



UNIVERSITY OF SASKATCHEWAN

College of Pharmacy
and Nutrition

PHARMACY-NUTRITION.USASK.CA

REPORT ON 2018



Remillard and
Berenbaum retire

RxFiles moves
to USask

Twenty-year
partnership in Ethiopia

New alumni
hall of fame



ABOUT THE COVER

The 2018-19 Saskatchewan Pharmacy and Nutrition Student Council. Read more about them on page 12.



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Top right: Third-year nutrition send-off, page 28;
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2018 by the numbers

\$7.36 M¹
grant funding

#2 in Canada²
for total research income

\$1.22M¹
realized donations

#2 in Canada
in fundraising

#1 in Canada¹
for the most self-declared Indigenous pharmacy students

1 2017-2018 Association of Faculties of Pharmacy of Canada Benchmark Data
2 corrected for research income per faculty member

Dean's message

As I near the end of my term as dean, I look back on 2018 and continue to have an unbelievable amount of pride in the work of our faculty, staff, students and alumni, and everything they have accomplished.



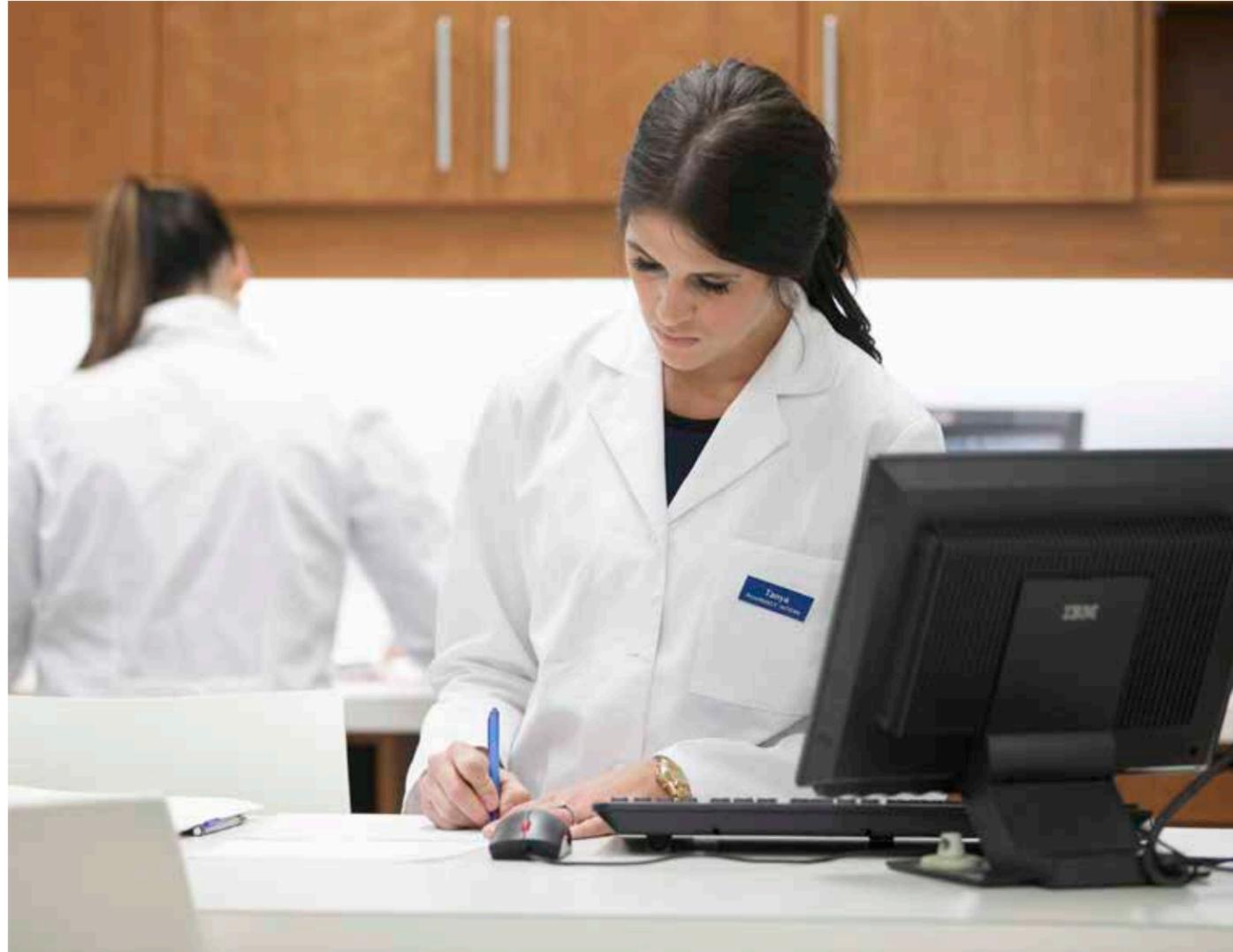
Dean Kishor Wasan

The college has changed significantly and great progress has been made in many important areas. Two of our veteran professors retired last year, but we also recruited fresh, new talent to our faculty. The college has maintained and expanded its impact on the community, whether within Saskatchewan or across the ocean to Ethiopia.

These accomplishments would not be possible without the dedicated work of our faculty and staff. Both our students and alumni have received prestigious national awards, which demonstrates their dedication to their professions. Our research funding continues to increase and we are Canadian leaders when it comes to fundraising for pharmacy education.

You'll learn why we are so proud of everyone when you read about these accomplishments in the following pages. Our faculty, staff, students and alumni were all very busy in 2018, and 2019 promises to be just as busy and exciting. We'll bring in top talent to join our faculty and staff for both our pharmacy and nutrition programs, and the college will finally settle into its permanent home in the newly renovated Health Sciences A Wing. I look forward to continuing work in 2019 and beyond as the college grows and the pharmacy and nutrition professions evolve.

Dr. Kishor M. Wasan, PhD
RPh, FAAPS, FCSPS, FCAHS
Professor and Dean



RxFiles comes to USask

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.

The program provides objective and unbiased comparative drug information to doctors and pharmacists through reference materials and in-person training.

"I'm very excited to have RxFiles, which has an international reputation, join the college and

the university," said Kishor Wasan, dean of the College of Pharmacy and Nutrition.

