

## Dean's Newsletter

Issue 15, March 2017

The Dean's Newsletter is published every second month and provides updates on academics, research, events, and other items of interest. Join us in celebrating our achievements by submitting your updates to [kieran.kobitz@usask.ca](mailto:kieran.kobitz@usask.ca).

### TOP STORIES

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#### Alumnus leaves \$250K gift to the College

Thank you to **Victor Bartle (BSP 1963)** for his generous gift to the College of Pharmacy and Nutrition. The gift will be reserved for future pharmacy practice and research activities in the college. [Read more.](#)



#### Nutrition Food Lab Grand Opening & Open House

On Friday, March 3, at 10:00 am we're holding a grand opening ceremony for our new Nutrition Food Lab located in room 2B64, Second Floor, B-wing, Health Sciences Building. Everyone is welcome to drop by the open house demonstrations which will continue from 10:30 am to the end of day.



#### 75 U of S students attend PDW

With 75 delegates at the 2017 CAPSI Professional Development week, the University of Saskatchewan had an impressive showing at the national conference. The conference took place January 4-7 in Winnipeg, Manitoba, and key results for the U of S include:

- Congratulations to **Heather Hodgson** and **Roya Nabi** on earning first place in the 2016 IPSF Anti-counterfeit Drug Campaign.
- **Jasmine Greenwald, Logan Underwood, Meghanne Rieder,** and **Andrew Groat** earned second place in the Pharmafacts Bowl.
- CAPSI University of Saskatchewan earned second place in the Award for Professionalism for their efforts during Pharmacist Awareness Month 2016. Congratulations to **Kelsey Joorisity, Kaitlyn Tress,** and the 90 students who volunteered their time.
- **Lin Wang** earned third place in the Patient Interview Competition.
- **Caitlyn McGrath** accepted the CAPSI-Pfizer Consumer Healthcare Guy Genest Passion for Pharmacy Award for Saskatchewan, and the Pfizer Leadership Award for serving as CAPSI National President.



Congratulations to all those who proudly represented the U of S! [Read more.](#)



## MORE COLLEGE NEWS

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### Pledge of Professionalism Ceremony

On Wednesday, January 25, our first year pharmacy and nutrition students held their Pledge of Professionalism Ceremony in the Health Sciences Building. Each year the first year students write these pledges, which are posted in the hallway near their classrooms.



### Office Move

During reading week, our undergraduate office moved out of Thorvaldson 116 in the next step in the process of moving the College to the Health Sciences Building. Some classes will continue to be held in Thorvaldson until the end of the academic year. The new undergraduate office can be found in room 3134, E-wing, Health Sciences.



### Toronto Visit

Thank you to all of our alumni and friends of the college who joined us on Saturday, February 4, in Toronto for our alumni event at The Loose Moose. It was great to reconnect!





## MORE COLLEGE NEWS (cont'd)

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The first year PharmD curriculum has been finalized. See the course list on the PharmD Update blog. [Read more.](#)

Undergraduate nutrition student **Lindsay de Boer**'s research paper "High-fructose corn syrup: Consumption and controversy" has been published in the Journal of the Home Economics Institute of Australia. Lindsay won the Dr. Elizabeth Feniak Award for Excellence in Technical Writing for this paper in 2016.



### IN THE MEDIA

**Dr. Jane Alcorn** is part of an interdisciplinary team of researchers from the U of S and the U of R that has created a potent new synthetic antibiotic that is effective in lab research against several drug-resistant pathogens. [Read the article.](#)

**Dr. Jane Alcorn** was also mentioned in a news release issued by U of S Communications about study of cannabis treatment for childhood epilepsy. [Read more.](#)

**Dr. Jaris Swidrovich** spoke with Rosanna Deerchild on CBC Radio: Unreserved about integrating Indigenous culture into the classroom and his practice. [Listen to the interview or read the article.](#)

## FACULTY AND STAFF NEWS

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Congratulations to **Dean Kishor Wasan** on receiving the American Association of Pharmaceutical Scientists Certificate of Appreciation for his work with the AAPS Pharmaceuticals in Global Health Focus Group.

On Wednesday, February 8, **Diane Favreau**, Undergraduate Affairs Officer, presented at the Gordon Oakes-Redbear Aboriginal Student Centre on the programs available at the college.

**Dr. Azita Haddai** was at a conference in Dubai in February to give a talk on novel approaches for cancer therapy.

**Dean Kishor Wasan** wrote "Aiming for a Double Benefit" for the Canadian Coalition for Global Health Research. [Read more.](#)





## ALUMNI NEWS

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**Brooke Bulloch (BScNutri 2009)** was on Global Saskatoon Morning News on Tuesday, January 17, to talk about food trends in 2017, including herbs and spices, plant-based protein sources, prebiotics, and homemade soups. [Watch the video.](#)

On Tuesday, January 17, **Erin Yakiwchuk (BSP 2006, MSc 2012)** presented at the CAPSI Symposium on the topic of deprescribing.

