

June 2018
CDU News

Covered California's Peter Lee Envisions Access, Coverage For All at Haynes Lecture Series

Peter V. Lee, JD, Executive Director of Covered California, gave a presentation on how health insurance coverage in California has changed since the passage of the Affordable Care Act (ACA) in 2010 as a part of the M. Alfred Haynes Lecture Series' on June 15.

The ACA, also known as "Obamacare," is a health care reform law meant to make health insurance accessible and affordable to all, providing consumers with better health security by setting up modifications that expand coverage and lower health care costs. It also ensures more choice and enhances the quality of care for all.

Covered California is the state-based marketplace that resulted from the passage of the ACA, with the goal of "increasing the number of insured Californians, improved health care quality, lower costs and reducing health disparities through an innovative, competitive marketplace that empowers consumers to choose the health plan and providers that give them the best value."

Since the arrival of the Covered California marketplace along with the expansion of Medicaid in recent years, the percentage of uninsured Californians has dropped to historic lows – from 2013 to 2017, the rate of uninsured decreased from 17% to 6.8%. Mr. Lee credited this decrease to the marketplace's cost-sharing subsidies that lower what it costs to see a doctor, increasing the likelihood of a patient to seek care.

He also credited the marketplace's success thus far to creating a competitive market amongst health providers, offering affordable products and services, effective outreach and enrollment efforts, and encouraging the right care at the right time. He highlighted the organization's extensive and multicultural marketing outreach efforts, noting that in 2017, approximately 96% of Californians reported that they were aware of both Covered California and the Affordable Care Act.

As Covered California forges ahead on its plan of reducing uninsured populations within the state, they have several strategies in place to attain that goal: continue increasing awareness of Covered California and the individual marketplace throughout the state; provide consumers with the tools necessary to make informed choices when selecting plans and providers; and eliminating penalties for the uninsured beginning in 2019.



The CDU community listens as Peter Lee discusses the advantages of affordable health care at the Haynes Lecture Series.



President's Message

Greetings,

I like to take time at the end of each academic year to reflect upon where we've been, where we are now and where we're going next. I'm happy to report that all signs indicate that the trajectory for Charles R. Drew Medicine and Science continues to be positive.

Earlier this month, I had the privilege of standing on the stage at the StubHub while we awarded 377 degrees and certificates to CDU's Class of 2018, the next group of the healthcare workforce of tomorrow. Each one of this year's graduates has worked tirelessly to reach this milestone in their journey, and their diplomas serve as the tangible reward for their efforts. On behalf of CDU's board of trustees, executive management team, staff and faculty, I'd like to extend an emphatic "Congratulations" to CDU's Class of 2018!

We conclude one chapter in our University's memorable story to begin a new, exciting and ambitious one – the return of residency training to CDU and South L.A. the first time in 11 years. Our new residency programs in Family Medicine and Psychiatry have begun, and we are honored to be able to cultivate residents whose focus is providing care throughout SPAs 6 and 7. We extend our sincere thanks to Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas and the L.A. County Board of Supervisors, who recently helped secure \$14 million to fund the Medical School Affiliation Agreement for resident physician training and medical personnel to provide services through 2023.

I'd like to wish all of our students, past and present, a restful and productive summer. We've accomplished phenomenal things in this academic year, and the best is yet to come – we'll see you for the fall semester!

Unfortunately, I must end on a somber note this month. It is with deep sadness that I announce the passing of a member of the CDU family. Michelle Johnson, an RN-BSN Cohort 3 student, passed away on Monday, June 18. She was in the second semester of her program, was a very committed student and a regular member of our CDU Cancer Survivorship and Caregiver Support Group. Michelle inspired all who knew her, and she will be greatly missed by her family and friends, as well as her CDU family. Please keep her and her family in your thoughts during this difficult time.



**David M. Carlisle, MD, PhD
President & CEO**



Family Medicine and Psychiatry residents were introduced at the Board of Supervisors meeting on June 26.