RxFiles was established in 1997 under the former Saskatoon Health Region and grew to serve the province, with 12 pharmacists in academic detailing positions as of last year. The program is best known for its drugs comparison charts, which provide information on similar drugs side-by-side on one page.

"RxFiles provides expertise on medication assessment that is invaluable to family practice

physicians and the healthcare community," continued Wasan.

The program is co-located with medSask, which provides on-demand drug information to healthcare professionals and the public through phone and email. These complimentary programs now have more opportunities to collaborate to enhance patient care through accurate drug information.



Remillard retires

On Friday, July 13, faculty, staff and guests gathered at the University Club to celebrate one final time before Dr. Alfred Remillard officially retired after 35 years on campus and a distinguished career in psychiatric pharmacy.

The college is pleased to announce the new Dr. Alfred Remillard Scholarship in Pharmacy Mental Health. The award will recognize the academic excellence and research potential of a student in third or fourth year of the pharmacy program in the area of mental health. One annual award with a value of \$1,000 will be available upon Remillard's retirement.

The scholarship recognizes Remillard's distinguished and pioneering career in psychiatric pharmacy. From becoming the first Board Certified Psychiatric Pharmacist in Canada to being named the Pharmacy Association of Saskatchewan Pharmacist of the Year in 2016, he has made lasting contributions to the field.

Remillard joined the college in 1983 and established his clinical practice in psychiatry. He specialized in clinical psychopharmacology, which he taught to pharmacy, nursing and medical students, as well as psychiatry and clinical psychology residents.

With the shortage of pharmacists focusing on mental health, one goal of this award is to encourage more undergraduate pharmacy students to study and consider specializing in psychiatry.



Berenbaum retires

On Wednesday, June 20, faculty, staff and guests gathered at the University Club to celebrate one final time before **Dr. Shawna Berenbaum** officially retired after an academic career that spanned more than 30 years.

Dr. Berenbaum began her faculty career at the University of Saskatchewan in 1986 firstly holding a limited term position in the College of Home Economics before moving to what is now the College of Pharmacy and Nutrition. She initially was in part-time term positions in the college, but upon completing her PhD she was granted tenure and promotion to associate professor. In 2005 she was granted promotion to full professor.

During her career she taught undergraduate and graduate courses, and supervised PhD and MSc graduate students. She conducted and published research related to community nutrition and health promotion and the dietetic profession.

Dr. Berenbaum had many administrative roles during her tenure: head of the Division of Nutrition and Dietetics, chair of numerous committees at the division, college and university levels; the nutrition program's PDEP course director since the 1990s; director of the Nutrition Resource and Volunteer Centre and the Saskatchewan Community Nutrition Residency.

She remains a registered dietitian with the Saskatchewan Dietitians Association (SDA) and an active member of Dietitians of Canada (DC). She has served as president of SDA and board chair of DC and was a founding member of PDEP.



Twenty-year partnership helping thousands in Ethiopia

By Federica Giannelli

Small seeds are powering the goal of feeding tens of thousands in Ethiopia, a country with one of the highest rates of food insecurity in the world.

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 USask and Hawassa University. Mary Buhr, dean of Agriculture and Bioresources, and Maurice Moloney, program director of the Global Institute for Food Security, were part of the delegation.

"Farmers face an increasing challenge to feed everyone adequately, safely and sustainably as our world population grows," said Karen Chad, USask vice-president research.

"International research partnerships such as these put new knowledge and innovation directly into the hands of farmers who will use it to improve food security for their families and communities."

Since 1997, at least 15 USask researchers have

collaborated with Hawassa University to improve food and nutrition security for thousands of people in southern Ethiopia by providing tools and strategies for sustainable, climate-smart, gender-transformative agriculture based on the production of pulses such as haricot beans and chickpeas.

"For three days we came together to celebrate the success of this 20-year partnership," said nutrition professor Susan Whiting, who also attended the celebrative meetings at Hawassa University.

"Past and current students, collaborators and supporters were there, and while the focus was on the scientific outcomes of improving pulse agriculture and nutrition, there was friendship and a shared desire to continue with this work."

Working with the Ethiopian government and local organizations that focus on

nutrition, agriculture and health, the Canadian government has invested a total \$8.65 million through the Canadian International Food Security Research Fund (CIFSRF), administered by the International Development Research Centre (IDRC) and Global Affairs Canada.

"Our 20-year journey has demonstrated the value of pulses in empowering the healthy future of Ethiopia," said Carol Henry, assistant dean in Nutrition and Dietetics and the principal USask investigator for the project.

By developing and introducing new varieties of pulses, researchers have provided smallholder farmers with high-protein crops rich in iron and zinc to combat hunger and malnutrition. The cultivation of these plants, which have good nitrogen-fixing capabilities, has also helped improve the extremely degraded Ethiopian soil.

New faculty

The college would like to welcome three new assistant professors to the faculty:



Dr. Jaris Swidrovich joined the college in the Division of Pharmacy on June 1. He has been a lecturer in the college since August 2015.



Dr. Allison Cammer joined the college in the Division of Nutrition on July 1. She was previously at Ryerson University as an assistant professor at the School of Nutrition, Faculty of Community Services.



Dr. Katelyn Halpape joined the college in the Division of Pharmacy in the areas of psychiatric medicine, mental health and neurology on December 1.

Promotions

Congratulations to the following faculty members on their promotions, which were 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. Their two-year terms were effective July 1, 2018.

Retirements

The college bid farewell to the following staff during 2018:



Jean Oakley, Graduate Programs Administrator



Erling Madsen, Stores Manager



Karen Jensen, medSask Manager

With Karen's retirement, updates have been made to the organizational structure of medSask and Continuing Professional Development for Pharmacy Professionals as these organizations work closely together:



Dr. Charity Evans is now the director of both medSask and CPDPP.



Danielle Laroque is now the associate director of both medSask and CPDPP.



Dr. Yvonne Shevchuk is now the director of RxFiles Academic Detailing Program.

Awards

Dr. Ed Krol was awarded the Provost's College Award for Outstanding Teaching for the College of Pharmacy and Nutrition at the Celebration of Teaching awards ceremony on Friday, April 27.