**Amy Smith (BSP 2010)**, a pharmacist at the Saskatoon Cancer Centre, was interviewed by CBC about how she has combined her professional expertise with her personal experience on social media while going through chemotherapy treatment. [Read more.](#)

**Alison Friesen (BScNutri 2015)** was on Global Saskatoon Morning News on Thursday, February 2, to talk about the stigma surrounding eating disorders, and the importance of seeking help. [Watch the video.](#)

**Brooke Bulloch (BScNutri 2009)** was on Global Saskatoon Morning News on Tuesday, February 21 to talk about the effectiveness of and science behind weight loss supplements. [Watch the video.](#)

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

## EVENTS

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### UPCOMING EVENTS

The **SPNSS Wine and Cheese Night** will take place on **Thursday, March 2**. This year's speaker will be Dr. Murray Opdahl, a pain management specialist in Saskatoon.

The **SPNSS Curling Bonspiel** will take place on **Saturday, March 4**.

A joint **Nutrition and Pharmacy Professional Enhancement Day** is scheduled for **Tuesday, March 14**, at the German Cultural Centre. The topic of this year's PED is probiotics and **Dragana Skokovic-Sunjic** will be the speaker. Dragana is a practicing pharmacist in Hamilton, Ontario, a sought-after speaker on nutrition, and the author of Clinical Guide to Probiotic Supplements Available in Canada. [More information.](#)

The **Pharmasave-Rubicon Pharmacy Student Business Plan Competition** will take place on **Wednesday, March 22**, in Convocation Hall. Students present their business plans to a panel of judges made up of pharmacy stakeholders.

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

The **Nutrition Third Year Celebration and Send-off** will be held on **Thursday, April 6**, at the University Club. This event marks the completion of the educational component at the University and the transition to internship for nutrition students.



## EVENTS (cont'd)

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The College will host its annual dessert and reception at the **Pharmacy Association of Saskatchewan Annual Conference** on **Friday, May 5**, at TCU Place in Saskatoon. [Register for the conference.](#)

**Sask Night** will return to the Canadian Pharmacists Association Conference on **Saturday, June 3**, in Quebec City. Details to follow on social media, the website event calendar, and in the next newsletter.

The College is reintroducing a **golf tournament** on Thursday, June 22, at **Moon Lake Golf and Country Club**. Details to follow.

## PAST EVENTS

On Monday, January 30, **Fariyal Haque** and **Joanne Kurzdiel** from Apotex visited the College to discuss the new co-op opportunities for undergraduate students.

**Dr. Dominic Schofield**, Director of Global Alliance for Improved Nutrition (GAIN) Canada presented the public lecture "Collective Impact: Tackling the multiple burdens of malnutrition through social innovation."

On Tuesday, February 28, **Dr. Lalita Bharadwaj** presented "Water is Life: Environment and Health" at the Gordon Oakes Red Bear Student Centre as part of Aboriginal Achievement Week. The event was coordinated by the Colleges of Pharmacy and Nutrition, Medicine, and Nursing.



## RESEARCH AND GRADUATE STUDIES

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### SPOTLIGHT ON RESEARCH

Congratulations to **Dr. Kerry Mansell** who is our February Researcher of the Month.

Kerry's research program focuses on diabetes, as well as issues related to pharmacy practice. He is interested in how these two areas of research intertwine, particularly with respect to self-monitoring of blood glucose. [Read more.](#)



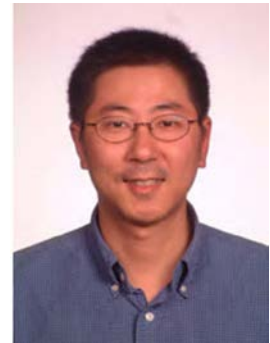


## RESEARCH AND GRADUATE STUDIES (cont'd)

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Congratulations to **Shenzhen Yao** who is our March Trainee Spotlight.

Shenzhen Yao is a PhD student under the supervision of **Dr. David Blackburn**. His PhD is based in the field of pharmacoepidemiology, where drug use and outcomes are examined in large populations. His research examines the extent to which physicians influence the level of medication adherence exhibited by patients. [Read more.](#)



### TRAINEE SUCCESS

#### [Program Update](#)

Congratulations to **Dr. Ran Bi** (supervisor: Dr. Adil Nazarali), **Dr. Yunyun Di** (supervisors: Drs. Jane Alcorn and Ed Krol), and **Dr. Getahun Lombamo** (supervisors: Drs. Carol Henry and Gord Zello) who have all earned their PhD degrees since the last newsletter, as well as **Shirin Aladwan** (supervisor: Dr. Holly Mansell) and **Kholud Algabbass** (supervisor: Dr. Ed Krol), who earned their Master's degrees.

