real Estate Department, Medical Center, Loma Linda Market (Hardware), and University Accounting.

In 1986, Mr. James was hired as the Director of Student Finance, a position that he still holds. In this position, he has been involved in the continuing expansion of student financial services, including acceptance of bankcards for payment, student account withdrawals, direct bank deposits, online payments and services, and improvements in the registration process.

Mr. James is the son of Richard A. James, former Legal Counsel for the University, and Lorna M. James, RN, both LLUH employees and community members for many years. Mr. James is married to Lorene James, RN, an NICU Charge Nurse in the LLU Children's Hospital. They have one daughter, Ashley, and 1 grandson, Liam.

In recognition of his invaluable and exemplary service, his commitment to improving student processes, and his many years of service to this institution, Loma Linda University Health is pleased to present to Mr. Jerry James the *2020-2021 DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD*.

## Verdell A. Schaefer—*Distinguished Service Award (2020-2021)*



Director, Student Financial Aid, Loma  
Linda University

*B.B.A. Loma Linda University, La Sierra  
Campus 1987*

*M.B.A. La Sierra University 2004*

Verdell Schaefer joined the Loma Linda University Financial Aid Department in 1995, and became its Director in 2000, already knowing the challenges and opportunities for improvement. She transitioned the LLU financial aid process from being paper-based to an electronic, web-based application process. Verdell has managed and increased many of the resources available to assist students in their educational goals - from increased Federal Work-Study funding to increased funding for our health professional programs. She has worked hard to identify resources that students can utilize to reduce the overall cost of their education.

Since 2000, the financial aid industry has undergone significant transitions and legislative overhauls. Verdell has led the University in navigating the rapidly changing landscape of federal aid eligibility, ensuring that LLU remains in compliance with federal and state rules and regulations. She has successfully implemented procedural improvements that result in clean external audits each year. Verdell has represented LLU on several national financial aid industry committees and advisory boards.

Verdell Schaefer is a highly detailed person and yet has a surprisingly adventuresome spirit. She is an avid traveler and has been known to catch an inexpensive red-eye flight on a Thursday evening, fly to the east coast, Hawaii, or even Europe, and be back at work on Monday afternoon. Verdell is married to Robert (Bob) Schaefer, and they have two adult children.

In recognition of her many years of valuable service to this institution, significant contributions to improving student services, and commitment to our mission, Loma Linda University Health is honored to present Mrs. Verdell Schaefer with the *2020-2021 DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD*.

## Donald (Don) Sease—*Distinguished Service Award (2020-2021)*



Director, Drayson Center, Loma Linda University

*B.A. Loma Linda University, La Sierra Campus 1969*

*M.B.A. La Sierra University 2004*

Donald (Don) W. Sease, joined the staff of Loma Linda University Drayson Center in 1996, less than two years after the center opened. His task was to develop and grow the 100,000-sf facility and maximize its use throughout the entire day. He saw an opportunity to invite the senior community to share in the benefits of recreation and wellness, as well as help support programs and operations. In 2000, following the untimely passing of the Center's director, Richard Hamilton, Mr. Sease was chosen to lead the Drayson Center. He has brought his passion for integration of community members without major impact on student, faculty, and employee members together with his vision for innovative programs, activities, and services.

Mr. Sease began his career working with inner-city delinquent youth, co-sponsored by the state and YMCA, giving them experiences outside their neighborhoods to open their eyes to the world. He later joined Glendale Adventist Medical Center as a social worker on the rehabilitation unit.

Concurrently, from 1972 to 1981, Mr. Sease co-owned and managed Sease Employment Agency, a family-run business. In 1981 he joined the White Memorial Medical Center as a recruiter. During his years at WMMC, he became marketing representative for their 22-bed Rehabilitation Center and established their Student Health Services, an innovative program providing health care to four community colleges in greater Los Angeles.

The one constant in life, he believes, is change. In light of that, Mr. Sease expects his administrative team and staff to be innovative, flexible, and adaptable to all campus needs—from major events such as graduations and homecomings, to everyday operations of a full-service recreational and wellness facility. Mr. Sease has built a strong team at Drayson Center, emphasizing customer service, excellence, and innovation, as well as keeping a well-maintained facility. He embodies servant leadership and encourages a servant's heart among his staff.

In recognition of nearly a quarter century of outstanding leadership and service and his commitment to health and wellness that aligns with this institution's mission, Loma Linda University Health is pleased to present Mr. Donald Sease with the 2020-2021 *DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD*.

## Jere and Marian Chrispens—*Distinguished Humanitarian Award (2020-2021)*



Jere Chrispens

*B.A. University of California, Los Angeles 1964*

*M.A. University of California, Los Angeles*

*1966*

Marian Chrispens

*B.S. La Sierra University 1967*

*A.S. San Bernardino Valley College 1978*

Jere and Marian Chrispens have dedicated their lives to service – to family, church and community. Their connection with Loma Linda University Health goes back more than 100 years, when Mrs. Chrispens’ grandparents attended the Medical Missionary Course here from 1918-1921. During that time, Marian’s mother was born at the Loma Linda Sanitarium.

After graduating from UCLA in 1966 with a master’s in mathematics and a secondary teaching credential, Mr. Chrispens began a lifelong affiliation with Loma Linda University Health when he became manager of the biomedical computing research facility. While he has held a faculty position at Loma Linda University for the past 40 years, Mr. Chrispens helped start a healthcare software business in 1978, and the remainder of his professional career was involved in private business until his retirement in 2003. He has extended his service to Loma Linda University Health as a member of its Board of Trustees since 2006.

Mrs. Chrispens earned her bachelor’s degree in home economics from La Sierra University in 1967, and an associate’s in nursing from San Bernardino Valley College in 1978. Between raising five children, all of whom were born at Loma Linda University Medical Center, she taught adult education clothing construction classes in the Colton Unified School District and worked as a nurse at Redlands Community Hospital. Her life has also been filled with volunteer roles at Mesa Grande Academy and caring for nine grandchildren in their preschool years while their parents worked. Since 2000, she has been engaged with Loma Linda University Children’s Hospital Foundation as a member of its Big Hearts for Little Hearts Loma Linda Guild.

