College of Pharmacy and Nutrition
Proud of Our Tradition and Home of Research and Practice Innovation

Dean’s Newsletter
Issue 22, May 2018

The Dean’s Newsletter is published every second month and provides updates on academics, research, events, and other items of interest. Join us in celebrating our achievements by submitting your updates to kieran.kobitz@usask.ca.

TOP STORIES

RxFiles moves to University of Saskatchewan
RxFiles Academic Detailing Program has joined the College of Pharmacy and Nutrition at the University of Saskatchewan. The Government of Saskatchewan will provide annual funding of $450,000 to the college to operate RxFiles and the program will be co-located with medSask. Read more.

Twenty-year partnership helping thousands in Ethiopia
A University of Saskatchewan delegation led by researcher Carol Henry has just returned from meetings in Ethiopia that celebrated the outcomes of a 20-year partnership between U of S and Hawassa University. Mary Buhr, dean of Agriculture and Bioresources, and Maurice Maloney, program director of the Global Institute for Food Security, were part of the delegation. Read more.

U of S pharmacy PhD student’s gene therapy research earning awards and accolades
Mays Al-Dulaymi was working as a pharmacist overseas in Jordan when she soon realized that she wanted to do more to help patients. Leaving family and friends behind, Al-Dulaymi headed to U of T for a one-year stint working as a research assistant before applying and being accepted to do graduate studies in the College of Pharmacy and Nutrition at the University of Saskatchewan. Read more.
MORE COLLEGE NEWS

Pharmacist Awareness Month

- **Ribbon Cutting**
  PAM got off to a strong start on Thursday, March 1, with the ribbon cutting in the Health Sciences E-Wing Atrium. Over 100 students, faculty, and staff were in attendance to mark the start of the month.

- **Mr. Pharmacy Pageant**
  Congratulations to CAPSI USaskatchewan on raising money for Saskatoon Crisis Nursery at another successful Mr. Pharmacy Pageant. Calvin Yee was named this year’s Mr. Pharmacy.

- **PAM Booths**
  Throughout the month, CAPSI ran outreach booths on campus and in the community to help educate people about the role of pharmacists.

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**Pharmasave-Rubicon Pharmacy Student Business Plan Competition**

Congratulations to all of the students who participated in the 2018 Pharmasave-Rubicon Pharmacy Student Business Plan Competition. A special thank you to our judges for taking time out of their busy schedules, and to Pharmasave for hosting a reception after the competition.

- **First Place: SPEAK about Mental Health and Addictions**
  Alida Boulianne, Avery Deichert, Courtney Mish, Jessica Kubashke, Monique Cadrain, Theresa Lenkart

- **Second Place: CommuniCare**
  Darren Reithmeier, Taylor Gilliland, Sarah Cooper, Alysha Jensen, Caitlyn Stene, Natasha McIntyre

- **Third Place: IMPACT: Inclusive Management and Provision of Ancillary Care for Tuberculosis**
  Sara Abolhassani, Hishaam Bhimji, Britney Gessner, Meghanne Rieder, Haley Suchan, Evan Youle

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MORE COLLEGE NEWS

Nutrition Third Year Celebration and Send-off
Congratulations to the Nutrition Class of 2018! The Nutrition Year 3 Celebration & Send-off was held on Thursday, April 6, at the University Club. It’s one last official get together before the class leaves campus to begin their internships. Pictures from the event are available on our Facebook page. View the gallery.

Nutrition Research Day
The annual Dietitians of Canada Saskatchewan Research Day was on Thursday, April 26 in Marquis Hall. The day highlighted and celebrated the fourth year nutrition students’ practice based research project presentations as well as features presentations by leading experts in food and nutrition.

Nutrition Project Showcase Fair
On Tuesday, April 3 the second and third year nutrition students presented their projects at the NUTR 330/430 Project Showcase Fair. These projects provide students the opportunities to apply their knowledge and skills to start meeting the competencies for entry into the dietetic profession.

Nutrition Month
March was Nutrition Month across Canada and our nutrition students actively promoted the role of Registered Dietitians. Events were held across campus to educate the community about healthy eating. Read more.
MORE COLLEGE NEWS

IN THE MEDIA

**Kelly Kizlyk**, Experiential Learning Coordinator, was on Global Saskatoon Morning News on Tuesday, March 13 to explain the changing of roles pharmacists and what they now provide. [Watch the video.](#)

**Karen Jensen**, medSask manager, spoke with the Regina Leader-Post earlier this week about the services medSask provides to healthcare professionals and the public. [Read more.](#)

**Dr. Jaris Swidrovich** spoke with the Saskatoon Star Phoenix about University of Saskatchewan’s Gathering for miyo mahcihowin, for which he co-chaired the planning committee. [Read more.](#)

