

Dean's Newsletter

Issue 9, March 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.

TOP STORIES

MAC wins national patient care award

Congratulations to the Medication Assessment Centre on winning the Patient Care Enhancement Award from the Canadian Society of Hospital Pharmacists. MAC received the award based on their submission which highlighted how the centre provides easy access for patients to medication assessments, while helping both healthcare professionals and students learn more about medication therapy. [Read the story.](#)



Alumnus, former faculty member leaves \$285K gift to the college

Dr. J. Gordon Duff's generous gift to the college includes \$25,000 for historical archival purposes, and the remaining \$260,000 is to be used at the discretion of the Dean of Pharmacy and Nutrition. [Read the story.](#)



Photo Credit: Dalhousie University

International Year of the Pulses

On Wednesday, January 6, the College kicked off the 2016 International Year of Pulses. The United Nations has declared 2016 the Year of Pulses, and the Division of Nutrition is conducting research to improve food security through improved sustainable agricultural practices and human nutrition by the inclusion of pulse crops.

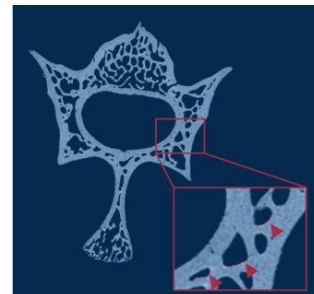




MORE COLLEGE NEWS

IN THE MEDIA

The Wasan Research Group, which includes **Drs. Kishor** and **Ellen Wasan**, had their image selected as Picture of the Month in the January 2016 BMIT e-News. The image shows a 3D rendered model of rat vertebrae produced by K-edge subtraction. [Read the newsletter.](#)



The Canadian Press wire service interviewed **Dr. Carol Henry** ahead the United Nations International Year of the Pulses kickoff that was held in the Health Sciences building. The story was carried by dozens of television stations, radio stations, and newspapers across the country on Wednesday, January 6. [Read the article.](#)

Dr. Carol Henry spoke with CBC Radio's Saskatoon Morning host Leisha Grebinski about pulses on Monday, January 11. [Read the article.](#)

Nutrition graduate student **Noura Sheikhalzoor** wrote a blog post for The Gwenna Moss Centre for Teaching Effectiveness on Monday, January 11. She wrote on her experiences as a graduate student teacher. [Read the blog.](#)

Dr. Gordon Zello was featured in The Sheaf on Thursday, January 14, to talk about proper nutrition for athletes. [Read the article.](#)

Dr. Carol Henry was featured in The Sheaf on Thursday, January 14. She talked about her pulse crop research with **Dr. Susan Whiting** in Ethiopia and Bangladesh. **Dean Kishor Wasan** also commented on how pulse crops can be used in combating disease. [Read the article.](#)

An article in Dairy Reporter from Tuesday, January 19, references a milk consumption study published in 2015 by **Drs. Henry, Whiting, Zello, and Vatanparast**. [Read the article.](#)

Fourth year pharmacy student **Ashley Promhouse** was profiled by The Gull Lake Advance on Tuesday, January 26. She discussed how she balanced academics and athletics, and what lead her to choose pharmacy as a career. [Read the article.](#)

Dr. Anas El-Aneed was mentioned in a Tuesday, February 2, Star Phoenix article on pediatric asthma testing. [Read the article.](#)

Nutrition students **Sophia Khan, Sara Amundson, Tanielle Koob** (right), and **Sarah Crawford** (not pictured) were featured in the #facesofusask social media campaign for their information booths during Eating Disorder Awareness Week. [Read the full story.](#)



Photo credit: Andy Sargent

Dr. Thomas Rotter, the college's Chair in Health Quality Improvement, headed up a report into the first phase of Lean implementation in the province. The Leader Post took a first look at the report to outline the good and bad news on Wednesday, February 10. [Read the article.](#)

MORE COLLEGE NEWS (cont'd)

Nutrition students **Kara Friesen** and **Nadine Nevland** (right), and the Office of Sustainability, organized the university's first farmers' market on Friday, February 5. The pilot project was set up to determine if the university can sustain a similar market on campus more regularly, and it is also the senior project of the two students. [Read the story.](#)