Dr. Jaris Swidrovich received the 2018 Patient Care Achievement Award from the Canadian Pharmacists Association.

He also received the Indigenous Award for Community Involvement from USask's College of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies.

Dr. Robert Laprairie received the Outstanding Young Investigator Award from the British Pharmacological Society.

Dr. Carol Henry received a Special Teaching Award from Hawassa University in Ethiopia.

Erling Madsen received the 2018 Dean's Staff Award for Commitment and Excellence. The award recognizes those who demonstrate behaviours in the workplace which reflect institutional values or provide exemplary service toward fulfilling the college mission.

2018 Alumni Hall of Fame

The college is pleased to announce six inductees into the new Alumni Hall of Fame for 2018. This new initiative recognizes alumni who have made significant and sustained contributions to their profession. Each year a new group of inductees will be selected to be recognized for their achievements.

Congratulations to the following inductees to the Alumni Hall of Fame who will be formally recognized at the college's awards ceremony on March 17, 2019.



Dr. Jim Blackburn (BSP'60)



Patricia Chuey (BScNutr'89, MSc'94)



Dr. Dennis Gorecki (BSP'69, PhD'73)



Dr. Lynn Kirkpatrick (BSP'78, PhD'81)



Darcy Stann (BSP'78)



William (Bill) Wilson (BSP'69)

Thank you...

Marguerite Eleanor Read bequeathed \$100,000 from her estate to the College of Pharmacy and Nutrition to establish an award in memory of her brother, Charles Henry Kouri (BSP'57).

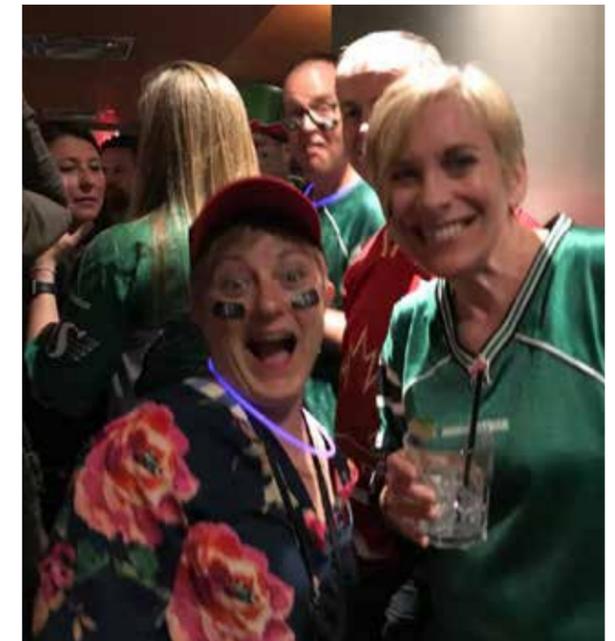
The Marguerite Eleanor Read & Charles Henry Kouri Memorial Award will provide financial assistance to students pursuing a pharmacy degree who have demonstrated financial need.

After receiving his pharmacy degree, Kouri moved to Ottawa where he lived for more than forty years. He purchased Lynwood Pharmacy in the Bells Corners suburb in 1965, and owned three pharmacies at one time. He was actively involved with the Ottawa-area alumni and proudly wore his university ring. Kouri passed away on Aug. 6, 2009 in Moncton, New Brunswick.



Alumni events

The college held alumni events throughout 2018, including Sask Night at the Canadian Pharmacists Association Conference in Fredericton, the dessert and hospitality suite at the Pharmacy Association of Saskatchewan Conference, an evening mixer at the Canadian Society of Pharmaceutical Scientists Conference in Toronto, and a reception at the Dietitians of Canada Conference in Vancouver. Dates and locations for our upcoming alumni events in 2019 will be announced in our newsletter, on our website and on social media.



Top and bottom left: DC Conference reception; Bottom right: Sask Night.

Reunions

In April, the BSP Class of 2008 held their 10-year reunion, which included a tour of the new Health Sciences Building by **Drs. Jeff Taylor** and **David Blackburn**. Thanks to **Julia Bareham** for organizing the weekend's activities.



Pharmacy Class of 2008

Alumni awards

Congratulations to the following alumni who received awards during the Pharmacy Association of Saskatchewan Conference May 11-13 in Regina.

Saskatchewan College Pharmacy Professionals Awards Banquet

Honourary Life Member – **Ray Joubert (BSP'74)**
SCPP Staff Recognition – **Jeanne Eriksen (BSP'79)** for 20 years of service

Pharmacy Association of Saskatchewan Awards

Pharmacist of the Year – **Mike Stuber (BSP'07)**
Lifetime Achievement Award - **Rod Amaya (BSP'96)**
Award of Merit – **Julia Bareham (BSP'08); Matthew Manz (BSP'10)**
New Horizon Award – **Anan Ahmed (BSP'14)**
Pfizer Consumer Healthcare Bowl of Hygeia Award – **Tyrel Thorpe (BSP'11)**
Certificate of Recognition – **Brad Cooper (BSP'03); Steven Yakiwchuk (BSP'05); Jeanne Eriksen (BSP'79); Janet Bradshaw (BSP'74); Lindsay Richels (BSP'07); Jarron Yee (BSP'06)**

Congratulations to the following alumni who received awards from Dietitians of Canada in 2018:

Stephanie Langdon (BScNutri'10) received the Association Catalyst Award for her efforts raising the profile of the profession through her interview series, "What Registered Dietitians Do".

Roxane Wagner (BScNutri'94) was presented with a Leadership Award. As co-chair of the Dietitians of Canada Sustainable Food Systems Leadership Team, Roxane leads an exciting and evolving area helping colleagues become leaders in all aspects of food systems.

Christine Hrudka (BSP'82) assumed her new role as the Chair of the Canadian Pharmacists Association Board of Directors at the CPhA gala in June.

Amy Lamb (BSP'12) received a 2018 Wellspring Leadership Award from the Canadian Foundation for Pharmacy.

Dorothy L. Smith (BSP'68) was appointed as the honorary president of the American Pharmacists Association.

Ray Joubert (BSP'74) received the 2018 National Association of Boards of Pharmacy Honorary President Award in recognition of his commitment to protecting the public health and for his involvement with NABP.



