



Hispanic Healthcare Initiative Taking Shape with Affiliation, Appointment and APPE Sites

UH College of Pharmacy recently hit several milestones in implementing its Hispanic Healthcare Initiative, which is designed to enhance the delivery of pharmacy care services and offer a didactic and experiential pathway by which students are prepared to deliver culturally and linguistically competent care to underserved patient populations in Houston and across Texas.

In September, the college established an affiliation agreement with Vecino Health Centers, a Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC) with two clinics based in neighborhoods with predominately Hispanic/Spanish-speaking patient populations. The college also welcomed the appointment of Clinical Assistant Professor Nancy Chung, Pharm.D., an ambulatory care pharmacist with Spanish language proficiency and experience with similar patient populations through residency programs in Austin and Orlando.

Chung is working on integrating clinical pharmacy services at Vecino's Denver Harbor Clinic in east Houston, which serves as the home of the Houston Methodist Hospital's Family Practice Residency Program. Although the initial scope of services has not been finalized, the prevalence of diabetes, obesity and



Vecino Health Centers' Dr. Don Briscoe, medical director, and Daniel Montez, CEO, welcome UHCOP's Nancy Chung, Pharm.D., to the Denver Harbor Clinic in east Houston.

hypertension comorbidities in the clinic's patient population presents abundant opportunities for pharmacist-delivered disease state management programs.

The agreement also calls for the clinic serving as an APPE site for P4 students as well as an IPPE site for Pharm.D. students in the first three years, with opportunities for interprofessional training throughout the curriculum.

Over the 2013-14 academic year, the three P4 students who had completed a 6-hour Spanish certificate program at UH will complete their advanced community and ambulatory care APPEs at sites in predominately Hispanic/Spanish-only neighborhoods.

College Welcomes Chung, Beyda to Clinical, Research Faculty Positions

UHCOP recently welcomed new faculty members **Nancy Chung**, Pharm.D., and **Nicholas Beyda**, Pharm.D., BCPS, to the college's Department of Clinical Sciences & Administration.

A clinical assistant professor of ambulatory care, Chung is establishing a new clinical site at Vecino Health Centers' Denver Harbor Family Clinic, an FQHC in east Houston. After receiving her Pharm.D. from UHCOP in 2011, Chung completed a PGY1 residency at Florida Hospital Celebration Health in Orlando, Fla., and a PGY2 ambulatory care specialty residency at Blackstock Family Practice, CommUnityCare, and The University of Texas in Austin.



During her residency training, she received a teaching certificate from the University of Florida and The University

of Texas at Austin. Her interests include outcomes research in diabetes, metabolic syndrome, hypertension, and indigent care.

Beyda has joined the college as a Research Assistant Professor after completing the collaborative two-year Infectious Diseases Pharmacy Fellowship between UHCOP and St. Luke's Health System, where he will maintain a clinical/research affiliation.



After earning his Pharm.D. from the Harrison School of Pharmacy at Auburn, Beyda completed a PGY-1 residency at Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center in Shreveport, La. His research interests include antifungal pharmacokinetics/pharmacodynamics and mechanisms of resistance; host immune response to *Candida* species; and rapid diagnostics for bloodstream infections.





Student News

Nearly 800 Immunizations Over 3 Days in September

UHCOP Pharm.D. students provided nearly 800 seasonal flu immunizations to senior citizens, the homeless and underserved residents of southwest Houston at three events within a one-week period in late September. Students also provided a total of more than 600 wellness screenings at two of the events.

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Pharm.D. Student Completes NCPA HQ Rotation

Pharm.D. student **David Young** completed a Legal and Regulatory Affairs APPE with the National Community Pharmacists Association at NCPA's headquarters in Alexandria, Va., in September-October.

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Pharmacy Organizations Host ACA Town Hall Meeting

Several organizations from UH College of Pharmacy and across the UH campus co-sponsored a **Town Hall Meeting on Health Reform and the New Marketplace & Enrollment** at the UH campus on Oct. 7. The event featured representatives from the Texas Pharmacy Association, Texas House of Representatives, and the City of Houston Department of Health and Human Services, as well as a surprise call-in from the floor of the U.S. House of Representatives.