Welcome to **Dr. Oluwafeyisetan Adebiji**, who will be starting a postdoctoral fellow position working with Dr. Jim Fang in March. **Drs. Laura McBreairty** and **Raquel Romay-Tallon** have also had their postdoctoral positions extended to continue working with Dr. Gord Zello and Drs. Hector Caruncho and Lisa Kalynchuk, respectively.

### RESEARCH FUNDING

**Kate Dadachova** received \$341,000 US in funding from Defense Threat Reduction Agency for the project *Investigation of Radiation Resistance Mechanisms in Melanized Fungi*.

**Jim Fang** was awarded a \$196,000 grant from the Agriculture Development Fund for the project *Longer-Term Effects of Saskatoon Berries in Elderly – a Placebo Controlled Study*.

**Meena Sakharkar** was awarded a \$121,000 grant from the Agriculture Development Fund and SaskMilk for the project *Treatment of Mastitis Infections in Dairy Cattle*.

**Hassan Vatanparast** was awarded a University of Saskatchewan President's SSHRC for *The Impact of Socio-Economic, Geography and Cultural Factors on Household Food Insecurity of Syrian Refugees Resettled in Rural Areas and Small Cities across Saskatchewan*.

**Thomas Rotter** is the nominated provincial Principal Investigator on a 1-year project titled *Interventions and Policies Influencing Primary Healthcare Professionals Managing Chronic Diseases: An Evidence Synthesis*. The project lead by Dr. Chauhan, University of Manitoba was awarded a CIHR Strategy for Patient-Oriented Research PIHCl Network – Knowledge Synthesis Grant.



## RESEARCH AND GRADUATE STUDIES (cont'd)

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### RECENT PUBLICATIONS

- Alaverdashvili M, Hackett MJ, Caine S, **Paterson PG**. 2017. Parallel changes in cortical neuron biochemistry and motor function in protein-energy malnourished adult rats. *Neuroimage*. 2017 Feb 4;149:275-284.
- **Bolt, J.**, Baranski, B., Bell, A., **Semchuk, W.M.** 2016. Assessment of preceptor development strategies across canadian pharmacy residency programs. *Canadian Journal of Hospital Pharmacy*, 69 ( 2 ) pp. 144 - 148.
- Di, Y., Ji, S., Wolf, P., **Krol, E.S., Alcorn, J.** 2017. Enterolactone glucuronide and  $\beta$ -glucuronidase in antibody directed enzyme prodrug therapy for targeted prostate cancer cell treatment. *AAPS PharmSciTech*, pp. 1 – 10.
- Del Bigio, S., Mulhall, S., **Shevchuk, Y., Mansell, H.** 2016. Perceptions of teamwork and interprofessional education in undergraduate pharmacy students. *Pharmacy Education*, 16 ( 1 ) pp. 199 - 209.
- Hackett MJ, **Paterson PG**, Pickering IJ, George GN. Imaging Taurine in the Central Nervous System Using Chemically Specific X-ray Fluorescence Imaging at the Sulfur K-Edge. *Anal Chem*. 2016 Nov 15;88(22):10916-10924.
- Hager, N., **Bolt, J.**, Albers, L., Wojcik, W., Duffy, P., **Semchuk, W.** 2016. Development of Left Atrial Thrombus After Coadministration of Dabigatran Etexilate and Phenytoin. *Canadian Journal of Cardiology*
- Hosseini, Z., **Whiting, S.J., Vatanparast, H.** 2016. Current evidence on the association of the metabolic syndrome and dietary patterns in a global perspective. *Nutrition Research Reviews*, 29 ( 2 ) pp. 152 - 162.
- Ji, S., Doucette, J.R., **Nazarali, A.J.** 2016. Protocols for cloning, expression, and functional analysis of Sirtuin2 (SIRT2). *Methods in Molecular Biology*, 1436 pp. 189 - 199.
- Kakish, J., Allen, K.J.H., Harkness, T.A., **Krol, E.S.**, Lee, J.S. 2016. Novel Dimer Compounds That Bind  $\alpha$ -Synuclein Can Rescue Cell Growth in a Yeast Model Overexpressing  $\alpha$ -Synuclein. A Possible Prevention Strategy for Parkinson's Disease. *ACS Chemical Neuroscience*, 7 ( 12 ) pp. 1671 - 1680.
- **Kerry, J., Mansell, H.**, Elmoselhi, H., Moser, M., Shoker, A. 2016. Interaction of Serum Phosphate with Age as Predictors of Cardiovascular Risk Scores in Stable Renal Transplant Recipients. *International Journal of Angiology*. Article in Press
- Mazidi, M., Rezaie, P., Ferns, G.A., **Vatanparast, H.** 2017. Impact of probiotic administration on serum C-reactive protein concentrations: Systematic review and meta-analysis of randomized control trials. *Nutrients*, 9 ( 1 ) , art. no. 20.
- Mazidi, M., Rezaie, P., **Vatanparast, H.**, Kengne, A.P. 2017. Effect of statins on serum vitamin D concentrations: a systematic review and meta-analysis. *European Journal of Clinical Investigation*, 47 ( 1 ) pp. 93 – 101.
- McBreairey LE, **Zello GA**, Gordon JJ, Serrao SB, Pierson RA, Chizen DR, Chilibeck PD. 2016. Women With Polycystic Ovary Syndrome Have Comparable Hip Bone Geometry to Age-Matched Control Women. *J Clin Densitom*, Dec 26.
- Mesfin, A., **Henry, C.**, Girma, M., **Whiting, S.J.** 2016. Use of pulse crops in complementary feeding of 6-23-month-old infants and young children in Taba Kebele, Damot Gale District, Southern Ethiopia. *Journal of Public Health in Africa*, 6 ( 1 ) , art. no. 357, pp. 1 - 6.
- Michel, D., Mohammed-Saeid, W., Getson, H., Roy, C., Poorghorban, M., Chitanda, J.M., Verrall, R., **Badea, I.** 2016. Evaluation of  $\beta$ -cyclodextrin-modified gemini surfactant-based delivery systems in melanoma models. *International Journal of Nanomedicine*, 11 pp. 6703 - 6712 .
- Mirhosseini, N.Z., Knaus, S.J., Bohaychuk, K., Singh, J., **Vatanparast, H.A.**, Weber, L.P. 2016. Both high and low plasma levels of 25-hydroxy Vitamin D increase blood pressure in a normal rat model. *British Journal of Nutrition*, 116 ( 11 ) pp. 1889 – 1900.
- Movassagh, E.Z., **Vatanparast, H.** 2017. Current evidence on the association of dietary patterns and bone health: A scoping review. *Advances in Nutrition*, 8 ( 1 ) pp. 1 - 16 .



