

## Dean's Newsletter

Issue 14, January 2017

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](mailto:kieran.kobitz@usask.ca).

### TOP STORIES

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#### 2016 Year in Review

Dear colleagues,

First and foremost, happy holidays and all the best for this new year! I hope you took some time off and spent it with your families and friends.

We have had several major accomplishments in 2016, and these include, but are not limited to, the following:

- [Dr. Fred Remillard](#) named PAS Pharmacist of the Year
- [Dr. Jane Alcorn](#) named Associate Dean of Research and Graduate Affairs
- Canadian Academy of Health Sciences Fellow Distinction for [Dr. Susan Whiting](#)
- USSU Awards for [Drs. Shawna Berenbaum and Jaris Swidrovich](#)
- Successful promotion to associate professor with tenure for [Drs. Jason Perepelkin](#) and [Azita Haddadi](#)
- Successful Recruitment of [Dr. Kate Dadachova](#) as our new Radiopharmacy chair
- Distinguished Graduate Supervisor Award for [Dr. Jane Alcorn](#)
  
- Seven year [accreditation](#) of our integrated nutrition program
- Promising accreditation review of our **BSP and PharmD Programs** by CCAPP
- Medication Assessment Centre awarded the [2016 National Patient Care Award](#)
- Very positive reviews of **the dean and leadership team**
- Opening of **New B-Wing Nutrition/Pharmacy Food and Research Labs**
- Increase in **Tri-Council & SHRF Research Funding**
- International recognition for the **American Association of Pharmaceutical Sciences U of S Graduate Student Chapter**
  
- Second consecutive year of funding raising close to **\$1.2 million**
- New legacy donations for over **\$400,000**
- Launch of our newly redesigned [website](#)
- Digitalization of our [alumni composites](#)
- Introduction of the **Staff Spotlight**
- Continued increase in [social media](#) presence and alumni engagement

It has truly been an outstanding year for the College! Thank you to the faculty and staff for their hard work and dedication.

Kish

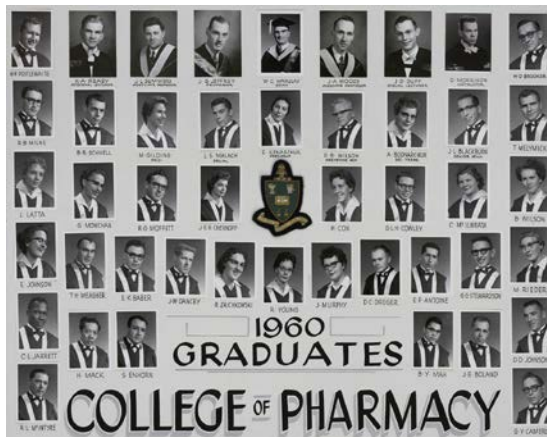


## TOP STORIES (cont'd)

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### Grad Photos Now Online

Many of you have noticed the Pharmacy and Nutrition graduate pictures have been removed from the halls of the Thorvaldson Building. A campus-wide initiative began last year to scan the pictures in an effort to preserve them, and we're happy to announce these pictures are now available on the college website. [See the pictures.](#)



### Fedoruk Chair in Radiopharmacy

Welcome to **Dr. Ekaterina (Kate) Dadachova** who joined the University of Saskatchewan as a professor of pharmacy in the College of Pharmacy and Nutrition and as the Fedoruk Centre for Nuclear Innovation Chair in Radiopharmacy. The role of the chair is a key element of the recently established Saskatchewan Program for Nuclear Imaging to apply nuclear imaging to life sciences in humans, animals and plants. [Read more.](#)



## MORE COLLEGE NEWS

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### PharmD Update

The following letter was sent to our preceptors on Friday, December 23, regarding the upcoming PharmD program, and plans to implement a program for current pharmacists to obtain a PharmD degree. [Read more.](#)

### In the Media

**Dr. Charity Evans** was featured in a Saskatoon StarPhoenix article on Friday, November 11, about her research on the effect of Pilates in multiple sclerosis. [Read more.](#)