Legacy of CDU

*"Legacy of CDU" offers readers an intimate look
into the rich history of Charles R. Drew
University of Medicine and Science.*

First 15: CDU's Inaugural MD Commencement Ceremony



Drew/UCLA Class of 1985

Approximately 350 people gathered to witness the graduation of the inaugural class of the Charles R. Drew/UCLA Medical Education Program on June 2, 1985. The charter class of 15, comprised of eight women and seven men, received their MD degrees on the lawn of the newly constructed W. Montague Cobb Medical Education Building, the University's first permanent structure.

The ceremony featured a commencement address by then-president of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Dr. David M. Rogers, who commended the students' dedication to the mission of the University of serving under-resourced communities. The Hippocratic Oath, the physician's creed, was administered by Dr. M. Alfred Haynes, former CDU dean and president.

Following its official approval by the UC regents in May 1979, the Charles R. Drew/UCLA Medical Education program enrolled its first class of undergraduate students in 1981. Students completed two years of medical school courses at UCLA and completed their programs with two years of clinical study at CDU with patients from the neighboring hospital and community outreach programs, reinforcing the social commitment of the graduates to serve in under-resourced communities.

"You can't come out of a program like this without feeling that you want to give something back," said Diana Liley, a member of the inaugural class. "You can talk about these really needy patients all you want, but until you see them, and take care of them, it's not real to you."

The affiliation between UCLA and CDU remains strong, as twenty-four students enroll in the four-year community-based medical education program each year.



President's Commencement Remarks



Dr. Carlisle gives opening remarks at the 34th annual commencement ceremony on June 4.

Of all the responsibilities that come with being the president of this University, commencement has to be among the favorite duties. It's the day we recognize the culmination of years of hard work by our students, and they get the recognition—and the sense of relief—they have so richly earned.

So, I say with great pride at the outset of my remarks to you: Congratulations, Class of 2018, and a job well done!

You have completed an important stage of a lifelong journey of learning, service and career advancement in the health professions field. We are pleased that you have chosen to spend a portion of that journey at CDU.

We applaud the commitment you've shown to your personal goals and ideals, as well as to the University's vision, mission, values and our shared commitment to "health and wellness for all in a world without disparities." We understand that this is one of the main reasons you chose to study here.

As you move along your life's path, I encourage you to take inspiration from the Nelson Mandela quote that graces the cover of this year's commencement program: "It always seems impossible until it's done." You will certainly face obstacles, some of which may seem insurmountable. Yet, with perseverance, resourcefulness and faith in yourself—the same personal qualities you have drawn upon to earn the degree you are receiving this evening—you will break through. What seemed at one time impossible will be done. By you. Perhaps not easily, but it will be done. And you will justifiably take immense pride in your achievement.

You are all prepared, by virtue of the rigorous academic and practical training you've received at CDU, to break through any barriers.

Finally, know that we will always be connected. You are part of the CDU family—forever. You and all of us here at CDU will be richer for that lifetime relationship.

Again, congratulations on your graduation and best wishes for a career and a life of personal and professional fulfillment.

2018 Oath and Honors

Each year the Mervyn M. Dymally School of Nursing, College of Science and Health and the College of Medicine hold ceremonies to celebrate the accomplishments of their newest graduates and wish them well in their journeys to becoming compassionate health professionals.