**Kelly Kizlyk** was on Global Saskatoon Morning News on Tuesday, April 3 to talk about spring allergy treatments. [Watch the video.](#)

Adjunct Professor **Marianna Foldvari**'s research was profiled in University of Waterloo's Global Impact report. She's working on a gene therapy that she hopes will one day prevent the vision loss that so often accompanies aging. [Read more.](#)

**Dr. Jaris Swidrovich** was profiled in the Saskatoon Star Phoenix's Bridges magazine this week for his works on reconciliation and Indigenization at the U of S. [Read more.](#)

**Dr. Charity Evans** was featured on the Saskatchewan Health Research Foundation website for her work to confirm that Saskatchewan has one of the highest rates of MS in Canada by establishing the incidence and prevalence of the disease in the province. [Read more.](#)

**Dr. Derek Jorgenson** was on the cover of and interviewed by Pharmacy Practice + Business magazine as one of 14 pharmacists making a mark on the profession. [Read more (subscription required).](#)

FACULTY AND STAFF NEWS

**Dr. Robert Laprairie** spoke at event co-hosted by Café Scientifique and Brain Awareness Week, on Tuesday, March 13 on "Cannabinoids: What Science Knows and What It's Working On."

Congratulations to **Poppy Lowe**, Nutrition Professional Skills Coordinator, on being named the March Staff Spotlight. [Read more.](#)

**Celebration of Teaching**
Congratulations to **Dr. Ed Krol** who was awarded the Provost's College Award for Outstanding Teaching for the College of Pharmacy and Nutrition at Celebration of Teaching awards ceremony on Friday, April 27.
FACULTY AND STAFF NEWS

Promotions
Congratulations to the following faculty members on their upcoming promotions, which are effective July 1, 2018:
- Dr. Holly Mansell promoted to Associate Professor with Tenure
- Dr. Ildiko Badea promoted to Full Professor
- Dr. Anas El-Aneed promoted to Full Professor
- Dr. Ed Krol promoted to Full Professor
- Dr. Hassan Vatanparast promoted to Full Professor

Reappointments
Congratulations to Drs. Kerry Mansell and Carol Henry who have been reappointed in their roles as Assistant Deans in the College of Pharmacy and Nutrition. Their two-year terms will be effective July 1, 2018.

ALUMNI NEWS

Mike Stuber (BSP 2007) will be on Access Communications' Talk of The Town in March to talk about his work as an HIV specialist.

Congratulations to Aleina Haines (BSP 2016) on winning the Top Poster Award at the 2018 CSHP Banff Seminar.

Helen Flengeris (BScNutr 1992) was on CTV Morning Live Regina yesterday to talk about Nutrition Month and how parents can help their children establish healthy eating habits. Watch the video.

Myla Wollbaum (BSP 2002) spoke with CTV Saskatoon on Monday, April 2 about pharmacists' new prescribing authority, including birth control and UTI medication. Watch the video.

Myla Wollbaum (BSP 2002) was interviewed by the Regina Leader-Post about the benefits to patients now that pharmacists can prescribe for birth control and UTI medication. Read more.

Carla Guedo (BSP 2005) spoke with the Saskatoon StarPhoenix about prescribing birth control and other medications. Watch the video.
ALUMNI NEWS

Dave Morari (BSP 2012) spoke to CBC Saskatoon about the rising demand for naloxone kits in Saskatoon. Read more.

Azure English (BSP 2008) was recently featured by the Canadian Society of Hospital Pharmacists for her work as a mentor in the pharmacy profession. Read more.

Brooke Bulloch (BScNutr 2009) was interviewed by Flow magazine Saskatoon about how people can integrate more plant-based foods into their diets. Read more.

Do you have alumni news to share? Submit your story to kieran.kobitz@usask.ca to be featured in our next newsletter.

EVENTS

UPCOMING EVENTS

The college will host its annual dessert and reception at the Pharmacy Association of Saskatchewan Annual Conference on Friday, May 11, at the Doubletree by Hilton Hotel and Conference Centre in Regina.

The college will be in Toronto to host an Alumni and Friends of the College after-work mixer on Tuesday, May 22 at 5:00 pm at Scaddabush Italian Kitchen and Bar. All local alumni and Canadian Society of Pharmaceutical Sciences Conference delegates are welcome to attend.

Sask Night will return to the Canadian Pharmacists Association Conference on Sunday, June 3, in Fredericton, New Brunswick. Details to follow on social media and via email.

The college will host an alumni reception during the Dietitians of Canada Conference in Vancouver on Friday, June 8, at 7:00 pm at 6 Degrees Eatery (1590 Coal Harbour Quay, across the street from the Westin Bayshore). All local alumni who are not attending the conference are welcome at the event.

Dr. Shawna Berenbaum’s Retirement Cerebration will take place on Wednesday, June 20 at 5:00 pm at the University Club. Please RSVP to Claire Sutton at claire.sutton@usask.ca by June 13 to attend.