Kim Kennett (BSHEC'81) and Dean Kishor Wasan

College of Home Economics

A part of our history

On Monday, March 19, 2018 **Dr. Maurice Moloney**, then 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**.

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.

Thank you to the Honourable Lieutenant Governor of Ontario **Elizabeth Dowdeswell (BSHEC'66)** for taking the time to meet with the dean while visiting the university on Wednesday, Sept. 19.

Elaine Niebergall (BSHEC'71) was recognized with a Leadership Award by Dietitians of Canada. Since 1992, Elaine has collaborated with other health professions in the Pediatric Neurology Clinic at Royal University Hospital in Saskatoon and was instrumental in establishing the Ketogenic Diet Program.



Dean Kishor Wasan and the Honourable Elizabeth Dowdeswell (BSHEC'66)



Home economics alumni luncheon

2018-19 Saskatchewan Pharmacy and Nutrition Students' Society



Back row: Marshall Siemens (Pharmacy Fourth Year Room Representative), John Andraos (USSU Member of Student Council), Abdillahi Kadir (Pharmacy First Year Room Representative), Meghanne Rieder (Senior Stick), Ali Stobbe (Communications Coordinator), Brooke Dziadyk (Social Director), Derek Richardson (Pharmacy Third Year Room Representative), Filip Davidovic (Recreation Board Representative, Pharmacy), Jessie Vitic (Yearbook Editor), Danielle d'Entremont (Public Relations Officer), Madison Blischak (Business Manager), Jessica Karstens (Communications Coordinator)

Middle row: Laura Wu (CAPSI Junior), Tatiana Orlowski (Vice-President), Palima Shrestha (Senior Stick Elect), Alexa Helson (Nutrition Third Year Room Representative), Miriam Robak (Dietitians of Canada Senior Liaison), Danielle Shymanski (CAPSI Senior), Brooke Webster (Nutrition First Year Room Representative), Renelle Hunter (Dietitians of Canada Junior Liaison), Shea-Lyn Eddleston (Nutrition Second Year Room Representative), Carlee Hamilton (Recreation Board Representative, Nutrition), Torilee Scharnatta (Yearbook Editor)

Front row: Armaghan Wasim (Treasurer), Stephen Wyant (Secretary), Riley Burkart (Pharmacy Second Year Room Representative), Cassie Krozser (Photographer), Katie Wood (HSSA Senior), Kelly Hu (HSSA Junior), Kailee Hondros (Co-President, Nutrition), Taylor Dick (Social Director), Japheth Bool (Co-President, Pharmacy), Dustin MacCuish (Student Faculty Liaison)

Pledge of Professionalism ceremony



On Wednesday, Jan. 31, the Pledge of Professionalism Ceremony was held in the Health Sciences lecture theatre for the first-year students. Both pharmacy and nutrition students recited their pledges in front of their peers to demonstrate their commitment to professionalism in their education and careers.

These pledges were written by the students to reflect their values when it comes to professionalism. Thank you to first year room reps **Japheth Bool** and **Madison Rennie** for organizing the event.



Convocation

The convocation ceremony for the College of Pharmacy and Nutrition was held on Thursday, June 7, at 9 am at TCU Place. The University conferred 81 pharmacy and 21 nutrition undergraduate degrees during the ceremony. Detailed information on the graduate degrees awarded at the ceremony can be found in the Research and Graduate Studies – Trainee Success section of this newsletter.



📷 Kelly Fitterer



📷 Alexa McEwen

Congratulations to **Kelly Fitterer** and **Alexa McEwen** who were recognized as the most distinguished graduates in pharmacy and nutrition earlier this month at convocation.

Kelly received the Robert Martin Prize, which is given in honour of the late Robert Martin, a pioneer pharmacist in western Canada and the first registrar of both the North West Territories Pharmaceutical Association and the Saskatchewan Pharmaceutical Association.

Alexa received the Rutter Medal, which is given in honour and memory of Professor Emeritus Ethel Rutter. In 1929, Rutter was named head of the School of Household Science and served until her retirement in 1940.

Thank you to the Saskatchewan College of Pharmacy Professionals for hosting their regular luncheon after the ceremony. **At the luncheon, the following awards were presented:**

- Kassandra Stahl** received the Campbell Prize.
- Kaitlyn Tress** received the Class of '56 Pharmacy Scholarship.
- Taylor Raiche** received the Class of 1959 Pharmacy Award.
- Shelby Pflanzner** received the Mark C. Falloon Book Prize.
- Stephanie Zimmer** received the Orest Buchko Hospital Pharmacy Award.

Awards were also presented to the graduating nutrition students:

- Lindsay DeBoer** received the Ruth Gerrand Prize for having the most distinguished academic record in the B.Sc. (Nutrition) program.
- Laurel Goshawk, Lauren Kapphahn, and Teighan Wilson** received the Hannon Travel Scholarship.

Congratulations to all of our new alumni!



📷 First place

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 Kubashek, 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



© PAM ribbon cutting ceremony

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.

Student awards



Eline Berglof (supervisor Dr. Hassan Vatanparast) received the **Undergraduate Research Excellence Award** from the journal *Applied Physiology, Nutrition, and Metabolism*, the Canadian Society for Exercise Physiology, and the Canadian Nutrition Society.



Congratulations to the pharmacy and nutrition students who were part of the team representing the college at the 2018 CIBC Run for the Cure in Saskatoon on Sunday, Sept. 30. The team raised over \$4,000 for the Canadian Cancer Society and was recognized as the top fundraising team of post-secondary students. Teams from every pharmacy school across Canada participate annually in the fundraiser through the local CAPSI representatives.



© Connor Frank



© Hishaam Bhimji



© Sara Patenaude

Seventeen summer students presented at the Second Annual Undergraduate Research Day Aug. 29 and Sept. 6. Cash prizes for best posters, made possible by Gilead Sciences Inc., were awarded to:

Hishaam Bhimji, third year pharmacy, first prize for *Medication cost-changes of patients referred to a patient care clinic located in a pharmacy school*, co-authored with Derek Jorgenson, Eric Landry and Katherine Lysak, **supervised by Dr. Jorgenson**.