In addition to serving locally, the Chrispens have volunteered their time and expertise to help disadvantaged hospitals in South America, the Caribbean, Afghanistan, and Malawi to improve their level of patient care. Since 2017, Mr. Chrispens has been CEO of Haiti Adventist Hospital, and Mrs. Chrispens has shared her talents in renovating the hospital’s kitchen and coordinating uniforms for non-medical staff.

When Loma Linda University Health was planning for Vision 2020 – The Campaign for a Whole Tomorrow - Jere and Marian Chrispens accepted the invitation to serve as co-chairs of the \$366 million philanthropic effort. During the campaign’s eight years, which ended in 2020, more than \$476 million was raised, including over \$220 million toward construction of the new hospital towers on the Dennis and Carol Troesh Medical Campus.

In recognition of exemplary service and philanthropy, and for inspiring and challenging others to model our mission, Loma Linda University Health honors Jere and Marian Chrispens with the *2020-2021 DISTINGUISHED HUMANITARIAN AWARD*.

## Susanne B. Montgomery—*Distinguished Investigator Award (2020-2021)*



Associate Dean for Research, and Head of Interdisciplinary Studies, School of Behavioral Health, Loma Linda University

Professor, Social Work & Social Ecology, School of Behavioral Health; Preventive Medicine, School of Medicine; and Public Health, School of Public Health, Loma Linda University

*M.S. Justus Liebig-Unoiv Gliessen 1982*

*M.P.H. University of Michigan 1984*

*Ph.D. University of Michigan 1987*

Dr. Susanne Montgomery joined Loma Linda University (LLU) in 1995 and is currently the Associate Dean for Research in the School of Behavioral Health (SBH). She is a Professor of Social Work and Social Ecology, Public Health, and Preventive Medicine and the Division Head of the SBH Interdisciplinary Studies Program.

Under her leadership the SBH has become one of the leaders in LLUH research and extramural funding. She leads the behavioral health research engagement efforts for the University, and enjoys working with faculty on their efforts to seek extramural funding and mentoring students in research.

Trained as a social/behavioral epidemiologist her research focus is on hard-to-access, underserved populations and health disparities from a translational behavioral health and prevention perspective. Her partnership efforts and mentorship involve a commitment to collaborations with our local community using mixed methods approaches to conduct participatory research, as well as international capacity building and collaborations in India, and multiple LLU African partner institutions. She has been a Principal and Co-Investigator on several National Institutes of Health (NIH), Centers for Disease Control (CDC) Foundation, and State funded projects, has published over 140 peer-reviewed articles and serves as a peer reviewer for NIH, CDC and several professional journals.

For her invaluable contributions to research in the fields of public health and mental health, her outstanding efforts for impacting underserved populations from a research-based perspective, and her extensive and active research pursuits, Loma Linda University Health honors Dr. Susanne Montgomery with the 2020-2021 *DISTINGUISHED INVESTIGATOR AWARD*.

## William J. Pearce—*Distinguished Investigator Award (2020-2021)*



Professor, Basic Sciences, School of  
Medicine, Loma Linda University  
Associate Director, Center for Perinatal  
Biology, School of Medicine, Loma Linda  
University

*B.S. University of Michigan 1974*  
*Ph.D. University of Michigan 1979*

*Section Head, Faculty of 1000: Pharmacology  
& Drug Discovery*

*Member, Board of Directors, International  
Society for Cerebral Blood Flow and  
Metabolism*

*Member, Board of Editors, American Journal of  
Physiology: Cell Physiology*

*Member, Board of Editors, American Journal  
of Physiology: Heart and Circulatory  
Physiology*

*Member, Board of Editors, Journal of Cerebral  
Blood Flow and Metabolism*

William Pearce began at Loma Linda University in 1983, when he first joined the faculty in the School of Medicine as an assistant research professor in physiology. His research interests and contributions ultimately brought him to the School's Center for Perinatal Biology, where Dr. Pearce currently serves as associate director.

His interest in the direct and acute effects of hypoxia began as an extension of his post-doctoral study, when he "made the fortuitous discovery that the extra-cranial margin of the veins draining cerebral venous effluent in the dog were highly muscularized and heavily innervated by adrenergic nerves." His findings helped explain and solve a major controversy at the time, and were first published in 1981. This recognition led to a number of young scientist awards as well as opportunities to speak internationally.

Dr. Pearce has presented his research at scientific conferences around the world, and has been a lecturer or visiting professor at international universities, as well as in the United States. Published numerous times in a variety of peer-reviewed scientific journals over the past 33 years, he continues to serve in advisory and editorial roles for some of these same journals. Recent articles submitted include several relating to hypoxia and plasticity regarding the circulatory system of both infants and adults.

Dr. Pearce's research has contributed significantly to the internationally known and respected LLU Center for Perinatal Biology. Some of the techniques and findings developed in his laboratory have never been duplicated anywhere in the world.

Because of his contributions as a leading researcher in his field, his role in education and a mentor in the basic sciences, and his commitment to the mission, "Continuing the Teaching and Healing Ministry of Jesus Christ," Loma Linda University recognizes Dr. William J. Pearce with the 2020-2021 *DISTINGUISHED INVESTIGATOR AWARD*.

*The Program,  
The School Honorees,  
and The Speaker*



# School of Dentistry

May thirty, five o'clock

Ronald L. Carter, University Grand Marshal, leading  
Shelley Hayton, Zina Johnston, John Won, Associate Marshals, assisting

WELCOME <i>(live)</i>	Richard H. Hart, President of the University
INVOCATION <i>(live)</i>	Robert A. Handysides Dean of the School
INTRODUCTION OF CLASS OF 2021 <i>(live)</i>	The Dean
INTRODUCTION OF THE SPEAKER <i>(pre-recorded)</i>	The Dean
ADDRESS <i>(pre-recorded)</i>	Karl Haffner Vice President for Student Experience, Loma Linda University
A TOUCHING STORY	
RESPONSE FOR GRADUATES <i>(pre-recorded)</i>	Brian Pheng, 2021 Class President for Dental Hygiene Christopher Chan, 2021 Class President DDS
CONFERRING OF DEGREES <i>(pre-recorded)</i>	The President
AWARDING OF DIPLOMAS <i>(live)</i>	Drive-Thru Ceremony
PLEDGE TO DENTISTRY <i>(pre-recorded)</i>	Balsam Jekki Associate Professor, Division of General Dentistry
DEAN'S REMARKS <i>(pre-recorded)</i>	The Dean
BENEDICTION <i>(live)</i>	Mark E. Estey Associate Dean for Academic Affairs

# School of Dentistry Candidates for Degrees

The listing of a candidate's name in the commencement program is presumptive evidence of graduation but is not to be regarded as conclusive.