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UH NCPA Chapter Earns First Runner-up for Second Year

The UH College of Pharmacy Chapter of the **National Community Pharmacists Association** took home its second consecutive First Runner-up finish for the Chapter of the Year competition at the NCPA's 115th Annual Convention & Trade Exposition Oct. 12-16 in Orlando, Fla. Chapter member **Esther Thomas** was among 32 students recognized

as the NCPA Student Chapter Outstanding Members of the Year. The chapter award, which includes \$1,000 in support, and outstanding member award are presented by the NCPA Foundation with support from McKesson.

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2 Students Attend Street Medicine Symposium

Pharm.D. students **Kim Anh Pham** and **Haruna Kato** attended the three-day **9th Annual International Street Medicine Symposium** Oct. 23-26 in Boston. The symposium is sponsored by the Street Medicine Institute. Pham serves as Executive Director of the multidisciplinary, student-run HOMES Clinic, which is part of Healthcare for the Homeless Houston.

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UH APhA-ASP Wins Operation Heart Award at MRM

The **UH Chapter of the American Pharmacists Association-Academy of Student Pharmacists** won first place for its **Operation Heart** program activities during the 2012-13 academic year at the Region 6 Midyear Regional Meeting Nov. 1-3 in Oklahoma City, Okla. In addition, UH members **Daniel Nguyen** and **Ashley Trojczak** and received MRM Student Recognition certificates.

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100 Percent First-time Pass Rate on NAPLEX, MPJE

UH College of Pharmacy Pharm.D. graduates taking the North American Pharmacist Licensure Examination (NAPLEX) and the Multistate Pharmacy Jurisprudence Examination (MPJE) for the first time achieved a 100 percent pass rate on both national exams required for licensure in Texas, according to data released by the National Association of Boards of Pharmacy for the May 1-Aug. 31, 2013, testing period. The "perfect performance" exceeds the national and statewide averages for the two exams during the same period.

Residency & Fellowship Application Deadlines

Jan. 1 — Infectious Diseases Pharmacy Fellowship (UHCOP & St. Luke's Health System)

Jan. 5 — M.S./PGY1-PGY2 Residency in Pharmacy Administration (UHCOP & 6 Texas Medical Center institutions)

Jan. 10 — PGY2 Infectious Diseases Pharmacotherapy Residency (UHCOP & Cardinal and St. Luke's Health System)

Jan. 15 — PGY1 Community Residency (UHCOP & Walgreens)





Faculty & Staff News

UHCOP Dean Lamar Pritchard has announced several administrative leadership promotions:

- **Andrea L. Smesny**, Pharm.D., MPH, has been promoted to **Executive Associate Dean** of the college, effective Jan. 1, 2014. A search committee has been established to assist with the selection and appointment of Smesny's successor to the position of **Associate Dean of Academic Affairs**.
- **Paige Pitman**, Pharm.D., MBA, was appointed in October to succeed **Barbara T. Lewis**, M.A., LPC-S, R.Ph., as **Assistant Dean for Student & Professional Affairs**. Lewis, who also serves a clinical assistant professor, will retire in early 2014.
- Responsibilities for Introductory Pharmacy Practice Experiences have been split between clinical associate professors **Lynn Simpson**, Pharm.D., and **Cathy Hatfield**, Pharm.D. Simpson will serve as **Director of Ambulatory IPPEs** and Hatfield, who has been spearheading the college's interprofessional education collaborations with Baylor College of Medicine and Texas Woman's University, will serve as **Director of Institutional IPPEs**.

A search committee also has been established to assist in the selection and appointment of a newly created **Assistant Dean**

Research News

Kevin W. Garey, Pharm.D., M.S., professor, and co-investigator **Nicholas Beyda**, Pharm.D., research assistant professor, have received a \$116,830 grant from Astellas Pharma US for "Innate inflammatory response and immunopharmacologic activity of micafungin, caspofungin, and voriconazole against *Candida glabrata*." Garey also has received a \$90,688 grant from Summit Corporation PLC for "Immunomodulatory activity of SMT19969, a novel agent for *Clostridium difficile*."

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Dhara N. Shah, Pharm.D., clinical assistant professor, has received a \$90,375 grant from Optimer Pharmaceuticals Inc. for the project "A nationwide analysis of fidaxomicin use."

