

## Dean's Newsletter

Issue 21, March 2018

*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

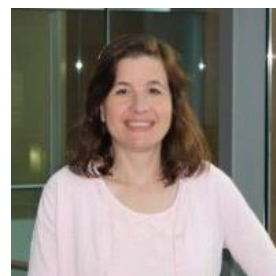
**Dr. Charity Evans**, and her colleagues, were awarded a \$1.2 million grant from the Canadian Institutes for Health Research for their project "Prescription Drug Safety and Effectiveness in Multiple Sclerosis [DRUMS]: a population-based, multi-province platform for comprehensive pharmacovigilance." This important research will help develop a framework that can be used to study the benefits and side effects of future new drugs for MS across Canada.



**Dr. Holly Mansell**, and co-investigator **Dr. Dave Blackburn**, received a Saskatchewan Health Research Foundation SPROUT grant for \$160,000 for the project "Improving Health Outcomes for Kidney Recipients: A randomized controlled trial of a pre-transplant education intervention." [Read more.](#)



**Dr. Ellen Wasan**, and co-investigator **Dr. Kishor Wasan**, received a \$255,000 grant from the Agriculture Development Fund and the Saskatchewan Cattleman's Association for their project "Enhanced Vaccine Adjuvant Platform for Nasal Administration in Livestock".



Nutrition graduate student **Getenesh Berhanu Teshome** earned first place in the poster competition at the People Around the World "PAW" conference, which highlighted the impact, outreach and engagement of the university's international research. [Read more.](#)





## MORE COLLEGE NEWS

### Indigenous Achievement Week Awards

**Dr. Jaris Swidrovich** and **Aline Gariepy** received awards at the Indigenous Achievement Week awards on Thursday, February 8. Jaris received the Award for Community Involvement for the College of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies, while Aline (photo unavailable) received the Award for Leadership for the College of Pharmacy and Nutrition.



### 94 U of S students attend PDW

With 94 delegates at the 2018 CAPSI Professional Development week, the University of Saskatchewan had an impressive The conference took place January 10-13 in Edmonton, Alberta, and key results for the U of S include:

- **Dylan Hope** earned second place at the Canada's Next Top Pharmacist pageant.
- **Logan Underwood, Darren Reithmeier, Daylin Sproule, and Laura Wu** earned third place in the Pharmafacts Bowl.
- **Michelle Meng, Alex Baran, Jonathan Williams, and Diar Al-Azawi** earned third place in the Compounding Competition.
- **Kaitlyn Tress** accepted the CAPSI Guy Genest Passion for Pharmacy Award for Saskatchewan.
- **Darren Reithmeier** and **Tatiana Orlowski** were selected to present their posters on research conducted through the College at the Health Fair.
- **Dustin MacCuish** and **Melissa Liu** volunteered at a blood pressure clinic and advocated for Pharmacists at the Alberta Legislature Building.



[Read more.](#)

### Pledge of Professionalism Ceremony

On Wednesday, January 31, the Pledge of Professionalism Ceremony was held in the Health Sciences lecture theatre for the first-year students. 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. Thank you to first year room reps **Japheth Bool** and **Madison Rennie** for organizing the event.





## MORE COLLEGE NEWS

### IN THE MEDIA

**Kelly Kizlyk** was on Global Saskatoon Morning News today to talk about children's cough and cold medicines. [Watch the video.](#)

**Dr. Gord Zello** shared his expertise on choosing the right foods for physical activity with the Best Food Facts website. [Read more.](#)

**Dr. Carol Henry's** project to alleviate food insecurity and malnutrition in southern Ethiopia was recently profiled by Charting Change, which is a series about innovative projects in the developing world. [Read more.](#)

**Dr. Robert Laprairie** spoke with CBC Saskatoon on Thursday, February 22 about testing wastewater for drug traces. [Read more.](#)

## FACULTY AND STAFF NEWS

**Erling Madsen**, Stores Manager, is the 2018 awardee of the Dean's Staff Award for Commitment and Excellence. He will be presented with this award at the SCPP Convocation Luncheon on Thursday, June 7.

