

# School of Pharmacy names Lakdawalla Quintiles Chair

**‘[Darius Lakdawalla] is uniquely experienced in both health economics and regulatory policy, which will allow him to lead our work that will ultimately promote innovation in health.’**  
—USC School of Pharmacy Dean R. Pete Vanderveen

By Kukla Vera

USC School of Pharmacy Dean R. Pete Vanderveen has named Darius Lakdawalla as the inaugural holder of the Quintiles Chair in Pharmaceutical Development and Regulatory Innovation.

The Quintiles Chair was established in 2011 with the express purpose of recruiting a world-class expert with the interdisciplinary knowledge of both health economics and regulatory policy. The chair provides leadership in scholarship and research at the intersection of these two disciplines, contributing to the ultimate shaping of the future of health care.

“After a comprehensive national search and the evaluation of a slate of impressive candidates, the committee found Dr. Lakdawalla to have the qualifications and the vision to hold this important chair,” says Vanderveen. “He is uniquely

experienced in both health economics and regulatory policy, which will allow him to lead our work that will ultimately promote innovation in health.”



Darius Lakdawalla

Lakdawalla says, “I am excited to work at the intersection of two critical areas in health policy and at the intersection of two dynamic schools at USC. The collaboration between the School of Pharmacy and the Price School places USC at the forefront of innovative health policy research.”

Lakdawalla joined USC in 2009 when the university established the Leonard D. Schaeffer Center for Health Policy and Economics, a collaboration between the School of Pharmacy and the Price School of Public Policy. Lakdawalla initially came to USC as a professor at the Price School of Public Policy and now assumes a primary appointment

at the School of Pharmacy with a joint appointment at the Price School. The School of Pharmacy also houses the USC International Center for Regulatory Science, which will interface with Lakdawalla in his new role.

The Quintiles Chair allows USC to proactively address the shift in the regulatory environment for biopharmaceutical products in today’s global marketplace. The chair supports focused research on identifying potential efficiencies that facilitate the arrival of products to market in a cost-effective way while ensuring safety and the crumbling of stumbling blocks that prevent the utilization of these efficiencies in the system.

Lakdawalla’s research primarily studies the economics of risk to health, medical innovation and the organization of health care markets. His work looks at how patients, health care providers and health care firms behave, and the resulting

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## Renowned surgeon-scientist appointed to lead Department of Otolaryngology

John K. Niparko has been named professor and chair of the Department of Otolaryngology-Head & Neck Surgery at the Keck School of Medicine of USC, effective Feb. 1, 2013.

An internationally renowned otoneurologic surgeon and researcher, Niparko comes to USC from Johns Hopkins University, where he is professor and director of the division of otology, neurotology and skull base surgery as well as medical director of the division of audiology. From 2009 to 2012, he served as interim director of the Department of Otolaryngology-Head & Neck Surgery at Johns Hopkins, which since 1998 has been ranked No. 1 in ear, nose and throat care in the nation by *U.S. News & World Report*.

Niparko was selected from a group of more than 50 highly qualified candidates after a 17-month national search. He succeeds Dale Rice, who will step down from the position of department chairman after 30 years of service.

“Dr. Niparko is a preeminent physician-scientist on the cutting edge of disorders of the ear, and we are excited to have him lead our faculty, residents

and students into the next generation of health care,” said Carmen A. Puliafito, dean of the Keck School of Medicine. “I would also

like to thank Dr. Rice for his many contributions to the excellence of the Keck School of Medicine.”

Niparko’s immediate goals include expanding the department’s clinical programming, initiating new strategies for

training residents and medical students and developing collaborative, entrepreneurial relationships that will bolster the research enterprise.

“I am honored to have been selected as the director of the Department of Otolaryngology at USC,” said Niparko. “I am fortunate to join a world-class team that will continue to define USC and Los Angeles as powerful sites for quality care and innovation. The department is poised to contribute to the national health care agenda as it relates to our specialty, and this position offered a unique set of circumstances at a premier institution.”

Niparko added that USC was uniquely positioned to address the challenges that the economic downturn has created in terms of patient

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Photo courtesy of AYA@USC

Ghecemy Lopez, a 32-year-old breast cancer survivor, defies her long-time fear of the ocean at a free surfing weekend sponsored by the AYA@USC program of the USC Norris Comprehensive Cancer Center and Hospital.

