

## Dean's Newsletter

Issue 11, July 2016

*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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#### **New Associate Dean, Research and Graduate Affairs**

Congratulations to Dr. Jane Alcorn who has been appointed Associate Dean, Research and Graduate Affairs in the College of Pharmacy and Nutrition. She is a long time faculty member of the College, with an extensive research background and a wealth of senior level University leadership experience.

Dr. Alcorn will assume the duties of this position beginning July 1, 2016.

[Read more.](#)



#### **RBC Top 25 Canadian Immigrant Award**

Congratulations to **Dr. Azita Haddadi** who has been named one of the RBC Top 25 Canadian Immigrant Awards.

She was one of 75 finalists from over 600 nominees, and the only person from Saskatchewan. The RBC Top 25 Canadian Immigrants Awards is a peoples' choice award that recognizes inspirational immigrants who have come to Canada, achieved success, and made a positive difference living here.

[Read more.](#)



#### **Wellspring Leadership Award**

Congratulations to **Cheyenne Boehm (BSP, 2012)** who was one of this year's recipients of the Wellspring Leadership Awards from the Canadian Foundation for Pharmacy. These annual awards recognize both demonstrated and potential leadership in individuals in the pharmacy profession.

[Read more.](#)





## MORE COLLEGE NEWS

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### Convocation

The Convocation Ceremony for the College of Pharmacy Nutrition was held on Thursday, June 2, at 9:00 am at TCU Place. The University conferred 87 pharmacy and 18 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 (page 9).

Congratulations to **Brittany Clarke and Michele Sheikh** who were recognized as the most distinguished graduates in pharmacy and nutrition.



Brittany received the Robert Martin Prize, which is provided by the Saskatchewan College of Pharmacy Professionals in honour of the late Robert Martin, a pioneer pharmacist in western Canada.

Michele received the Rutter Medal, which is given in honour and memory of Professor Emeritus Ethel Rutter.

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:

- The Orest Buchko Hospital Pharmacy Award – **Samantha Cunningham**
- The Class of '56 Memorial Scholarship – **Darren Bogle**
- The Class of 1959 Pharmacy Award – **Alecia Gauthier**
- The Mark C. Fallon Book Prize – **Brittani Prete**
- The Natural Medicines Comprehensive Database Recognition Award – **Baylee Tendler**

Pharmacy and Nutrition both held graduation banquets at TCU Place in the evening following convocation. Students took the opportunity to celebrate four years of accomplishments and wish each other well in the future. The two groups merged later on in the evening and were entertained by the band Pants of Tom, which includes our very own David Blackburn and Jeff Taylor.

**Congratulations to all of our new alumni!**



## MORE COLLEGE NEWS (cont'd)

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### Dietitians of Canada Conference

The 2016 Dietitians of Canada Conference was held in Winnipeg on June 8-11, and included presentations by our faculty, alumni and students, as well as a reception hosted by the College.

Nutrition student **Desiree Perras** received the Regional Morgan Medal Winner (SK and Manitoba) which is “sponsored by the Canadian Foundation for Dietetic Research, [and] recognizes the personal achievement of a dietetic intern or practicum student for a research project.”

**Noella Leydon (BScHEc, 1976)**, retired Director of Food & Nutrition Services, Saskatoon Health Region, received the Member Recognition Award – Association Catalyst which “recognizes members’ volunteerism, expertise and achievements that contribute to the advancement of the profession.”

**Natasha Haskey (BScNutri, 1998; MSc, 2007)**, RD & **Deanna Gibson**, BSc, PhD were Canadian Foundation for Dietetic Research Grant Recipients for: “The effect of diet modification on clinical disease activity, the gut microbiome and immune responses in patients with ulcerative colitis” - \$20,000

Presentations by our alumni and students included:

Canadian Foundation for Dietetic Research Oral Presentations:

