

Dean's Newsletter

Issue 13, November 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

Canadian Academy of Health Sciences Fellowship

Dr. Susan Whiting has been named a Fellow of CAHS for her contributions to the promotion of health science. For 40 years, Susan has conducted research on dietary influences on bone health, effectiveness and use of nutrient supplements, the calcium and vitamin D status of Canadians, and food security in Canada and Ethiopia.

[Read more.](#)



Distinguished Graduate Supervisor Award

Congratulations to **Dr. Jane Alcorn** who received the Distinguished Graduate Supervisor Award at the Fall Convocation Ceremony on Saturday, October 22. The award honours those faculty members who excel in the supervision of graduate students.

Provost's Prize for Innovative Practice in Collaborative Teaching and Learning

Congratulations to **Dr. Yvonne Shevchuk**, and her colleagues, on being awarded the 2016 Provost's Prize for Innovative Practice in Collaborative Teaching and Learning.

[Read more.](#)



Nutrition Accreditation

Our nutrition program has received 7 year full accreditation status (2015-2022) for both our academic and practicum components of our program. Congratulations to **Dr. Shawna Berenbaum** and **Carol Henry**, and their team, for all their leadership and dedication throughout the process.

Frank and Phyllis Abbot Legacy Fund

On Wednesday, September 28, **Frank** and **Phyllis Abbott** met with **Dean Kishor Wasan** in Vancouver to sign the paperwork for the Frank and Phyllis Abbott Legacy Fund at the College of Pharmacy and Nutrition. The fund will support the college's priority areas, as determined by the Dean. [Read more.](#)





MORE COLLEGE NEWS

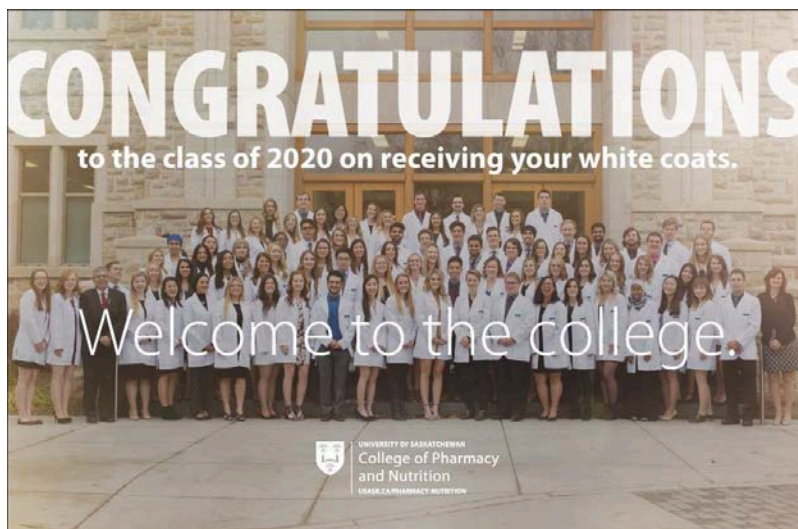
Class of 2020 White Coat Ceremony

Congratulations to all of our first year pharmacy students on receiving their white coats at a ceremony on Sunday, October 23. Thank you to Master of Ceremonies **Dr. Yvonne Shevchuk**, as well as **Dr. Patricia McDougall** for providing greetings from the University, the Honourable **Paul Merriman** for providing greetings from the Government of Saskatchewan, and the following people who acted as dressers for the students:

- **Justin Kosar**, President-elect, Saskatchewan College of Pharmacy Professionals
- **Julia Bareham**, Chair, Pharmacy Association of Saskatchewan
- **Dr. Kishor Wasan**, Professor and Dean, College of Pharmacy and Nutrition
- **Suzanne Len**, President, Canadian Society of Hospital Pharmacists (SK Branch)
- **Katherine DeMong**, Co-President, SPNSS
- **Steven Kary**, Senior Stick, SPNSS
- **Kaitlyn Tress**, CAPSI representative
- **Dr. A.J Rémillard**, Canadian Pharmacists Association representative
- **Dr. Melanie McLeod**, Keynote Speaker
- **Lori Postnikoff**, Saskatchewan College of Pharmacy Professionals



Thank you to pharmacy students **Taylor Raiche**, **Calli Safnuk**, **Kassie Stahl**, and **Jordan Kalesnikoff** for taking time out of their busy schedules to steam the white coats.



This ad was placed in the Saturday, October 29, Saskatoon Star Phoenix.



