

Texas A&M Irma Lerma Rangel College of Pharmacy Report to the Texas Pharmacy Congress: August 18, 2016

AACP Dr. Robertson Leadership Excellence in Student Services Award

The Student Services Special Interest Group presented the Inaugural *Dr. James Robertson, Jr. Leadership Excellence in Student Services Award* at the AACP Annual Meeting in Anaheim, California, on July 26, 2016, to Michael W. McKenzie, Professor and Senior Associate Dean of Student Services at the University of Florida. This award was established by the AACP in honor of the late Dr. James Robertson, Jr., to recognize faculty for their student service excellence.

(Pictured left to right: Dr. Indra K. Reddy and Dr. Mary Chavez of the Texas A&M Rangel College of Pharmacy, Michael W. McKenzie, award recipient, Heather Patrelli, University of South Florida, Chair of AACP Student Services, and Jonathan Parker, Assistant Director of Pharmacy Admission at the McWhorter School of Pharmacy)



Each year, the AACP will select a nominee from a pharmacy college/school for their outstanding student service. The recipient of this award will be provided a stipend to cover the costs of registration, travel, and accommodations to attend the annual meeting.

Dr. James Robertson, Jr., 59, who was a cornerstone to the Texas A&M Irma Lerma Rangel College of Pharmacy, passed away after complications with pneumonia on Nov. 21, 2012, in Corpus Christi, Texas. Dr. Robertson became the college's first associate dean for student affairs in May 2005. As the associate dean for student affairs, he was instrumental in the college receiving a four-year scholarship grant award of \$2.6 million (the maximum award of \$650,000 each year through June 2016) from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services-Health Resources and Services Administration under the Scholarships for Disadvantaged Students Program.

STUDENT NEWS

Four Texas A&M Rangel College of Pharmacy students, **Lois Kim** (P2), **Valerie Guerra** (P3), **Sasha Cruz** (P4), and **Honey Patel** (P3), were joined by **Dr. Bree Watzak** and other students and faculty from the Texas A&M University Health Science Center as part of an inter-professional health care team for an international field studies trip to Quito, Ecuador, in May. The team's focus was to promote the well-being of the population by providing preventative education to clients as appropriate such as proper nutrition, safe water practices, basic sanitation, and appropriate treatment of common diseases and injuries within their scope of practice. The team was able to provide care to 460 people.





Their days consisted of setting up the pharmacy, communicating with other health care professional teams to determine the best therapy/medication, using limited resources to dispense proper medications, and patient counseling. The students also had the opportunity to observe how other professional health care teams operated by being assigned to various teams throughout the week. On the last day of the mission trip, the students and faculty visited and experienced sites and culture in Ecuador such as zip lining through a rain forest, visiting the “Middle of the World” on the Equator, and taking pictures with alpacas.

From June 6 to August 12, **Lois Kim (P2)** participated in a 10-week summer internship program at American Society of Health-System Pharmacists (ASHP) headquarter at Bethesda, MD. ASHP selects 1 student pharmacist each year to participate in a summer internship program in national association management, covering various areas through projects and networking opportunities. Some of the areas included association activities and operations, governmental affairs, publications and drug information, membership, and product development. The internship also consisted in participating as student and staff at the 2016 ASHP Summer Meetings and Exhibition and visiting various different national pharmacy associations such as FDA, US Pharmacopeia, American Pharmacists Association (APhA), and more. The internship provided invaluable insight into a national pharmacy association and the workings of national association management.

Michael Muniz, Pharm.D., Texas A&M Irma Lerma Rangel College of Pharmacy, Class of 2012, TPA 2014-2015, was featured in the Texas Pharmacy Association’s Member Spotlight of the Week <https://texpharm.site-ym.com/page/SpotlightArchive16#Wood>.

FACULTY NEWS

Fadi Alkhateeb, Ph.D., Associate Professor and Director of Assessment at the Texas A&M Irma Lerma Rangel College of Pharmacy, graduated from the American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy (AACP) Academic Leadership Fellows Program (ALFP) in July 2016.

Debra Wood, R. Ph., Experiential Education Coordinator at the Texas A&M Irma Lerma Rangel College of Pharmacy College Station campus is the spotlight featured member in this month’s TPA electronic newsletter: <https://texpharm.site-ym.com/page/SpotlightArchive16#Wood>.



Debra Wood, R.Ph.