- **Allison Cammer (BScNutri, 1997; MSc, 2007)** – “Nutrition care practices for residents with dementia in urban and rural long-term care: Perspective of care aides”
- **Roseann Nasser (BScNutri, 1993; MSc, 1997)** – “Mealtime management video is perceived to be a useful education tool for staff working in long-term care”
- **Shelby Sestak (BScNutri, 2016)**
- **Holly Hallikainen (BScNutri, 2016)** – “The role of the dietitian in the built environment”
- **Noura Sheikhalzoor** – “Challenges in recruiting school children and their parents/caregivers to participate in school programs and research/evaluations studies”

Program Speakers:

- **Natasha Haskey** – The Microbiome: the next frontier for dietitians?
- **Patricia Chuey (BScNutri, 1989; MSc, 1994)**, **Shelley Case (BScHEc, 1980)** – Secrets of Success: Building your brand
- **Holly Hallikainen** – Emerging approaches in child care nutrition



Twenty seven nutrition students from the U of S attended the Dietitians of Canada Conference, which was more than any other program. The students raised over \$7,000 to cover the costs to attend the conference.



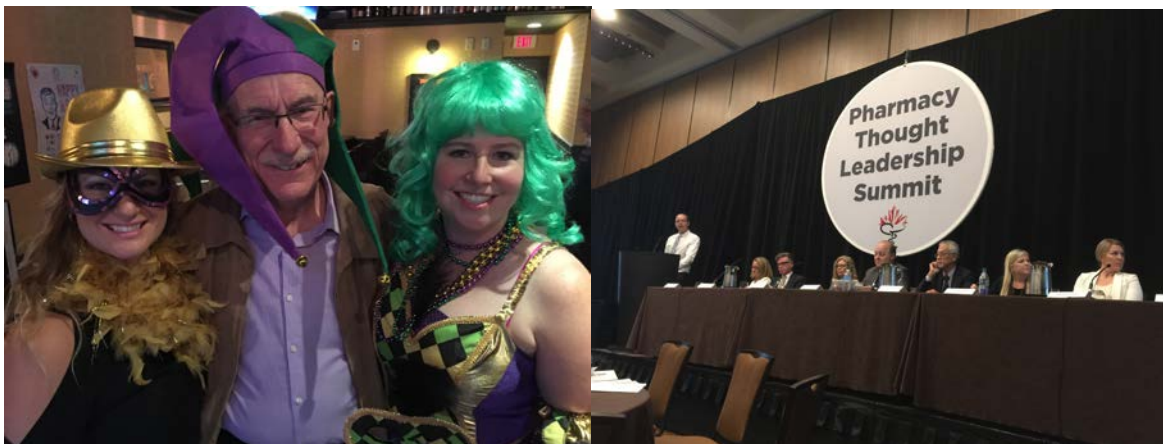
## MORE COLLEGE NEWS (cont'd)

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### Canadian Pharmacists Conference

The 2016 Canadian Pharmacists Conference was held in Calgary on June 24-27, and included presentations by our faculty and alumni, as well as the traditional Sask Night.

This year's Sask Night kicked off on Friday, June 24, at Bottlescrew Bill's Pub with a Mardi Gras theme.



**Dr. Derek Jorgenson** participated in the Thought Leadership Summit, with the goal to determine the future priorities of the pharmacy profession. Alongside Neil MacKinnon and Jennifer Smith, he also prepared and presented a research report regarding possible options for future priorities.

**Dr. Jason Perepelkin** presented "Pharmacy Management: A Method of Implementing Sustainable Pharmacy Practice Models."

**Darrell Pasloski (BSP, 1982)**, Premier of Yukon, talked about how he made the journey from leading pharmacies to leading governments and discussed the importance of the profession's involvement in the political and policy arena to advocate for their patients.

**Sherilyn Houle (BSP, 2006)** presented "Hypertension Guidelines: What's new & what's still important for pharmacists."

**Amy Wiebe (BSP, 2008)** was interviewed by the Calgary Herald on Sunday, June 26, after her presentation at the Canadian Pharmacists Association Conference. Her speech, which called marijuana a 'moving target,' focused on how marijuana and its relationship to both the political and medical landscape is changing all at once. [Read the article.](#)

**Robert Pammett (BSP, 2010; MSc 2015)** presented at the Innovation showcase on "Pharmacist-Driven Take Home Naloxone Program."