Sara Patenaude, third year nutrition, second prize (tied) for *Development, pilot and reliability testing of a client-generated nutrition questionnaire for dental caries risk*, co-authored with Petros Papagerakis and Jessica Lieffers, **supervised by Drs. Lieffers and Papagerakis**.

Connor Frank, second year biochemistry, second prize (tied) for *Assessing fadiostimulation and radioadaptation in the melanized fungi wangiella dermatitidis*, co-authored with Mackenzie Malo and Ekaterina Dadachova, **supervised by Dr. Dadachova**.



Pharmacy students at 2018 CAPSI Professional Development Week

2018 CAPSI Professional Development Week

With 94 delegates at the 2018 CAPSI Professional Development week, the University of Saskatchewan had an impressive showing at the national conference. The conference took place January 10-13 in Edmonton, Alberta.

The CAPSI National Council met during the four days of the conference and discussed pertinent topics and strategic planning for the upcoming semester. National Council members from USask include **Tara (Sanders) Rousseaux** (national president-elect), **Stefano Barillaro** (finance officer), **Kaitlyn Tress** (national secretary), **Shivani Trivedi** (CAPSI senior), **Danielle Shymanski** (CAPSI junior), as well as USask alumna **Caitlin McGrath** (national past-president).

KEY RESULTS FOR USASK INCLUDE:

Dylan Hope earned second place at the Canada's Next Top Pharmacist pageant.

Logan Underwood, Darren Reithmeier, Daylin Sproule and Laura Wu earned third place in the Pharmafacts Bowl.

Michelle Meng, Alex Baran, Jonathan Williams and Diar Al-Azawi earned third place in the Compounding Competition.

Kaitlyn Tress accepted the CAPSI Guy Genest Passion for Pharmacy Award for Saskatchewan.

Darren Reithmeier and Tatiana Orlowski were selected to present their posters on research conducted through the college at the health fair.

Dustin MacCuish and Melissa Liu volunteered at a blood pressure clinic and advocated for pharmacists at the Alberta Legislature Building.



USASK WILL CONTINUE TO BE ENGAGED WITH CAPSI ON A NATIONAL LEVEL DURING THE 2018-19 YEAR:



Tara (Sanders) Rousseaux will transition to the CAPSI president position.



Sofiya Terekhovska has been elected as the IPSF liaison.



Danielle Shymanski will transition to the CAPSI Saskatchewan senior position.

Congratulations to all those who proudly represented USask!



Photos by Josh Schaefer

Congratulations to our students who were named to the Huskie Athletics All-Academic Team for the 2017-18 season:



REBECCA WECKWORTH

Third-year nutrition
Huskie Athletics All-Academic First and U SPORTS Academic All-Canadian Team



KAYLEE HALVORSON

Second-year pharmacy
Huskie Athletics All-Academic Second Team

THERE ARE THREE TYPES OF MEMBERS ON THE TEAM:

The Huskie Athletics All-Academic First Team includes student athletes, managers and trainers who have obtained a sessional average of at least 79.5 per cent on a minimum course load of 24 credit units.

The U SPORTS Academic All-Canadian Team were CIS athletes that had at least an 80 per cent average on a minimum of 18 credit units. These athletes used CIS eligibility last year.

The Huskie Athletics All-Academic Second Team consists of student athletes, managers and trainers who have obtained a sessional average of at least 74.5 per cent on a minimum course load of 24 credit units.



Indigenous Activity Fund

The Indigenous Activity Fund Advisory Committee is pleased to announce that two proposals were funded in 2018, both of which were submitted by **Students for Indigenous Reconciliation and Engagement (S-FIRE)**.

Information Session at Gordon Oaks Red Bear Student Center

S-FIRE held a session on general admission to the College of Pharmacy and Nutrition.

Goal: Encourage applications to the College of Pharmacy and Nutrition.

Metis Culture and Language Seminar

This event was held by S-FIRE on October 31.

Goal: Responding to TRC# 13-15; enhancing our understanding within the College.

The college was pleased to announce the new Indigenous Activities Fund in 2017 to

provide financial resources for activities to increase Indigenous representation and involvement through the weaving of Indigenous knowledges and practices within the college. The fund will provide \$100,000 over three years for these activities, and has been secured through donations from various external sources.

Indigenous initiatives on campus are being prioritized as the university-wide integrated planning process continues at the university and college levels. Indigenization and reconciliation are emphasized in the university's vision, values, principles, commitments and aspirations.



Nutrition Month

March was Nutrition Month across Canada and our nutrition students actively promoted the role of registered dietitians. Dietitians' Day was held in March, and the nutrition students held an information booth in the E Wing Atrium with healthy snacks and nutritional information.



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 featured presentations by leading experts in food and nutrition.



Class of 2022 WHITE COAT *Ceremony*

Congratulations to our new Doctor of Pharmacy class on receiving their white coats at a ceremony on Sunday, October 28.

Thank you to Master of Ceremonies **Dr. Yvonne Shevchuk**, as well as **Dr. Patricia McDougall** for providing greetings from the university, **Christine Hrudka (BSP'82)** for providing the keynote address, and the following people who acted as dressers for the students:

