



Report to the Texas Pharmacy Congress — May 12-13, 2015

## UHCOP Honored as National Phi Lambda Sigma Chapter of Year

UH College of Pharmacy's Upsilon Chapter was named the Phi Lambda Sigma Pharmacy Leadership Society's National Chapter of the Year at the organization's 50th anniversary March 28 in San Diego.

The Upsilon chapter's 2013-14 activities included a range of newly created and annual workshops, exercises, presentations and lectures, and other events designed to promote leadership development through public speaking and communication, team-building, problem-solving, networking, professional advocacy, time management, e-professionalism, and emotional intelligence. The Upsilon chapter was founded in 1988, and is believed to be the only chapter with five alumni who have served as national presidents.



UHCOP Upsilon Chapter's Tara Molina, immediate past president, and Kay Yindeemark, president, flank faculty advisors Liz Coyle and Lynn Simpson.



P2 Marissa Blumenthal, P3 Salman Farooqui, P3 Sunny Bhakta, and P2 Eric Kao won their class divisions in the TSHP Clinical Skills Competition.

## Students Win 3 Live Competitions, Residency Fellowship Award from TSHP at Seminar in San Antonio

UH College of Pharmacy students were honored with several awards at the Texas Society of Health-System Pharmacists 2015 Annual Seminar & Meeting April 24-26 in San Antonio.

In the **Clinical Skills Competition**, the team of **Sunny Bhakta and Salman Farooqui** won the **P3 division** and **Marissa Blumenthal and Eric Kao** won the **P2 division** (which Bhakta and Farooqui won last year). In addition, Bhakta was crowned the winner of the **Disease State Management Competition**.

**Phuoc Anne Nguyen**, Pharm.D., who was recognized with TSHP's Special Recognition Award earlier this year, received the 2015 TSHP Leo F. and Ann Godley Residency Fellowship Award. This summer, Nguyen will complete the M.S./PGY1-PGY2 Pharmacy Leadership & Administration Houston Program between UHCOP and seven Texas Medical Center institutions.



## Wellness Watch

UHCOP Pharm.D. students had another strong semester of serving patients at community health fairs through Greater Houston and Southeast Texas, including at the Alabama Coushatta Tribe of Texas Reservation in Livingston in collaboration with Walgreens and the Lilly Grove Baptist Church in south Houston in collaboration with Target.



## Prominent Pharmacy Leaders Share Insights on Advocacy, Practice Trends

During Spring 2015, UH College of Pharmacy became a hub for lectures by prominent pharmacy leaders on topics ranging from professionalism and advocacy/regulatory affairs to practice trends.

Among the distinguished guests were (clockwise below):

1. Rho Chi Society Robert L. Boblitt Lecturer USPHS Cmdr. **Chandima B. Deegala**, Pharm.D., NCPS-PP;
2. TSBP President **Jeanne Waggener**, R.Ph.;
3. TPA President **Charlotte Weller**, Pharm.D., and former legislative consultant for TPA and TMA **David Marwitz**; and
4. Phi Lambda Sigma James T. McCarty Leadership Lecturers **Roger W. Anderson**, DrPH, R.Ph., FASHP, and **David A. Zilz**, M.S., R.Ph., FASHP.



Two UH students received travel awards to present at the Experimental Biology 2014 Meeting March 28-April 1 in Boston:

- UHCOP pharmacology graduate student **Sonal Singh**, working under Associate Professor **Bradley K. McConnell**, received a travel award from ASPET to present “Absence of gravin scaffolding to the  $\beta$ 2-AR protects against heart failure and its protective effects are additive to carvedilol treatment alone.”
- UH Biology undergraduate student Alexander Oderhowho, who has been working in the lab of Associate Professor **Maria V. Tejada-Simon**, Ph.D., M.Ed., received an ASPET FASEB-MARC travel award to present “Examining the consequences of pre-natal exposure to chronic stress in the behavior of adult offspring.”

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The UH Chapter of the Student Society of Health-System Pharmacists was honored with the Outstanding Program Award for a non-fee funded event at the UH Campus Leaders Reception in April. The award recognized SSHP’s annual Residency Mentoring Social, co-hosted by the UHCOP and TSU chapters. The program was supported by grants from ASHP, Gulf Coast SHP, TSHP, UH Dining Services, and UH Student Activities Funding Board.

