

USC names new dean of Dentistry Avishai Sadan brings expertise in clinical practice, research

On behalf of USC President Steven B. Sample, Executive Vice President and Provost C. L. Max Nikias has announced the appointment of Avishai Sadan as dean of the USC School of Dentistry, effective Aug. 1, 2009.

Sadan also will hold the G. Donald and Marian James Montgomery Dean's Chair in Dentistry.

Sadan will join USC from the Case Western Reserve University School of Dental Medicine, where he serves as associate dean of clinical affairs and professor and chairman of the Department of Comprehensive Care.

"We are delighted to have Professor Avishai Sadan join USC," said Nikias. "He has distinguished himself at Case Western as a successful administrator and inspiring leader, and we look forward to his service at the USC School of Dentistry as the school continues its mission of educating the finest clinicians, advancing research and enhancing public health."

Sadan brings strong experience in clinical practice and research to USC. At Case Western, he merged the former departments of restorative dentistry and general dentistry, restructured all preclinical courses to align with contemporary restorative approaches, reorganized all clinical procedures, and streamlined all preclinical and clinical operations. In his role as chair of the department of comprehensive care, he has supervised all departmental research activities, the school's biomaterials laboratory and the clinical trials in the D.M.D. clinics research.

Sadan is the former editor-in-chief of *Quintessence International* and of *Quintessence*



Avishai Sadan

of *Dental Technology*. He has served on the editorial boards of other journals and has published and lectured nationally and internationally on biomaterials, fixed prosthodontics, and esthetic and implant dentistry.

"With the great privilege of joining one of the world's finest schools comes the huge responsibility of maintaining its high level of excellence," said Sadan. "In a highly competitive environment, the school will continue to reinvent itself using its biggest assets: its outstanding students, world-renowned faculty, and the most committed and proud core of alumni any school has. We will continue to attract the best candidates, graduate the finest clinicians, generate meaningful and exciting scientific discoveries, and be a resource for the betterment of our community through our strong community outreach."

Sadan received his B.Sc. and D.M.D. degrees from Hebrew University's Hadassah School of Dental Medicine in Jerusalem, where he also completed an internship in maxillofacial prosthodontics and oral medicine.

He received his training in prosthodontics from the Louisiana State University School of Dentistry and also completed a fellowship at LSU in prosthodontics, emphasizing esthetic and implant dentistry.

Sadan is a member of several professional organizations, including the American College of Prosthodontists, the Academy of Osseointegration, the European Academy of Esthetic Dentistry, the American College of Dentists, Omicron Kappa Upsilon National Dental Honor Society and Pierre Fauchard Academy.

lead the board in setting strategic directions, including preparing the organization and its members for implementation of its "Centennial Vision," a forward-looking mission statement devised to recognize that both the association and the profession will celebrate their 100th anniversary in 2017.

"I am very grateful to the membership for electing me to this position," Clark said. "This is a time of opportunity for occupational therapy as the profession moves forward in response to the national health care reform agenda. My hope is to ensure that what occupational therapy has to offer to meet societal needs is communicated in the

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Jon Nailick

Melissa Huck celebrates her match at the family medicine program at O'Connor Hospital in San Jose.

Medical students finally meet their match on one exciting, 'crazy' day

By Sara Reeve

Match Day started early for some fourth-year students from the Keck School of Medicine—very early. "I've been up since 4:30 a.m.," said Tessa Stecker. "I didn't exactly sleep very well last night; I was very excited."

Stecker will spend her residency in family medicine at Kaiser Hospital Woodland Hills. "I'm sure nothing intelligible is coming out of my mouth right now," she said. "This day is crazy—fours years of hard work leading up to this, and it just culminates in this moment."

At precisely 9

a.m. on March 19—the same time as medical schools across the country—fourth-year Keck students opened their official letters from the National Residency Matching Program (NRMP). The NRMP is designed to provide an orderly and fair mechanism to match

the preferences of applicants to U.S. residency positions with the preferences of residency program directors.

This year, of the 170 Keck School of Medicine students who participated in the match, 125 will spend all or part of their residencies in California. Forty-two students will perform their resi-

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Vice Dean for Medical Education Henri Ford (left) and Keck School Dean Carmen A. Puliafito toast the class of 2009.

Kidney disease expert William Schwartz, professor emeritus of medicine, 86

William B. Schwartz, a USC kidney disease specialist who became one of the nation's leading thinkers on the intersection of medicine and economics, died on March 15 after a long illness. He was 86.