## MORE COLLEGE NEWS (cont'd)

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### Undergraduate Students

Congratulations to **Karissa Weber**, **Annika Kolar**, and **Delaney Long** for spearheading a fundraising drive that raised an extra \$7,672 for the Nutrition Cornerstone Fund. [Read more.](#)

**Steven Kary**, Senior Stick, spoke to the first year students last January to explain how they will benefit from the Cornerstone Fund over the next four years, and the importance of giving back once they complete their degrees. [Watch the video.](#)

SaskTel dropped by to surprise one of our pharmacy students. Congratulations, Shelby! [Watch video.](#)



On Friday, November 25, **Rhett Sangster**, Director of Reconciliation and Community Partnerships at the Office of the Treaty Commissioner, spoke to fourth year students in PHARM 518, staff, and faculty. His talk focused on the Truth and Reconciliation Commission and its Calls to Action, and in particular the seven calls centering on health.

In November, **Jennifer Wojcik**, the Dietitians of Canada Regional Executive Director of Saskatchewan and Manitoba, was on campus for the annual DC Meet and Greet, put on this year by **Annika Kolar**, the SPNSS DC Senior Liaison.







## MORE COLLEGE NEWS (cont'd)

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**Sneak peek:** our new undergraduate nutrition food lab is set to open in early 2017. The lab is part of extensive renovations to the Health Sciences building.



## FACULTY AND STAFF NEWS

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We're hiring a **tenure-track position in Human Nutrition at the Assistant/Associate Professor level**. Applicants should have a PhD in human nutrition or related field, supplemented with postdoctoral or similar experience. [Read more.](#)

Congratulations to **Gen Clark** who is our December Staff Spotlight. Gen is the college's research facilitator, and she works closely with researchers to help them achieve funding success. [Read more.](#)

**Dr. Fred Remillard** and **Karen Jensen** co-presented a plenary session on Pharmacist Led Cognitive Behavioral Therapy for Insomnia at the Practical Management of Common Medical Problems Continuing Medical Education Conference in Saskatoon on Friday, November 18. It generated a lot of interest in the [PharmaZzz program](#) from general practitioners in attendance and a psychiatrist who specializes in sleep disorders as well as several patient referrals.





## FACULTY AND STAFF NEWS (cont'd)

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On Friday, November 25, **Dr. Jaris Swidrovich** provided the keynote address at the 3rd Annual SWITCH Charity Breakfast. He spoke about his experiences as a volunteer and mentor, as well as how the clinic provides culturally safe care.

**Drs. Kishor and Ellen Wasan** are part of the team at iCo Therapeutics working on an Oral Amphotericin B program. They recently announced new results of their study. [Read more.](#)



**Dr. Phyllis Paterson** gave an invited talk entitled "A Multidisciplinary Approach To Study Mechanisms Of Brain Damage And Recovery After Stroke" for the CIHR Training Grant in Health Research Using Synchrotron Techniques (THRUST) 7th Annual Retreat on Wednesday, November 9.

Congratulations to **Dr. Jaris Swidrovich** on being elected as a member-at-large on the University Council. Jaris was elected to one of two positions for which eight faculty members from across campus were nominated.



## ALUMNI NEWS

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On Tuesday, November 1, **Chris Perentes (BSP, 1990)** took part in a media event put on by Pharmacy Association of Saskatchewan. Chris gave **Heath Minister Jim Reiter** his flu shot in front of the media to help increase awareness about the importance of flu vaccines, and how pharmacists can provide them. **Jada Ste. Marie (BSP, 2008)** also provided flu shots at the event. [Read more.](#)

**Sabrina Pidperyhora (BSP, 2003)** was on Global Saskatoon's News at 6 on Tuesday, November 1, to talk about the flu vaccine, and London Drugs' efforts to donate vaccines to UNICEF Canada to immunize children elsewhere in the world against tetanus, polio or measles. [Watch the video.](#)

**Kelly Kizlyk (BSP, 2002)** was on Global Saskatoon Morning News on Tuesday, November 1, to encourage people to get the flu vaccine, and clear up some of the misinformation around it. [Watch the video.](#)



## ALUMNI NEWS (cont'd)

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**Luke Boechler (BSP, 2015)** was on CTV Saskatoon in early November to talk about the importance of being vaccinated against the flu, and how pharmacists can help people get the shot. [Watch the video.](#)