Rod Amaya, Council Member, Saskatchewan College of Pharmacy Professionals

John Stanzeleit, Vice-Chair, Pharmacy Association of Saskatchewan

Dr. Kishor Wasan, Dean, College of Pharmacy and Nutrition

Japheth Bool, Co-President, SPNSS

Meghanne Rieder, Senior Stick

Danielle Shymanski, CAPSI representative

Christine Hrudka, Chair, Canadian Pharmacists Association

Jeana Wendel, Registrar, Saskatchewan College of Pharmacy Professionals

Dr. Kerry Mansell, Assistant Dean, Pharmacy



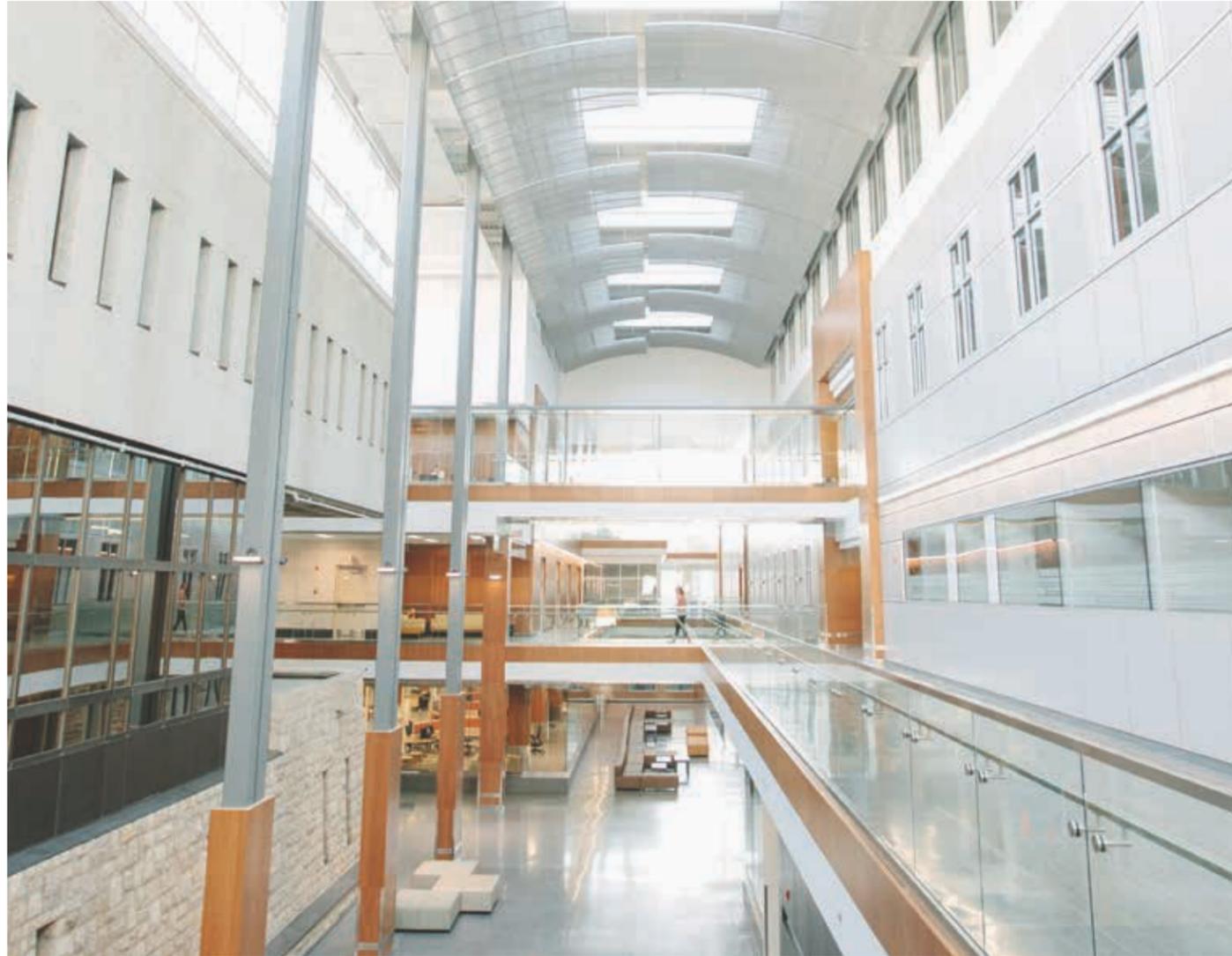




Nutrition Third-year Celebration and *send-off*

The Nutrition Third-year Celebration and Send-off was held on Thursday, April 6 at the University Club. The celebration marks the end of the students' campus-based learning and the start of their internships.





Academic Awards

On Sunday, March 18, the college held the 26th Annual Academic Awards Ceremony. Awards were presented to both undergraduate and graduate students. Congratulations to all of the award winners.

Graduate student awards



Nutrition graduate student **Getenesh Berhanu Teshome** earned first place in the poster competition at the People Around the World "PAW" conference, which highlighted the impact, outreach and engagement of the university's international research.



PhD student **Saniya Alwani** (supervisor: Dr. Ildiko Badea) was awarded the **Elsevier Gold Young Scholar Award** at the 29th International Conference on Diamond and Carbon Materials. This award honours a predoctoral researcher in an early stage of his or her career, chosen for research potential as well as the scientific merit of his or her project.