The three-letter designation following a student's name (MAR, SEP, DEC) indicates the month in which the student completed his or her program, if other than May/June.

## BACHELOR OF SCIENCE

### *Dental Hygiene*



Michelle Frances Perena Abad  
*Sigma Phi Alpha Award*



Kimberly Monique Coy  
*Bates Award*



Annalie Adlaon



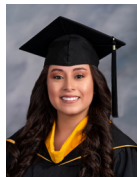
Elisabeth Crespo, summa cum laude  
*Dean's Award*  
*Sigma Phi Alpha Award*



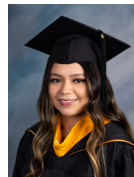
Emily N. Aguilar



John Cua



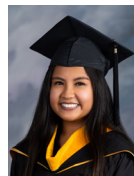
Mayra A. Barraza



Carol Stephanie Diaz



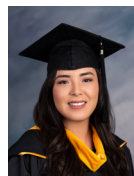
Heidi Noelle Beisiegel, cum laude



Dana Joanne C. Gabriel



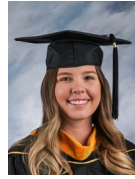
Alexa Campbell



Daisy Gutierrez Contreras



Jasmine Lee Hicks



Aymi Michelle Mayfield



Madison N. Hillman, cum laude



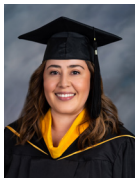
Sydney Nicole McKenna



Robert Hysa  
*California Dental Hygienists' Association Award*



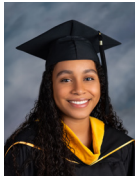
Thang Dang Ngo, cum laude  
*Middleton Award*



Samantha Jauregui



Sara Michelle Pak



Guadalupe Virginia Jordan



Arraiya J. Perez, cum laude



Priscila Larios



Sarah Mckenna Phelps, cum laude



Courtney Arielle Lewis



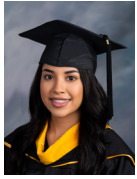
Brian Anthony Pheng  
*Mitchell Award*  
*Sigma Phi Alpha Award*



Mikayla M. Lopez, summa cum laude



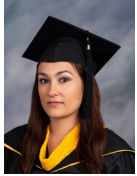
Rachel Anne Z. Ramirez



Sarah K. Rangel, cum laude



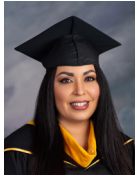
Herriett Hoa Truong



Christine A. Rodriguez, magna cum laude



Theodore Tzeng  
*Klooster Humanitarian Award*



Sandra Lee Saucedo  
*American Association of Public Health Dentistry*



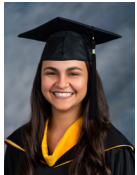
Madison Verska, summa cum laude  
*Sigma Phi Alpha Award*



Stanford Lee Shin, cum laude



Zuleika Villarreal



Nadine Tawfik, cum laude



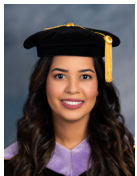
Nina Yu  
*Clinician's Award*



Tracy Thai

## MASTER OF SCIENCE

### *Orthodontics and Dentofacial Orthopedics*



Mainer Danira Cruz  
BA Andrews University 2010  
DDS Loma Linda University SD 2016



Grant Timothy Essink  
BS University of Nebraska at Lincoln 2013  
DDS University of Nebraska Medical Center  
2017



Phillip Dalhong Ha  
BS Pacific Union College 2014  
DDS Loma Linda University SD 2019



Bryan J. Otis  
BA Southern Adventist University 2013  
DDS Loma Linda University SD 2017

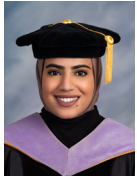


James Oh  
BS University of Michigan, Ann Arbor 2012



Krystal Soo Jung Park  
BS Pacific Union College 2015  
DDS Loma Linda University SD 2019

*Pediatric Dentistry*



Mariam I. Y. H. S. Alkheder  
BDMS Kuwait University 2016

*Periodontics*



Ravneetinder Kaur Gill  
BDS Panjab University 2011



Hardev M. Singh  
BS California State Polytechnic University,  
Pomona 2000  
DMD University of Pittsburgh, Main Campus  
2005

*Prosthodontics*



Abdulaziz Abdulrahman Alzaid, DEC  
BDS King Saud University 2013

**MASTER OF SCIENCE IN DENTISTRY**

*Endodontics*



Minna Chun  
BA Occidental College 2013  
DDS Loma Linda University SD 2018



Winnie Uen ein Liang  
BS University of Southern California 2014  
DDS University of Southern California 2018



Cecilia Jessica Reguly  
 DDS EQUIV Univeristy of San Martin de  
 Porres 1999  
 DDS Loma Linda University SD 2006

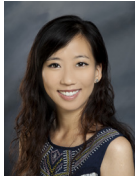
*Implant Dentistry*



Sasiya Bhumpattarachai  
 DDS Chulalongkorn University 2004



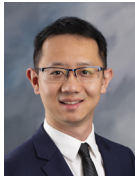
Hung-Chi Liao  
 DDS National Yang-Ming University 2010



Yuen Lok Loretta Ching, SEP  
 BS The University of Hong Kong 2009  
 BDS The University of Hong Kong 2014

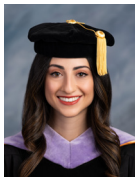


Sunee Limmeechokchai, SEP  
 DDS Chulalongkorn University 1998



Qiao Fang  
 MB Wenzhou Medical University 2012

*Pediatric Dentistry*



Nadia N. Barakat  
 BA University of California, Berkeley 2014  
 DDS Loma Linda University SD 2019