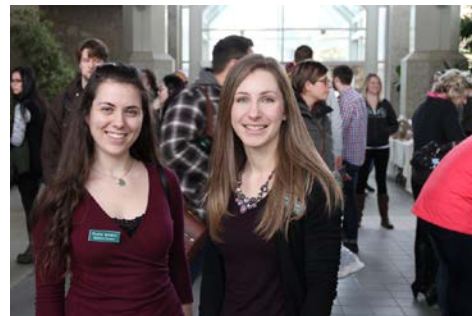


Photo credit: Lesley Porter

GENERAL NEWS

U of S first in compounding at PDW

Congratulations to Jayesh Changela, Darren Bogle, Madison Schmidt, and Trista Zacharias who took first place in the CAPSI Compounding Competition at PDW! With 35 delegates at the 2016 CAPSI Professional Development week, the University of Saskatchewan had an impressive showing at the national conference. The conference took place January 6-9 in Niagara Falls, Ontario, and key results can be found on our website. [Read the results.](#)



Pledge of Professionalism Ceremony

On Thursday, January 28, the inaugural First Year Pledge Ceremony was held in the Health Sciences lecture theatre. 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. The framed pledges are displayed in the Thorvaldson Building's display cases near the Arts walkway.





MORE COLLEGE NEWS (cont'd)

Pharmacy Curriculum Town Hall

Led by Dr. Dobson, the Town Hall took place on December 7, 2015. The event was well attended by fourth year students, faculty and staff and led to a constructive and open conversation about the curriculum in the Pharmacy program. The notes taken were not transcribed from audio recordings, but rather from a recorder, so while they are somewhat incomplete, they do broadly reflect the conversation that took place.

[To access the Town Hall Notes, 2015, click here \[.DOCX\].](#)

For more information, please contact the College's Coordinator of Assessment and Evaluation, Stephanie Mulhall at 306-966-1171 or Stephanie.Mulhall@usask.ca

Aboriginal Achievement Week

- On Monday, February 8, **Diane Favreau**, Undergraduate Affairs Officer, represented the college at The Future Is Yours Expo. The event is Saskatoon's largest career expo targeting Aboriginal youth. The college shared a table with Medicine, Nursing, and Physical Therapy to give people a preview of choosing a health sciences education.
- **Dr. Jaris Swidrovich** helped organize a speaker session on Thursday, February 11, as part of Aboriginal Achievement Week. Speakers included Dr. James B Waldram (Professor in the Department of Psychology and Department of Archaeology and Anthropology) and Valerie McLeod, RN (Lead of the First Nations and Metis Health Service at the Saskatoon Health Region).



- Congratulations to **Amiée Prefontaine** on receiving a leadership award at the Aboriginal Achievement Student Award Ceremony on Thursday, February 11.



International Collaboration

Dr. Jason Perepelkin was at Qatar University in February to present a seminar on his work to the pharmacy faculty. He's pictured here talking about The Pharmasave-Rubicon Pharmacy Student Business Plan Competition held annually in March.





FACULTY AND STAFF NEWS

Congratulations to **Dr. Charity Evans** who is the new Director of Continuing Professional Development for Pharmacists. We would like to thank **Dr. Linda Suveges** for her years of service to this position and wish her all the best in her well-deserved retirement.

Congratulations to **Dr. Jane Alcorn** who has been re-elected to the Canadian Society for Pharmaceutical Sciences Board of Directors for 2016.

On Thursday, January 18, the college said farewell to **Christine Ruys**, Graduate Programs Secretary, as she moved forward in her career. Christine worked for the college since 2012, and took charge of a number of social events, in addition to her day-to-day responsibilities. We wish Christine well in her future endeavors!



ALUMNI NEWS

Our condolences to the family and friends of **Judy Buzowetsky (BSHEc, 1967)** who passed away on Saturday, February 20.