Pharmacy Association of Saskatchewan Chair **Julia Bareham's (BSP, 2008; MSc, 2015)** opinion article on expanding pharmacist services appeared in the Monday, November 7 Saskatoon StarPhoenix and Regina Leader-Post. In her article she makes the case for expanding pharmacist services to improve care while controlling costs. [Read more.](#)

**Brooke Bulloch (BScNutri, 2009)** was on Global Saskatoon Morning News on Tuesday, November 15, with tips for healthy and safe drinking during the holiday season. [Watch the video.](#)

**Loren Regier (BSP, 1988)** was interviewed by CBC about antibiotic overuse, and the collaboration between Saskatoon Health Region and RX Files to launch an ad campaign to spread awareness. [Read more.](#)

In November, **Amy Wiebe (BSP, 2008)** spoke to fourth year students in PHARM 518 about medical cannabis.

**Dr. Kyle Wilby (BSP, 2008)** presented to the faculty and staff on Tuesday, November 29, on "PharmD Implementation Lessons Learned from CCAPP Accredited Pharmacy School in the Middle East". Qatar University recently went through the exact same process the college is about to with the new PharmD, and received very positive comments from CCAPP regarding their implementation. Kyle is an Assistant Professor of Clinical Pharmacy and Practice at Qatar University's College of Pharmacy.



On Wednesday, November 30, **Dr. Kyle Wilby (BSP, 2008)** presented a seminar to our pharmacy students on the possibilities for an international career.

**Myla Wollbaum (BSP, 2002)**, Director of Professional Practice at Pharmacy Association of Saskatchewan, spoke to the fourth year students in PHARM 518 on Friday, December 2, about the pros and cons of pharmacist billing numbers, as well as issues in pharmacy in Saskatchewan.

**Dorothy Long (BSHEc, 1989)** was on Global Saskatoon Morning News on Monday, December 19, to demonstrate how to incorporate lentils into oatmeal for breakfast. [Watch the video.](#)

**Brooke Bulloch (BScNutri, 2009)** was on Global Saskatoon Morning News on Tuesday, December 20, to talk about how to eat healthy over the holidays. [Watch the video.](#)

**Do you have alumni news to share? Submit your story to [kieran.kobitz@usask.ca](mailto:kieran.kobitz@usask.ca) to be featured in our next newsletter.**



## EVENTS

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### UPCOMING EVENTS

The College will visit Toronto during the Canadian Society of Hospital Pharmacists Professional Practice Conference (**February 4-8**) to host an **event for alumni and their guests**. More details to follow later in January.

**CAPSI Sports Night** will be held on **Saturday, February 11**. Details to follow.

The annual **Mr. Pharmacy Pageant** will be held on **Friday, March 24** at Louis.

Planning has begun for the second **College Research Day**, which is tentatively scheduled for spring 2017. Details to follow.

### PAST EVENTS

On **Monday, November 7**, the **Saskatchewan Canadian Academy of Health Sciences Network** held a **mini-symposium** at Boffins Span Room. This event led by fellows **Drs Jay Kalra** and **Kishor Wasan** was attended by over 25 leaders from the Saskatchewan Health Community, including **Dr. Karen Chad**, Vice-President Research, **Heather Magotiaux**, CEO of Saskatchewan Health Research Foundation, and others. **Dr. Carol Herbert** President of CAHS gave a keynote address and **Dr. Debra Morgan** was formally inducted into the Academy.



On **Friday, November 18**, the faculty and students took part in the annual **Stacherogy**, which included the usual perogy dinner, as well as a gladiator jousting competition. Congratulations to first year student **Liam Hirsh** on winning the competition, and to fourth year students **Kelsey Joorisity** and **Ben Kinsley** on organizing the event.