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Nine Pharmaceutical Health Outcomes & Policy doctoral students have been accepted into summer 2015 internships: Amgen — **Nandita Kachru** and **Ruta Sawant**; Abbvie — **Archita Bhansali** and **Aylin Yucel**; Biogen — **Rohan Medhekar**; Tufts Medical Center — **Xin Wang**; MD Anderson Cancer Center — **Manvi Sharma** and **Navneet Upadhyay**; and EPI-Q — **Pratik Rane**.

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## College Welcomes Faculty in Infectious Diseases, CV/Immunology

UHCOP recently welcomed two new faculty members into its ranks: **M. Jahangir Alam**, Ph.D., and **Yang Zhang**, Ph.D.

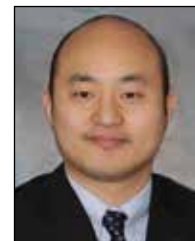
An infectious disease microbiology researcher in the lab of UHCOP Professor Kevin Garey since 2011, Alam has been appointed research assistant professor in the Department of Clinical Sciences and Administration (transitioning to the Department of Pharmacy Practice and Translational Research). Alam earned a Ph.D. in Biopharmaceutical Sciences/Microbiology from Okayama University in Okayama, Japan, and a master's degree in microbiology and a bachelor's degree in biology/biochemistry from the University of Dhaka in Bangladesh.



Alam has authored/co-authored more than 50 articles in such publications as *Antimicrobial Agents and Chemotherapy*, *Clinical Infectious Diseases*, *Journal of Antimicrobial Chemotherapy*, and *Diagnostic Microbiology and Infectious Disease*. He is a co-investigator

with Garey on a \$298,938 Texas Department of State Health Service project entitled "Community household environmental studies on potentially pathogenic *Clostridium difficile*."

Zhang joined the college's Department of Pharmacological and Pharmaceutical Sciences as an associate professor. His research interests include the roles of redox signaling, lipid metabolism, immune cells, adipokines and high glucose in endothelial dysfunction, smooth muscle dedifferentiation and vascular injury in the pathogenesis of cardiovascular diseases.



Zhang has published more than 60 peer-reviewed journal articles and book chapters, and he currently holds two multiyear RO1 grants totaling \$3.4 million from the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute. He earned a Ph.D. in cardiovascular pharmacology from Medical College of Wisconsin in Milwaukee and a B.Sc. in applied chemistry from Peking University, China, and completed postdoctoral training at University of Duisburg-Essen in Germany.

Several UHCOP faculty members were honored at the 2015 UH Faculty Excellence Awards for their years of service to the university: **Vishnu D. Gupta** (47), **Louis Williams** (40), **Shara Zatopek** (30), and **Randall Prince** (25).

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**Nicholas D. Beyda**, Pharm.D., BCPS, has been promoted from research assistant professor to tenure-track assistant professor.

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**Kim K. Birtcher**, Pharm.D., M.S., BCPS, CDE, CLS, clinical professor, represented the American College of Cardiology at the APhA-organized Clarity for Patient Care Roundtable March 26 in San Diego. The goal of the roundtable was to identify strategies that will ensure optimal use of appropriate omega-3 fish oil products for the treatment of patients with very high triglyceride (VHTG) levels.

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**Joydip Das**, Ph.D., associate professor, has been appointed to the editorial board of *Frontiers in Chemistry*.

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**E. James Essien**, M.D., DrPH, FRSH, professor, served on the Behavioral and Social Science Approaches to Preventing HIV/AIDS (BSPH) Study Section of the AIDS and Related Research Integrated Review Group for National Institutes of Health's Center for Scientific Review in March.

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**Maria V. Tejada-Simon**, Ph.D., M.Ed., associate professor, has been appointed to the editorial boards of *International Journal of Neurology Research* (IJNR), *Annals of Neuroscience and Psychology* (ANP), *Journal of Addiction and Neuropharmacology* (JANP) and the

### Salim Earns Early Faculty Award from University for Mentorship of Undergraduate Researchers

Assistant Professor **Samina Salim**, Ph.D., was honored with the University of Houston Early Faculty Award for Mentoring Undergraduate Research at the UH Faculty Excellence Awards April 30.

Salim has mentored 11 undergraduate students since joining the college in 2004, and 12 of her recent publications have been coauthored by undergraduates. Among the honors bestowed on her mentees are a travel award to present during the Council for Undergraduate Research's "Posters on the Hill" at the U.S. Capitol; a Best Poster Award at the UH Undergraduate Research Day; and inclusion in the Best Poster Competition at EB 2014.