Judy was very active with University of Saskatchewan Alumni Association Board of Directors. She served on the University of Saskatchewan Senate as an elected member from 1997 to 2003, was a member of the Senate Executive Committee from 2001 to 2003, and served on the University of Saskatchewan Board of Governors. [Read the announcement.](#)



Judy Roberts (BSP, 1989) and **Trent Lane (BSP, 1995)** were named 2016 Leaders in Pharmacy in Pharmacy Business magazine.

[Read more about Judy.](#)

[Read more about Trent.](#)

Alison Friesen (BScNutri, 2015) and **Jillian Hauber (B.Sc.Nutri, 2015)** appeared on CTV Morning Live on Thursday, January 7, to talk about how meal prep will save you time and money. [Watch the video.](#)

Jenna Anderson (BSP, 2011) was on CTV Morning Live on Friday, January 15, to talk about PACT Partnership to Assist with Cessation of Tobacco. [Watch the video.](#)

Brenda Yuzdepski (BSP, 1988) spoke to the third-year pharmacy students today about her unique practice in pharmacist consultations with a focus on integrative medicine. Brenda owns Medical Arts Pharmacy and Queen Street Pharmacy in Saskatoon.

Cassandra Touet (BScNutri, 2013) was in the Star Phoenix on Friday, January 22, to talk about how to eat healthy in spite of rising food prices. [Read the article.](#)



ALUMNI NEWS (cont'd)

Brooke Bulloch (BScNutri, 2009) was on Global Saskatoon Morning News on Tuesday, January 26, to talk about healthy alternatives to using in baked goods. [Watch the video.](#)

Nikole Janzen (BScNutri, 2014) volunteered in Haiti last October to help educate children and seniors about nutrition, and the Saskatoon Health Region posted a blog about her trip on Wednesday, January 27. [Read the blog.](#)

Chai Daongam (BSP, 1994) was featured in a Star Phoenix article on Saturday, February 6, about the experiences of his family as former refugees who settled in La Loche. Read the article.

Brooke Bulloch (BScNutri, 2009) appeared on Global Saskatoon Morning News on Tuesday, February 9, to discuss the Dietitians of Canada recommendation for a 10-20% tax on sugar-sweetened drinks. [Watch the video.](#)

Brooke Bulloch (BScNutri, 2009) was on Global Saskatoon Morning News on Tuesday, February 23, to talk about how to balance recreational activities with healthy meals. [Watch the video.](#)

Dorothy Long (BSHEc, 1989) and **Linda Gilmour Kessler (BScNutri, 1989)** were on Global Saskatoon Morning News on Tuesday, February 23, to talk about adding flax to your diet. Yesterday was Flax Research Day in Saskatchewan. [Watch the video.](#)

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

Pharmacist Awareness Month

Our pharmacy students, along with CAPSI, have been busy planning for a month of activities to celebrate and educate the community about the contributions that pharmacists can make in health care settings. Pharmacy students will be on campus and in the community promoting and educating the public about pharmacists' expanded scope of practice and their role beyond dispensing.

Be sure to "friend" CAPSI Usaskatchewan on Facebook to stay in the know with all things PAM throughout March.

SPNSS Bonspiel

SPNSS will host a curling bonspiel on Saturday, March 5, at Nutana Curling Club. The event is open to current students, faculty, and staff.



EVENTS (cont'd)

Nutrition Professional Enhancement Day

This year's Nutrition Professional Enhancement Day will take place on **Tuesday, March 7**, at 5:30 pm at the German Cultural Centre (Edelweiss Hall). Dr. Jean-Pierre Chanoine is a Canadian expert in childhood obesity. He will be sharing practical information related to the causes of and management strategies for childhood obesity, and will also highlight the importance of growth curves.

Mr. Pharmacy

This year's Mr. Pharmacy will take place on **Friday, March 18**, at 7:00 pm at Louis'. Last year's event raised over \$8,000 for the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation.

Edith Rowles Simpson Lecture Series

The next Simpson Lecture will be held on **Wednesday, March 30**, at 7:00 pm in the Frances Morrison Library. This year's speaker is Dr. Jim Painter, Professor at the School of Family and Consumer Science, Eastern Illinois University. As an expert in food psychology, he will speak on food choices and motivators. The lecture is free and open to the public.