Luana Ji Hee Lim  
 BA University of California, San Diego 2011  
 BS University of California, San Diego 2011  
 MS Mississippi College 2014  
 DMD A. T. Still University of Health Sciences  
 2019



Sara H. El-Sherbini  
 BS University of Florida 2008  
 DMD University of Florida 2013

*Prosthodontics*



Ramon Noel Hernandez  
DDS EQUIV Universidad Nacional Autonoma  
de Nicaragua Leon 2006

**POSTDOCTORAL CERTIFICATE**

*Endodontics*



Minna Chun  
BA Occidental College 2013  
DDS Loma Linda University SD 2018



Cecilia Jessica Reguly  
DDS EQUIV Univeristy of San Martin de  
Porres 1999  
DDS Loma Linda University SD 2006



Winnie Uen ein Liang  
BS University of Southern California 2014  
DDS University of Southern California 2018

*Implant Dentistry*



Blake Ryan Adams  
DDS University of Oklahoma Health Sciences  
Center 2008



Samuel Sauza, Jr.  
BA La Sierra University 2013  
DDS Loma Linda University SD 2017



Sasiya Bhumpattarachai  
DDS Chulalongkorn University 2004

*Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery*



Daniel Cantu  
BS The University of Texas, Rio Grande Valley  
2007  
DDS The University of Texas Health Science  
Center 2010

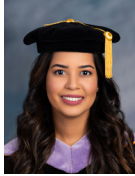


Brian Christopher-Michael Lee  
BA Claremont McKenna College 2011  
DDS University of California, San Francisco  
2015  
MD Loma Linda University SM 2017



William Charlemagne Verlinden  
 DDS Loma Linda University SD 2015  
 MD Loma Linda University SM 2017

*Orthodontics and Dentofacial Orthopedics*



Mainer Danira Cruz  
 BA Andrews University 2010  
 DDS Loma Linda University SD 2016



James Oh  
 BS University of Michigan, Ann Arbor 2012



Grant Timothy Essink  
 BS University of Nebraska at Lincoln 2013  
 DDS University of Nebraska Medical Center  
 2017



Bryan J. Otis  
 BA Southern Adventist University 2013  
 DDS Loma Linda University SD 2017

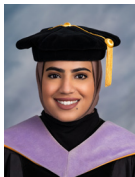


Phillip Dalhong Ha  
 BS Pacific Union College 2014  
 DDS Loma Linda University SD 2019



Krystal Soo Jung Park  
 BS Pacific Union College 2015  
 DDS Loma Linda University SD 2019

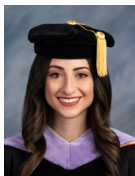
*Pediatric Dentistry*



Mariam I. Y. H. S. Alkheder BDMS  
 Kuwait University 2016



Sara H. El-Sherbini  
 BS University of Florida 2008  
 DMD University of Florida 2013



Nadia N. Barakat  
 BA University of California, Berkeley 2014 DDS  
 Loma Linda University SD 2019



Luana Ji Hee Lim  
 BA University of California, San Diego 2011  
 BS University of California, San Diego 2011  
 MS Mississippi College 2014  
 DMD A. T. Still University of Health Sciences  
 2019



*Periodontics*



Smriti Bhatia  
BDS Dr. Ram Manohar Lohia Advadh  
University 2013



Hardev M. Singh  
BS California State Polytechnic University,  
Pomona 2000  
DMD University of Pittsburgh, Main Campus  
2005



Ravneetinder Kaur Gill  
BDS Panjab University 2011

*Prosthodontics*



Ahmed Saleh Albakri  
BDS King Saud University 2014



Kawther Ali  
DDS Kuwait University 2016



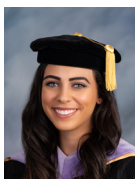
Raneem Ibrahim S. Alduraiby  
BDS Riyadh College of Dentistry and  
Pharmacy 2017



Marina Luna  
DMD University of Illinois at Chicago 2018

**DOCTOR OF DENTAL SURGERY**

*Dentistry*



Christin N. Abdelmessih  
BS La Sierra University 2017



Rana Al-Rzoog  
BDS Jordan University of Science and  
Technology 2007



Ali Saad Mohammed Alobaidi  
BDS University of Baghdad 2008



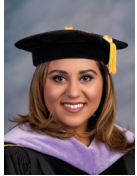
Yeganeh Amini  
BS University of California, Los Angeles 2017  
*Pierre Fauchard Academy:*



Ali Amir Khan  
DMD University of the East 2013



Alex T. Bullock  
BS Arizona State University West 2015



Yara Cathrina Arnouk  
BS Azusa Pacific University 2017



Asharie Johnson Campbell  
BS Northern Caribbean University 2002  
PHD Loma Linda University SM 2010



Liza Arora  
BDS Rajasthan University of Health Sciences  
2011



Jhonny Emanuel Castro Tigre  
BA Southern Adventist University 2015



Abigail A. Aviles Manahan  
BS California State University, Fullerton 2016



Angela S. Chan  
BS Chapman University 2017  
*SCADA Dentsply Student Clinician (D3)*  
*Wil Alexander Award*



Naga Venkata Sriharshini Azzarapu  
BDS N.T.R. University of Health Sciences 2012  
MS Western Kentucky University 2017



Christopher Daniel Chan  
BS California Baptist University 2017  
*American Association of Orthodontists*  
*President's Award*



Jason Singh Bajwa  
BS Pacific Union College 2017



Luke Chang  
BS University of California, Santa Barbara 2016



Gagandeep Kaur Bhangu  
BDS Chaudhary Charan Singh University 2011



Purin Chirachevin  
BS Andrews University 2017  
*Academy of General Dentistry*



Michael Gordon Borchik  
BS Pacific Union College 2015



Brandon Soomin Cho  
BS Andrews University 2016



Yong Jun Cho  
BS La Sierra University 2015



Jonathan Edward Davenport  
BS Andrews University 2013



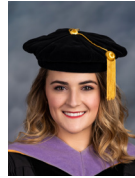
JinHee Choi  
BA Minot State University 2015



