College of Pharmacy and Nutrition
Proud of Our Tradition and Home of Research and Practice Innovation

Dean’s Newsletter
Issue 16, May 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.

TOP STORIES

Apotex Donation
Thank you to Apotex Inc. for their $1.6M gift to the college. The gift, which is the largest donation in the college’s history, will be received over eight years and support college initiatives and activities. Read more.

Gattefossé Canada/CSPS Award in Lipid-Based Drug Delivery
Congratulations to Mays Al-Dulaymi who has been awarded the 2017 Gattefossé Canada/CSPS Award in Lipid-Based Drug Delivery for her research project entitled: "Peptide-modified gemini surfactant-based gene delivery systems: in vitro and in vivo evaluation, physicochemical characterization and biodistribution." Read more.

Nutrition Food Lab Grand Opening
On Friday, March 3 the college held a grand opening ceremony for the new Nutrition Research and Food Labs. The $7 million, state-of-the art labs are part of extensive renovations to the Health Sciences Building. Thank you to President Peter Stoicheff, the Honourable Bronwyn Eyre, Minister of Advanced Education, and other members of the provincial government for attending. Read more.

New Scholarships
The college has established two new nutrition scholarships in honour of Drs. Shawna Berenbaum and Susan Whiting who have made outstanding contributions to the dietetics profession and education of students in the field. The scholarships will recognize academic excellence and contribution to the dietetics profession of students in the second and third years of the Nutrition program.
Pharmacist Awareness Month

- **Ribbon Cutting**
  PAM got off to a strong start on Monday, February 27, 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 The Children’s Cancer Therapy Development Institute at another successful Mr. Pharmacy Pageant. Second year pharmacy student **Dylan Hope** 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.

**Nutrition Month**

March was Nutrition Month across Canada and our nutrition students actively promoted the role of Registered Dietitians. Dietitians’ Day was on Wednesday, March 15, and the nutrition students held an information booth in the E-Wing Atrium with healthy snacks and nutritional information.

**Aboriginal Achievement Week**

Congratulations to third year pharmacy student **Kierra FineDay** who received the Award for Leadership for the College of Pharmacy and Nutrition at the Aboriginal Student Achievement Awards Ceremony on Thursday, March 2.
MORE COLLEGE NEWS

Pharmasave-Rubicon Pharmacy Student Business Plan Competition
Congratulations to all of the students who participated in the 2017 Pharmasave-Rubicon Pharmacy Student Business Plan Competition. A special thank you to our judges for taking time out their busy schedules, and to Pharmasave for hosting a reception after the competition.

- **First Place – Points Safe Injection Site**
  Daniel Bakke, Braden Edmunds, Ethan Emslie, Nadine Thompson, Kaitlyn Tress, Miranda Turnbull

- **Second Place – Improving Drug Therapy Outcomes to Optimize Health in Saskatchewan’s Northern Populations**
  Jordan Kalesnikoff, Kelsey Powell, Taylor Raiche, Shay Smith, Kassandra Stahl, Adam Tomasiewicz

- **Third Place – Regional Sterile Service Program**
  Shanif Bhimji, Nick Fattore, Danton Hollman, Firuze Khoshandamgoli, Vanessa Lafleche, Brett Richter

Nutrition Third Year Celebration and Send-off
Congratulations to the Nutrition Class of 2018! The Nutrition Year 3 Celebration & Send-off was held on Thursday, April 6, at the University Club. It’s one last official get together before the class leaves campus to begin their internships. Pictures from the event are available on our Facebook page. [View the gallery.](#)

Nutrition Research Day
The annual Dietitians of Canada Saskatchewan Research Day was on Thursday, April 20 in the Wascana Rehabilitation Centre’s auditorium. The day highlighted and celebrated the fourth year nutrition students' practice-based research project presentations as well as features presentations by leading experts in food and nutrition.

Curriculum Innovation Fund
The college has received a $4,900 grant from the Curriculum Innovation Fund for the project titled “Community Consultations to Integrate Indigenous Content into the Doctor of Pharmacy Program.” Drs. Jaris Swidrovich and Yvonne Shevchuk, and Kevin Riffel will be part of the project.