Schwartz, who authored or co-authored several books and hundreds of articles on subjects ranging from electrolyte disorders to the use of artificial intelligence in medicine to the rationing of health care.

Schwartz joined USC as professor of medicine in 1992 and remained with the university for the rest of his career—eventually being named professor emeritus of medicine in recognition of his service and dedi-

cation. At USC, his research examined the impact of molecular medicine on health care and on society.

From 1976 to 1992, he was the Vannevar Bush University Professor and professor of medicine at Tufts University. He founded Tufts Medical Center's division of nephrology in 1950 and served as its chief until 1971, when he became chair of the Department of Medicine at Tufts Medical Center. On the 50th anniversary of the nephrology division in 2000, it was named in his honor.

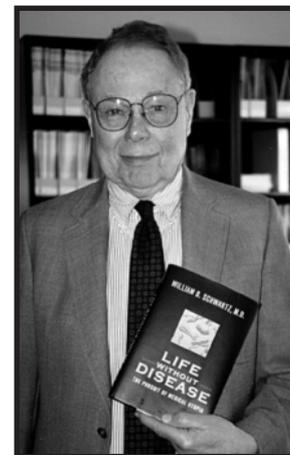
Schwartz served as chair of Medicine and physician-in-chief at Tufts Medical Center

until 1976.

In his work at Tufts University and Tufts Medical Center, he personally trained more than 60 nephrologists, many of whom became preeminent in their field.

He was known for his rigorous attention to detail in scientific analysis, which he imparted to the physicians he trained.

He led landmark discoveries in the physiology and management of acid-base and electrolyte disorders, in understanding potassium depletion, and in glomerulonephritis, a disease characterized by the inflammation of the small blood vessels in the kidneys.



Jon Nalick

William B. Schwartz displays a copy of his 1998 book, *Life Without Disease*.

USC researchers uncover mechanism regulating movement of blood-forming stem cells in the body

By Meghan Lewit

Researchers at the Keck School of Medicine have identified a signaling pathway that helps regulate the movement of blood-forming stem cells in the body.

The finding provides important new

insight into how stem cells move around the body and may lead to improvements in the efficiency of bone marrow transplants.

The study will appear in the journal *Nature*, and is now available online.

Lead author Gregor Adams, assistant

professor of cell and neurobiology at the Keck School and a researcher at the Eli and Edythe Broad Center for Regenerative Medicine and Stem Cell Research at USC, said, "By identifying the key mechanism by which these stem cells home and engraft to the bone marrow, it may be possible to pharmacologically treat the cells to activate this pathway and thus increase the effectiveness of bone marrow transplants."

Hematopoietic stem cells are blood-forming cells that circulate through the body shifting back and forth between the bloodstream and bone marrow, Adams explained.

When patients receive a bone marrow transplant, healthy blood stem cells are injected into their veins.

Unless those stem cells can find their way into a specific site known as the stem cell niche, they cannot develop

properly to replenish the white cells, red cells and platelets in the patient's blood. The mechanisms that guide the cells during this migration have not been well understood.

However, in this study the researchers found that blood-forming stem cells that lacked a specific signaling molecule, called GalphaS, did not home to or engraft in the bone marrow of adult mice, Adams said.

"Here we show that the GalphaS pathway is a critical intracellular pathway involved in this process," he said. "Currently, large numbers of blood-forming stem cells are required in bone marrow transplantation due to the limited efficiency of the homing process. This study opens up the possibility of treating bone marrow cells with GalphaS pathway activators as a means to increase the effectiveness of bone marrow transplants."

USC health experts urge expanded vaccinations

USC faculty members Bill Mason, head of the division of infectious diseases in Keck Pediatrics and at Childrens Hospital Los Angeles, and Jeff Goad, associate professor of clinical pharmacy at the USC School of Pharmacy, testified in Sacramento on March 3 at an Assembly Health Committee hearing on preventing disease through immunizations. The hearing was held in the state capitol. Mason spoke on "Ensuring Vaccine Safety."

Goad discussed complementary delivery sites such as pharmacies, which have been growing in recent years as medical clinics have been unable to keep pace with the demand for current and new vaccines.

"The pharmacy will likely become a traditional site... as the public comes to expect and demand this service," Goad said, noting that patients often get vaccinated there on a walk-in basis nearly seven days a week.

USC School of Pharmacy mixes fun, serious topics during 12th annual Kids' Day

By Kukla Vera

More than 100 seventh graders from the La Merced Intermediate School in Montebello spent March 6 on the Health Sciences Campus, marking the School of Pharmacy's 12th annual Kids' Day.