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Current and former UHCOP faculty, students, residents and fellows presented a total of 16 poster presentations, seven oral presentations and one Poster Walk presentation at the 53rd Interscience Conference on Antimicrobial Agents and Chemotherapy (ICAAC) Sept. 10-13 in Denver. **Vincent H. Tam**, Pharm.D., BCPS (AQ-ID), was a featured speaker at the PK/PD Modeling of Drug Combinations to Overcome Resistance symposium as well as a convener for a "Bacteria

of Graduate Programs position.

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Karim A. Alkadhi, Ph.D., professor of pharmacology, and **Matthew A. Wanat**, Pharm.D., BCPS, clinical assistant professor, were recognized with the Rho Chi Society Beta Omicron Chapter's Teaching Excellence Awards for 2013.

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Tahir Hussain, Ph.D., professor, has been elected President of the Federation of Aligarh Alumni Association, comprising 14 U.S. chapters representing graduates of Aligarh Muslim University in Aligarh, Uttar Pradesh, India.

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Bradley McConnell, Ph.D., FAHA, and **Maria V. Tejada-Simon**, Ph.D., M.Ed., assistant professors of pharmacology, were recognized with the UHCOP's 2013 Faculty Award for Excellence in Research and Service, respectively.

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Dhara N. Shah, Pharm.D., clinical assistant professor, has been elected Secretary/Treasurer of the **American College of Clinical Pharmacy's Infectious Diseases Practice Research Network**.


Clinical Pharmacokinetics/Pharmacodynamics" workshop. Current I.D. Fellows **Samuel Aitken** and **Dana Bowers** received **ICAAC 2013 ID Fellows Grant Program** support.

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Pharmaceutics graduate student **Zhiyi Cui** earned a Student/Trainee Award from the **American College of Clinical Pharmacology** to deliver a podium presentation at the 2013 ACCP Annual Meeting Sept. 22-24 in North Bethesda, Md. Cui's presentation was entitled "Pharmacokinetics and Placental Transfer of Dexmedetomidine in the Pregnant Ewe-Fetus Model."

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Twelve Pharmaceutics graduate students and three faculty members presented at the 27th Annual American Association of Pharmaceutical Scientists (AAPS) Meeting & Exposition Nov. 10-14 in San Antonio. Graduate student **Daping Zhang** received a travelship award from the **Analysis and Pharmaceutical Quality (APQ) Section for her presentation**, "Development and Validation of a Sensitive Ultra-Performance Liquid Chromatography/Tandem Mass Spectrometry (UPLC-MS/MS) for Quantification of Arginine Vasopressin in Human Plasma and Urine."



Recent Publications

Crofelemer for the treatment of chronic diarrhea in patients living with HIV/AIDS. **Patel TS, Crutchley RD, Tucker AM, Cottreau J, Garey KW.** HIV AIDS (Auckl). 2013 Jul 15;5:153-62. doi: 10.2147/HIV.S30948.

Regular exercise prevents sleep deprivation associated impairment of long-term memory and synaptic plasticity in the CA1 area of the hippocampus. **Zagaar M, Dao A, Levine A, Alhaider I, Alkadhi K.** Sleep. 2013; 36(5):751-61.

Mutual Regioselective Inhibition of Human UGT1A1-Mediated Glucuronidation of Four Flavonoids. Ma G, **Wu B, Gao S, Yang Z, Ma Y, Hu M.** Mol Pharm. 2013 Aug 5;10(8):2891-903. doi: 10.1021/mp300599t. Epub 2013 Jul 17.

Proximal tubule angiotensin AT2 receptors mediate an anti-inflammatory response via interleukin-10: role in renoprotection in obese rats. **Dhande I, Ali Q, Hussain T.** Hypertension. 2013 Jun;61(6):1218-26. doi: 10.1161/HYPERTENSIONAHA.111.00422. Epub 2013 Apr 1.

Use of rifamycin drugs and the development of infection by rifamycin-resistant strains of *Clostridium difficile*. Huang JS, Jiang ZD, **Garey KW, Lasco T, Dupont HL.** Antimicrob Agents Chemother. 2013 Jun;57(6):2690-3. doi: 10.1128/AAC.00548-13. Epub 2013 Apr 1.

COX-2-10aa-PGIS gene therapy improves erectile function in rats after cavernous nerve injury. Lin H, Yuan J, **Ruan KH, Yang W, Zhang J, Dai Y, Wang R.** J Sex Med. 2013 Jun;10(6):1476-87. doi: 10.1111/jsm.12147. Epub 2013 Apr 3.