Students at CSHP Seminar
The CSHP Western Branches Banff Seminar took place in March, and 18 of our students demonstrated their commitment to the profession by making the over 700 km trip to the conference.
MORE COLLEGE NEWS

Report on 2016
The College of Pharmacy and Nutrition is proud to present its Report on 2016. It was an impressive year for our faculty, students, and alumni, and the report highlights some of those accomplishments. The report is now available on our website at the link below. Printed copies will be available at all upcoming alumni events and by request. Read the report.

IN THE MEDIA

Nutrition students Anna Tataryn and Stephanie Bearman were on CTV Morning Live on Thursday, March 9 to talk about GO Local! Saskatoon, which was held on Sunday, March 12. Watch the video.

FACULTY AND STAFF NEWS

Celebration of Teaching
Congratulations to the following faculty members who were recognized at the 2017 Celebration of Teaching on Friday, April 28:
- Dr. Phyllis Paterson – Provost’s College Award for Outstanding Teaching
- Dr. Jason Perepelkin – Provost’s Award for Outstanding Innovation in Learning
- Dr. Yvonne Shevchuk and her colleagues – Provost’s Prize in Collaborative Teaching and Learning

Promotions and Renewals
Congratulations to the following faculty members on their upcoming promotions and renewals, which are effective July 1, 2017:
- Dr. Roy Dobson promoted to full professor
- Dr. Derek Jorgenson promoted to full professor
- Dr. Charity Evans promoted with tenure to associate professor
- Dr. Thomas Rotter promoted to associate professor
- Dr. Ellen Wasan renewed as an assistant professor

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FACULTY AND STAFF NEWS

Congratulations to Tracy Everitt, Nutrition Professional Skills Coordinator, on receiving a 2017 Saskatchewan Innovation & Opportunity Scholarship. Tracy is a graduate student in the Department of Community Health and Epidemiology.

Congratulations to Erling Madsen who is our May Staff Spotlight. Erling is the Stores Manager, and he came to the University of Saskatchewan and the College of Pharmacy and Nutrition in November 2010. He previously worked and enjoyed 35 years in the recreation business indulging in his hobbies of motorcycles, ATVs, and boating. Read more.

Dr. Azita Haddadi gave a talk on "Breaking Barriers" at an International Women's Day Celebration in Vancouver on Sunday, March 5.

ALUMNI NEWS

Don McIntosh (BSP 1987) visited the college on Tuesday, March 7 as a guest speaker for the pharmacy students. Don spoke about informatics to the third year students in the Management in Pharmacy class.

Theo Phillips (BScNutr 2002) was on Global Saskatoon Morning News on Tuesday, March 14 to talk about how to deal with bloating and digestive woes. Watch the video.

Brooke Bulloch (BScNutr 2009) was on Global Saskatoon Morning News on Tuesday, March 21 to talk about the link between carbohydrates and irritable bowel syndrome. Watch the video.

Dr. Amy Smith-Morris (BSP 2010) was interviewed by Global Saskatoon on Thursday, March 23 to discuss how she has combined her professional expertise with her personal experience on social media while going through chemotherapy treatment. Watch the video.

Kelly Kizlyk (BSP 2002) was on Global Saskatoon Morning News on Tuesday, April 4 to talk about the causes of constipation and some remedies. Watch the video.

Congratulations to Dr. Amy Smith-Morris (BSP 2010) on being nominated for the 2017 YWCA Women of Distinction Health & Wellness Award. Read more.

Don McIntosh (BSP 1987) was highlighted by the University of Saskatchewan Alumni Association as their April alumni profile. The association is highlighting one alumnus each month leading up to the Alumni Weekend in May. Read more.

Brook Bulloch (BScNutr 2009) was on Global Saskatoon Morning News on Tuesday, April 18 to talk about the pros and cons of the ketogenic diet. Watch the video.

Natasha Haskey (BScNutr 1998, MSc 2007) was featured in the "What RDs Do" blog series by Steph Langdon (BScNutr 2010). Read more.
ALUMNI NEWS

Elizabeth Tomczak (BSP 2010) was featured in a Regina Leader-Post article on Monday, April 24. She discussed the challenges of running in the Boston Marathon while pregnant and the history of women in the race. Read more.

Stay on top of continuing education events in Saskatchewan by joining CPDPP’s email list and following the CPDPP Facebook page. Please email cpdpp@usask.ca to join the email list.