## RESEARCH AND GRADUATE STUDIES (cont'd)

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- Phaeton, R., Jiang, Z., Revskaya, E., Fisher, D.R., Goldberg, G.L., **Dadachova, E.** 2016. Beta emitters rhenium-188 and lutetium-177 are equally effective in radioimmunotherapy of HPV-positive experimental cervical cancer. *Cancer Medicine*, 5 ( 1 ) pp. 9 - 16.
- Thangaraj MP, Furber KL, Gan JK, Ji S, Sobchishin L, Doucette JR, **Nazarali AJ.** 2017. RNA binding protein Quaking stabilizes Sirt2 mRNA during oligodendroglial differentiation. *J Biol Chem.* 2017 Feb 10.
- **Vatanparast, H.**, Samiee, A., Bahramian, A., Javadi, A. 2017. Surface behavior of hydrophilic silica nanoparticle-SDS surfactant solutions: I. Effect of nanoparticle concentration on foamability and foam stability. *Colloids and Surfaces A: Physicochemical and Engineering Aspects*, 513 pp. 430 - 441.
- Wang, F., **Nazarali, A.J.**, Ji, S. 2016. Circular RNAs as potential biomarkers for cancer diagnosis and therapy. *American Journal of Cancer Research*, 6 ( 6 ) pp. 1167 - 1176.
- Ward, S., Bélanger, M., Donovan, D., Boudreau, J., **Vatanparast, H.**, Muhajarine, N., Leis, A., Humbert, M.L., Carrier, N. 2017. Monkey see, monkey do: Peers' behaviors predict preschoolers' physical activity and dietary intake in childcare centers. *Preventive Medicine*, 97 pp. 33 - 39.
- Williamson, M.R., Dietrich, K., Hackett, M.J., Caine, S., Nadeau, C.A., Aziz, J.R., Nichol, H., **Paterson, P.G.**, Colbourne, F. 2017. Rehabilitation augments hematoma clearance and attenuates oxidative injury and ion dyshomeostasis after brain hemorrhage. *Stroke*, 48 ( 1 ) pp. 195 - 203.
- Woods, P., **Perepelkin, J.**, Mey, A., Gapp, R., King, M. 2016. Student perceptions of learning through an international comparison. *American Journal of Pharmaceutical Education*, 80 ( 10 ) , art. no. 17.