## EVENTS (cont'd)

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On **Friday, November 25**, Saskatchewan Pharmacy & Nutrition Student Society held its annual **Winter Formal** at TCU Place. They raised approximately \$1,400 for The Lighthouse Supported Living Inc. [See the pictures.](#)

The College of Pharmacy and Nutrition hosted a pharmacy **preceptor appreciation and education event**, on **November 26** in Saskatoon, and on **November 27** in Regina. The agenda included an appreciation breakfast to thank our preceptors for their contributions to experiential learning, a PharmD update provided by Dr. Yvonne Shevchuk, and an assessment and evaluation preceptor education session provided by Shauna Gerwing and Kevin Riffel, program evaluation and assessment coordinator at the College of Pharmacy and Nutrition. We wish to thank the preceptors who attended and participated in the event. We would also like to thank all preceptors who precept our students, but were unable to attend this time. Please watch for further preceptor education events in the new year.

On **Thursday, December 1**, **mock OSCEs** were held for the third year pharmacy students to prepare for their OSCEs in January. Fourth year pharmacy students volunteered as evaluators and provided advice to the third year students. Thanks to fourth year pharmacy student **Tenille Gering** for organizing the event.

On **Wednesday, December 7**, the fourth year pharmacy students kept with tradition and took time away from studying for finals to go **caroling at the faculty's homes**.



The College's annual **Holiday Party** was held on **Saturday, December 10**. Thanks to third year pharmacy students **Katherine DeMong**, **Brett Richter**, and **Kaitlyn Tress** for entertaining the children during the afternoon activities.







## RESEARCH AND GRADUATE STUDIES

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### SPOTLIGHT ON RESEARCH

#### Trainee Spotlight

Congratulations to **Dr. Laura McBreairty** who is our December Trainee of the Month.

Laura is a postdoctoral fellow under the supervision of **Dr. Gordon Zello**. During her time at the college, Laura coordinated a multidisciplinary clinical trial in women with the endocrine disorder polycystic ovary syndrome. [Read more.](#)



### TRAINEE SUCCESS

#### Program Update

Congratulations to the following students who successfully defended their theses this fall: **Dr. Ran Bi** (Pharmacy PhD, supervisor: Dr. Adil Nazarali), **Dr. Yunyun Di** (Pharmacy PhD, supervisors: Drs. Jane Alcorn and Ed Krol), **Dr. Getahun Lombamo** (Nutrition PhD, supervisors: Drs. Carol Henry and Gord Zello), **Shirin Aladwan** (Pharmacy MSc, supervisor: Dr. Holly Mansell), **Kholud Algabbass** (Pharmacy MSc, supervisor: Dr. Ed Krol), and **Katherine Lysak** (Pharmacy MSc, supervisor: Dr. Derek Jorgenson).

Seven new students will be starting their studies in our graduate program this January: **Mujtaba Badr** (Pharmacy PhD with Drs. Meena Sakharkar and Jian Yang), **Siyi He** (Nutrition MSc with Dr. Phyllis Paterson), **Chrissa Karagiannis** (Nutrition MSc with Dr. Shawna Berenbaum), **Kingsley Nwabufu** (Pharmacy MSc with Dr. Ed Krol), **Chandra Bose Prabakaran** (Pharmacy MSc with Dr. Meena Sakharkar), **Raj Rai** (Pharmacy MSc with Dr. Ildiko Badea), and **Jack Wallace** (Pharmacy PhD with Dr. Thomas Rotter).

#### Student Poster Presentations

**Zeinab Hosseini**, Nutrition PhD student studying with Drs. Hassan Vatanparast and Susan Whiting, received a **first place poster presentation prize** for her poster “Canadians dietary patterns using national data from the Canadian Health Measures Survey,” which she presented at the Canadian Research Data Centre Network National Conference held in Saskatoon from October 31st to November 1<sup>st</sup> 2016.

### RESEARCH FUNDING

**Hassan Vatanparast** is part of a \$1.5 million 38-month project funded by the Public Health Agency of Canada entitled: “Achieving Healthier Weights in Canada’s Communities”. This is the third phase of the Healthy Start/Départ Santé project led by the Réseau Santé en Français de la Saskatchewan.

**Jonathan Dimmock** received a 3-year \$270,000 grant from the Maunders McNeil Foundation for the project entitled “Creation of tumour-selective compounds”.