## USC Norris program brings hope for young adult patients

By Alison Trinidad

Ghecemy Lopez has much to be thankful for. At 32, she is celebrating a second opportunity to live.

The USC employee found a suspicious lump in her right breast during a routine self-check nearly two years ago. That tiny lump began a life-changing journey wrought with pain and uncertainty, culminating in a double mastectomy on Sept. 27, 2011—her 31st birthday.

“You never think you’ll get cancer young,” Lopez said. “I remember being at Keck [Hospital] lying in bed after the surgery, thinking ‘What am I going to be doing next year?’ I couldn’t even eat my birthday cake.”

Lopez is one of the estimated 70,000

adolescents and young adults (AYA) who are diagnosed with cancer each year in the United States. According to the National Cancer Institute, cancer is the leading cause of disease-related death in the AYA age group—aged 15 to 39—only accidents, suicide and homicide claim more lives. Yet, while there has been improvement in younger and older age groups, survival rates for this AYA population with cancer have not improved in almost 30 years.

USC oncologists Stuart Siegel and Debu Tripathy are hoping to reverse that trend with the establishment of the AYA@USC program at the USC Norris Comprehensive Cancer Center and Hospital, which combines research, educational and clinical initiatives that focus on the distinct needs of AYA patients.

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# New council helps patients be heard

By Tania Chatila

A new committee at the Keck Medical Center of USC is helping patients and families feel known and heard.

The Patient and Family Advisory Council (PFAC) was recently created to provide a forum where patients and visitors can partner with health care providers to improve the patient and family experience.

The group —made of Keck Medical Center of USC staff, faculty, patients and family members—held the first of two informational meetings last month.

During the Oct. 23 meeting, patient participants identified several key areas for improvement, including communication and parking. Leaders are looking at ways to address those issues now.

“This council will help us learn about our services through the experience of our patients, and that will lead to positive change,” said Sevanne Sarkis, director of patient experience at the Keck Medical Center of USC.

Carol Marcusen, director of social services at the USC hospitals, pointed out that as the organization expands its reach and scope, committees like these can be critically important to the process.

“There is a lot of change under way and a lot of growth with the addition of our offices in Pasadena and in Beverly Hills,” said Marcusen. “The input from our patients and families will allow us to ensure we are always improving our service.”



Dennis Miranda

**MOVEMBER!**—Inderbir Gill, professor and chair of the Catherine and Joseph Aresty Department of Urology and founding executive director of the USC Institute of Urology, hasn’t been clean-shaven for 40 years. On Nov. 1, however, he lost his signature mustache in the name of charity as the Keck School of Medicine of USC launched its first team for Movember. Movember is a global men’s health charity that engages men to grow and women to support growing a mustache during November each year. The goal is to raise awareness and funds for men’s health, specifically prostate and testicular cancer initiatives. The group raised \$120 million last year. Gill’s mustache shaving was caught on film, and footage can be viewed at <http://tinyurl.com/bjtjphl>. In addition, Michele Gallucci, a professor from the Istituti Fisioterapici Ospitalieri in Rome, was present, and although he had not planned to shave off his mustache, he did so in support of the charity. To donate to the Keck Team for Movember, visit <http://tinyurl.com/arw7b4z>.

## ENT: New leader specializes in hearing restoration

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care, training and research.

“At USC, I met energetic and creative individuals who offered realistic views of both the opportunities and the challenges faced by the medical school and hospital,” he said. “I was struck by the feeling that, in coming to USC, I would be surrounded by colleagues who had considered the challenges ahead and who would encourage novel and collaborative ways for us to maintain excellence under health care reform.”

Specializing in disorders of the ear and skull base, Niparko is a leading authority on implantable devices that improve hearing for the profoundly deaf and severely hard of hearing. Under Niparko’s leadership, The Listening Center Cochlear Implant Program at Johns Hopkins has garnered an international reputation for its clinical excellence in cochlear implantation, including cochlear implant surgery and post-operative training and rehabilitation, and for its groundbreaking research and participation in clinical trials of new generations of implantable devices.

“We are thrilled with the appointment of John Niparko as chair of ENT and believe that he will lead the department to new heights of excellence,” said Thomas Jackiewicz, senior vice president and CEO for USC Health.