## MORE COLLEGE NEWS (cont'd)

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The CAPSI National meetings took place during the conference, and once again the University of Saskatchewan had strong representation on the national council. U of S students on council include:

- **Sophie Chatillon**, Finance Officer
- **Caitlin McGrath**, National President
- **Kaitlyn Tress**, Saskatchewan Senior Representative
- **Shivani Trivedi**, Saskatchewan Junior Representative
- **Darren Reithmeier**, CAPSIL Editor
- **Samantha Cunningham** (BSP, 2016), CSHP Liaison

**Kelsey Joorisity** is also joined the student delegation as the University of Saskatchewan Centennial Award Winner.



### Undergraduate Research Award

Congratulations to pharmacy student **Meghanne Rieder** of the Wasan Research Group for being awarded one of the 2016 GlaxoSmithKline National Undergraduate Student Research Program Awards. Meghanne has been investigating the use of lanthanide complexes for the treatment of bone density disorders such as osteoporosis. She received her award at the 19th Annual Symposium of the Canadian Society for Pharmaceutical Science.



### Student Delegates

Congratulations to Kaitlyn Tress, Sakina Wajahat, and Paraag Trivedi (BSP, 2016) who were selected as the 2016 Shoppers Drug Mart Passion To Life contest winners from the University of Saskatchewan. Kaitlyn, Sakina, and Paraag were invited to attend the Shoppers Drug Mart Pharmacists' Continuing Education Conference on Saturday, June 11 and Sunday, June 12 in Calgary.

### Nutrition Selfies

During this past academic year, the nutrition internship coordinators asked the fourth year students to provide selfies with their favourite foods. As a way to say thank you and goodbye at Nutrition Research Day, the coordinators shared each student's selfie and memorable internship moment, and presented them each with a gift. [View the gallery.](#)

### Pharmacy Accreditation

The Pharmacy Accreditation Committee has begun preparations for the accreditation site visit in October. [Read more.](#)



## FACULTY AND STAFF NEWS

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Congratulations to **Danielle Larocque** who has been appointed as the first Associate Director of the Continuing Professional Development for Pharmacy Professionals (CPDPP) program.

Danielle served the College and the pharmacy community as the Pharmacy Structured Practice Experiences Facilitator and Instructor during this previous academic year.

The CPDPP program is undergoing significant renewal, including an updated focus and enhanced role to develop, implement, support and evaluate lifelong learning opportunities for pharmacists and pharmacy technicians. This new Associate Director position will play a critical role in successfully achieving this goal while overseeing the operations of the CPDPP office.



Congratulations to **Dr. Jane Alcorn** who has been named to the Saskatchewan Health Research Foundation (SHRF) Board of Directors. The SHRF is guided by this board, with members drawn from the health research community, government, health delivery system, business, and the public at large. Board appointments are made by the Minister Responsible for Innovation.

Congratulations to **Dr. Derek Jorgenson** who received the 2016 AFPC Janssen Award for Innovation in Education.

**Dr. Phyllis Paterson** presented at Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation Grand Rounds at Saskatoon City Hospital on Tuesday, April 26. Her talk was entitled: Nutritional Status and Body Composition: A “Systems” Approach to Augment Recovery after Stroke.

**Dr. Jaris Swidrovich** was the guest speaker at the University of Saskatchewan Alumni Association 100th Annual General Meeting on Wednesday, June 22. Jaris received the USSU Young Alumni of Excellence award earlier this year.

**Dorota Rogowski**, Technician, Core Equipment Facility, received her Long Service Award from the U of S at a banquet on Thursday, June 9. This ceremony honours and recognizes faculty and staff who have demonstrated excellence in service to the university community for 25 years.

medSask's **Terry Damm** spoke with CJWW Radio about expired drugs, and the highlights of his interview are on the Saskatoonhomepage.ca website. [Read more.](#)



**Carmen Bell**, **Terry Damm** and **Karen Jensen** from medSask gave a joint presentation at the annual PAS Conference on Saturday, April 30, on Off-label Prescribing, Simplified Lipid Guidelines, and Type 1.5 Diabetes.