Keiko Aileen Davisson  
BS Andrews University 2017



Junghun Frederick Choi  
BS La Sierra University 2017



Gabrielle Rochelle Dennis  
BS Pacific Union College 2017  
*American Academy of Oral and Maxillofacial Radiology*



Rebecca Yena Choi  
BS University of California, Irvine 2014



Tapinder Kaur Deol  
BDS Manipal University 2007



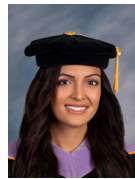
Ji Yeon Chung  
BS University of California, Los Angeles 2017  
*Academy of Osseointegration Award*



Cory Austin Diaz  
BS California State University, Los Angeles  
2016



Isaac Covarrubias  
BS University of Nebraska at Lincoln 2016



Aleksandra Ana Dumar  
BS California State University, San Marcos 2014



Mehrzad Dalaei  
DDS Tehran University of Medical Sciences 1993  
*LLU International Dentist Program Professionalism Award*  
*LLU International Dentist Program Fixed Prosthodontics Award*



Lori Ann Foust  
BS Southern Adventist University 2010  
BS Loma Linda University SD 2014  
*American Student Dental Association: Award of Excellence*  
*Weniger Fellows Student Scholarship*



Nicholas Dalida  
Pacific Union College



Ameer A. M. Frangieh  
DDS University of Jordan 2016  
*ICOI/Dentsply Pre-doctoral Student Achievement Award*



Divya Gade  
 BDS N.T.R. University of Health Sciences 2012  
 MS Western Kentucky University 2016



Ghadah Saad Hasoon  
 BDS University of Baghdad 2012



Benjamin A. Garver  
 BS Southern Adventist University 2009



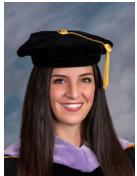
Hector Daniel Hernandez Villalvazo  
 DDS EQUIV University of Montemorelos 2017



Joufika V. Gestoso  
 BS University of Nevada, Reno 2012  
*Boyko Award for Christ-Like Service*



Connie Dassel Hong  
 BS York University 2017



Ashlyn Cate Ghazal  
 BS Walla Walla University 2017



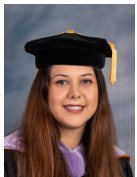
Nasrin Hosseinzadeh  
 DMD University of the East 2011



Victor Dandy Halder  
 BS Burman University 2014



Jenney Huynh  
 BS California State University, Fullerton 2016



Sherry Hamidifard  
 BS Isfahan University of Medical Sciences 2005  
 MS Tabriz University of Medical Sciences 2008  
 BS Washington Adventist University 2017



Dong H. Hwang  
 BA Pacific Union College 2015



Christine Hyesook Han  
 BA Southern Adventist University 2016



Justin Im  
 BS Southern Adventist University 2017



Sangwook Han  
 BS Pacific Union College 2016



Rie Inaba  
 BA State University of New York Health  
 Science Center at Stony Brook 2011  
 MBS Rutgers University Newark 2016



Amanda Jacovani  
 BS La Sierra University 2016  
*International College of Dentists Student  
 Humanitarian*



Nina Khanna  
 BA Pepperdine University 2017



Kevin Jahng  
 BS Pacific Union College 2016  
*American Academy of Oral and Maxillofacial  
 Pathology*



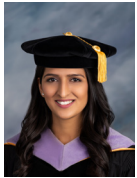
Jeanine Chafik Khoury  
 BDS Pharos University in Alexandria 2013  
*American College of Dentists, Southern California  
 Section  
 California Dental Association Senior Award*



Somyung Ji  
 BS La Sierra University 2016



Celina Dahae Kim  
 University of Washington, Seattle



Anagha Madhav Joglekar  
 BDS Maharashtra University of Health  
 Sciences 2014



Chanyoung Kim  
 BS La Sierra University 2017



Sergio Juca  
 BA University of California, Santa Barbara  
 2012



Eric M. Kim  
 BS University of Washington, Seattle 2012



Sandra D. Katanic  
 BA University of California, Berkeley 2012



Johnathan Kim  
 BMUS University of Southern California 2016  
*American College of Prosthodontists*



Jeffery R. Kendall  
 BS The University of Tennessee, Chattanooga  
 2015



Kenneth W. Kim  
 BS La Sierra University 2017



Victoria Truong Kha  
 BS University of California, San Diego 2012  
 BS Loma Linda University SD 2017



Matthew Hoyoung Kim  
 BS Pacific Union College 2017



Na Hyoung Kim  
BS Andrews University 2017



Lauren Chandler Lee-Henderson  
BS Georgia Southern University 2017



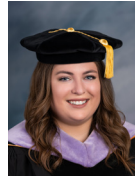
Yeongbok Kim  
University of California, Los Angeles



Joal Roger Legaspi  
BA La Sierra University 2012



Matthew Michael King  
BS Walla Walla University 2016



Anne Michaela Mulder Ligman  
BS Walla Walla University 2017



Chloe Catherine Coo Lacson  
DMD Centro Escolar University 2008  
BS West Coast University 2013



Zixuan Liu  
BS University of California, Irvine 2016



Daniel Yejoon Lee  
BA Andrews University 2016



Erica A. Lopez  
Portland State University



Mi Da Lee  
BA Pacific Union College 2006  
MA Andrews University 2013



Nicolette Mahboubian  
BA University of Southern California 2016



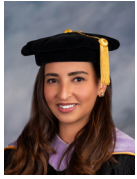
Steven Y. Lee  
BS Pacific Union College 2016



Prarthit H. Mehta  
DDS EQUIV Tver' State Institute of Medicine 2007  
MBA National University 2010  
*Academy of General Dentistry*  
*LLU International Dentist Program removable*  
*Prosthodontics Award*  
*Oesterling-Wical Removable Prosthodontics Award*



Suzie Lee  
Southern Adventist University  
*Brian D. Stone Memorial Award*



Mariham Medhat Mekhail  
DDS Ajman University of Science and  
Technology 2014



Jacqueline Michelle Neumann  
BS Andrews University 2011  
*Academy of Dentistry International Student  
Servant Leadership Award*



Krista Jieun Min  
Southern Adventist University  
*International College of Dentists Student  
Leadership*