Professional Appointments

Fadi Alkhateeb, Ph.D. was appointed to the 2016-2017 AACP Institutional Research and Assessment Committee (IRAC). The committee’s work is increasingly central to AACP’s priority of assisting members build strong programs of assessment.

Dongin ‘Donoven’ Kim, Ph.D., Editorial board member in Annals of Pharmacology and Pharmaceutics (Remedy Publications).

Dongin ‘Donoven’ Kim, Ph.D., Guest editors in Recent Advances in Biomaterials for Cancer Therapeutics for Journal of Chemistry (Hindawi Publishing Corporation).

Narendra Kumar, Ph.D., (June 23-24, 2016); Dr. Kumar was appointed as a study section member of the Gastrointestinal Mucosal Pathobiology (GMPB), National Institute of Diabetes, Digestive, and Kidney Diseases

(NIDDK) by the Center for Scientific Review, National Institute of Health (NIH) for the 23-24 June meeting. The group was assigned to review R01 and R21 grant applications and make recommendations for the funding where only selected experts from all over the USA are invited and an honorarium is associated for their services.

Narendra Kumar, Ph.D., (June-July, 2016); Dr. Kumar was appointed as an external international member of the doctoral thesis review panel by the Registrar of Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Madras, India. As an international member of the panel, Dr. Kumar's responsibility was to review the thesis and make recommendations for the award of *doctor of philosophy*, where only selected international experts are invited and an honorarium is associated for their services.

Bree Watzak, Pharm.D., & Jaye Weston, M.S., received certification as TeamSTEPPS® (Strategies and Tools to Enhance Performance and Patient Safety) Master Trainers. TeamSTEPPS is an evidence-based framework to optimize team performance across the health care delivery system. TeamSTEPPS has five key principles. It is based on team structure and four teachable-learnable skills: Communication, Leadership, Situation Monitoring, and Mutual Support.

Lin Wu, M.S., Instructional Associate Professor has been elected Secretary of Pharmacy and Drug Information Section, Medical Library Association, effective June 2016.

Lin Wu, M.S., Instructional Associate Professor has been elected to serve on TAMU Libraries' Committee on Appointment Promotion Clinical Instructional Faculty (CAPCIF), effective July 2016.

Lin Wu, M.S., Instructional Associate Professor has been appointed to serve on the Broering Hispanic Heritage Grant Jury, Medical Library Association, effective June 2016.

PRESENTATIONS

Alkhateeb FM *International Pharmacy Accreditation Programs: Possible Value and Benefits for Pharmacy Education in the Middle East*, 2016 AALHE Annual Conference in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, 6-8, June 2016.

Echeverri M, Unni E, **Alkhateeb FM**, Radhakrishnan R, Moorman K, Harpe S, Law A. *Measuring cultural competency in pharmacy education*. American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy (AACCP) Annual Meeting, Anaheim, California, July 23-27, 2016.

Choudhury M (August, 2016), Speaker at the Research Career Development Symposium for Underrepresented Groups* and Women, College Station, Texas.

Deba, Farah, Ze-Jun Wang, Tiffany R. Trevino, **Kara Ramos**, and **Ayman K. Hamouda**. (2016). *Interaction of the Positive Allosteric Modulator LY2087101 with $\alpha 4\beta 2$ Nicotinic Acetylcholine Receptor*. 60th Biophysical Society meeting in Los Angeles, California, Feb. 27-Mar. 02, published on *Biophysical Journal*; 2016-110-3supplement1-604a-605a.

Gutiérrez García, Ana Karen. Bhakta, Komal. Meruvu, Sunitha. Powell, Catherine A. Ali, Hamed I. De León Rodríguez, Antonio. Choudhury, Mahua. (2016). *Combinatory Effect of Phthalate and Alcohol on Epigenetic Regulators*. College of Pharmacy Research Colloquium. College Station, Texas.

Hutchison, R (2016). *Interprofessional Approach to Diabetes Management*. The Interface of Engineering and Life Sciences Workshop, April 29, 2016.

Kumar, N (June 10, 2016); Dr. Kumar was an invited international speaker at the Kalinga Institute of Technology (KIT), Bhubaneswar, India. The title of his talk was *Chronic inflammation origin and diseases*. Additionally, Dr. Kumar also explored the collaborative projects on epidemic diseases between the two institutions.

Kluemper AD, **Luke JD**, Scott SA, Sowinski KM, Kania DS, Zillich AJ, Plake KS. Poster Presentation (2016). *Development of an objective merit review process for pharmacy practice faculty*. American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy (AACP) 2016 Annual Meeting, Anaheim, California.