## FACULTY AND STAFF NEWS (cont'd)

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**Dr. Fred Remillard** and **Karen Jensen** gave a joint presentation at the annual PAS Conference on Saturday, April 30, on Cognitive Behavioural Therapy for insomnia.

medSask hosted a one day workshop for its office and on-call medication information consultants on June 11th in the College of Pharmacy & Nutrition. Speakers included **Zack Dumont (BSP, 2008)** from Regina, **Audrey McLelland (BSP, 1975)** from Elkridge and **Dr. Yvonne Shevchuk, Terry Damm, Carmen Bell** and **Karen Jensen** from Saskatoon.

**Drs. Kishor Wasan** and **Jian Yang** presented at the 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Saskatchewan Cancer Research Conference on Wednesday, June 22.

Thank you to the newly appointed and continuing Clinical Assistant Professors in the College:

### Pharmacy

- Jennifer Bolt
- Brenda Schuster
- Patrick Robertson
- Barb Evans
- Bill Semchuk

### Nutrition

- Chris Arnold
- Stephanie Cook
- Natasha Haskey
- Roseann Nasser
- Heather Tulloch
- Sharon Walker
- Megan Koo

### Staff Spotlight: Erin Smith-Windsor

Erin Smith-Windsor, Graduate Programs Administrator, is our next Staff Spotlight. Her role is to ensure that all aspects of the college's graduate programs are run efficiently and that graduate students receive the support they need to be successful. [Read more.](#)

**Kieran Kobitz**, Communications and Alumni Relations Specialist, has been appointed to the board of the Saskatchewan Professional Marketing Association as the Membership Chair.

### Job Posting: Nutrition Program Assistant

The College is seeking a Nutrition Program Assistant for a term position beginning September 1, 2016. The successful applicant will provide support to the professional practice courses offered to Year two and three nutrition students. [Read the job ad.](#)

## ALUMNI NEWS

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**Kelly Kizlyk (BSP, 2002)** was on Global Saskatoon Morning News on Thursday, May 5, to talk about how to deal with tree pollen and grass allergies. [Watch the video.](#)

Home Economics alumna **Mary Lou Milliken** was featured in a Prince Albert Daily Herald article on Sunday, May 8, as she received a lifetime Prince Albert Historical Society membership. She was recognized for her work to catalogue and preserve textiles, and her years of volunteer service with the society. [Read more.](#)



## ALUMNI NEWS (cont'd)

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**Brooke Bulloch (BScNutri, 2009)** was on Global Saskatoon Morning News through May and June:

- Tuesday, May 10, to talk about feeding guidelines for infants. [Watch the video.](#)
- Tuesday, May 24, to talk about common food myths. [Watch the video.](#)
- Tuesday, June 7, to talk about how to make nutritious frozen yogurt snacks. [Watch the video.](#)

A number of our alumni received CSHP Awards this year, and the College is highlighting them individually on social media throughout the summer. After the awards appear on social media, they'll be presented in the following newsletter:

- Congratulations to **Donald Kuntz (BSP, 1981)** who received the 2016 Distinguished Service Award from the Canadian Society of Hospital Pharmacists. The Distinguished Service Award recognizes outstanding achievement in hospital pharmacy practice.
- Congratulations to **Barb Evans (BSP, 1986)** and **Alyssa McDougall (BSP, 2014)** who received one of the 2016 Management and Leadership Best Practice Awards from the Canadian Society of Hospital Pharmacists. They received this award for Development of a Pharmacist Performance Tracking Tool.

***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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### PAST EVENTS

On Saturday, June 18, the College held a thank you and farewell for Dr. Fred Remillard at Prairie Sun Brewery. Fred has just completed his term as Associate Dean, Research and Graduate Affairs, and will begin his time on administrative leave.

### UPCOMING EVENTS

The Home Economics Class of 1981 is holding a reunion the weekend of August 26-28 in Saskatoon. Please contact Kim Kennett at [kmkennett@yahoo.ca](mailto:kmkennett@yahoo.ca) for more information.