Mervyn M. Dymally School of Nursing

Dean's Leadership Award: Shenita Anderson, Maria Gaytan, Doris Hudson, Dorothy Kemie-Okesola, Bernadette Johns, Ruel Mariano

Excellence in Academics Award: Sheryl Antido, Carmen Flores, Rupert Fortugaleza, Babyruth Garing, Yajaira Gomez, Jarmaine Johns, Jamieson Juco, Bonnie Kwan, Roberto Marron, Mercedes Ocan

Clinical Excellence Award: Rafael De Guzman, James Dilmore, Miriam Inzunza, Mamie Mandela

Appreciation Award for Service: Doris Hudson



College of Science and Health

Dr. Charles W. Bugs Award: Simon Alarcon, Sasha Arya, Felipe Findley, Shaemion McBride, Tiffany Polar, Michael Yacoub

Dr. Jack Mitchell Award: Jemal Hussein, Shaemion McBride,

Dr. Raymond Kivel Award: Fatuma Ahmed

Dr. Mary McLeod Bethune Award: Victoria Gichohi

The Geraldine Burton Branch Scholarship recipients: Ana Garcia, Anisha Shorter, Naomi Long, Briana Lopez, Fatuma Ahmed, Ta'Shariah Robinson

Dr. Charles R. Drew

Award: Mignote Yilma

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Award: Lucia Martinez

Dr. Rebecca Lee Award:

Parissa Martelly

Dr. Carlos Conseco

Gonzalez Award: Joe

Torres

Dr. Geraldine Burton

Branch Award: Joan Choi

Dr. Mitchell Spellman

Award: Eric Ottney

Cesar Chavez Award:

Axeline Maisonet

Student Affairs Peer

Advocacy Award: Monique McDermouth

Dean's Award of

Excellence: Jaime Jimenez

Leonard Tow Humanism

in Medicine Award: Joe Torres

Delford Williams Surgery

Scholarship: Ryan Randle, Mignote Yilma

Medical Student Research

Award: Liliana Casas, Lucia Martinez, Jade Sanders



College of Medicine

2018 Commencement Recap



Commencement Speaker: U.S. Representative Nanette Barragán

Rep. Barragán was elected to the U.S. House of Representatives in November 2016, becoming the first Latina ever to represent California's 44th Congressional district. Born in Harbor City and growing up in its surrounding harbor communities, her humble beginnings shaped her interest in issues that matter locally: environmental and health justice, immigration reform, strengthening the economy, and affordable and accessible education.

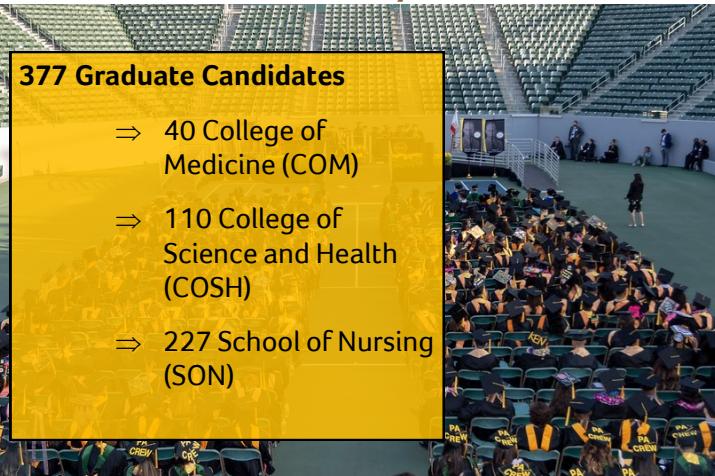
Student Speaker: Shenita Anderson



Shenita Anderson was the student speaker at this year's ceremony, using her platform to congratulate her peers on a job well done and reminding them to maintain their core values of resilience and dedication as they forge ahead on their careers as health professionals, just as they did during their time at CDU. "In the coming years, we

will look back and consider our time at CDU to be a pivotal moment, one that deemed us pioneers of our own paths while uniting us through our dedication to social justice and health equity," Anderson said.

Commencement by the Numbers



Commencement Awards & Honors

President's Award: Ezra C. Davidson, Jr., MD, FACS (posthumous)

The President's Medal recognizes extraordinary service to CDU by a member of the University community who has performed with excellence in his or her profession.

Board of Trustees Medal of Honor: Marvin O Quinn, MPH

The Medal of Honor is the highest honor awarded by the Board of Trustees, and is bestowed to the individual who best exemplifies the spirit of CDU's mission: serving the underserved with excellence and compassion.