Shant Oroojian  
BS University of California, Irvine 2015



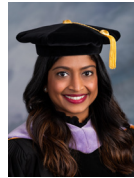
Grace Ye-Eun Moon  
BS Pacific Union College 2016  
*Southern California Academy of Oral Pathology  
Award*



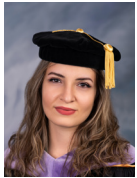
Hyun Jun Park  
BA University of Massachusetts, Amherst 2013



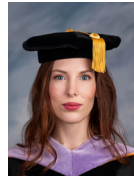
Joanna Alycyn Moses  
BS Andrews University 2016  
*National Association of Seventh-day Adventist  
Dentists*



Sminu Dinkar Patel  
BDS University of Mauritius 2009



Ethar Said Mustafa  
BDS Hawler Medical University 2010



Heather Morgan Perry  
BA Pacific Union College 2016



Andrew J. Najem  
BS California State University, Fullerton 2016  
*Academy of Operative Dentistry*



Christopher K. Phillips  
BS California State University, San Bernardino  
2017



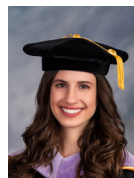
Anjum Nappoly  
BDS Dharmsinh Desai University 2013  
MHA University of Detroit Mercy 2018



Veronica Pintor  
BS Loyola Marymount University 2016



Heba Fathima Nassar  
BDS SRM University 2007  
MADM Fairleigh Dickinson University-All  
Campuses 2018



Liliana R. Popova  
BS Florida International University 2017  
*American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry*



Jeries N. Qoborsi  
BS California State University, Fullerton 2016



Abigail Ruiz  
BS The University of Tennessee, Chattanooga  
2015



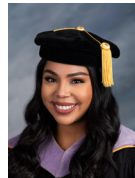
Rebecca Langejans Quinn  
BS Westmont College 2015  
*American Academy of Oral Medicine*



Ahmed Ali Saadon  
DDS EQUIV Ivano-Frankivsk State Medical  
University 2013



Peter Noel S. Ramos  
DMD University of the East 2017



Jasmine Sanchez Rivas  
BS Pacific Union College 2017



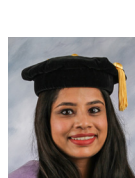
Daniel William Reimer  
BS California State University, Fresno 2017



Dhara Hardik Shah  
BDS Maharashtra University of Health  
Sciences 2005  
*American Academy of Esthetic Dentistry*  
*Southern California Society of Dentistry for*  
*Children Award*



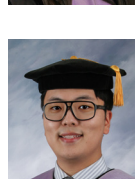
Matthew H. Rhee  
BA Rutgers University Newark 2015  
MBS University of Medicine And Dentistry of  
New Jersey 2018



Fenal Bharatkumar Shah  
BDS Bharati Vidyapeeth University 2012  
*Western Society of Periodontology*



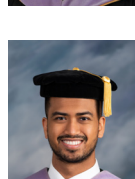
Tshristi Rijal  
BDS B.P. Koirala Institute of Health Sciences  
2013



Yu Chun Shin  
BS La Sierra University 2016



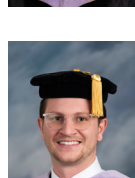
David P. Rittenhouse  
BA Southern Adventist University 2016



AmorthEEP Srikureja  
BA University of California, Berkeley 2015

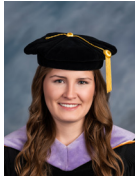


Timothy Jaehyun Ro  
BS University of California, Riverside 2015



Trent P. Straw  
BS University of Redlands 2014





Anna Sukhova  
BA Sonoma State University 2017



Randy R. Torres  
BS Florida International University 2017



Urva Suryawala  
BDS Gujarat University 2017



Eric Duy Tran  
BS University of Nevada, Reno 2017



Eric Daniel Swenson  
Pacific Union College



John Nhon Trannguyen  
BA California State University, Dominguez  
Hills 2014



Peter Basim Tafesh  
BS California State University, Fullerton 2017  
*American Academy of Periodontology*  
*California Dental Association Senior Award*



Miki Alyson Tsuchiya  
BS Southern Adventist University 2017



Naghme Talakoub  
DDS Islamic Azad University 2006  
*American Association of Endodontists*



Daman Singh Uppal  
BS La Sierra University 2017



Brandon Farshid Talmood  
BS University of California, Irvine 2016  
*American Academy of Orofacial Pain*  
*American Association of Oral and Maxillofacial*  
*Surgeons*



Deepti Reddy Vuppuluri  
BDS Rajiv Gandhi University of Health  
Sciences 2014  
MS Georgia College And State University 2015



Saakshi Tandon  
BDS Dr Bhim Rao Ambedkar University 2010



Brandon Mark Wagner  
BS Loma Linda University IDS 2016  
MSOP Loma Linda University AH 2016



Jonathan Alsaybar Tangunan  
BA Southern Adventist University 2017  
*Wilfred A. Nation Award*



Crystal Yeap  
BS Pacific Union College 2017  
*Prince Award*

# The Dental Pledge

**Before God and all present, these things I do declare:**

I will live my life in the service of humanity.

I will promote and practice the charity I owe humankind and endeavor to reflect God's mercy and compassion in the practice of dentistry.

I will uphold and promote the honor and dignity of my profession. I will strive to conduct myself so that I may merit the respect and confidence of my colleagues.

I will accept my civic responsibilities.

I will hold in gratitude the teachings of my school and the inspiration of my teachers and classmates.

I will impart to those who follow me the knowledge, skills, and experience I have gained.

I will live my life in a way that brings honor to my family, my profession, my community, my school, and my God.