## RESEARCH AND GRADUATE STUDIES

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### SPOTLIGHT ON RESEARCH

#### **June Trainee Spotlight: Adegboyega Lawal**

Adegboyega Lawal is a PhD candidate in Pharmacy, under the supervision of Dr. Thomas Rotter, research chair in Health Quality Improvement Science. Lawal's research focuses on how we should design, implement, and test clinical pathways to improve patient safety in Saskatchewan. [Read more.](#)

### RESEARCH FUNDING

**Dr. Sakharkar** was awarded a 5-year NSERC Discovery grant to study the transcriptional role of PPAR gamma in metabolic rewiring.





## RESEARCH AND GRADUATE STUDIES (cont'd)

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### TRAINEE SUCCESS

#### [Congratulations to our MSc and PhD Graduates!](#)

The College had seven former graduate students receive their degrees at Spring Convocation 2015:

#### Doctor of Philosophy

##### **Marc William Morris**

Supervisors: Drs. Gordon Zello and Jennifer Jones

Nutrition - Thesis: *Biological Markers Demonstrate Utility and Predictive Value in Inflammatory Bowel Disease*

##### **Rajesh Thakur**

Supervisor: Dr. Shawna Berenbaum

Nutrition - Thesis: *Gendered Perspectives on Food Insecurity in Saskatoon*

#### Master's

##### **Omar Eid Abuhussein**

Supervisor: Dr. Jian Yang

Pharmacy - Thesis: *Cytotoxic Activity of Sphingosine-1-Phosphate against Human Triple-negative/ Basal-like Breast Cancer*

##### **Osama Abdulla Abdelaziz Ahmed Alaidi**

Supervisors: Drs. Ildiko Badea and Pawel Grochulski

Pharmacy - Thesis: *Structural Characterization of Gemini-Based Nanoparticles for Delivery of DNA*

##### **Rahul Jain**

Supervisor: Dr. Roy Dobson

Pharmacy - Thesis: *Experience with Prescriptive Authority Services Among Community Pharmacists in Saskatchewan*

##### **Rick Francis Lorenz**

Supervisor: Dr. Adil Nazarali

Pharmacy - Thesis: *Caregivers' Attitudes Towards HIV Testing and Disclosure of HIV Status to At-Risk Children in Rural Uganda*

##### **Shelby Jade Reid**

Supervisor: Dr. Jane Alcorn

Pharmacy - Thesis: *Nutrient Transporter Inhibition Disrupts Mammary and Intestinal Polarized Epithelial Function*

#### External Awards

**Saniya Alwani** (supervisor: Dr. Ildiko Badea) was awarded the **University of Saskatchewan Master's Thesis Award in Life Sciences** for 2015-2016, which recognizes the most outstanding Master's thesis produced by a student studying in the life sciences during the academic year.



## RESEARCH AND GRADUATE STUDIES (cont'd)

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At the Canadian Student Health Research Forum, June 7-9 in Winnipeg, PhD candidate **Virginia Lane** received an honorable mention for her presentation: *Unpacking the health and nutritional risks of newcomer children*. PhD candidate **Allison Cammer** was awarded a CIHR Silver Medal for her presentation: *Nutrition care practices for residents with dementia in urban and rural long-term care: Perspectives of care aides*. Allison also received a CIHR travel award to attend the conference.

PhD candidate **Kosar Omidian** (supervisor: Brian Bandy) received **Third Place** in the oral presentation competition at the 2016 Canadian Nutrition Society (CNS) Annual Conference held in Gatineau, QC, from May 5<sup>th</sup> to 7<sup>th</sup> 2016. She received two **Christine Gagnon Memorial Travel Awards** supported by Nestlé Nutrition to attend the conference.

PhD candidate **Hossein Rafiei** (supervisor: Brian Bandy) was also chosen as one of eight finalists for the nutrition graduate student and trainee oral presentation competition at the 2016 CNS Annual Conference, and received a **Christine Gagnon Memorial Travel Award**.