MORE COLLEGE NEWS

Undergraduate Students

Congratulations to third year nutrition student **Lindsay deBoer** on winning the Dr. Elizabeth Feniak Award for Excellence in Technical Writing for her paper: High Fructose Corn Syrup: Consumption and Controversy. [Read more.](#)



Our pharmacy students made another strong showing at a professional event: 26 students attended the CSHP Saskatchewan Branch AGM & Educational Sessions in Regina on Friday, October 21, and Saturday, October 22. The Cornerstone Fund provided assistance to the students to cover their registration fees, which was coordinated by CSHP Student Representatives **Devanshi Parekh** and **Stephanie Zimmer**.

Congratulations to **Shelby Pflanzner** on winning a poster award at the CSHP Saskatchewan Branch AGM & Educational Sessions for her poster "An Audit of Phenytoin Utilization for Seizure Prophylaxis and Treatment."



Congratulations to our students who were named to the Huskie Athletics All-Academic Team for the 2015-16 season:

- **Carmen Gorlick**, fourth year nutrition, was named Huskie Athletics All-Academic Second Team
- **Jessica Buettner**, third year pharmacy, was named Huskie Athletics All-Academic First and CIS Academic All-Canadian Team
- **Bobbi Nicholat**, second year pharmacy, was named Huskie Athletics All-Academic First and CIS Academic All-Canadian Team
- **Mathew Leung**, first year nutrition, CIS Academic All-Canadian Team

[Read more.](#)





MORE COLLEGE NEWS

American Association of Pharmaceutical Scientists Student Chapter

The U of S AAPS Student Chapter was founded in early 2015, and provides students with opportunities to build their leadership skills, become aware of career opportunities, and to network. Recent activities and sponsored events include:

- Hosted **Dr. Dion Brocks**, Professor and Associate Dean, Undergraduate Student Affairs, Faculty of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences, University of Alberta, for the AAPS Visiting Scientist Program.
- Co-organized the seminar by **Dr. Jeremy Desai**, President and CEO of Apotex, Inc., Canada, given to undergraduate and graduate students in pharmacy on the research and career opportunities at the company.
- Sponsored the 5th Western Canadian Medicinal Chemistry Workshop.
- Co-organized the meeting of **Dr. Amyn Sayani**, Director of Research and Development Alliances at GSK Canada, with members of the AAPS student chapter to discuss career options following graduation.
- Presented each new incoming student with a welcome gift bag and provided ice cream for the Graduate Student Welcome BBQ. The chapter Chair introduced the chapter to the students/attendees, and welcomed all into the graduate program.
- Promoted the chapter and provided information to new students about the opportunities in pharmaceutical sciences at the 2016 Campus Orientation.
- Sponsored of the Pharmacy and Nutrition Undergraduate Student Welcome BBQ.



Current chapter officials include:

- Faculty advisor/sponsor: **Dr. Kishor Wasan**
- Ex-chair and cofounder: **Mays Al-Dulaymi** (Ph.D. student)
- Chair and cofounder: **Mona Hamada** (Ph.D. Student)
- Chair Elect: **Waleed Mohammed Saeid** (Ph.D. Student)
- Vice-Chair: **Franklyn De Silva** (Ph.D. Student)
- Treasurer/Secretary: **Munawar Mohammed** (M.Sc. Student)



MORE COLLEGE NEWS

In the Media

Dr. Gordon Zello spoke with SaskatoonHomepage about tips for eating over the Thanksgiving weekend. [Read more.](#)

The University of Saskatchewan issued a news release on Friday, September 30, about the research **Dr. Ed Krol** and his colleagues are conducting on caffeine and Parkinson's disease. [Read more.](#)

The above news release resulted in 10 media articles, some of which included:

- [Caffeine-based compounds show promise against Parkinson's disease](#) – Biotechnology Focus
- [Caffeine-Based Substance May Prevent Parkinson's Disease](#) - Science World Report
- [Caffeine Compounds Show Potential In Treating Parkinson's Disease](#) - Tech Times



FACULTY AND STAFF NEWS

Dean Kishor Wasan was named Secretary to the board of the Canadian Academy of Health Sciences for a two year term. [Read more.](#)

Dr. Kerry Mansell received his Master of Business Administration at the Fall Convocation Ceremony on Saturday, October 22.

Dean Kishor Wasan was one of the featured speakers for the webinar "Innovative Drug Delivery Technologies for Better Patient Treatments" on Thursday, October 20.

Dr. Gordon Zello was elected Chair of the Science Committee of the Canadian Obesity Network, effective Tuesday, November 1.