Mishra, J & Kumar, N, (Jun 3 2016); *Molecular switches aimed towards targeted therapy for colonic mucosal inflammation*, Texas A&M Irma Lerma Rangel College of Pharmacy Research Colloquium, June 2-3, 2016, College Station, Texas.

Powell, Catherine A, Bhakta, Komal, Meruvu, Sunitha, Sonkar, Ravi, Choudhury, Mahua. (2016). *Double Trouble- Plastic and Fats: Combination of Benzyl Butyl Phthalate and Palmitic Acid Enhance Adipogenesis by Epigenetic Regulation*. Texas A&M Irma Lerma Rangel College of Pharmacy Research Colloquium, June 2-3, 2016, College Station, Texas.

Powell, Catherine A., *Destress with a Glass of Wine: An Epigenetic View of Resveratrol and Angiogenesis*. Texas A&M Irma Lerma Rangel College of Pharmacy Research Colloquium, June 2-3, 2016, College Station, Texas.

Kepsel, Andrea, Patricia F. Anderson, Skye Bickett, Joanne Doucette, Pamela Herring, Temey Lyons, Scott McLachlan and **Lin Wu**. (2016). *Developing a Replicable Methodology for Automated Identification of Emerging Technologies in Healthcare*. Poster presented at the 2016 Medical Library Association Annual conference, Toronto, Canada, May, 18, 2016.

Mi, Misa, Wendy Wu, Yingting Zhang, Jie Li, Jie, and **Lin Wu**. (2016). *Reflective Practice for Professional Development Through a Collaborative Systematic Review Project*. Poster presented at the 2016 Medical Library Association Annual conference, Toronto, Canada, May 18, 2016.

Wu, Lin, and Joel Thornton. (2016). *Building the Mosaic: Challenges and Opportunities of being Fully Embedded in a User Culture*. Poster presented at the 2016 Medical Library Association Annual Conference, Toronto, Canada, May 17, 2016.

Wu, Lin. (2016). *Reclaiming Scholar Profiles with Citation Databases: What's your Take?* Lightning Talk presented at the 2016 Annual Conference of the American Association of College of Pharmacy (AACP), Anaheim, California, July 24, 2016.

Jian Zhang^{1*}, Catherine A. Powell^{1*}, Ravi Sonkar^{1*}, Sunitha Meruvu^{1*}, Komal Bhakta¹, Ana Karen Gutiérrez García², and Mahua Choudhury¹ *Equal Contribution. *Expression of Epigenetic regulators miR-103 and Sirt3 dysregulation in diet-induced diabetes*. Texas A&M Irma Lerma Rangel College of Pharmacy Research Colloquium, June 2-3, 2016, College Station, Texas.

Qing Yao, Christopher Hobbs and **Lin Zhu**, *Development of novel polymeric micelles with high drug loading capacity for combination drug therapy*, Texas A&M Irma Lerma Rangel College of Pharmacy Research Colloquium, June 2-3, 2016, College Station, Texas.

Qing Yao, Zhi Dai and **Lin Zhu**, *Improving tumor targetability by a stimulus-sensitive folate receptor-targeted polymeric micellar nanoparticle*, Texas A&M Irma Lerma Rangel College of Pharmacy Research Colloquium, June 2-3, 2016, College Station, Texas.

Zhi Dai, Qing Yao and **Lin Zhu**, *Improving Tumor Targetability and Overcoming Multidrug Resistance by a Novel MMP2-sensitive Co-polymer*, Texas A&M Irma Lerma Rangel College of Pharmacy Research Colloquium, June 2-3, 2016, College Station, Texas.

Ze-Jun Wang, Tasnim S. Mohamed; Farah Deba, Kara Ramos; Ayman K. Hamouda. *The nicotinic acetylcholine receptor $\alpha 4:\alpha 4$ extracellular interface encompasses unique drug binding sites*. 8th Annual Neuroscience Symposium. Texas A&M Institute for Neuroscience. April 15, 2016. College Station, Texas.

AWARDS AND HONORS

Mahua Choudhury, 2017 Future Leader Award nomination from TAMHSC for ILSI North America.

Catherine Powell, \$100 award for 3rd best poster at South Texas Research Symposium, College Station, TX.

PUBLICATIONS

Bowman JD and Choudhury M. Phthalates in Neonatal Health: Friend or Foe? *Journal of Developmental Origins of Health and Disease*, Volume 7, published online: July 4, 2016. 13 pages.