The Dean’s Golf Tournament will be held on Wednesday, June 27 at Greenbryre Golf and Country Club. The tournament will be a 12 hold Texas Scramble with a Ukrainian supper to follow. More information.

Dr. Alfred Reimillard’s Retirement Celebration will take place on Friday, July 13 at 5:00 pm at the University Club. Please RSVP to Claire Sutton at claire.sutton@usask.ca by July 6 to attend.
EVENTS

PAST EVENTS

Edith Rowles-Simpson Lecture
On Monday, March 19, Dr. Maurice Moloney, Executive Director and CEO of the Global Institute for Food Security, was the keynote speaker at the Edith Rowles-Simpson Lecture. His presentation was titled “Global Food Security: Not Just Quantity But Quality” and featured work by the college’s Dr. Carol Henry.

Academic Awards Ceremony
On Sunday, March 18, the college held the Twenty-sixth Annual Academic Awards Ceremony. Awards were presented to both undergraduate and graduate students. Congratulations to all of the award winners. View the gallery.

Culinary Throw down
The college held a Culinary Throw-down to celebrate Dr. Shawna Berenbaum’s upcoming retirement this spring. Faculty members and professional chefs were each paired with third year nutrition students to compete in the cooking contest. The students cooked while the faculty and chefs could only direct their team.

Home Economics Alumni Annual Luncheon
The college hosted the annual luncheon for the Home Economics alumni at the Delta Bessborough on Friday, April 27. Approximately 85 alumni from across the province attended.

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SPOTLIGHT ON RESEARCH

Congratulations to Dr. Jim Fang who is our April Researcher of the Month. He has over 30 years of research experience in drug metabolism, pharmacokinetics, pharmacology, and the health effects of antioxidants. Read more.

TRAINEE SUCCESS

Program Update

Congratulations to Dr. Paul Iyyanar (supervisor: Dr. Jane Alcorn; formerly Dr. Adil Nazarali) and Ms. Kelly Buxton (supervisor: Dr. David Blackburn), who successfully defended their theses over the past two months!

The College welcomes one new graduate student this May: Lina Al-Karabsheh will be joining the Master’s program in Nutrition. We will also be welcoming back Lila Abobaker who completed her Master’s in our program this winter and will be starting a PhD program. Both will be studying under the supervision of Dr. Hassan Vatanparast.

College Awards

The following students have recently received awards from the College of Pharmacy and Nutrition:

Alf Pepper Research Award
Courtney Quiring, Pharmacy MSc (Supervisor: Dr. David Blackburn)

Elizabeth Helen McLeod Scholarship (shared)
Pardis Keshavarz, Nutrition MSc (Supervisor: Dr. Hassan Vatanparast)

FJ Fear Scholarship
Stephanie Vuong, Pharmacy MSc (Supervisors: Drs. Jane Alcorn and Andrew Lyon)

Ford Postgraduate Scholarship
Sarah Fatani, Pharmacy PhD (Supervisors: Drs. Anas El-Aneed and Marcel D’Eon)

Mary Isabel Irwin Scholarship
Fakir Yunus, Nutrition PhD (Supervisors: Drs. Carol Henry and Diane DellaValle)

Ramsey Postgraduate Fellowship
Courtney Quiring, Pharmacy MSc (Supervisor: Dr. David Blackburn)

Shoppers Drug Mart Dean’s Trust Scholarship (two awards)
Natasha Breward, Pharmacy PhD (Supervisors: Drs. Charity Evans and Jane Alcorn)
Chukwunonso Nwabufo, Pharmacy MSc (Supervisor: Dr. Ed Krol)
RESEARCH AND GRADUATE STUDIES

External Awards

Four graduate students who will be starting their programs in our college in 2018-2019 have been awarded Dean’s Scholarships by the College of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies. We will be welcoming Jennifer Chami (PhD in Pharmacy with Dr. Jane Alcorn), Gabriel De Silva (PhD in Pharmacy with Dr. Ed Krol), Parisa Jandaghi (PhD in Nutrition with Dr. Hassan Vatanparast), and Mojtaba Shafiee (MSc in Nutrition with Dr. Hassan Vatanparast) this upcoming September.

Allison Cammer was one of the winners of the 2018 Annual Marie Taylor Award for Excellence in Long Term Care, Seniors Nutrition and Dietetic Practice.

Presentations by Trainees

Mays Al-Dulaymi received an honourable mention in the University of Saskatchewan 3 Minute Thesis Competition held on March 15th for her talk *Gene delivery mediated by gemini-surfactants: a science fiction could become a future reality*. She received her award at the 2018 GSA Awards Gala held on April 7th.