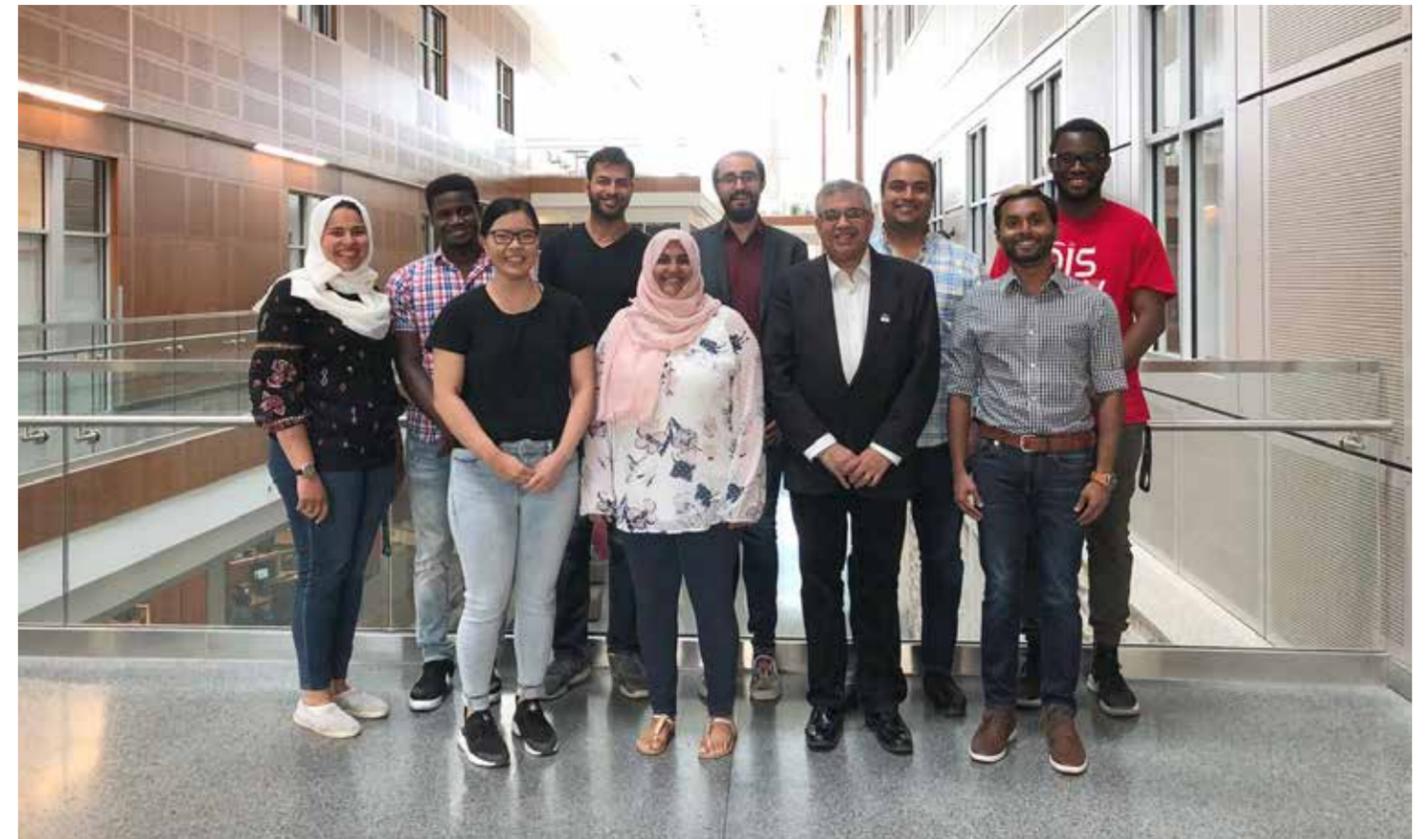
Congratulations to PhD student **Allison Cammer** (supervisors: Drs. Susan Whiting and Debra Morgan) who has received the Gerontology Network's Annual Marie Taylor Award, which recognizes excellence in dietetic practice in long term care and seniors health. She was also one of the winners of the 2018 Annual Marie Taylor Award for Excellence in Long Term Care, Seniors Nutrition and Dietetic Practice.



PhD student **Fakir Yunus** (supervisors: Drs. Carol Henry and Diane DellaValle) was awarded a 2018 **International Development Research Centre Doctoral Research Award** for his project *The effect of iron-fortified lentils on the iron status among adolescent girls in Bangladesh*.



Stephanie Vuong (supervisor Dr. Jane Alcorn) and **Anna Maria Smolyakova** (supervisor Robert Laprairie) placed first and second, respectively, in the trainee poster competition at the Inaugural Saskatchewan Cannabinoid Research Symposium.



AAPS Executive Committee

AAPS student chapter

The USask American Association of Pharmaceutical Scientists Chapter helps organize and sponsors events and activities supporting fellowship, leadership and the professional development of its members.

The chapter was also part of a number of college events, including the Adopt-a-Family program, raising a total of \$400. All of the proceeds will go towards a less fortunate family, providing them with food and gifts for the holiday.

2018-19 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Chair
Stephanie Vuong

Chair-Elect
Mujtaba Badr

Vice-Chair
Raj Rai

Secretary
Nwabufo Chukwunonso Kingsley

Treasurer
Saniya Shiraz Alwani

Design and Media Officer
Omozojie Paul Aigbogun

Past-Chair
Franklyn De Silva

Faculty Advisors
**Drs. Kishor Wasan
Robert Laprairie**



Top: AAPS Christmas party; Bottom: AAPS Visiting Scientist Day

Advancing gene therapy for skin cancer

By Federica Giannelli

A USask researcher has developed compounds for delivering gene therapy that are 20 per cent less toxic than ones used currently, and are more compatible with the body.

Pharmacy post-doctoral researcher Mays Al-Dulaymi is developing a tiny chemical compound that holds promise for improving gene therapy for skin cancer and other genetic skin disorders.

One of the deadliest skin cancers, melanoma, may be caused by overexposure to ultraviolet radiation from the sun or artificial sources such as tanning beds and sunlamps. The Melanoma Network of Canada reports that lifetime risk for developing melanoma has increased to one in 63 people today—up from one in 1,500 in the 1930s.

“It is paramount to find new treatments,” said pharmacy professor Anas El-Aneed, Al-Dulaymi’s co-supervisor.

Gene therapy inserts genes into a patient’s cells instead of using drugs or surgery for treatment. Currently used only for untreatable illnesses, gene therapy is still highly experimental because there is a lack of chemical compounds that can deliver genes

efficiently and safely into cells.

Al-Dulaymi has developed nanoparticles—chemical structures 1,000 times smaller than a cross-section of a human hair—that may more efficiently and safely carry genes into cells.

“Gene therapy is better than traditional treatments and holds so much promise because it allows us to treat the cause of the disease and not just the symptoms,” said pharmacy professor Ildiko Badea, Al-Dulaymi’s co-supervisor.

Al-Dulaymi has tested her 22 new nanoparticles, called gemini surfactants, and found that they are eight times more effective at delivering genes than older generation gemini surfactants studied in previous research.

She has also found evidence that the compounds are safer to use because they are 20 per cent less toxic than ones used currently, and are more compatible with the body. She is the first to use a mass spectrometry

technique to study both the composition of the compounds and their distribution on skin tissue.

After applying the compounds on mouse skin tissue, Al-Dulaymi put the samples into a machine that simulated the human skin to test how deeply the compounds penetrated.

“To treat melanoma, you want the compounds to penetrate the skin, but not deep enough to reach the bloodstream and cause harmful side effects,” said Al-Dulaymi. “My nanoparticles are very promising because they have shown minimum penetration into a liquid simulating blood circulation.”

Her results are published in *Bioconjugate Chemistry* and the *Journal of Pharmaceutical and Biomedical Analysis*.

The next step is to study the efficacy of the treatment by testing the nanoparticles on live mice with melanoma. Results are expected in the next few years.