Pharm.D. student Sandy Song coordinated the event, which blends fun with information that encourages students to study hard, stay out of trouble and consider careers in health care.

During the event, dancers brought the youngsters to cheering and standing ovations, with routines that ran the gamut from hula dancers to rap singers. In between performances, students participated in raffles of gifts including

MP3 players and Trojan garb.

Informational sessions focused on making good life choices, staying out of gangs, substance abuse prevention and other lifestyle topics complemented by an "American Idol"-like competition and a series of dance performances.

Seventh-grade student Jonathan Ortiz said he enjoyed the event, adding that it taught him about health careers and that pharmacists "give advice and help people."

Before arriving on campus, students were given an opportunity to compete in a poster contest portraying the theme, "what it means to live a life without gangs."

The winning poster was submitted by

Ana Pena, Ana Padilla and Charlies Gama. Each of the winners received an iPod Shuffle for their three-panel display that showed the ills of gang life and the importance of making good choices.

Kids' Day is a community project of the School of Pharmacy Skull and Mortar Honorary Service Fraternity.

Sponsors for the event included Albertsons/Sav-on, CVS/pharmacy, United Pharmacists Network Inc. and Walgreens. Support for the event is also provided by the School of Pharmacy and

the USC Graduate and Professional Student Senate.



Kukla Vera

From left: Ana Pena and Ana Padillo receive their award for best poster from Victor Law, of the United Pharmacists Network, Inc. and Sandy Song, Kids' Day coordinator.

California Pharmacists Association honors USC School of Pharmacy students, alumni

By Kukla Vera

The California Pharmacists Association (CPhA) awarded USC Pharm.D. student Bonnie Hui the Robert C. Johnson scholarship, named alum George Yasutake Pharmacist of the Year, and honored alum William T. Econome with a life membership at the organization's annual Outlook meeting in Anaheim on Feb. 20.

The CPhA and Pharmacy Foundation of California awarded Hui with the Robert C. Johnson Scholarship in recognition of her leadership in advancing the pharmacy profession. Hui was one of three California students to receive the award.

Hui currently serves as the co-president of the American Pharmacy Student Alliance and is involved in many other pharmacist organizations. Recently, Hui was awarded the Wal-

Mart/Pharmacy Times RESPy award, recognizing her community service.

School of Pharmacy students received the "Best Parody of a TV Commercial" award in the Pharmacy Foundation of California's Film Festival. "Save-The-Date", created by Pharm.D. students Bonnie Hui, Mathew Keushguerian, Parth D. Shah, Diana Tran, Jay Parikh and Sana Vaiyani, won the second film festival award for USC since the competition was created two years ago.

For screening and educational out-



USC Pharm.D. Bonnie Hui speaks at the California Pharmacists Association's Feb. 20 meeting.

effort. USC students also took home the trophy for the "Quiz Bowl" competition.

George Yasutake, who graduated from the school in 1978, won Pharmacist of the Year, the association's highest honor. Yasutake was recognized for his state-of-the-art clinical pharmacy services as a pediatric clinical pharmacist and as a drug information and drug usage pharmacist at Huntington Memorial Hospital. Yasutake has served as president and speaker of the house in the CPhA and has held other leadership roles in the profession, including chairman of the American Pharmacists Association.

William T. Econome, who graduated from the school in 1957, was honored by the CPhA with an honorary life membership award, recognizing his 50 years in the profession.

reach having to do with hypertension, the School of Pharmacy won the Project Hypertension Award for the second year in a row. Pharm.D. students Nicole Cho and Joyce Choi led this

MATCH: Medical students find transition from school to residency can be a 'bittersweet' moment

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dencies at LAC+USC Medical Center, up from 38 last year.

Nineteen students will enter family medicine residencies, a record number for the Keck School.

Other popular specialties included internal medicine, emergency medicine and radiology.

According to the NRMP, this was the largest match in history, with almost 30,000 applicants for 22,427 first-year residency positions. More than half of the participants in the match were U.S. medical school seniors (15,638), 400 more than in 2008.

Before Keck students opened their letters, Dean Carmen A. Puliafito offered this advice: "Enjoy the next few months because they will be the best time of your medical education. You can finally relax and relish your time as students."

Donna Elliott, associate dean for student affairs, students added, "Most of you will be delighted with your matches, and I want you to know that everyone at the School of Medicine is incredibly proud of you. A few of you will be surprised with your match. I want to remind you that your medical education is a journey, full of unexpect-

ed opportunities. I hope that you will remain open to those opportunities."

