STUDENT NEWS

Rho Chi Society Award
The Gamma Omega Chapter of the Rho Chi Society at the Texas A&M Rangel College of Pharmacy was named the Regional Finalist for 2014-2015 Chapter Achievement Award for Region VI during the 92nd Annual Award Reception of the Society at the APhA-ASP Annual Meeting in Baltimore, Maryland, in March.

ACCP Clinical Pharmacy Challenge
Nine teams of P2s and P3s competed in the ACCP (American Colleges of Clinical Pharmacy) Clinical Pharmacy Challenge. Winners of the local competition are:

- First place: Oziel Martinez, Jr., Josue Guerra, and Roderick Hess
- Second place: Monica Pham, Shannon White, and Sasha Cruz
- Third place: Hannah Ehrenfeld, Matthew Untermeyer, and Kathryn Garcia

Oziel, Josue, and Roderick will be representing the Texas A&M Rangel College of Pharmacy during the first round of the national competition beginning September 8, 2016.

Disaster Day 2016
On March 24, several students and clinical faculty members of the College Station cohort (and a few visitors too!) participated in the 10th annual "Disaster Day" mass casualty simulation. The event is organized and executed by the Texas A&M Health Science Center College of Nursing with the assistance of students and faculty from Medicine, Public Health, and Pharmacy all working together to make the event a true interprofessional experience.

This year’s mock disaster scenario was a train derailment in the center of downtown Bryan during an outdoor festival. Many people were injured when one of the buildings collapsed and a car caught fire. The more critically injured patients were transported to area hospitals, but the HSC students and faculty in conjunction with the American Red Cross set up a medical station to accept and treat the less severely injured and the walking wounded.

The College of Pharmacy participation included 22 - P1s, 30 - P2s, 14 - P4s, two alumni and six faculty members all assuming various roles as patients, dispensing pharmacists, clinical pharmacists and clinical observers.

The pharmacy students played an integral role in the treatment of these patients and proved to be indispensable members of a healthcare team. Pharmacy student coordinators for Disaster Day 2016 were Blake Maxson, Chris Cavazos, and Michelle Yazdchi.
Scholarship Recipients
The Awards, Honors and Scholarships Committee of the Texas A&M Rangel College of Pharmacy selected the following students to receive scholarships for the spring 2016 semester:

- Walgreens Diversity Scholarship - **Valerie Guerra** (P2), **Emmy Jiang** (P2), **Lei Wu** (P1)
- Walgreens Diversity and Inclusion Excellence Scholarship - **Honey Patel** (P2)
- Dr. James Robertson Jr. Memorial Scholarship - **Cyrus Koochekzadeh** (P2)
- Safeway Scholarship - **Shahrouz Shoghi** (P2), **Dealer Rockwell** (P2), **Juan Garcia** (P1)

FACULTY NEWS

Professional Appointments
**Indra K. Reddy, Ph.D.**, professor and founding dean of the Texas A&M Health Science Center Irma Lerma Rangel College of Pharmacy, has been elected chair of the International Commission for the Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education, effective Feb. 1.

Reddy has been serving as an international commissioner through the International Service Program since 2012. From February 2015 until February 2016, Reddy served as vice chair/chair elect of the International Commission for ACPE.

The ACPE Board of Directors established the ACPE International Services Program, the mission of which is to promote, assure and advance the quality of pharmacy education internationally to improve patient care through safe and effective medication use. The expert members serving as commissioners are drawn from around the world and are approved by the ACPE Board of Directors.

**Victoria B. Pho, PharmD, CGP**, assistant professor of pharmacy practice currently serves as the immediate past chair of AACP Geriatric Special Interest Group (SIG). Her leadership has helped increase the engagement among the SIG members and foster great leadership within the committees. Under her leadership, support and working closely with the committee chairs, the annual program has a special session at the annual meeting in July 2016.

**Alkhateeb Fadi, Ph.D.**, associate professor and director of assessment, was elected to the Advisory Committee Board, Del Mar Community College Pharmacy Technician Program, located in Corpus Christi, TX. The Board is charged with ensuring the program curriculum adequately prepares students for a career as certified pharmacy technicians.

Presentations


**Dr. Mary Chavez**, professor and chair of pharmacy practice, made an oral presentation at the 5th Annual Gulf Coast Pharmacy Symposium sponsored by the Texas A&M HSC Coastal Bend Health Education Center, Corpus Christi, TX entitled “Current Management of Prostate Cancer” on Feb. 27, 2016.
Presentations (con't)

Dr. Andrea Luce, assistant professor of pharmacy practice was invited to be the guest speaker at the Rho Chi Induction banquet at the University of the Incarnate Word Feik School of Pharmacy on February 21, 2016.


Bree Watzak (April 14, 2016) Geriatric Simulation Experience: Using a "day in the life" experience to increase empathy and improve communication. Southern Group on Educational Affairs Annual Meeting, Austin, TX.

Bree Watzak, Benny Holland, Laura Livingston, Courtney West, Lori Graham, Anne Gill, Tyson Pillow. (April 14, 2016) Sharing, Adopting, and Implementing Best IPE Practices. Southern Group on Educational Affairs Annual Meeting, Austin, TX.

Robert Steele, Bree Watzak. (April 26, 2016). The design and implementation of a Pharmacotherapeutics course for physicians returning to practice and other physicians with educational needs. The Coalition for Physician Enhancement. San Diego, CA.

Jackie Stout, Alison Pittman, Regina Bentley, Jerry Livingston, and Bree Watzak. The Effects of Interprofessional Pediatric End-Of-Life Simulation on Communication and Role Understanding in Health Professions Students. Interprofessional Education and Research Conference, College Station, TX.


Awards and Honors

Adam Brown, Pharm.D., BCPS was recognized with the TSHP Board of Directors Award for his work as the New Practitioner’s Section Chair.

Publications

Publications (con't)
Koo, Cathy L., Elaine L. Demps, Charlotte Farris, John D. Bowman, Ladan Panahi, Paul Boyle


Majeti, RaviKumar Mono-(2-ethylhexyl) Phthalate Increases Oxidative Stress Responsive miRNAs in First Trimester Placental Cell Line HTR8/SVneo.


Kim, Dongin, Detection of ovarian cancer micrometastasis using nanoparticle-delivered probe targeted towards tumor-associated neovasculature, Clin Cancer Res, 2016, 22; A61

Kim Dongin, Book chapter submission
Title: “Artificial antigen-presenting cells for immunotherapies” in Methods in Molecular Biology (Springer)

Kim Dongin, Journal reviews
Nanomedicine: Nanotechnology, Biology, and Medicien (Elsevier)
Colloids and Surfaces B: Biointerfaces


Publications (con’t)


NEW HIRES
Adam Brown, Pharm.D., BCPS has joined the Texas A&M Rangel College of Pharmacy as a Clinical Assistant Professor of Pharmacy Practice. Dr. Brown joins the College from the Memorial Hermann Heart and Vascular Institute in the Texas Medical Center in Houston. He earned his bachelor’s degree in Biology from The University of Texas at Austin and Pharm.D. from Texas A&M University.

Rene A. Verduzco, Pharm.D. has joined the College of Pharmacy and Doctors Hospital at Renaissance (DHR) as a clinical assistant professor and Residency Director in Edinburg, Texas. In his new role, he will be responsible for working with the College and DHR to develop, conduct and provide oversight of the new collaborative PGY1 residency program.

Chunyan Li
Research Assistant, Kingsville, working in Dr. Mahua Choudhury’s laboratory

Rohan Jayasuriya
Research Assistant, Kingsville, working in Dr. Narendra Kumar’s laboratory