PhD students **Zeinab Hosseini** (supervisors: Hassan Vatanparast and Susan Whiting), **Mahasti Khakpour** (supervisor: Hassan Vatanparast), and **Adegboyega Lawal** (supervisor: Thomas Rotter), as well as incoming Master's student **Sandra Rosero Tapia** (supervisor: Gord Zello), have all received **2016-2017 Saskatchewan Innovation & Opportunity Scholarships**.

### College of Pharmacy and Nutrition Travel Awards

The following graduate students received College of Pharmacy and Nutrition Travel Awards to present posters at recent conferences:

**Kholud Algabbas** (supervisor: Ed Krol) presented her poster *In Vitro Bioactivation of Cyclic Phenol Phosphate Analogues As Potential Inhibitors of Autotaxin* at the 2016 CSPS/CC-CRS Annual Symposium in Richmond, BC, from May 31<sup>st</sup> to June 2<sup>nd</sup> 2016.

**Katherine Lysak** (supervisor: Derek Jorgenson) presented her poster *Pharmacy Student Perceptions of a Medication Assessment Clinic Located Within a Pharmacy School* at the 2016 AFPC Conference in Richmond, BC, from May 31<sup>st</sup> to June 2<sup>nd</sup> 2016.

**Shujun Xiao** (supervisor: Jian Yang) presented her poster *The cytotoxic effect of sphingosine-1-phosphate towards human breast cancer in vitro* at the 2016 CSPS/CC-CRS Annual Symposium in Richmond, BC, from May 31<sup>st</sup> to June 2<sup>nd</sup> 2016.



## RESEARCH AND GRADUATE STUDIES (cont'd)

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### RECENT PUBLICATIONS

\*Al-Dulaymi, M.A., Chitanda, J.M., \*Mohammed-Saeid, W., Araghi, H.Y., Verrall, R.E., Grochulski, P., **Badea, I.** Di-Peptide-Modified Gemini Surfactants as Gene Delivery Vectors: Exploring the Role of the Alkyl Tail in Their Physicochemical Behavior and Biological Activity. (2016) *AAPS Journal*, pp. 1-14.

Nunes, L.M., Hossain, M., Varela-Ramirez, A., Das, U., Ayala-Marin, Y.M., **Dimmock, J.R.**, Aguilera, R.J. A novel class of piperidones exhibit potent, selective and pro-apoptotic anti-leukemia properties (2016) *Oncology Letters* **11** ( 6 ), pp. 3842 – 3848.

Panda, A.K., Das, U., \*Roayapalley, P.K., Sakagami, H., Kawase, M., Balzarini, J., De Clercq, E., **Dimmock, J.R.** Niacin esters of chalcones with tumor-selective properties 2016 *Journal of Enzyme Inhibition and Medicinal Chemistry*, pp. 1 - 6.

**Evans, C.**, Marrie, R.A., Zhu, F., Leung, S., Lu, X., Melesse, D.Y., Kingwell, E., Zhao, Y., Tremlett, H. Adherence and persistence to drug therapies for multiple sclerosis: A population-based study. (2016) *Multiple Sclerosis and Related Disorders*, 8, pp. 78-85.

Renoux, C., Dell'Aniello, S., Khairy, P., Marras, C., Bugden, S., Turin, T.C., Blais, L., Tamim, H., **Evans, C.**, Steele, R., Dormuth, C., Ernst, P. Ventricular tachyarrhythmia and sudden cardiac death with domperidone use in Parkinson's disease. (2016) *British Journal of Clinical Pharmacology*.

**Jorgenson, D.J., Landry, E.J.L.**, \*Lysak, K.J. A mixed methods evaluation of a patient care clinic located within a pharmacy school. (2016) *International Journal of Clinical Pharmacy*, pp. 1 – 7.

Duff, W.R.D., Kontulainen, S.A., Candow, D.G., Gordon, J.J., Mason, R.S., Taylor-Gjevre, R., Nair, B., Szafron, M., Baxter-Jones, A.D.G., **Zello, G.A.**, Chilibeck, P.D. Effects of low-dose ibuprofen supplementation and resistance training on bone and muscle in postmenopausal women: A randomized controlled trial. (2016) *Bone Reports*, 5 pp. 96 - 103.