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

PAS Conference Alumni Reception & Dessert
Join us for our alumni reception and dessert on Friday, May 5 at the 2017 Pharmacy Association of Saskatchewan Conference. The graduating classes of 1967, 1992, and 2007 will also be recognized by during the weekend. Register now.

Alumni Weekend
The University of Saskatchewan Alumni Association will celebrate its centennial with the Alumni Weekend May 18-21, which will also include centennial celebrations for Home Economics. Register now.

Hawassa University Joint Conference
On May 25 and 26, the College of Pharmacy and Nutrition and the College of Agriculture and Bioresources are hosting a major conference. The conference kicks off on May 25, “Celebrating 20 Years of Leadership: Marking an Ethiopian - Canadian Partnership in Global Agriculture and Nutrition.” On May 26, there is a Global Institute for Food Security (GIFS) co-sponsored Special Round Table Meeting entitled “Global Food and Nutrition Security through a Gendered Lens: Opportunities and Challenges” with several notable speakers.

To RSVP or for more information including the agenda, please contact Shawna Bieber at shawna.bieber@usask.ca. Admission to both events is free however space is limited. Please RSVP no later than May 10, 2017.

Sask Night
Sask Night returns to the 2017 Canadian Pharmacists Association Conference in Quebec City on Saturday, June 3, at 8:00 pm. The event will be held at Pub Ozone, 570 Grande Allée E. This year’s theme is “Heroes and Villains.” All conference delegates are invited to the event and costumes are highly encouraged. Conference information.

Dean’s Golf Tournament
The college is reintroducing an annual golf tournament, which will be held on Thursday, June 22 at Moon Lake Golf and Country Club. More information.
EVENTS

PAST EVENTS

Professional Enhancement Day
On Tuesday, March 14, pharmacy and nutrition held a joint Professional Enhancement Day at the German Cultural Centre. Dragana Skokovic-Sunjic, a clinical pharmacist and Canadian expert in probiotics, reviewed recent evidence and the role of probiotics as an intervention for critical issues faced in the health care system. Congratulations to Annika Kolar and Steven Kary for planning the successful event!

Academic Awards
On Sunday, March 19, the college held the Twenty-fifth Annual Academic Awards Ceremony. Awards were presented to both undergraduate and graduate students. Congratulations to all of the award winners!

PharmaZzz workshop
Dr. Fred Remillard and Karen Jensen facilitated a one day workshop on pharmacist-delivered cognitive behavioural therapy for insomnia on Saturday, April 1. The guest speaker was Dr. Rachana Bodani, a Saskatoon psychiatrist who specializes in the treatment of sleep disorders. Twenty-one community pharmacists attended the workshop. Evaluations of the workshop were very positive.

SPNSS Spring Banquet
The SPNSS Spring Banquet was held on Tuesday, April 4 in Marquis Hall. Congratulations to all the award winners and the incoming student council.

Indigenous Reconciliation and Engagement
On Thursday, March 16, the Pharmacy and Nutrition Students for Indigenous Reconciliation and Engagement (S-FIRE) held their inaugural event, which was a panel discussion on Indigenous health in Saskatchewan. The panelists were: Valerie McLeod (Team Lead for the Saskatoon Health Region First Nations and Metis Health program), Judy Pelly (Health Navigator and Cultural Health Advisor at the Saskatoon Health Region), Amy Pickering (Dietician at Food to Fit and Campus Health Services), and Katherine Windl (Saskatchewan Regional Pharmacist for the First Nations & Inuit Health Non-Insured Health Benefits Program).

Home Economics Alumni Annual Luncheon
The college hosted the annual luncheon for the Home Economics alumni at the Delta Bessborough on Friday, April 28. Approximately 70 alumni from across the province attended.
RESEARCH AND GRADUATE STUDIES

SPOTLIGHT ON RESEARCH

Congratulations to Waleed Mohammed-Saeid who is our April Trainee Spotlight. His research involves the design and development of different lipid-based drug delivery systems and related analytical and characterization strategies. Read more.

TRAINEE SUCCESS

Program Update

Congratulations to Dr. Ahmed Almousa and Dr. Virginia Lane, who both successfully defended their theses over the past two months. Ahmed Almousa was supervised by Drs. Jane Alcorn and Ed Krol, while Virginia Lane was supervised by Dr. Hassan Vatanparast.