**Dr. Jian Yang** has established and is the first president of the new Saskatchewan Center for Science and Religion. [Read more.](#)

**Dr. Anas El-Aneed** was appointed to the governing council for the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada.

On Tuesday, February 6, **Diane Favreau**, Administrative Officer, Undergraduate Affairs, attended the Future is Yours Career Expo.

**Poppy Lowe**, Nutrition Professional Skills Coordinator, is our March Staff Spotlight. She works for the college's nutrition program and maintains a clinical dietitian practice at St. Paul's Hospital. [Read more.](#)

**We're hiring:** full time, tenure-track position at the rank of Assistant Professor or Associate Professor in the Division of Pharmacy. The successful candidate will teach in the PharmD curriculum, primarily in the areas of psychiatric medicine, mental health, and neurology, with some involvement in interdisciplinary teaching as well. [Read more.](#)





## ALUMNI NEWS

**Dorothy L. Smith (BSP 1968)** was appointed as the Honourary President of the American Pharmacists Association. [Read more.](#)

**Brad Cooper (BSP 2003)** was featured in a Canadian Foundation for Pharmacy article about minor ailment prescribing. Read the article on page 9 of the 2017 Changing Face of Pharmacy. [Read more.](#)

**Courtney Junop (BSP 2011)** talked to CTV Saskatoon on Friday, January 12, about the continued importance of getting the flu shot during a segment about the effectiveness of this year's vaccine. [Watch the video.](#)

**Brooke Bulloch (BScNutr 2009)** was on Global Saskatoon Morning News today to talk about how canned fruit can help add variety during the winter months. [Watch the video.](#)

**Sarah Crawford (BScNutr 2017)** from University of Saskatchewan Culinary Services was interviewed for a Spoon University USask video about plant-based proteins. [Watch the video.](#)

On Friday, January 26 the Regina Leader-Post profiled **Melanie McLeod (BSP 1997)** for her work as a psychiatric pharmacist and how the pharmacy she opened helps provide better access for patients. [Read more.](#)

**Sara Langley (BScNutr 2010)** was on Global Regina Morning News on Wednesday, January 31 to talk about Eat Well Saskatchewan, a pilot program aimed to improve First Nations' access to dietitians. [Watch the video.](#)

**Doug Sellinger (BSP 1985)** received Canadian Society of Hospital Pharmacists Fellowship status at the CSHP Professional Practice Conference in February.

**Katie Maloney (MSc 2010)** was featured in an article about a Lower Mainland cannabis-testing lab run by a team of women. [Read more.](#)

**Brooke Bulloch (BScNutr 2009)** was on Global Saskatoon Morning News on Tuesday, February 20 to explain the importance of potassium for heart health. [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

### UPCOMING EVENTS

The **SPNSS Student-Faculty Wine and Cheese** will take place on **Monday, March 12** in Louis' Loft at 5:30 pm. **Dr. Kris Stewart** will present on HIV, HCV, and TB.

**Dr. Jaris Swidrovich**, and **Dr. Holly Graham** from the College of Nursing, are co-chairing a conference on First Nations, Métis and Inuit health. The conference is free to attend and will be held on **March 15 and 16** at the Saskatoon Inn & Conference Centre. [More information.](#)

The **2018 Undergraduate Admissions Test of Critical Skills** is scheduled **Saturday, March 17**.

The **Twenty-Sixth Annual Academic Awards Ceremony** will take place on **Sunday, March 18** in the Health Sciences Building.

The **Edith Rowles Simpson Lecture** will take place on **Monday, March 19** at 7:00 pm in the Frances Morrison Library auditorium. This year's speaker is **Dr. Maurice Maloney**, Executive Director and CEO of the Global Institute for Food Security. This event is free to attend and open to the public.

The **Nutrition Third Year Celebration & Send-off** will take place on **Thursday, April 5** at the University Club. This event marks the completion of the educational component at the university and the transition to internship for nutrition students.

The annual **College of Home Economics Alumni Luncheon** will take place again this spring in Saskatoon on **Friday, April 27** at 11:45 am at the Delta Bessborough. Please RSVP to [andy.collin@usask.ca](mailto:andy.collin@usask.ca) before Monday, April 23.