## Christopher Daniel Chan—*President's Award*



*B.S. California Baptist University 2017*  
*D.D.S. Loma Linda University SD 2021*

*American Association of Orthodontists Award*  
*2021*  
*Omicron Kappa Upsilon 2021*

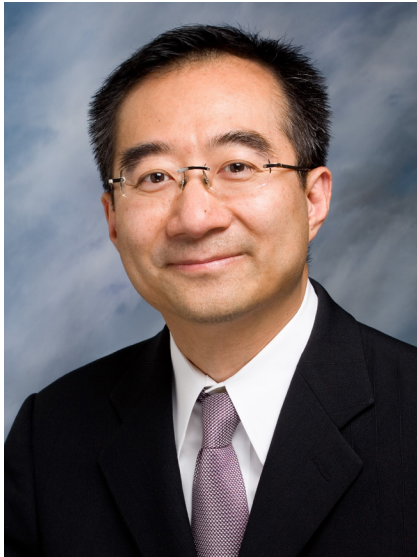
Christopher Chan grew up in a Christ-Centered home, as the oldest of four brothers. Inspired by his family members, and encouraged to seek a rewarding career in dentistry by serving the community, he is influenced by his faith, his family and his deep connection to Loma Linda University School of Dentistry. His family legacy goes back generations, starting with his father, Gary Chan, as well as aunts, uncles, cousins, and his younger brother Gary, LLUSD class of 2023. Being homeschooled through high school gave Christopher the opportunity to be an active member of a rigorous Speech and Debate Team and to be trained as a classical pianist.

During his undergraduate time at California Baptist University, Christopher received numerous awards and recognitions, such as The Trustee Merit Scholarship, and The California Baptist University Music Scholarship, just to name a few. He also earned a place on the Dean's list all four years. Some of Christopher's other honors include, Alpha Chi National Honor Society Member, Steinway Piano Scholarship winner, The STOA Speech and Debate Original Oratory Semifinalist and Redlands Sunrise Rotary 1st Place Winner.

Loma Linda has held a special place in Christopher's heart from the beginning, as he was born at Loma Linda University Hospital. He has spent countless hours at the campus working in the Campus Store, teaching BLS classes for Life Support Education, studying at the Library with friends, and attending services at the University Church and Campus Hill Church. As a student at Loma Linda University School of Dentistry, he has served as class president all four years. Christopher also earned his place on the Dean's list every quarter, and is a candidate to be inducted into Omicron Kappa Upsilon this year. Christopher is highly respected by his classmates and faculty, both academically and in the clinic with his patients.

In recognition of Christopher Chan's excellent academics, his ability to lead, and his dedication to Whole person care in dentistry, Loma Linda University School of Dentistry wholeheartedly names him the recipient of the *2021 PRESIDENT'S AWARD*.

## Joseph Kan—*School Distinguished Research Award*



Professor, Center for Prosthodontics and  
Implant Dentistry, School of Dentistry,  
Loma Linda University

*D.D.S. Loma Linda University SD 1990*  
*Advanced Certificate in Implant Dentistry,*  
*Loma Linda University SD 1998*  
*Advanced Certificate in Prosthodontics, Loma*  
*Linda University SD 1999*

*Distinguished Lecturer Award, Greater New*  
*York Academy of Prosthodontics 2020*  
*Robert James Implant Dentistry Achievement*  
*Award 2005*  
*Judson C. Hinckey Scientific Award, Journal of*  
*Prosthetic Dentistry 2003*  
*Best Research Award, 12th Annual Meeting of*  
*the Academy of Osseointegration 1997*

Dr. Kan has been on the LLUSD faculty since becoming assistant professor in 1996, associate professor in 2001, and, since 2007, full professor at the School of Dentistry's Center for Prosthodontics and Implant Dentistry. He simultaneously maintains a private practice limited to prosthodontics and implant surgery.

Dr. Kan is on the editorial board of the *International Journal of Periodontics and Restorative Dentistry*, and the *International Journal of Esthetic Dentistry*. He was the program chairman for the 2018 Academy of Osseointegration (AO) Annual Meeting in Los Angeles, and is currently a member on the AO Board of Directors.

A peripatetic educator, Dr. Kan has presented 236 invited lectures/presentations in 28 different countries. He has published over 100 referenced articles and book chapters on interdisciplinary treatment planning, periodontal and peri-implant tissue management, and immediate tooth replacement concepts. Based on a 2017 article from *The International Journal of Oral Maxillofacial Implants*, Dr. Kan authored or co-authored four of the top 100 most internationally cited publications. These four publications also ranked Loma Linda University third among educational institutions with articles cited in *Implant Dentistry*.

In recognition of his significant contributions as both researcher and educator, especially in the areas of prosthodontics and implant dentistry, and as a tireless mentor to LLUSD graduate students and the wider world of practicing dentists, we are pleased to present Dr. Joseph Y. K. Kan with the 2020-2021 *SCHOOL DISTINGUISHED RESEARCH AWARD*.

## Kathleen Moore—*School Distinguished Service Award*



Director, Continuing Dental Education, and  
the Dental Alumni Association, School of  
Dentistry, Loma Linda University

*B.S. University of Redlands 1987*

*M.H.I.S. Loma Linda University SAHP 1999*

Kathleen Moore has served the School of Dentistry through four decades and five deans. She first was hired in 1978 to be correspondence secretary for Dean Judson Klooster. While typing the dean's letters, official minutes, and unofficial meeting notes, she gained valuable understanding of the organization and structure of the School. In 1981 she became department secretary under Dr. James Crawford, director of the Continuing Dental Education Program, and by 1993, she was its program director. Ms. Moore credits her strong feelings of loyalty for the School of Dentistry to Dean Judson Klooster, and to Dr. Crawford, whom she has often referred to as her professional father.

When the School's Alumni Association was looking for a director, Ms. Moore saw an opportunity to create synergistic collaboration between the School's continuing education activities and the Alumni Student Convention. As director of the Alumni Association since 1995, her responsibility for thousands of alumni records has resulted in life-long friendships.

The School of Dentistry sponsored Ms. Moore's master of science in health information systems program that prepared her for broader responsibilities that accumulated and peaked in 2010 with her appointment as associate dean for Educational Support Services, Computer Services, Continuing Dental Education, Marketing and Publications, and the Dental Alumni Association. But over the years, regardless of her title, Ms. Moore has always said, "My job is to make the dean look good." Kathleen's 41 years of dedication to the School have been characterized by a "whatever-it-takes-to-get-the-job-done" attitude.

In recognition of her enthusiastic and diverging contributions to so many aspects of the life of the School of Dentistry, it is an honor to recognize Ms. Moore with 2020-2021 *SCHOOL DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD*.