The College welcomed postdoctoral fellows Dr. Oluwafeyisetan Adebiyi (supervisor: Dr. Jim Fang), Dr. Yunyun Di (supervisor: Dr. Kishor Wasan), and Dr. Getahun Lombamo (supervisors: Drs. Susan Whiting and Carol Henry) this spring.

The College will also welcome two new graduate students this May: Chandra Bose Prabaharan will be joining the Master’s program in Pharmacy under the supervision of Dr. Meena Sakharkar, while Melanie Warken will be joining the College as a Nutrition Master’s student studying with Dr. Hassan Vatanparast.

College Awards

The following students have recently received awards from the College of Pharmacy and Nutrition:

Alf Pepper Research Award
Anan Ahmed, Pharmacy MSc (Supervisor: Dr. Holly Mansell)

Elizabeth Helen McLeod Scholarship (shared)
Sarah Finch, Nutrition PhD (Supervisors: Drs. Hassan Vatanparast and Alan Rosenberg)
Fakir Yunus, Nutrition MSc (Supervisors: Drs. Gord Zello and Diane DellaValle)

Mary Isabel Irwin Scholarship
Maryam Kazemi, Nutrition PhD (Supervisors: Drs. Gord Zello and Donna Chizen)

Ramsey Postgraduate Fellowship
Anan Ahmed, Pharmacy MSc (Supervisor: Dr. Holly Mansell)

Shoppers Drug Mart Dean’s Trust Scholarship (two awards)
Frank De Silva, Pharmacy PhD (Supervisor: Dr. Jane Alcorn)
Rasha Elhasade, Pharmacy MSc (Supervisor: Dr. Azita Haddadi)
External Awards

Mays Al-Dulaymi (PhD candidate studying with Drs. Ildiko Badea and Anas El-Aneel) has received the national 2017 Gattefossé Canada/Canadian Society for Pharmaceutical Sciences Award in Lipid-Based Drug Delivery.

Katherine Ford (MSc student studying with Dr. Susan Whiting) has received a CIHR Travel Award to attend the CIHR Institute of Aging Summer Program in Aging this summer.

Kosar Omidian (PhD candidate studying with Dr. Brian Bandy) received the Jacqueline McKenzie Newstead Scholarship, offered by the Canadian Federation of University Women Saskatoon Inc.

Sarah Finch (PhD candidate studying with Drs. Hassan Vatanparast and Alan Rosenberg) has been awarded a Saskatchewan Innovation & Opportunity Scholarship for the 2017-2018 academic year.

Niamh Richmond, who will begin her PhD program with Dr. Kate Dadachova this fall, has been awarded a 2017 Dean’s Scholarship by the College of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies.

SUMMER STUDENT RESEARCH PROGRAM

The college is pleased to welcome the following undergraduate research assistants for the summer of 2017!

Daniel Bakke, Pharmacy
Eline Berglof, Nutrition
Colin Clarke, Arts & Science
Grace Cuddihy, Pharmacy
Hira Ghani, Nutrition
Tegan Holt, Pharmacy
Claire Liu, Medicine
Tatiana Orlovski, Pharmacy
Darren Reithmeier, Pharmacy
Meghanne Rieder, Pharmacy
Jasleen Saini, Arts & Science
Robert Thomas, Medicine
Kaitlyn Tress, Pharmacy
Logan Underwood, Pharmacy
Kimberly Williams, Agriculture
Kayla Wharton, Pharmacy
Allen Yang, Arts & Science

Funding is provided through supervisors’ research funds and the following sponsors:

- College of Pharmacy and Nutrition, Shopper’s Drug Mart Dean’s Trust Fund
- College of Medicine
- Office of the Vice-President Research, Undergraduate Research
- Government of Saskatchewan, Student Summer Works Program
- Service Canada
- Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada
RESEARCH AND GRADUATE STUDIES

UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH AWARDS

Kayla Wharton - GSK/CSPS National Undergraduate Student Research Award
Project: Development of Radiolabeled Antibody-Targeted Gemini Nanoparticles for Melanoma
Supervisor: Dr. Ildiko Badea

Kimberly Williams - NSERC USRA Award
Project: Method development for 18F incorporation into lignans for use as probes in PET imaging
Supervisor: Dr. Ed Krol

Jasleen Saini - NSERC USRA Award
Project: The role of PUFA-PPAR-RAXR signaling in oligodendrogial differentiation
Supervisor: Dr. Adil Nazarali