The **Dietitians of Canada Nutrition Research Day** will take place on **Thursday, April 26** at Marquis Hall. The day highlights and celebrates the fourth-year nutrition students' practice-based research project presentations, and features presentations by leading experts in food and nutrition. [Register now.](#)

The college will host its annual dessert and reception at the **Pharmacy Association of Saskatchewan Annual Conference** on **Friday, May 11**, at the Doubletree by Hilton Hotel and Conference Centre in Regina.

**Sask Night** will return to the **Canadian Pharmacists Association Conference** on **Sunday, June 3**, in Fredericton, New Brunswick. Details to follow on social media, the website event calendar, and in the next newsletter.

The college will host an alumni reception during the **Dietitians of Canada Conference** in Vancouver on **Friday, June 8**, at 7:00 pm at 6 Degrees Eatery (1590 Coal Harbour Quay, across the street from the Westin Bayshore). All local alumni who are not attending the conference are welcome at the event.

### PAST EVENTS

Indigenous Spend-a-Day took place on January 12. This one-day event is held on campus for grade 10 - 12 First Nations, Métis and Inuit students includes an Indigenous student panel and an information fair. Thanks to **Mary Fraser** (Pharmacy) and **Cathy Langdon** (Nutrition) for setting up hands-on sessions with current student volunteers.

On Saturday, January 27, our nutrition students hosted the Women's Wellness Break workshop in the food and nutrition lab, which included a session on problematic eating and a sushi-making demo.



## RESEARCH AND GRADUATE STUDIES

### SPOTLIGHT ON RESEARCH

Congratulations to **Franklyn De Silva** who is our February Trainee Spotlight. His research involves molecular signaling and cellular processors in diseases with dysregulated proliferation. [Read more.](#)



### TRAINEE SUCCESS

#### Program Update

Congratulations to **Fakir Yunus** (supervisors: Drs. Gord Zello and Diane DellaValle), who successfully defended his Nutrition Master's thesis this January—he has now begun a PhD program in Nutrition under the supervision of Drs. Carol Henry and Diane DellaValle.

Welcome to two visiting experiential learning students: **Alice Demelenne**, who is working with Dr. Anas El-Aneed, and **Cem Yamali**, who is working with Dr. Jonathan Dimmock. Alice is a PhD student from the University of Liège in Belgium and will be studying here for the remainder of the term. Cem is a PhD student from Ataturk University in Turkey and will be at the U of S until December 2018.

#### External Student Awards

Congratulations to PhD student **Allison Cammer** (supervisors: Drs. Susan Whiting and Debra Morgan) who has received the **Gerontology Network's Annual Marie Taylor Award**, which recognizes excellence in dietetic practice in long term care and seniors health. She will be presented with the award at the upcoming Dietitians of Canada annual meeting in June.

#### Other News

PhD student **Frank De Silva** (supervisor: Dr. Jane Alcorn) was selected as the trainee representative for the Canadian Society for Pharmaceutical Sciences (CSPS) Board of Directors for a two-year term starting January 2018. Congratulations to Frank!

#### Graduate Program Review

Our graduate programs are undergoing the Graduate Program Review process coordinated by the College of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies this year. Please help us welcome our Nutrition program reviewers on March 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> and our Pharmacy reviewers on April 19 and 20!



## RESEARCH AND GRADUATE STUDIES

### RESEARCH FUNDING

The College of Pharmacy and Nutrition is a partner in the \$153 million Western Canada Crop Protein Supercluster, awarded under the Federal Innovation Superclusters Initiative.

**Robert Laprairie** was awarded a \$75,000 NSERC Collaborative Research and Development grant with industry partner CanniMed Therapeutics for the project “Exploration of the lesser-known cannabinoids of *Cannabis sativa*”.

**Robert Laprairie** received a \$7,750 SHRF Connections grant for the upcoming Inaugural Saskatchewan Cannabinoid Research Symposium.

**Phyllis Paterson** was awarded \$20,000 in bridge funding from the College of Pharmacy and Nutrition.

**Holly Mansell** and collaborators **J. Alcorn**, A. Shoker and M. Fenton (Medicine), **W. Semchuk** (Qu’Appelle Health Region), J. Douketis (McMaster), and B. Bashir and W. Kraft (Philadelphia) were awarded \$20,000 from the College of Pharmacy and Nutrition’s Seed Fund for the project “Pharmacokinetics and Safety of Apixaban + Tacrolimus or Cyclosporine in Kidney Transplant Recipients”.