Dr. Pawel Grochulski was reappointed Adjunct Professor in the College of Pharmacy and Nutrition for a five year term that will expire on June 30, 2021. Dr. Grochulski is a Staff Scientist at the Canadian Light Source.

The College welcomed the following staff to their new roles:

- **Michelle Betker**, Finance Officer, on Monday, October 3.
- **Audrey Boensch**, Clerical Assistant, Administrative and Program Support, on Tuesday, November 1.

The College bid farewell to **Lisa Bagonluri**, Manager, Continuing Professional Development for Pharmacy Professionals, and **Melissa Surkan**, Clerical Assistant, Administrative and Finance. We wish them well in their future endeavors.



ALUMNI NEWS

Congratulations to **Professor Emeritus James Alexander (Alex) Wood** on recently celebrating his 100th birthday. Dr. Wood received his Certificate of Pharmacy in 1941 and his Bachelor of Science in Pharmacy in 1946. He retired in 1982 after a distinguished career with the College.



Stephanie Langdon (BScNutri, 2010) was on Global Saskatoon Morning News on Monday, September 12, to talk about lentil-based health snacks for kids.

[Watch the video.](#)

Brooke Bulloch (BScNutri, 2009) was on Global Saskatoon Morning News on Tuesday, September 13, to talk about different types of milk and the nutritional benefits they provide. [Watch the video.](#)

Kelly Kizlyk (BSP, 2002) was on Global Saskatoon Morning News on Wednesday, September 28, to talk about useful products for cold and flu season. [Watch the video.](#)

Alison Friesen (BScNutri, 2015) was on Global Saskatoon Morning News on Thursday, October 6, to talk about healthy Thanksgiving dinner alternatives, and how to monitor your eating this weekend. [Watch the video.](#)

PAS Chair **Julia Bareham (BSP, 2008; MSc, 2015)** and CPhA Vice Chair **Christine Hrudka (BSP, 1982)** took part in "Pharmacists on the Hill" on Tuesday, October 18, in Ottawa. They discussed the important role of pharmacists and key Canadian health issues with parliamentarians.

Brooke Bulloch (BScNutri, 2009) was on Global Saskatoon Morning News on Tuesday, October 18, to talk about public policy, food cost, and food insecurity. [Watch the video.](#)

Chelsea Brown (BScNutri, 2012) was on Global Regina Morning News on Monday, October 31, to talk about healthy alternatives for Halloween, and how to help children manage how much candy they eat. [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

The first annual Saskatchewan Canadian Academy of Health Sciences Regional Chapter Mini Symposium will be held on Monday, November 7, at Boffins Public House. [More information.](#)

The College will participate in **Discovery Day in Health Sciences** on **Friday, November 4**, at the Gordon Oakes Red Bear Student Centre. **Dr. Jaris Swidrovich** will take part in a healthcare professional panel discussion in the afternoon.



EVENTS

The annual **Stacherogy** will take place on **Friday, November 18**. This year's game is gladiator jousting. Tickets are on sale to faculty, staff, and students in the Thorvaldson building.

The **SPNSS Winter Formal** will be held on **Friday, November 25**, at TCU Place. Details to follow from SPNSS.

The **College Holiday Party** will take place on **Friday, December 10**, at Boffins Public House. Details to follow from the Social Committee.

PAST EVENTS

The annual SPNSS Student-Faculty Golf Tournament was held on Wednesday, September 7, at Moon Lake Golf and Country Club. Congratulations to **Bobbi Nicholat, Ryan Fleischhacker, Johnathan Williams, and Kyle Hudock** on winning the tournament.



Dr. Amyn Sayani, Executive Director of Regulatory Affairs for GSK Canada, visited the College on Monday, September 12, and Tuesday, September 13.

The nutrition faculty, as well as their colleagues in the College of Agriculture and Bioresources, held Back to School with Pulses events across campus on Tuesday, September 13, through Friday, September 16.



The annual Graduate Student Welcome BBQ was held on Tuesday, September 20, outside the Graduate Student Commons.

On Thursday, September 22, **Myla Wollbaum**, Director of Professional Practice for the Pharmacy Association of Saskatchewan, hosted the annual PAS Pharmacy Student Welcome Night at Louis' Loft. Senior Stick-elect **Jordan Kalesnikoff** assisted with planning the event. The night is designed to introduce students the role PAS plays in the profession of pharmacy in Saskatchewan.