2018 Honorary Doctoral Degree: The Hon. Supervisor Mark Ridley Thomas & Loretta Jones, ThD, MA

Nominees for the honorary doctoral degree are distinguished in their respective fields and widely recognized. Nominees must have demonstrated intellectual and humane values that are consistent with the aims of the University's mission and higher education, and with the highest ideals of the person's field.



**Supervisor Mark Ridley Thomas (top)
and Dr. Loretta Jones (bottom) both
received honorary degrees on June 4.**

Congratulations

Class of 2018



Campus News

Test Your Way, Test Today: CDU Hosts 17th Annual HIV Testing Event



CDU's Center for AIDS Research Education and Services (Drew C.A.R.E.S.) hosted a community event for the 17th Annual National HIV Testing Day. The free outdoor event featured entertainment with KJLH Radio and DJ PeeWee, food, raffles, health information and confidential HIV testing. Counselors, staff, students, and representatives of local advocacy groups promoted the importance of knowing one's HIV status and reducing HIV stigma.

HIV testing is a free and important tool in the fight against HIV/AIDS. This is especially true for members of underserved communities, such as South Los Angeles, who may not have immediate access to or knowledge of these essential prevention programs. According to a [report](#) by the Los Angeles County Commission on HIV, South Los Angeles has one of the highest numbers of new HIV cases in the county. Of those diagnosed between 2009 and 2013, approximately 1 in 8 were residents of South L.A.

Recent Grant to CDU from The Ballmer Group



The University is pleased to announce a recent \$200,000 grant award from The Ballmer Group to support general operating costs. As we continue our transformation into a mid-size University of 2,000, contributions from partners such as The Ballmer Group are essential in ensuring we have the proper infrastructure to obtain, sustain and build upon our goals.

CDU Pride: Staff Member of the Month, Raffle Winner

Rhonda Jones, Student Affairs, is this month's Staff Management Council (SMC) raffle winner! She won a \$20 gift card to the campus café. Congratulations are due also to Michael Ransom, Jr., Facilities, who was selected as this month's Employee of the Month!

The SMC was created in 2014 to unite staff and help advance the Mission of the University. Those interested in joining the SMC are encouraged to reach out to April Miller at (323) 563-5823 or AprilMiller@cdrewu.edu.

JAZZ AT DREW Returns October 6

Mark your calendars! CDU is proud to announce the 20th Jazz at Drew concert series, set to take place on October 6, 2018. This year's lineup will feature performances from After 7, SOS Band, Pete Escovedo Orchestra, DW3, JazzFunkSoul, Crusaders Tribute Band and more! Be sure to visit <http://www.cdrewu.edu/jazzatdrew> to get the latest event updates and artist lineup information!

CDU Event Calendar

7/6: Friday Noon Lecture Series

7/13: Friday Noon Lecture Series

7/19: CPR Basic Life Support

7/20: Friday Noon Lecture Series

7/27: Friday Noon Lecture Series

[Click for more Calendar items](#)

[View this month's photos at cdrewu.smugmug.com](#)

CDU in the News

June 2018

Black Excellence

[Breaking Barriers and Making an Impact: A Masters Candidate Kendrick Jones' Educational Journey](#) (6/4/2018)

L.A. Watts Times

[Reverend Kelvin Sauls Takes Ministry Beyond Holman](#) (6/4/2018)

Dallas Business Journal

[UNT Dallas names new chief financial officer](#) (6/11/2018)

Pedien

[Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas Receives Honorary Degree by Charles R. Drew University of Medicine and Science](#) (6/13/2018)

Goldhirsh Foundation

[\\$1,000,000 up for Grabs to Make LA the Best Place to Play, Learn, Create, Connect, and Live](#) (6/19/2018)

SCV News

[June 26: LA County Board of Supervisors Meeting](#) (6/25/2018)

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