**Jane Alcorn** and collaborators B. Seifert and A. Lyon (SK Health Authority), R. Huntsman (Medicine), C. Wesolowski (Memorial), and **R. Laprairie**, and MSc student S. Vuong (Pharmacy) were awarded \$15,500 from the College of Pharmacy and Nutrition’s Seed Fund for the project “Single Oral Dose Pharmacokinetics of 1:20 THC:CBD Cannabis Oil in Pediatric Patients”.

### RECENT PUBLICATIONS

- Alaverdashvili, M., Caine, S., \*Li, X., Hackett, M.J., Bradley, M.P., Nichol, H., **Paterson, P.G.** 2018. Protein-Energy Malnutrition Exacerbates Stroke-Induced Forelimb Abnormalities and Dampens Neuroinflammation. *Translational Stroke Research*, February 3, 2018, pp 1-9.
- \*Almoussa, A.A., \*Morris, M., Fowler, S., Jones, J., **Alcorn, J.** 2017. Elevation of serum pyruvate kinase M2 (PKM2) in IBD and its relationship to IBD indices. *Clinical Biochemistry*.
- Baranski, B., **Bolt, J.**, Albers, L., Siddiqui, R., Bell, A., **Semchuk, W.** 2017. Development of a documentation rubric and assessment of pharmacists' competency for documentation in the patient health record. *Canadian Journal of Hospital Pharmacy*, 70(6), pp. 423-429.
- Chen, L., **Krol, E.S., Sakharkar, M.K.**, Khan, H.A., Alhomida, A.S., **Yang, J.** 2017. Residues His172 and Lys238 are Essential for the Catalytic Activity of the Maleylacetate Reductase from *Sphingobium chlorophenicum* Strain L-1. *Scientific Reports*, 7(1), art. no. 18097.
- Davies, N.M. and **Wasan, KM.** 2018. Pharmacokinetics and Drug Metabolism in Canada: The Current Landscape – A Summary of This Indispensable Special Issue. *Pharmaceutics* 2018, 10(1), 13.
- \*Di, Y., \*De Silva, F., **Krol, E.S., Alcorn, J.** 2018. Flaxseed Lignans Enhance the Cytotoxicity of Chemotherapeutic Agents against Breast Cancer Cell Lines MDA-MB-231 and SKBR3. *Nutrition and Cancer*, pp. 1-10.
- Dugani S., **KM Wasan**, N Kissoon. 2017. World Health Organization and Essential Medicines. *Journal of Pharmaceutical Sciences*.
- Geleta, E.B., Elabor-Idemudia, P., **Henry, C.**, Reggassa, N. 2017. The challenges of empowering women: The experience of pulse innovation project in southern Ethiopia. *SAGE Open*, 7(4).
- Ilyanar, P.P.R\*, and **Nazarali, A.J.** (2017) Hoxa2 inhibits bone morphogenetic protein signaling during osteogenic differentiation of the palatal mesenchyme. *Front. Physiol.*, 8, 929.