Niparko is known for clinical trial

research into the developmental consequences of surgical intervention in deafness. He is currently leading a National Institutes of Health (NIH)-funded study that examines the effects of cochlear implantation on language, behavioral and societal outcomes in children. The study involves 62 investigators from six university-based clinical sites and two data coordination centers.

“We are prepared to make a major investment in expanding our institution’s role in

the treatment of patients with hearing loss and disorders of the head and neck,” said Scott Evans, CEO of the Keck Hospital of USC and USC Norris Cancer Hospital. “Dr. Niparko’s expertise will complement our current outstanding programs in neurosurgery and head and neck oncology.”

Niparko has received numerous awards, including the Deafness Research Foundation’s Annual Hearing Research Award and the Distinguished Service Award from the American Academy of Otolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery. He is a past president of the American Otological Society—the most prestigious specialty society in the field—and currently serves on the council of the National Institute on Deafness and Other Communication Disorders of the NIH. He is on the boards of the River School in Washington, D.C., an inclusive educational model for children with hearing loss, and The Hearing and Speech Agency of Baltimore, which administers services for hearing impaired and autistic children in Baltimore County.

At the Johns Hopkins Schools of Medicine and Public Health, Niparko also serves as an associate faculty member at the Welch Center for Prevention, Epidemiology & Clinical Research. Prior to joining Johns Hopkins, Niparko was associate professor in the Department of Otolaryngology-Head & Neck Surgery at the University of Michigan Hospitals and chief of Otolaryngology-Head & Neck Surgery at the Veterans Administration Hospital in Ann Arbor, Mich. He has been with Johns Hopkins since 1991, when he was appointed associate professor. In 2001, he became the first holder of the George T. Nager Professorship in Otolaryngology-Head & Neck Surgery.

Niparko received his bachelor’s degree and medical degree with distinction from the University of Michigan, where he also completed his residency in otolaryngology-head and neck surgery and a fellowship in otology, neurotology and skull base surgery. He is an author or co-author of more than 200 peer-reviewed papers or abstracts and 45 review articles, and four books, among them *Atlas of Skull Base Surgery* and *Cochlear Implants: Principles and Practices*. He has served as editor-in-chief of the *Journal of Otology & Neurotology* since 2006.

A native of Detroit, Niparko is married to Angela Niparko and has two sons.



**MINORITY HEALTH CONFERENCE**—With its theme “From Struggles to Strategies, Moving Toward Health Justice,” the 2012 USC-UCLA Minority Health Conference put the spotlight on community-based efforts to achieve health justice. The conference, held on Oct. 27, attracted an audience of more than 180 pre-med and medical students from the greater Los Angeles area. Eight speakers explored the unique challenges to minority health and discussed strategies for advocacy and change, including Rep. Karen Bass, left, with Althea Alexander, assistant dean for the Office of Diversity and Inclusion at the Keck School of Medicine of USC.

The Weekly

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# Inaugural Zilkha Senior Scholar named

By Hope Hamashige

Berislav Zlokovic, already the director of the Zilkha Neurogenetic Institute and a professor and chairman of the Department of Physiology and Biophysics, recently added another title to his name.

Zlokovic was named the inaugural Zilkha Senior Scholar at the Zilkha Neurogenetic Institute, by Carmen A. Puliafito, dean of the Keck School of Medicine of USC. Zlokovic will hold the title for two years.

The appointment, said Puliafito, recognizes scholars who have made major contributions to the body of research on brain disease.

“Your work on the role of the vasculature in Alzheimer’s Disease, stroke and other neurodegenerative diseases is

outstanding,” said Puliafito, “and we are extremely pleased tto have recruited you back to the Keck School of Medicine of the University of Southern California.”

Zlokovic recently returned to USC, where he spent 11 years earlier in his career. Most recently, he spent 11 years at the University of Rochester Medical Center, where he was professor of neurosurgery and neurology and director of the Center for Neurodegenerative and Brain Vascular Disorders, as well as director of the Interdisciplinary Program in Dementia Research.

The senior scholar award was established by a gift from Selim Zilkha and was intended to help recruit top research scientists to the institute that bears his family name. It is

meant to help bring in investigators with grant-funded research projects focused on the brain diseases, including Alzheimer’s disease and related neurological disorders and stroke.

Zlokovic said the money that accompanies the award will be used to extend his research on Alzheimer’s disease and on the effects of the vascular system on brain function.