Allen Yang - NSERC USRA Award
Project: PPAR gamma regulated genes in energy metabolism pathway
Supervisor: Dr. Meena Sakharkar

Claire Liu - Interdisciplinary Summer Research Award
Project: Nanoparticle delivery of sterol regulatory element binding protein1 (SREBP1) and Polo-Like Kinase 1 (PLK1) inhibiting peptides in treatment of glioblastoma.
Supervisors: Drs. Azita Haddadi and Changiz Taghibiglou (Pharmacology)

Daniel Bakke - Interdisciplinary Summer Research Award
Project: Developing Addiction Education Interprofessional Workshops for Pharmacists
Supervisors: Drs. Anas El-Aneed and Marcel D’Eon (Community Health and Epidemiology)

Eline Berglof – Undergraduate Summer Research Assistantship Award
Project: Healthy Start
Supervisor: Dr. Hassan Vatanparast

Darren Reithmeier – Undergraduate Summer Research Assistantship Award
Project: Development of a dried blood spot liquid chromatography tandem mass spectrometry (DBS-LC-MS/MS) assay for marijuana cannabinoids
Supervisors: Drs. Jane Alcorn and Richard Huntsman (Pediatrics)

Meghanne Rieder – Undergraduate Summer Research Assistantship Award
Project: When should a patient see a doctor for minor symptoms? Comparing the views of the public vs pharmacists vs physicians.
Supervisor: Dr. Jeff Taylor

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RESEARCH AND GRADUATE STUDIES

RESEARCH FUNDING

**David Blackburn** and co-PI Amy Smith (SCA) were awarded a $38,288 grant from the Saskatchewan Cancer Agency for *Adherence to Oral Chemotherapies among Pediatric Oncology Patients Using Medication Event Monitoring Systems*.

**Kate Dadachova** was awarded a $25,000 grant from Royal University Hospital Foundation for the project entitled *First in Man Study of 188Re-Labeled 8C3 Antibody as Theranostic for Patients with Metastatic Melanoma*, with Medical Imaging co-investigator Rajan Rakheja. She also received $35,000 US from Actinium Pharmaceuticals for *Proof of Principles Experiments with a Proprietary mAb as a Potential RIT Agent*.

From grants submitted while tenured at Albert Einstein College of Medicine, Kate recently received funding from the Defense Threat Reduction Agency totalling $1,050,000 US for the project entitled *Melanized fungi as discriminators for nuclear fallout radionuclides*. She also recently received $80,000 US from the Wendy Walk Foundation for the project entitled *IGF2R-Targeted Therapy for Osteosarcoma Using Radioimmunotherapy*, with co-PI David Geller from Albert Einstein College of Medicine.

**Adil Nazarali** was awarded $287,500 from the Saskatchewan Flax Development Commission for the 5-year project *Are components of Flax neuroprotective against myelin degeneration? Impact of dietary ALA in an animal model of multiple sclerosis*.

**Hassan Vatanparast**, and co-investigator **Susan Whiting** were awarded $91,000 in CIHR funding for the 1-year project *Calcium and vitamin D intakes of Canadians: vulnerable groups and call to action for improving bone health* in the recent Canadian Community Health Survey – Nutrition Analysis competition.

RECENT PUBLICATIONS

- **Hubick, S., Jayaraman, A., McKeen, A., Reid, S*, Alcorn, J., Stavrinides, J., Sterenberg, B.T.** A potent synthetic inorganic antibiotic with activity against drug-resistant pathogens. 2017 *Scientific Reports*, 7, art. no. 41999.
- **Mansell, K., Mansell, H., Neubeker, W., Drake, H.** Students’ perceptions of and amount of diabetes education in Canadian schools of pharmacy. 2017 *Currents in Pharmacy Teaching and Learning*.
- **Mazidi, M., Gao, H.-K., Vatanparast, H., Kengne, A.P.** Impact of the dietary fatty acid intake on C-reactive protein levels in US adults. 2017 *Medicine (United States)*, 96 ( 7 ) , art. no. e5736.
Pacelli, C., Bryan, R.A., Onofri, S., Selbmann, L., Shuryak, I., Dadachova, E. Melanin is effective in protecting fast and slow growing fungi from various types of ionizing radiation. 2017 *Environmental Microbiology*