“We need more research before Mays’ compounds could be used for gene therapy—maybe around 15 years from now,” said El-Aneed.

The reputation of USask as a top research institution is what attracted Al-Dulaymi from Iraq.

“I came here because of the opportunity to explore innovative approaches to treat diseases, and use state-of-the-art-facilities,” she said. “USask is a place where students have the chance to get excellent training opportunities.”

Her research is funded by the federal agencies Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council (NSERC), Canada Foundation for Innovation (CFI), Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR), and the pharmaceutical company Apotex Inc.

Federica Giannelli is a graduate student intern in the University of Saskatchewan research profile and impact unit. This article first ran as part of the 2018 Young Innovators series, an initiative of USask’s Research Profile and Impact office in partnership with the Saskatoon StarPhoenix.

Notable grants

Holly Mansell and her colleagues received \$160,000 in funding from Saskatchewan Health Research Foundation (SHRF)’s Sprout Grant program and Canadian Institute for Health Research (CIHR)’s Saskatchewan Centre for Patient-Oriented Research (SCPOR) for “Improving health outcomes of kidney recipients: a randomized controlled trial of a pre-transplant education intervention”.

Carol Henry and her colleagues were awarded a \$150,000 three-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.

Dr. Charity Evans and her colleagues were awarded a \$1.2 million grant from CIHR for their project “Prescription drug safety and effectiveness in multiple sclerosis [DRUMS]: a population-based, multi-province platform for comprehensive pharmacovigilance”.

Dr. Holly Mansell and co-investigator **Dr. Dave Blackburn** received a SHRF Sprout Grant for \$160,000 for the project “Improving health outcomes for kidney recipients: a randomized controlled trial of a pre-transplant education intervention”.

Dr. Ellen Wasan and co-investigator **Dr. Kishor Wasan** received a \$255,000 grant from the Agriculture Development Fund and the Saskatchewan Cattleman’s

Association for their project “Enhanced vaccine adjuvant platform for nasal administration in livestock”.

Dr. Robert Laprairie was awarded a \$120,000 Establishment grant from SHRF for the project “Modulation of the endocannabinoid system in the GAERS rat model of absence epilepsy”.

Dr. Jessica Liefers was awarded a \$120,000 SHRF Establishment grant for the project “Nutrition and tooth decay in children: an analysis of parental perspectives and publicly available written information”.

Dr. Phyllis Paterson and co-applicants, Drs. Mariam Alaverdashvili, Gillian Muir, Fred Colbourne (University of Alberta), and Lindsay Robinson (University of Guelph), received a CIHR Operating Grant of \$100,000 from the Priority Announcement for Sex, Gender & Health Research - Integration and Innovation for their research entitled “Nutritional intervention: targeting multiple systems to enhance post-stroke recovery”.

Drs. Kate Dadachova and Gordon Sarty (psychology) were awarded a three-year \$200,000 grant from the Canadian Space Agency’s Flights and Fieldwork for the Advancement of Science and Technology Announcement of Opportunity for the project “Protecting astronauts from space radiation-induced carcinogenesis and CNS damage with melanin-containing food and materials”.

Dr. Jonathan Dimmock was awarded \$180,000 from the Maunders McNeil Foundation in continued support of the project “Creation of tumour-selective compounds”.

Drs. Jane Alcorn and **Robert Laprairie** received \$100,000 from Innovation Saskatchewan to support research activities conducted under the Cannabinoid Research Initiative of Saskatchewan.

Preeminence 2025

Preeminence 2025, our new strategic plan, lays out the goals and aspirations for the college in the coming years, as part of the university-wide strategic planning process.

MISSION

The College of Pharmacy and Nutrition supports the University of Saskatchewan's mission to advance the aspirations of the people of the province and beyond through interdisciplinary and collaborative approaches to discovering, teaching, sharing, integrating, preserving and applying knowledge, including the creative arts, to build a rich cultural community in the pharmacy and nutrition communities and beyond. By creating an innovative, accessible and welcoming place for students, educators and researchers from around the world, we serve the public good by connecting discovery, teaching and outreach, by promoting diversity and meaningful change, and by preparing students for enriching careers and fulfilling lives as engaged global citizens in and beyond their chosen areas of expertise, pharmacy and nutrition and Dietetics.

VISION

Together with the University of Saskatchewan, the College of Pharmacy and Nutrition will contribute to a sustainable future by being among the best in the world specifically in areas of pharmacy and nutrition and dietetics, including special and emerging strengths, through outstanding research, scholarly and artistic work that addresses the needs and aspirations of our region and the world, and through exceptional teaching and engagement. We will be an outstanding College of Pharmacy and Nutrition in the areas of research, learning, knowledge-keeping, reconciliation, and inclusion with and by Indigenous peoples and communities.

VALUES

The University of Saskatchewan community, including the College of Pharmacy and Nutrition, believes in the following principles:

- Academic freedom
- Collaboration
- Commitment to community
- Different ways of knowing, learning and being
- Diversity, equality and human dignity
- Excellence
- A healthy work and learning environment
- Innovation, curiosity and creativity
- Openness, transparency and accountability
- Reconciliation
- Sustainability

The University of Saskatchewan community, including the College of Pharmacy and Nutrition, is committed to acting in accordance with the following values:

- Collegiality
- Fairness and equitable treatment
- Inclusiveness
- Integrity, honesty and ethical behaviour
- Respect

A belief in principles vital to our institution and our college a commitment to key values—ways of conducting ourselves—constitute the *raison d'être* of our mission and vision.



STRATEGIC GOALS

1. Develop and enhance college programs¹, research and services² to address the needs of our professions.
2. Enhance engagement, collaboration and service to partners and our community.
3. Increase Indigenous knowledges, voices and practices within the College.
4. Increase international involvement within the college in the areas of curriculum, student experience and research.
5. Ensure and enhance resources to support the college strategic plan.

¹ College programs: any program/activity that leads to a degree or certificate: Pharmacy Undergraduate, Pharmacy Graduate, Nutrition Undergraduate, Nutrition Graduate.

² College services: any organization/activity that provides a service to our students or community: MAC, medSask, CPDPP, RxFiles, NRVC (Nutrition Resource and Volunteer Centre)

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