Resistant to thrombosis, induced stroke and heart arrest by incorporation of a single gene of PGI2-synthesizing COX-1-PGIS in vivo: Implication against human heart disease. **Ruan KH, Mohite AJ, So SP.** Int J Cardiol. 2013 Oct 3;168(3):2960-1. doi: 10.1016/j.ijcard.2013.03.114. Epub 2013 Apr 18.

CMF-regimen preferred as first-course chemotherapy for older and sicker women with breast cancer: findings from a seer-medicare-based population study. **Kadakia A, Rajan SS, Abughosh S, Du XL, Johnson ML.** Am J Clin Oncol. 2013 Apr 19. [Epub ahead of print] PMID: 23608830

The pre-synaptic Munc13-1 binds alcohol and modulates alcohol self-administration in Drosophila. **Das J, Xu S, Pany S, Guillory A, Shah V, Roman GW.** J Neurochem. 2013 Sep;126(6):715-26. doi: 10.1111/jnc.12315. Epub 2013 Jun 10.

The utilization of psychopharmacological treatment and medication adherence among Medicaid enrolled children and

adolescents with bipolar depression. **Bhowmik D, Aparasu RR, Rajan SS, Sherer JT, Ochoa-Perez M, Chen H.** J Affect Disord. 2013 Jun 6. doi:pii: S0165-0327(13)00335-2. 10.1016/j.jad.2013.04.034. [Epub ahead of print] PMID: 23747210

Development of Acneiform Rash Does Not Predict Response to Lapatinib Treatment in Patients with Breast Cancer. **Parma J, Pavlick A, Schiff R, Osborne CK, Chang JC, Rimawi M, Trivedi MV.** Pharmacotherapy. 2013 Oct;33(10):1126-9. doi: 10.1002/phar.1308. Epub 2013 Jun 6.

Using the theory of planned behavior to examine pharmacists' intention to utilize a prescription drug monitoring program database. **Fleming ML, Barner JC, Brown CM, Shepherd MD, Strassels S, Novak S.** Res Social Adm Pharm. 2013 Jun 29. doi:pii: S1551-7411(13)00096-X. 10.1016/j.sapharm.2013.05.009. [Epub ahead of print]

Chronic AT2 receptor activation increases renal ACE2 activity, attenuates AT1 receptor function and blood pressure in obese Zucker rats. **Ali Q, Wu Y, Hussain T.** Kidney Int. 2013 Nov;84(5):931-9. doi: 10.1038/ki.2013.193. Epub 2013 Jul 3.

Endothelial-like progenitor cells engineered to produce prostacyclin rescue monocrotaline-induced pulmonary arterial hypertension and provide right ventricle benefits. Zhou L, Chen Z, Vanderslice P, So SP, **Ruan KH, Willerson JT, Dixon RA.** Circulation. 2013 Aug 27;128(9):982-94. doi: 10.1161/CIRCULATIONAHA.113.003139. Epub 2013 Jul 10.

Polymyxins: Wisdom does not always come with age. Kassamali Z, Rotschafer JC, Jones RN, **Prince RA, Danziger LH.** Clin Infect Dis. 2013 Sep;57(6):877-83. doi: 10.1093/cid/cit367. Epub 2013 Jul 11.

A Prospective Multicenter Phase 1 Matched Comparison Group Trial of Safety, Pharmacokinetics, and Preliminary Efficacy of Riluzole in Patients with Traumatic Spinal Cord Injury. Grossman RG, Fehlings M, Frankowski R, Burau KD, **Chow D, Tator C, Teng Y, Toups EG, Harrop JS, Aarabi B, Shaffrey C, Johnson MM, Harkema S, Boakye M, Guest J, Wilson JR.** J Neurotrauma. 2013 Jul 16. [Epub ahead of print]

A High-Salt Diet Further Impairs Age-Associated Declines in Cognitive, Behavioral, and Cardiovascular Functions in Male Fischer Brown Norway Rats. **Chugh G, Asghar M, Patki G, Bohat R, Jafri F, Allam E, Dao AT, Mowrey C, Alkadhi K, Salim S.** J Nutr. 2013 Sep;143(9):1406-13. doi: 10.3945/jn.113.177980. Epub 2013 Jul 17.

UH Faculty Author

UH Student/Fellow/Resident/Recent Graduate Author