## Susan D. Richards—*Distinguished Faculty Service Award*



Associate Professor, Department of Oral  
and Maxillofacial Surgery, School of  
Dentistry, Loma Linda University

*B.S. Loma Linda University 1980*  
*D.D.S. Loma Linda University SD 1984*  
*Advanced Certificate in Oral Pathology,*  
*University of Southern California 1987*

*Honored Alumna of the Year, La Sierra*  
*University 2010*

*Teacher of the Year, Loma Linda University*  
*SD 2010*

*Teacher of the Year, Pierre Fauchard Academy,*  
*Southern California Section 2000*

*Chair, Department of Oral Diagnosis,*  
*Radiology and Pathology 1994-2000*

*Board Certified in Oral and Maxillofacial*  
*Pathology*

*Fellow of the American Academy of Oral and*  
*Maxillofacial Pathology, and the Southern*  
*California Academy of Oral Pathology*

Dr. Richards assumed full-time teaching duties at the School of Dentistry in 1987 and currently holds the academic rank of associate professor. She teaches courses in oral and maxillofacial pathology, as well as general and systemic pathology, for predoctoral dental and dental hygiene students. She also lectures with dental advanced education programs and provides specialty clinical consultations in all of the school's teaching clinics.

Dr. Richards has served on numerous committees and task forces at the School of Dentistry and Loma Linda University, and is known for her commitment to order and logic, consistent with her undergraduate education in mathematics and chemistry.

Dr. Richards treats clinical oral pathology patients at the School's faculty practice one half day per week. She also provides general dentistry care one day a week at the Koppel Special Care Dentistry Center where she treats young children, medically compromised children, and medically compromised adult patients who require their dental treatment to be provided under general anesthesia.

In recognition of her conscientious contributions to professional education, it is with great honor that the School of Dentistry names Dr. Susan D. Richards recipient of the *2020-2021 SCHOOL DISTINGUISHED FACULTY SERVICE AWARD*.

## Shelly Withers—LLUSD Teacher of the Year



Associate Professor, Department of Dental Hygiene, School of Dentistry, Loma Linda University

*B.S. Loma Linda University SD 2000*  
*M.S. Loma Linda University SAHP 2007*  
*Ph.D. Grand Canyon University 2021*

*Student Research Mentor of the Year, Loma Linda University SD 2019*  
*Dental Hygiene Teacher of the Year, Loma Linda University SD 2007*

Dr. Shelly Withers, graduated from the LLUSD dental hygiene program at the turn of the millennium. She found the place and the people and the profession a congenial match. Her career track is characterized by an amalgam of learning and teaching, teaching and learning.

In 2002, Dr. Withers began teaching in her alma mater's Department of Dental Hygiene: first as clinical instructor, then as assistant professor from 2003 to 2008. She currently serves the department as associate professor, with responsibilities for course direction, clinical oversight, lab instruction, and student research mentoring. Dr. Withers also holds an appointment at the School's Center for Dental Research where she has assisted with clinical studies in the past. Most recently, she has collaborated with colleagues in a podcast, called "LLUSD Updates" that finds them sharing with the School family announcements, laughter, and encouragement.

But it is Dr. Withers' role as a professional oral healthcare mentor that marks this moment and her deserving of this award is evidenced by what students say about her:

"Ms. Withers . . . was always available outside of class for help, all while earning a doctorate degree. Not all heroes wear capes!"

"When you meet a professor, who is kind and patient, you naturally desire to learn from them."

"Dr. Withers is the perfect role model for all of us. She showcases perseverance, passion, and grit. She seeks to connect to all of us and understands the pressure of being successful in academia."

"I am honored to be her student and to have been able to learn from her not just as a dental hygiene student but as a person."

Dr. Withers enjoys a variety of extracurricular interests such as skiing, golfing, and swimming. She rode a Kawasaki Ninja for years, but has traded in those sporty wheels for an electric scooter these days.

It is a special honor to present Dr. Shelly Withers with the 2021 LLU SCHOOL OF DENTISTRY TEACHER OF THE YEAR AWARD.

## Karl Haffner—*Speaker*



Vice President for Student Experience,  
Loma Linda University

*B.A. Business & B.A. Theology Walla Walla  
University 1985*

*M.Div. Andrews University 1987*

*M.B.A. Pacific Lutheran University 2000*

*Ph.D. Andrews University 2004*

Dr. Karl Haffner’s biographical sketch suggests a considered involvement with all aspects of life that might be described by the biblical term “abundant.” There is a continual, good humored engagement with his variegated interests and relationships so obviously manifested by his facile use of internet social media platforms, Twitter, Facebook, and Instagram.

A prolific writer, Dr. Haffner has written hundreds of articles for denominational publications, and the superstitious will understand that he needs to write one more book to round out the thirteen he has had published so far that include such titles as *No Experience Necessary*; *Destiny: Who you are and what you’re here to do*; *No Greater Love*; *The Cure for Soul Fatigue*; and *Are you more spiritual than a 5th-grader?*

Dr. Haffner is an individual with a practical degree of self-understanding and a temperament that explains his goodness of fit for the individual and community-uplifting positions he has held—senior pastor at Walla Walla University Church, senior pastor of the Kettering SDA Church along with mission strategist for Kettering Health Network and, most currently as vice president for Student Experience at Loma Linda University.

As he puts it, Dr. Haffner “travels whenever I can and preach wherever I can. And I’m amazed daily by God’s acceptance and the opportunity to communicate that grace to others.” Most essential to his insight and good humor is his life partnership with Cherié and their parenting of accomplished daughters Lindsey and Claire.

Dr. Haffner will deliver the commencement address to the graduates of the School of Dentistry Class of 2021.





## THE GOOD SAMARITAN

The Good Samaritan, the four-figure sculpture located on the mall of Loma Linda University, is a representation of the parable told by Jesus in Luke 10:30–37. It was sculpted by Alan Collins and dedicated and unveiled at Loma Linda University on May 31, 1981.

The sculpture speaks eloquently of the compassionate practice of the healing arts and of our mission—“to continue the teaching and healing ministry of Jesus Christ”—and of the motto of this health sciences University—“To make man whole.”

The Good Samaritan has been incorporated into the diploma as a screened background since 2006.