“There are so many great neuroscientists, and I am so thrilled to be the inaugural recipient of this award,” said Zlokovic. “I am thankful and grateful to the dean for this appointment and to Mr. Zilkha for his support of my research.”



Jon Nalick

The Affordable Care Act is the most important piece of health legislation since the enactment of Medicare and Medicaid in the 1960s, California State Senator Ed Hernandez, right, said at a Nov. 7 meeting of the Keck School of Medicine of USC Dean’s Community Leadership Council. Speaking at a meeting on the Health Sciences campus, Hernandez and Risë Phillips, CEO of the T.H.E. (To Help Everyone) Clinic spoke of the hopes and concerns that accompany implementation of the act in California. Pictured with them is Keck School Dean Carmen A. Puliafito.

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“These patients have special challenges being in this age group,” said Tripathy, professor of medicine at the Keck School of Medicine of USC and co-leader of the AYA@USC program.

As young adults, people are just beginning to gain their independence and define their futures, making decisions about their education and careers or whether to start a family.

“For cancer to come along at that point, it disrupts all of these areas,” said Siegel, associate director for pediatric oncology at the cancer center and co-leader of the AYA@USC program. “This unique milieu is what we need to address in the support services that we provide to this particular population.”

Siegel and Tripathy have assembled a group of clinicians, researchers and

students and are coordinating existing services with new ones at USC and Children’s Hospital Los Angeles to improve how young adults like Lopez are cared for and cured of cancer.

In the last year, the program has helped fund several projects, including a Keck School study focused on understanding better the disparity in outcomes for AYA cancer patients in Los Angeles County, as well as the development of an AYA tissue sample and bio-repository. Also in the works is a one-year fellowship for doctors who have completed training in either pediatric or adult oncology and are interested in learning more about AYA cancers. They initiated a curriculum that puts second-year medical students in the lab with researchers studying AYA cancers and in the clinic with physicians who

treat AYA patients.

“We have our first four students involved in that this year—they’re outstanding, they’re enthusiastic. We’re just excited about developing this next generation of people who are going to be entering what is really a new field,” Siegel said.

Lopez, now a breast cancer advocate, is a believer.

She was part of an inaugural group of young cancer patients from USC and Children’s Hospital to participate in a free surfing weekend in September hosted by AYA@USC and First Descents, a Colorado-based nonprofit dedicated to empowering young adults afflicted by cancer. The weekend event allowed Lopez to meet others like her and experience something that she would not have dared before her bout

with cancer.

“I am forever thankful for all the people at AYA@USC and First Descents for the opportunity to experience life at its best. Despite my long-time fear of the ocean, I was not only able to stand up on that surf board, but I was able to feel completely free from my past and ready to enjoy the present,” she said. “The ‘candle fire’ discussion that we had at night made me feel that I was no longer alone as a young cancer survivor. I realized that from that moment forward I was now surrounded by understanding, comfort and empowerment of a new and amazing family.”

It marked the beginning of a new life, she said. And that was the best birthday present she could have received.

## PHARMACY: Quintiles Chair helps USC address regulatory shifts in global marketplace

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implications of that behavior for public policy. For example, he has looked at the broad social consequences of health insurance for innovation and well-being, the decision making of firms assessing when and whether to pursue the development of a risky new medical technology, how health care providers cope with the risk of medical errors and malpractice, and a variety of other topics in health policy and innovation.

Lakdawalla’s work focuses on understanding the long-term consequences of health policy and regulation for medical innovation and for future generations of patients. His work has investigated intellectual property and marketing in the pharmaceutical industry, regulatory exclusivity for drug makers, the design of incentives for medical innovation, the long-term impact of pharmaceutical price regulation and the appropriate role of physician and drug maker liability in the health care system.

His work has been referenced by the Congressional Budget Office

and has been published in leading journals of economics, medicine and policy, including *Health Affairs*, *Medical Care*, *Journal of Public Economics*, *New England Journal of Medicine*, and *Archives of Internal Medicine*, among others.

Lakdawalla is a research associate at the National Bureau of Economic Research in Cambridge, Mass., and an associate editor at the *Review of Economics and Statistics*. He is a recipient of the Milken Institute’s Distinguished Economic Research Award and the Garfield Prize for research on the economics of medical innovation.

Lakdawalla received his doctorate in economics from the University of Chicago.