<http://journals.cambridge.org/action/displayAbstract?fromPage=online&aid=10396030&fulltextType=RV&fileId=S2040174416000349>

Szabó Z, Szegedi K, Gombos K, **Choudhury M**, Flaskó T, Harda K, Halmos G. *Urol Oncol*. 2016 Jul 14. pii: S1078-1439(16)30128-4. doi: 10.1016/j.urolonc.2016.06.011. [Epub ahead of print] PMID:27427222

[Expression of miRNA-21 and miRNA-221 in clear cell renal cell carcinoma \(ccRCC\) and their possible role in the development of ccRCC.](#)

Rahman SM, Baquero KC, **Choudhury M**, Janssen RC, de la Houssaye BA, Sun M, Miyazaki-Anzai S, Wang S, Moustaid-Moussa N, Miyazaki M, Friedman JE. *Atherosclerosis*. 2016 Jul;250:172-9. doi:

0.1016/j.atherosclerosis.2016.03.040. Epub 2016 Apr 1. PMID:27072340 [C/EBP \$\beta\$ in bone marrow is essential for diet induced inflammation, cholesterol balance, and atherosclerosis.](#)

Chen AMH, Kiersma M, **Hutchison R**, Wright K. (2016) Psychometric testing of the Kiersma-Chen Empathy Scale – Patient Version. *Journal of the American Pharmacists Association*; 56:e107.

Meruvu, Sunitha Mono-(2-ethylhexyl) Phthalate Increases Oxidative Stress Responsive miRNAs in First Trimester Placental Cell Line HTR8/SVneo.

Childs-Kean L, **Ivy D**, Gonzales C, & McIntyre W. Development of a tool to evaluate Advanced Pharmacy Practice Experience preceptors in the clinical setting at a United States college of pharmacy: A pilot study *Pharmacy Education*, 2016; 16 (1) 98 – 102.

Hamouda, A. K. Farah Deba, Z. J. Wang, J. B. Cohen. (2016). Photolabeling a Nicotinic Acetylcholine Receptor (nAChR) with an ($\alpha 4$) $3(\beta 2)$ nAChR-selective Positive Allosteric Modulator. *Mol. Pharm.* 89 (5): 575-584.

Dai Z, Tu Y, **Zhu L**, Multifunctional Micellar Nanocarriers for Tumor-targeted Delivery of Hydrophobic Drugs, *Journal of Biomedical Nanotechnology*, 2016, 12, 1199-1210.

Dai Z, Yao Q, **Zhu L**, MMP2-sensitive PEG-lipid Copolymers: A New Type of Tumor-targeted P-glycoprotein Inhibitor, *ACS Applied Materials & Interfaces*, 2016, 8 (20), 12661-12673.

GRANTS

Choudhury, Mahua, *Bright 1 Bodies: Extending the Bright Bodies Weight Management Program to Adolescents with Type 1 Diabetes*, Friends of Yale-New Haven Children's Hospital Elephant Grants, \$10,914. August 2016 – August 2017

Role: Co-PI (PI for epigenetics analysis)

Choudhury, Mahua, *Bright 1 Bodies: Extending the Bright Bodies Weight Management Program to Adolescents with Type 1 Diabetes*, Yale School of Nursing Biobehavioral Lab and the Miller Fund, \$3,000. August 2016 – August 2017 Role: Co-PI (PI for epigenetics analysis).

Choudhury, Mahua, Independent Study Mentor for NIH T32 program (Postdoc-Yale University) Role: Mentor.

NEW HIRES

Jeffrey Luke, B.S., Pharm.D. has joined the Texas A&M Rangel College of Pharmacy as a Clinical Assistant Professor of Pharmacy Practice. Dr. Luke joins the College from the VA Texas Valley Coastal Bend Health Care System Corpus Christi Outpatient Clinic. He received a B.S. in biological science/composite teaching with a chemistry teaching minor from Utah State University, Logan, Utah and a Doctor of Pharmacy degree from Purdue University, West Lafayette, Indiana. He obtained a PGY-1 residency from Franciscan St. Elizabeth Health, Lafayette, Indiana and completed an academic and ambulatory care fellowship from Purdue University College of Pharmacy, West Lafayette, Indiana.

Vinit Chohatkar, M.S. joined the Texas A&M Irma Lerma Rangel College of Pharmacy as the interim instructional technology specialist based in College Station. Vinit served as an Instructional Design & Support Services (IDSS) student worker in Kingsville for two academic years. He recently completed his Master's degree in computer science.