**Charity Evans** is the principal investigator on a 1-year \$40,000 Hermès Canada-MS Society Wellness Research Innovation Grant for the project “Determining the Impact of a Pilates Program in Multiple Sclerosis”.



## RESEARCH AND GRADUATE STUDIES (cont'd)

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### RECENT PUBLICATIONS

- Alaverdashvili M, **Paterson PG.** (2017) Mapping the dynamics of cortical neuroplasticity of skilled motor learning using micro X-ray fluorescence and histofluorescence imaging of zinc in the rat. *Behav Brain Res.* 318: 52-60.
- Alharbi, H.A., **Alcorn, J.**, \*Al-Mousa, A., Giesy, J.P., Wiseman, S.B. (2016) Toxicokinetics and toxicodynamics of chlorpyrifos is altered in embryos of Japanese medaka exposed to oil sands process-affected water: Evidence for inhibition of P-glycoprotein. *Journal of Applied Toxicology*, article in press.
- **Blackburn, D.F.**, Tran, D., **Quiring, C.** (2016) Evaluation of a refill synchronization program in two community pharmacies. *Journal of the American Pharmacists Association*, 56 (6): 656 - 659.
- **Blackburn, D.F.**, **Evans, C.D.**, Eurich, D.T., **Mansell, K.D.**, **Jorgenson, D.J.**, **Taylor, J.G.**, **Semchuk, W.M.**, **Shevchuk, Y.M.**, **Remillard, A.J.**, Tran, D.A., Champagne, A.P. (2016) Community Pharmacists Assisting in Total Cardiovascular Health (CPATCH): A Cluster-Randomized, Controlled Trial Testing a Focused Adherence Strategy Involving Community Pharmacies. *Pharmacotherapy*, 36 (10):1055 - 1064.
- Elmoselhi, H., **Mansell, H.**, Soliman, M., Shoker, A. (2016) Circulating chemokine ligand levels before and after successful kidney transplantation. *Journal of Inflammation (United Kingdom)*, 13 (1): 1 - 9.
- Nicole Hager, **Jennifer Bolt**, Lori Albers, Wladyslaw Wojcik, Patrick Duffy, **William Semchuk** (2016) Development of a Left Atrial Thrombus after Co-administration of Dabigatran Etexilate and Phenytoin: A Case Report. *Canadian Journal of Cardiology*. In press.
- Jones, J., Rosaasen, N., **Taylor, J.**, Mainra, R., Shoker, A., **Blackburn, D.**, Wilson, J., **Mansell, H.** (2016) Health Literacy, Knowledge, and Patient Satisfaction Before Kidney Transplantation. *Transplantation Proceedings*, 48 (8): 2608 - 2614.
- Kucey M, **Bolt J**, Albers L, Bell A, Iroh N, Toppings J. (2016) Prescribing of Direct Oral Anticoagulants in Atrial Fibrillation Based on Estimation of Renal Function Using Standard and Modified Cockcroft-Gault Equations: A Retrospective Analysis. *Can J Hosp Pharm.* 2016 Sep-Oct;69(5):409-414.
- Mesfin, A., **Henry, C.**, Girma, M., **Whiting, S.J.** (2016) Use of pulse crops in complementary feeding of 6-23-month-old infants and young children in Taba Kebele, Damot Gale District, Southern Ethiopia. *Journal of Public Health in Africa*, 6 (1), art. no. 357, pp. 1 - 6.
- Penm J, MacKinnon NJ, **Jorgenson D**, Ying J, Smith J. (2016) Need for Formal Specialization in Pharmacy in Canada: A Survey of Hospital Pharmacists. *Can J Hosp Pharm.* Sep-Oct;69(5):356-366.
- Roy C, Gray C, Ruda L, Bell A, **Bolt J.** (2016) High-Dose, Extended-Interval Gentamicin and Tobramycin for Pediatric Inpatients: A Survey of Canadian Hospital Pharmacists. *Can J Hosp Pharm.* 2016 Sep-Oct;69(5):367-375.
- Tangedal K, Semchuk W, **Bolt J.** (2016) How Should Canadian Pharmacy Departments Utilize Idarucizumab? *Can J Hosp Pharm.* Sep-Oct;69(5):429-430.