EVENTS

The 5th Western Canadian Medicinal Chemistry Conference was held at the University of Saskatchewan on Friday, September 23, through Sunday, September 25. **Dr. Ed Krol** co-chaired the conference.

The Canadian Association of Professional Programs in Human Nutrition Annual Meeting was hosted by the University of Saskatchewan on Friday September 23, and Saturday, September 24.

On Wednesday, September 28, the College hosted a reception for its alumni in Vancouver at the Fairmont Pacific Rim. Thank you to our colleagues from the University of British Columbia for also joining us.



Thank you to **Dr. Jeremy Desai**, President and CEO of Apotex Inc., for visiting the College on Wednesday, October 12. Dr. Desai toured our facilities, met with President Stoicheff, and spoke with pharmacy undergraduate and graduate students about job opportunities in the pharmaceutical industry.

Thank you to **Dr. Dion Brocks**, Professor and Associate Dean, Undergraduate Student Affairs, Faculty of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences, University of Alberta, for coming to campus for the AAPS Visiting Scientist Program on Friday, October 14.



The Canadian Council for Accreditation of Pharmacy Programs site visit and review took place on Monday, October 24, through Wednesday, October 26. The results are expected to be released in spring 2017.

On Thursday, October 27, the College hosted a reception for its alumni in Calgary at the Hyatt Regency. Thanks to U of S **President Peter Stoicheff** for taking a few minutes out of his busy schedule to say hello.





RESEARCH AND GRADUATE STUDIES

SPOTLIGHT ON RESEARCH

Researcher Spotlight

Congratulations to **Dr. Shawna Berenbaum** who is our November Researcher of the Month.

Dr. Berenbaum's areas of expertise are community/public health nutrition and the practice of dietetics. She conducts research in areas related to dietetic professional standards and community nutrition.

[Read more.](#)



Trainee Spotlight

Congratulations to **Mays Al-Dulaymi** who is our October Trainee Spotlight.

Mays' research focuses on the development of novel gemini surfactant-based gene delivery nanoparticles. Her work highlights the role of the structure of novel dicationic gemini surfactants on the efficiency and biological fate of the delivery system.

[Read more.](#)



TRAINEE SUCCESS

Program Update

Congratulations to **Reem Alomari**, who graduated with an MSc in Nutrition at Fall Convocation 2016 on October 22nd!

Reem Ali Alomari

Thesis: *Examining the Potential for Vitamin D Deficiency in Young Saudi Women Living in Canada: A Qualitative Study*

Supervisor: Dr. Susan Whiting

External Award Recipients

Sarah Fatani, PhD student studying with Dr. Anas El-Aneed, has been awarded a **George & Arlene Loewen Family Bursary** by the College of Graduate Studies and Research.

Kosar Omidian, PhD student studying with Dr. Brian Bandy, has been awarded a **2016 Jack Spencer Middleton and Jack Spencer Gordon Middleton Bursary** and a **George & Arlene Loewen Family Bursary** by the College of Graduate Studies and Research.



RESEARCH AND GRADUATE STUDIES

Poster Presentations

Shanal Franklyn De Silva received a poster award at the Western Canadian Medicinal Chemistry Workshop, held in Saskatoon from Friday, September 23, to Sunday, September 25, for his poster *A Newer Multi-Kinase Inhibitor Modulates Cellular Energy Metabolic Pathways within Breast Cancer to Impair Tumor Cells*. Frank is a PhD student studying under the supervision of Dr. Jane Alcorn.

Elham Zeninezhad-Movassagh presented her poster *Healthy Dietary Pattern During Adolescence in Females is Positively Associated with Bone Strength in Adulthood* at the American Society for Bone and Mineral Research Annual Meeting 2016 held from Friday, September 16 to Monday, September 19, in Atlanta, Georgia. Elham is a PhD candidate supervised by Dr. Hassan Vatanparast.

Dr. Sally Caine, Postdoctoral Fellow in the Paterson lab, presented a poster entitled "Enriched rehabilitation in photothrombotic stroke recovery: Contribution of muscle size" at the Canadian Stroke Congress, in Québec City, on Thursday, September 15, through Saturday, September 17. Co-authors were Dr. Alaverdashvili, Dr. Colbourne (University of Alberta), and Dr. Paterson.

Student Presentations

Allison Cammer gave two presentations at the 17th International Congress of Dietetics in Granada, Spain, which was held on Wednesday, September 7, through Sunday, September 11:

- Registered dietitians' role in interdisciplinary dementia care across the continuum of care
- A Mealtime Management education and training video is perceived to be useful and beneficial by care staff working in long-term care: results of a national survey.