In addition to the Quintiles Chair in Pharmaceutical Development and Regulatory Innovation, Quintiles also supports the Quintiles International Lecture Series, also housed at the USC Schaeffer Center for Health Policy and Economics.

Quintiles is an integrated biopharmaceutical services company.

## The Weekly NEWSMAKERS

A Nov. 12 report on Healio.com noted that **Neil Kaplowitz** and **Laurie DeLeve**, professors of medicine at the Keck School of Medicine, presented at The Liver Meeting 2012, the annual meeting of the American Association for the Study of Liver Diseases.

A Nov. 9 article in the *Los Angeles Times* featured Los Angeles County+USC Medical Center, noting that the county recently opened a new center there for children removed from their families. **Astrid Heger**, professor of clinical pediatrics at the Keck School of Medicine, one of the founders of the Children’s Welcome Center, helped various agencies work together on the project. The center’s opening also was covered by *La Opinión*.

A Nov. 8 piece on The Huffington Post covered research by **Mariana Stern**, associate professor of preventive medicine at the Keck School of Medicine, finding that consumption of pan-fried meats can increase the risk of prostate cancer.

A Nov. 8 article in Health Aim highlighted **Tracy Grikscheit**, visiting

assistant professor of pediatric surgery at the Keck School of Medicine, and her research into ways to use the human body to grow new organs.

A Nov. 8 column in the *New Straits Times* (Malaysia) mentioned that **Song Guo Zheng**, associate professor of research medicine at the Keck School of Medicine, recently spoke at a forum on the role Chinese-Americans could play in the dispute between China and Japan over the Diaoyu Islands.

A Nov. 7 report in the *Chicago Tribune* highlighted research by **Pia Pannaraj**, assistant professor of clinical pediatrics at the Keck School of Medicine, finding that school-based vaccination programs result in fewer sick children and higher attendance. Studying 4,500 children at eight Los Angeles-based elementary schools, Pannaraj found that schools without vaccination programs had rates of infection no different than the general population. “Increasing rates at elementary schools is ideal because these kids are pretty good at spreading it,” Pannaraj said.



# Calendar of Events

This Calendar of Events is also online at [www.usc.edu/hscalendar](http://www.usc.edu/hscalendar) for the Health Sciences campus community

## Monday, Nov. 19

**Noon.** KSOM Research Seminar. “Forkhead (Fox) Transcription Factors Open a New Dimension in Understanding the Epigenetic Control of Replication Origin in *S. cerevisiae*,” Oscar Aparicio, USC. Info: (323) 442-7732

## Tuesday, Nov. 20

**Noon.** Cancer Center Grand Rounds. “Ethnic/Racial Differences in the Hazards of Smoking and Obesity: Working Toward Personalized Risk Prediction,” Loïc Le Marchand, University of Hawaii. NRT Aresty Auditorium. Info: (323) 865-0801

## Wednesday, Nov. 21

**8:30 a.m.** “Pulmonary Embolism,” Renli Qiao, USC. IRD 732-734. Info: (323) 226-7923

## Monday, Nov. 26

**Noon.** Medicine Grand Rounds. “Gender Differences in Atrial Fibrillation,” Shalini Lal, USC. IPT Conference Room B. Info: (323) 226-7556

**Noon.** KSOM Research Seminar. “New Developments in HPV – Host Interactions: Consequences for Treatment,” W. Martin Kast, USC. NRT Aresty Auditorium. Info: (323) 442-7732

## Wednesday, Nov. 28

**2 p.m. – 5 p.m.** Global Health Lecture Series. “The State of Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights Today: Research, Policies and Programs from Around the World,” Various speakers. UPC: TCC 450. Info: (323) 865-0419

## Thursday, Nov. 29

**Noon.** Research Center for Liver Diseases Seminar. “Shp2 and Molecular Signaling in Stem Cells, Metabolism and Liver Cancer,” Gen-Sheng Feng, UC San Diego. HMR 100. Info: (323) 442-1283

**Noon.** Soul of Medicine Seminar. “Acknowledging the Personal in the Professional,” Michelle Elliot, USC. MCH 149. Lunch will be provided. Info: (323) 442-1687

**4 p.m.** USC Diabetes & Obesity Research Institute Seminar. “Role of microRNAs and Epigenetic Mechanisms in Diabetic Nephropathy,” Rama Natarajan, City of Hope. CSC 250. Info: (310) 941-9274