**RESEARCH AND GRADUATE STUDIES**

- \*Jahan, S.T, \*Sadat, S.M.A., **Haddadi, A.** 2018. Design and immunological evaluation of anti-CD205-tailored PLGA-based nanoparticulate cancer vaccine. *Int J Nanomedicine*. 2018; 13: 367–386.
- **Jorgenson, D.** 2018. Medical legislation for pharmacists: April 1873. *Canadian Pharmacists Journal*, 151(1), pp. 8-9.
- **Jorgenson, D.J., Landry, E.J.L., \*Lysak, K.J.** 2017. Family physician perceptions of a medication assessment clinic located within a pharmacy school. *Canadian Family Physician*, 63(12), pp. e512-e517.
- Kim, E., Kang, M., Tschirhart, T., Malo, M., **Dadachova, E.**, Cao, G., Wang, Z., Payne, G.F. 2017. Spectroelectrochemical Reverse Engineering Demonstrates That Melanin's Redox and Radical Scavenging Activities Are Linked. *Biomacromolecules*, 18(12), pp. 4084-4098.
- \*Kosar, L., Hu, N., Lix, L.M., **Shevchuk, Y.**, Teare, G., Champagne, A., **Blackburn, D.F.** 2018 . Uptake of the Medication Assessment Program in Saskatchewan: Tracking claims during the first year. *Canadian Pharmacists Journal*, 151(1), pp. 24-28.
- Kowalec, K., McKay, K.A., Patten, S.B., Fisk, J.D., **Evans, C.**, Tremlett, H., Marrie, R.A. 2017. Comorbidity increases the risk of relapse in multiple sclerosis: A prospective study. *Neurology*, 89(24), pp. 2455-2461.
- Kumar, S., Das, U., **Dimmock, J.R.**, Sharma, R.K. 2017. Role of proteases in the regulation of N-myristoyltransferase. *Proteases in Physiology and Pathology*, pp. 89-99.
- \*Munawar A. Mohammed, Jaweria T. M. Syeda, **Kishor M. Wasan** and **Ellen K. Wasan**. 2017. An Overview of Chitosan Nanoparticles and Its Application in Non-Parenteral Drug Delivery. *Pharmaceutics* 2017, 9(4), 53.
- Okello, D.O., Iyyanar, P.P.R\*, Kulyk, W.M., Smith, T.M., Lozanoff, S., Ji, S., and **Nazarali, A.J.** (2017) Six2 plays an intrinsic role in regulating proliferation of mesenchymal cells in the developing palate. *Front. Physiol.*, 8, 955
- Olason, C., Engler-Stringer, R., **Vatanparast, H.**, Hanoski, R. 2017. Student food insecurity: Examining barriers to higher education at the University of Saskatchewan  
*Journal of Hunger and Environmental Nutrition*, pp. 1-9. Article in Press
- \*Rafiei, P., **Alcorn, J., Haddadi, A.** 2018. Application of a Rapid ESI-MS/MS Method for Quantitative Analysis of ocetaxel in Mouse Biological Matrices Through Direct Injection to Mass Spectrometer. *Current Pharmaceutical Analysis*, Volume 14, Number 2, March 2018, pp. 85-94(10).
- Rangel, D., RD Finlay, JE Hallsworth, **E Dadachova**, Gadd, M.G. 2018. Fungal strategies for dealing with environmental and agricultural stress. *Fungal Biology*.
- Razmpour, F., Nematy, M., Naseri, M.B., Dehnavi, Z., Ganji, A., **Vantaparast, H.A.**, Nezhad, M.A., Alamdaran, S.A. 2017. Which method is superior in the diagnosis of nonalcoholic fatty liver and steatohepatitis in children? *Hepatitis Monthly*, 17(10), art. no. e13584.
- Simpson, S.H., MacCallum, L., **Mansell, K.** 2017. Pharmacy Practice and Diabetes Care. *Canadian Journal of Diabetes*, 41(6), pp. 549-550.
- Tangedal, K., **Bolt, J.**, Len, S., Bell, A. 2017. Baseline competency assessment of pharmacists prescribing and managing vancomycin therapy in the regina Qu'Appelle health region. *Canadian Journal of Hospital Pharmacy*, 70(5), pp. 335-342.
- **Taylor, J.** 2017. Over-the-Counter Medicines and Diabetes Care. *Canadian Journal of Diabetes*, 41(6), pp. 551-557.
- Yaghoubi, M., **Mansell, K., Vatanparast, H.**, (...), Zeng, W., Farag, M. 2017. Effects of Pharmacy-Based Interventions on the Control and Management of Diabetes in Adults: A Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis. *Canadian Journal of Diabetes*, 41(6), pp. 628-641.
- Ward, S., AF Chow, ML Humbert, M Bélanger, ... **Vatanparast, H.**, Leis, A. 2018. Promoting physical activity, healthy eating and gross motor skills development among preschoolers attending childcare centers: Process evaluation of the Healthy Start-Départ Santé intervention using the RE-AIM framework. *Evaluation and Program Planning*.