Grant Wilson presented "The Value of GM2: Exploring Consumer Willingness to Pay for GM2 Food" at the Global Biotechnology Congress in Boston, Massachusetts in August. Grant is a PhD student studying under the supervision of Dr. Jason Perepelkin.

RESEARCH FUNDING

Hassan Vatanparast and his colleagues were recently awarded a one-year \$25,000 SSHRC Joint Initiatives grant to study the impact of socio-economic and cultural factors on household food security of Syrian refugees in Canada. He was also awarded a One Health Initiative team grant of \$15,000 for improving food security and nutritional status in the context of gender and ethnic inequities in Guatemala.

Gordon Zello and his colleagues were awarded a \$20,000 One Health Initiative team grant for the project "Community-based education intervention to improve knowledge of One Health drivers of malnutrition in Amazonian communities in Peru". He is also a co-investigator on a recently awarded Dairy Farmers of Canada grant entitled: "The Effect of Milk as a Recovery Beverage after Exercise on Next-Day Postprandial Triglycerides", Principal investigator Phil Chilibeck (Kinesiology).



RESEARCH AND GRADUATE STUDIES

RECENT PUBLICATIONS

- Chitanda, J.M., Zhang, H., Pahl, E., Purves, R.W., **El-Aneed, A.** (2016) The Development of Novel Nanodiamond Based MALDI Matrices for the Analysis of Small Organic Pharmaceuticals. *Journal of the American Society for Mass Spectrometry*, 27 (10) pp. 1686 - 1693.
- Karim, M.E., Gustafson, P., Petkau, J., Tremlett, H., Shirani, A., Zhao, Y., **Evans, C.**, Kingwell, E., Van Der Kop, M.L., Oger, J. (2016) Comparison of Statistical Approaches for Dealing with Immortal Time Bias in Drug Effectiveness Studies. *American Journal of Epidemiology* , 184 (4) pp. 325 - 335 .
- **Jorgenson, D.**, Penm, J., Mackinnon, N., Smith, J. (2016) A needs assessment of community pharmacists for pharmacist specialization in Canada. *International Journal of Pharmacy Practice*
- Havlicek, A.J., **Mansell, H.** (2016) The community pharmacist's role in cancer screening and prevention. *Canadian Pharmacists Journal* , 149 (5) pp. 274 - 282 .
- Cooper, S.J., Kinsman, L., Chung, C., Cant, R., Boyle, J., Bull, L., Cameron, A., Connell, C., Kim, J.-A., McInnes, D., McKay, A., Nankervis, K., Penz, E., **Rotter, T.** (2016) The impact of web-based and face-to-face simulation on patient deterioration and patient safety: Protocol for a multi-site multi-method design. *BMC Health Services Research*, 16 (1) , art. no. 475.
- Plishka, C., **Rotter, T.**, Kinsman, L., Hansia, M.R., *Lawal, A., Goodridge, D., Penz, E., Marciniuk, D.D. (2016) Effects of clinical pathways for chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) on patient, professional and systems outcomes: Protocol for a systematic review. *Systematic Reviews* , 5 (1) , art. no. 135
- Zgair, A., Wong, J.C.M., Lee, J.B., Mistry, J., Sivak, O., **Wasan, K.M.**, Hennig, I.M., Barrett, D.A., Constantinescu, C.S., Fischer, P.M., Gershkovich, P. (2016) Dietary fats and pharmaceutical lipid excipients increase systemic exposure to orally administered cannabis and cannabis-based medicines. *American Journal of Translational Research* , 8 (8) pp. 3448 - 3459 .
- Springstroh, K.A., Gal, N.J., Ford, A.L., **Whiting, S.J.**, Dahl, W.J. (2016) Evaluation of Handgrip Strength and Nutritional Risk of Congregate Nutrition Program Participants in Florida. *Journal of Nutrition in Gerontology and Geriatrics* , 35 (3) pp. 193 - 208 .
- *Ersino, G., **Henry, C.J.**, **Zello, G.A.** (2016) Suboptimal Feeding Practices and High Levels of Undernutrition among Infants and Young Children in the Rural Communities of Halaba and Zeway, Ethiopia. *Food and Nutrition Bulletin* , 37 (3) pp. 409 - 424 .
- Johannsmeyer, S., Candow, D.G., Brahms, C.M., Michel, D., **Zello, G.A.** (2016) Effect of creatine supplementation and drop-set resistance training in untrained aging adults. *Experimental Gerontology* , 83 pp. 112 - 119.