Julia Cormano will be heading to UCLA's obstetrics and gynecology residency program, and she will not be alone. Two of her roommates, Lindsay Kroener and Laurie Brunette, will be joining her.

"UCLA is a great program, and they have hundreds of applications for only six spots," said Cormano. "We opened our letters and found that all three of us

got in. Literally half of the OB/GYN program at UCLA are going to be from USC. It's a perfect scenario—almost too good to be true."

Scott Somers looked relaxed and jovial in wacky sunglasses and oversized sombrero, but he noted that he had mixed feelings about Match Day. "It's a bittersweet experience," he said. "I'm excited, but it's hard now knowing for sure that I'm going to say goodbye to friends who are going far away."

ETCETERA

Hossein Jadvar, associate professor of radiology and biomedical engineering, has been named president of the Pacific Southwest Chapter of the Society of Nuclear Medicine (SNM).

During his term, from 2009-2011, Jadvar will oversee a chapter representing 930 members from Southern California, Arizona and Southern Nevada.

The SNM is an international scientific and professional organization founded in 1954 to promote the science, technology and practical application of nuclear medicine. Its 16,000 members are physicians, technologists and scientists specializing in the research and practice of nuclear medicine.

In addition to publishing journals, newsletters and books, the society also sponsors international meetings and workshops designed to increase the competencies of nuclear medicine practitioners and to promote new advances in the science of nuclear medicine.

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The third Child Health Policy Research Symposium, hosted by the USC Center for Community Health Studies, was held at the California Endowment on March 2. More than 150 researchers, child health advocates, foundation representatives, faculty and students gathered to hear the latest research findings on child health and hear policy experts discuss the implications of the Obama health plan, and the State budget for children's health care in California. Above, from left: Wilma Chan, vice president for Policy for Children Now; Lucien Wulsin, director, Insure the Uninsured Project; Lesley Cummings, director, Managed Risk Medical Insurance Board; and Jean Ross, executive director, California Budget Project.

CLARK: Noted USC scholar tapped to fill national post

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arenas where national policy decisions are made."

A widely published and noted scholar with research interests ranging from the development of sensory integration in children to health promotion in the elderly, recovery from spinal cord injury and the discipline of occupational science, Clark was appointed a charter member of the Academy of Research of the American Occupational Therapy Association and has served as a special consultant to the U.S. Army Surgeon General.

In 1999, she was honored with an award of merit from the AOTA, and in 2001, she received a lifetime achievement award from the Occupational Therapy Association of California.

Clark earned her Ph.D. in education from USC, where she was appointed an assistant professor of occupational sci-

ence and occupational therapy in 1976. In 1989, she became professor and chair of the department, and rose to her current position as associate dean, chair and professor when Occupational Science and Occupational Therapy was incorporated into the School of Dentistry in 2006.



Florence A. Clark

Clark received USC's Presidential Medallion in 2004, the highest honor for academicians who have brought honor and distinction to the university.

Also winning office in the AOTA's recent elections were occupational science and occupational therapy graduate students Stephen Barbour and Elizabeth Hayes, who will be serving in the association's Assembly of Student Delegates.

Barbour was elected secretary of the group, and Hayes was elected communications and advocacy chair.

Calendar of Events

The HSC Calendar is online at www.usc.edu/hscalcalendar

Monday, Mar. 30

NOON. Basic Science Seminar. "Epigenetic Regulation of Gene Expression, DNA Repair, Aging and Cancer," Jessica Tyler, Univ. of Colorado. NOR 7409. Info: (323) 442-1144

NOON. "Long-Term Follow-Up of Renal Transplant Patients," Yasir Qazi, USC. GNH 4420. Info: (323) 226-7307

Tuesday, Mar. 31

9 A.M. Neurology Grand Rounds. "A Case of Leg Weakness," Amy Tai, USC. ZNI 112. Info: (323) 442-7686

11:30 A.M. Psychiatry Grand Rounds. "Medical Problems in Psych Patients," Monique Yohanan, Stanford. ZNI 112. Info: (323) 442-4000

NOON. Cancer Ctr. Grand Rounds. "Green Tea and Chemotherapy: From Encouragingly Beneficial to Dangerously Detrimental," Axel Schönthal, USC. NOR 7409. Info: (323) 865-0801

Wednesday, Apr. 1

NOON. ZNI Seminar. "The Neural Circuits Underlying Somatosensation," Karel Svoboda, UNC School of Medicine. ZNI 112. Info: (323) 442-3219