## Friday, Nov. 30

**6:30 a.m.** Anesthesiology Grand Rounds. “Decontamination and Newer Antidotes,” Sean Nordt, USC. MCH 256. Info: (323) 409-6856

**8:30 a.m.** Surgical Grand Rounds. “Simultaneous Liver-Kidney Transplantation: When Are Two Organs, One Too Many?” Mitra Nadim, USC. DOH 100. Info: (323) 442-9064

## Saturday, Dec. 1

**8:30 a.m. – 1 p.m.** 20th Annual Parkinson’s Update. Various speakers. Hilton Pasadena. Info: (323) 442-5728

## Tuesday, Dec. 4

**Noon.** Psychiatry Grand Rounds. “Globesity and Food as an Addiction,” Mark Gold, University of Florida. ZNI 112. Info: (323) 442-4065

## Friday, Dec. 7

**Noon.** USC School of Pharmacy Seminar. “Prostate Cancer – Models and Mechanisms,” Sarki Abdulkadir, Vanderbilt. PSC 104. Info: (323) 442-2341

**Notice:** Deadline for calendar submission is 4 p.m. Monday to be considered for that week’s issue—although three weeks’ advance notice of events is recommended. Please note that timely submission does not guarantee an item will be printed. Send calendar items to *The Weekly*, KAM 400 or fax to (323) 442-2832, or email to [eblaauw@usc.edu](mailto:eblaauw@usc.edu). Entries must include day, date, time, title of talk, first and last name of speaker, affiliation of speaker, location and a phone number for information.



Brian Morri

Gary and Marita Robb accept a gift from scholar Adrian Burgos at this year’s Annual Scholarship Luncheon, held Oct. 31 at Harry and Celesta Pappas Quad.

## Donors, students interact at Annual Scholarship Luncheon

By Amy E. Hamaker

Scholarship donors and recipients gathered on a crisp Southern California afternoon to enjoy fellowship and interaction at this year’s Keck School of Medicine of USC Annual Scholarship Luncheon. The reception and luncheon were held Oct. 31 in the Harry and Celesta Pappas Quad.

The importance of scholarships in attracting top students and how students’ personal and professional lives had been affected by the gifts were the themes for the afternoon. Emcee Henri Ford, vice dean for Medical Education at the Keck School, noted that donors’ generosity helps not only the community, but also themselves.

“This luncheon gives you the chance to preview the fruits of your investment,” he said. “Seventy percent of Keck School graduates end up practicing in Southern California, and they will make a transformative difference in our society. They are the ones who will take care of you when you need them—it really is investing in your future.”

Carmen A. Puliafito, dean of the Keck School, extolled the virtues of the most recent incoming class, noting that they are the most academically accomplished students beginning at the Keck School, and praising their high level of academic achievement and ethnic diversity. However, he said, it is thanks to donor generosity that USC continues to be able to attract the best and brightest.

“The character of medicine in the next 25 years will be determined by the character of medical students now. These are the leaders of medicine in our community and beyond,” said Puliafito. “Our admis-

sions department has done a fantastic job of recruiting quality students, but we need your support to continue.”

Raquel Arias, associate dean for admissions, described the process of going through 7,222 candidate applications to fill the 186 student spots for this year.

“I look for incoming students as amazing as the ones we already have, and I’m proud to speak to those who make it possible for me to get them,” she said.

Arias also gave thank-you remarks on behalf of fourth-year student Rachel Schwartz, a scheduled speaker who was unable to attend because of airline delays as a result of Hurricane Sandy.

Scholarship recipients played an active part in the celebration.

During the luncheon, students gave small tokens of appreciation to the donors.

Fourth-year medical student

Ali Arastu spoke of his first two years in medical school living on Los Angeles’ Skid Row, attending medical school during the day and visiting with the homeless at night.

“I wanted to understand what the homeless went through,” explained Arastu. “I learned about the barriers they face getting access to health care. Despite how inspiring it was, it was also overwhelming. The faculty, resources and inspiration here have given me the skills and support to make a difference and help people.”

Second-year medical student Lynn Ngai performed a traditional Chinese piece on the erhu, a two-stringed Chinese violin. Ngai formed the Keck Music Society on campus, in which medical students play music for patients at the Los Angeles County+USC Medical Center and the USC Norris Comprehensive Cancer Center.

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**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.