Nutrition Year 3 Celebration & Send-off

The third year nutrition students will be joined by family, friends, faculty, staff, and special guests on **Thursday, April 7**, for a farewell celebration before they begin their fourth year internships.

Pharmacy Association Saskatchewan Conference

The College will host its annual alumni reception and desert on **Friday, April 29**, at the 2016 PAS Conference at Elk Ridge Resort. Registration for the conference is now open. [Register online.](#)

Dean's College-Wide Presentation

The fifth college-wide presentation will be held on **Wednesday, May 4**. **Dean Kishor Wasan** will give an update on our progress as a college and what are our next priorities that need to be completed.

Convocation & Graduation Banquets

The 2016 Convocation Ceremony will take place on **Thursday, June 2**, at 9:00 am at TCU Place. Both pharmacy and nutrition graduation banquets will take place in the evening.

Dietitians of Canada Conference

The College is excited to return to the Dietitians of Canada Conference and host our regular alumni reception on **Friday, June 10**, at 7:00 pm. Details to follow. [Visit the conference website.](#)

Sask Night

Our annual Sask Night alumni reception will be held on **Friday, June 24**, at the Canadian Pharmacists Association Conference in Calgary, Alberta. Details to follow. [Visit the conference website.](#)



EVENTS (cont'd)

PAST EVENTS

Taste and Learn

On Thursday, December 17, the Saskatoon Health Region Nutrition Practicum Program (Nutr 531) and Sobeys's Extra in Stonebridge partnered to hold an afternoon of "Taste and Learn Sessions".

Nutrition students held cooking demonstrations on topics, such as how to make preserves, smoothie bowls and how to "spice up" greens. It was a great way to try out some new recipes and practice skills in culinary nutrition.

Thank you to **Jillian Hauber RD (BScNutri, 2015)** who collaborated on this new initiative with **Natasha Haskey (BScNutri, 1998; MSc, 2007)**, Coordinator of Nutrition & Dietetic Practice in SHR.



Aboriginal Health, History, and Cultural Safety

On Tuesday, January 19, **Dr. Jaris Swidrovich** was the guest speaker at the Health Science Students Association's Evening of Discussion.

Alumni Speaker Series

Thank you to **Don McIntosh (BSP, 1987)** for visiting the College on Tuesday, January 26. Don met with faculty and students, including a talk on his career path.

President's Meeting

Thank you to **President Peter Stoicheff** for meeting with the college on Wednesday, January 27. Pharmacy and Nutrition was his first stop in a series of meetings with all of the colleges and schools where he'll discuss the university's direction and take questions from faculty, staff, and students.





RESEARCH AND GRADUATE STUDIES

SPOTLIGHT ON RESEARCH

Researcher of the Month January 2016: Dr. Ildiko Badea

Dr. Ildiko Badea is an associate professor of Pharmacy and member of the Drug Discovery and Development Research Group. Dr. Badea's research program focuses on the development of novel nanoparticle delivery systems and the use of DNA as a biotechnology drug.

[Read more about Dr. Badea's research on our website.](#)



Trainee Spotlight February 2016: Allison Cammer

Allison Cammer is a PhD candidate in Nutrition and registered dietitian working at the Rural and Remote Memory Clinic at the University of Saskatchewan. Allison's research examines the practices of nutritional care of urban and rural long-term care residents with dementia.

[Read more about Allison's research on our website.](#)



Researcher of the Month March 2016: Dr. Charity Evans

Dr. Charity Evans is an assistant professor of Pharmacy, teaching in the areas of evidence-based medicine, research methods, and contraception. Dr. Evans's research program focuses on multiple sclerosis (MS), with a particular emphasis on the epidemiology and pharmacoepidemiology of the disease.

[Read more about Dr. Evan's research on our website.](#)



TRAINEE SUCCESS

Program Update

Congratulations to **Dr. Mark Morris**, **Dr. Rajesh Thakur**, **Omar Abuhusseini**, **Rick Lorenz**, and **Shelby Reid** who have all recently successfully defended their theses.