NOON. "The Intrarenal/Intratubular Renin-Angiotensin System in Hypertension," L. Gabriel Navar, Kirshenbaum Lecturer. GNH 4420. Info: (323) 226-7307

Thursday, Apr. 2

NOON. Cellular Homeostasis Lecture. "Hepatic Innate Immune Regulation That Controls Hepatitis C Virus," Takeshi Saito, Univ. of Washington. MCH 156. Info: (323) 442-3121

Friday, Apr. 3

8:30 A.M. Research Ctr. for Liver Diseases 14th Annual Symposium. Various speakers. HMR 200. Info: (323) 442-5576

NOON. Pharmacology and Pharmaceutical Sciences Seminar. "Functional Analysis of the Neuronal-specific Tryptophan Hydroxylase-2: Implication for the Role of Serotonin in Psychiatric Disorders," Xiaodong Zhang, Duke-NUS Graduate Medical School Singapore. PSC 104. Info: (323) 442-1441

Monday, Apr. 6

NOON. "NEPHSAP: Hypertension," Mitra Nadim, USC. GNH 4420. Info: (323) 226-7307

Wednesday, Apr. 8

NOON. "What Conscience Rights for Healthcare

Workers," Laila Muterspach, USC and Fr. Juan Velez. NOR Medical Library. Info: (818) 450-4720.

Thursday, Apr. 9

11:30 A.M. "What Has Genetics Taught Us About Alzheimer's Disease?" Rudy Tanzi, Harvard. UPC Andrus Gerontology Ctr. Info: (213) 740-1354

Monday, Apr. 13

NOON. "NEPHSAP: Fluid, Electrolyte and Acid-base Disturbances," Alan Yu, USC. GNH 4420. Info: (323) 226-7307

Tuesday, Apr. 14

11:30 A.M. Psychiatry Grand Rounds. "Body Dysmorphic Disorder," Katharine Phillips, Brown Univ. ZNI 112. Info: (323) 442-4000

Thursday, Apr. 16

NOON. Cellular Homeostasis Lecture Series. "PPARs, Macrophage Activation and Insulin Resistance," Ajay Chawla, Stanford. MCH 156. Info: (323) 442-3121

Monday, Apr. 20

NOON. "NEPHSAP: Transplant," Yasir Qazi, USC. GNH 4420. Info: (323) 226-7307



Veronica Jauriqui

For cancer survivors, USC is an extended family

Survivors of colorectal cancer and their families gathered with physicians, nurses and staff for the Annual Patient Reception March 20 in the Aresty Conference Center of the Harlyne J. Norris Cancer Research Tower.

Above, Robert Beart (left), professor and chairman of the Department of Colorectal Surgery at the Keck School of Medicine and USC Norris

Comprehensive Cancer Center and Hospital, visits with patient Martin Franco and his wife, Lupe Felix-Franco. A Los Angeles police officer, Franco says the energy of his friends, co-workers, family and the USC Norris team have helped him survive since his colorectal cancer diagnosis seven years ago.

Right, patient Rosalind "Roz" Gurwitz greets Heinz-Josef Lenz, professor of medicine and preventive medicine and associate director of the USC Norris Gastrointestinal Oncology Program. Gurwitz, who drives over from the Westside every two weeks, praised the USC Norris team as "amazing—compassionate with expertise you won't believe."



In Case of An Emergency...

Visit the USC Web:
<http://emergency.usc.edu>

This page will be activated in case of an emergency. Backup Web servers on the East Coast will function if the USC servers are incapacitated.

Call the Emergency Information Phone:
(213) 740-9233

The emergency telephone system can handle 1,400 simultaneous calls. It also has a back up system on the East Coast.

HSC NEWSMAKERS

Complete listing at: www.usc.edu/uscnews/usc_in_the_news/

A March 23 *Los Angeles Times* article quoted urology expert **David Penson** about prostate cancer screening.

On March 23, Fox News interviewed diabetes expert **Thomas Buchanan** and **Kathleen Hurtado**, president and CEO of the Health Research Association, about clinical trials.

A March 22 *Columbus Dispatch* article featured Doheny ophthalmologist **Mark Humayun** and the retinal implant project.

On March 19, KTLA-TV covered "Match Day" at the Keck School of Medicine. Channel 18 also covered the event.

On March 17, the "Today Show" interviewed psychiatrist **Drew Pinsky** about his new book "The Mirror Effect: How Celebrity Narcissism Is Seducing America." *USA Today* also highlighted the book.

A March 16 *Ophthalmology Times* article quoted Doheny ophthalmologist **David Huang** about a new approach to detect early diabetic retinopathy.

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