Frank De Silva (Supervisor: Dr. Jane Alcorn) presented his poster *Cellular Effects Linked to Mammalian Lignan Enterolactone Modulated Lipid Homeostasis* at the Ameri-Flax, 2018 Flax Institute of the United States held in Fargo, North Dakota from April 4th to 5th 2018.

SUMMER STUDENT RESEARCH PROGRAM

The college is pleased to welcome the following undergraduate research assistants for the summer of 2018!

*Sara Abolhassani*, Pharmacy  
Supervisors: Drs. Josh Lawson and Dave Blackburn  
Funding provided by the colleges of Medicine and Pharmacy and Nutrition

*Sarah Alkhold* (Saudi Arabia)  
Supervisor: Dr. Hassan Vatanparast

*Hishaam Bhimji* (Pharmacy)  
Supervisor: Dr. Derek Jorgenson and Eric Landry  
Funding provided by College of Pharmacy and Nutrition and Purdue Pharma Canada

*Amanda Cameron* (Anatomy and Cell Biology)  
Supervisors: Terra Arnason and Kerry Mansell  
Funding provided by the colleges of Medicine and Pharmacy and Nutrition

*Grace Cuddihy* (Pharmacy)  
Supervisors: Kishor Wasan and David Cooper  
Funding provided by the colleges of Medicine and Pharmacy and Nutrition and GSK/CSPS National Undergraduate Student Research Award

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RESEARCH AND GRADUATE STUDIES

Tamara Diaz (Nutrition)
Supervisor: Dr. Hassan Vatanparast

Connor Frank (Biochemistry)
Supervisor: Dr. Kate Dadachova
Partial funding provided by College of Pharmacy and Nutrition

Hira Ghani (Nutrition)
Supervisor: Dr. Hassan Vatanparast

Navdeep Hansra (Engineering, Western University)
Supervisor: Dr. Ellen Wasan
Funding provided by College of Pharmacy and Nutrition and NSERC USRA

Taylor Kostyshyn (Chemistry, Brandon University)
Supervisor: Dr. Ed Krol
Funding provided by College of Pharmacy and Nutrition and NSERC USRA

Amrita Lionel (Dentistry)
Supervisors: Drs. Hassan Vatanparast and Jay Hoover
Funding provided by the colleges of Dentistry and Pharmacy and Nutrition

Kawthar Mohammed (Physiology)
Supervisor: Dr. Robert Laprairie
Funding provided by College of Pharmacy and Nutrition and NSERC USRA

Tatiana Orlowski (Pharmacy)
Supervisor: Dr. Ellen Wasan
Funding provided by College of Pharmacy and Nutrition and OVPR USRA

Sara Patenaude (Nutrition)
Supervisors: Drs. Petros Papagerakis and Jessica Lieffers
Funding provided by the colleges of Dentistry and Pharmacy and Nutrition

Marissa Pirlot (Pharmacy)
Supervisors: Drs. Jeremy Lee and Ed Krol
Funding provided by the colleges of Medicine and Pharmacy and Nutrition
RESEARCH AND GRADUATE STUDIES

Miriam Robak (Nutrition)
Supervisor: Dr. Phyllis Paterson
Funding provided by Branch Out Neurological Foundation

Jasleen Saini (Pharmacology)
Supervisors: Drs. Francisco Cayabyab and Robert Laprairie
Funding provided by the colleges of Medicine and Pharmacy and Nutrition

Anna Maria Smolyakova (Pharmacy)
Supervisor: Dr. Robert Laprairie

Orhan Yilmaz (Physiology)
Supervisor: Dr. Robert Laprairie
Funding provided by College of Pharmacy and Nutrition and NSERC USRA

RESEARCH FUNDING

Carol Henry and her colleagues were awarded a $150,000 3-year grant from Saskatchewan Pulse Growers for the project “Pulse Positive: An educational campaign to increase awareness and consumption by integrating pulses into elementary schools.

Hassan Vatanparast received $105,000 in funding from the Mitacs Accelerate program for interns Seyed Hamzeh Hosseini and Pardish Keshavarz. “Grain consumption patterns, their respective nutrient contribution and related health outcomes in Canadians” is a partnered project with the Saskatchewan, Alberta, and Ontario Wheat Development Commissions.

Holly Mansell received a $55,000 one-year AST Clinical Science Faculty Development Research Grant for her research proposal “Improving Adherence in Kidney Transplant Recipients: A Randomized Controlled Trial of a Post-Transplant Education Intervention.”

RECENT PUBLICATION


Podder, R., Khan, S. M., Tar’an, B., Tyler, R. T., Henry, C. J., Jalal, C., ... Vandenberge, A. (2018). Sensory Acceptability of...
https://doi.org/10.1111/1750-3841.14066

RESEARCH AND GRADUATE STUDIES

  https://doi.org/10.1177/0379572117724545


  https://doi.org/10.22374/1710-6222.25.1.1

  https://doi.org/10.1186/s13052-018-0449-1