RESEARCH AND GRADUATE STUDIES (cont'd)

College Awards

The College is pleased to announce that the following students have received College awards for the 2015-2016 academic year:

- **Shirin Aladwan** (Master's student with Dr. Holly Mansell) and **Katherine Lysak** (Master's student with Dr. Derek Jorgenson) have been awarded **Shopper's Drug Mart Dean's Trust Scholarships**.
- **Kelly Buxton** (Master's student with Dr. Dave Blackburn) has been awarded both the **Alf Pepper Research Award** and the **Ramsay Postgraduate Fellowship**.
- **Anan Ahmed** (Master's student with Dr. Holly Mansell) has been awarded the **F.J. Fear Scholarship**.
- **Hiwot Hailelassie** (PhD student with Drs. Carol Henry and Robert Tyler) and **Zeinab Hosseini** (PhD student with Drs. Hassan Vatanparast and Susan Whiting) will share the **Elizabeth Helen McLeod Scholarship**.
- **Katherine Ford** (Master's student with Susan Whiting) has been awarded the **Mary Isabel Irwin Scholarship**.

External Awards

Noura Sheikhalzoor (Master's student with Dr. Shawna Berenbaum) has been awarded the **Butterfield Scholarship** from the Saskatoon Horticulture Society for linking having gardening knowledge and skills, community gardening, and nutrition as parts of the community food system. This award will allow her to complete her Master Gardener Certificate.

RESEARCH FUNDING

Dr. Jeremy Lee (Medicine) and **Dr. Ed Krol** (Pharmacy) were awarded a 1-year \$40,000 SHRF Collaborative Innovation Development grant.

Dr. Anas El-Aneed (Pharmacy) was awarded \$190,000 over 3 years from the Saskatchewan Ministry of Agriculture's Agriculture Development Fund to study high value bioactives and vitamins from canola crush waste stream.

Dr. Jonathan Dimmock (Pharmacy) and industry partner Bertech Pharma Ltd. received a \$45,000 MITACS Accelerate internship for Kinjal Lakhani and Praveen Roayapalley to evaluate novel antineoplastic 3,5-bis(benzylidene)-4-piperidones.

RECENT PUBLICATIONS

Rivera-Baltanas, T., Agis-Balboa, R.C., Romay-Tallon, R., Kalynchuk, L.E., Olivares, J.M., **Caruncho, H.J.** Serotonin transporter clustering in blood lymphocytes predicts the outcome on anhedonia scores in naïve depressive patients treated with antidepressant medication. (2015) *Annals of General Psychiatry*, 14 (1), art. no. 45.

Karki, S.S., Das, U., Umemura, N., Sakagami, H., Iwamoto, S., Kawase, M., Balzarini, J., De Clercq, E., Dimmock, S.G., **Dimmock, J.R.** 3,5-Bis(3-alkylaminomethyl-4-hydroxybenzylidene)-4-piperidones: A Novel Class of Potent Tumor-Selective Cytotoxins. (2016) *Journal of Medicinal Chemistry*, 59 (2), pp. 763-769.

Das, U., Pati, H.N., Baráth, Z., Csonka, Á., Molnár, J., **Dimmock, J.R.** 1-[3-(2-Hydroxyethylsulfanyl)propanoyl]-3,5-bis(benzylidene)-4-piperidones: A novel cluster of P-glycoprotein dependent multidrug resistance modulators. (2015) *Bioorganic and Medicinal Chemistry Letters*. Article in Press.



RESEARCH AND GRADUATE STUDIES (cont'd)

Kerry, M., Evans, C., Tran, D., Sevany, S. The association between self-monitoring of blood glucose, hemoglobin A1C and testing patterns in community pharmacies: Results of a pilot study. (2016) *Canadian Pharmacists Journal*, 149 (1), pp. 28-37.

Farrell, B., Ward, N., Jennings, B., Jones, C., **Jorgenson, D.,** Gubbels-Smith, A., Dolovich, L., Kenzie, N. Participation in online continuing education (2016) *International Journal of Pharmacy Practice*, 24 (1), pp. 60-71.