*Journal of Pharmaceutical Sciences and Pharmacology* (JPSP). Tejada-Simon also was an invited speaker at the 46th Annual meeting of the American Society for Neurochemistry March 14-18 in Atlanta, where she presented "Tricking the mevalonate/cholesterol pathway to target neuro-developmental disorders: Isoprenoid dysfunction in an animal model of autism."

## Recent Publications

Host factors and clinical outcomes of *Candida* colonization in critically ill patients. **Jacobs DM, Beyda ND**, Asuphon O, **Alam MJ, Garey KW**. *Mycopathologia*. 2015 Feb;179(1-2):87-93. doi: 10.1007/s11046-014-9809-6. Epub 2014 Aug 31. PMID: 25173925

Concurrent use of stimulants and second-generation antipsychotics among children with ADHD enrolled in medicaid. **Kamble P, Chen H, Johnson ML**, Bhatara V, **Aparasu RR**. *Psychiatr Serv*. 2015 Apr 1;66(4):404-10. doi: 10.1176/appi.ps.201300391. Epub 2014 Dec 15. PMID: 25828983

Cefepime free minimum concentration to minimum inhibitory concentration (fC<sub>min</sub>/MIC) ratio predicts clinical failure in patients with Gram-negative bacterial pneumonia. **Aitken SL**, Altshuler J, Guervil DJ, Hirsch EB, Ostrosky-Zeichner LL, Ericsson CD, **Tam VH**. *Int J Antimicrob Agents*. 2015 Jan 19. pii: S0924-8579(15)00024-2. doi: 10.1016/j.ijantimicag.2014.12.018. [Epub ahead of print]

Echinocandin Use in Hospitalized Patients: A Multi-institutional Study. **Garey KW, Aitken SL, Dima-Ala A, Beyda ND**, Kuper K, Xie Y, Koo HL. *Am J Med Sci*. 2015 Jan 20. [Epub ahead of print] PMID: 25607510

Assessing a conceptual model of over-the-counter medication misuse, adverse drug events and health-related quality of life in an elderly population. **Mhatre SK, Sansgiry SS**. *Geriatr Gerontol Int*. 2015 Jan 22. doi: 10.1111/ggi.12443. [Epub ahead of print] PMID: 25613189

Risk factors for nephrotoxicity onset associated with polymyxin B therapy. Dubrovskaya Y, Prasad N, Lee Y, Esaian D, Figueroa DA, **Tam VH**. *J Antimicrob Chemother*. 2015 Feb 3. pii: dkv014. [Epub ahead of print] PMID: 25652747

Which risk-adjustment index performs better in predicting 30-day mortality? A systematic review and meta-analysis. **Yang M, Mehta HB, Bali V, Gupta P, Wang X, Johnson ML, Aparasu RR**. *J Eval Clin Pract*. 2015 Feb 6. doi: 10.1111/jep.12307. [Epub ahead of print] PMID: 25659330

Disposition of Flavonoids Impacts their Efficacy and Safety. **Ma Y**, Zeng M, Sun R, **Hu M**. *Curr Drug Metab*. 2015 Feb 6. [Epub ahead of print] PMID: 25658129.

Kidney injury associated with telavancin dosing regimen in an animal model. **Tam VH**, Ledesma KR, **Bowers DR, Zhou J**, Truong LD. *Antimicrob Agents Chemother*. 2015 May;59(5):2930-3. doi: 10.1128/AAC.05002-14. Epub 2015 Feb 23. PMID: 25712358

Assessment of Minocycline and Polymyxin B Combination against *Acinetobacter baumannii*. **Bowers DR, Cao H, Zhou J**, Ledesma KR, Sun D, Lomovskaya O, **Tam VH**. *Antimicrob Agents Chemother*. 2015 May;59(5):2720-5. doi: 10.1128/AAC.04110-14. Epub 2015 Feb 23. PMID: 25712362

Transcriptional regulation of renal dopamine d1 receptor function during oxidative stress. **Banday AA, Lokhandwala MF**. *Hypertension*. 2015 May;65(5):1064-72. doi: 10.1161/HYPERTENSIONAHA.115.05255. Epub 2015 Mar 2. PMID: 25733244

Predictors of intention to quit waterpipe smoking: a survey of Arab Americans in Houston, Texas. **Athamneh L, Sansgiry SS, Essien EJ, Abughosh S**. *J Addict*. 2015;2015:575479. doi: 10.1155/2015/575479. Epub 2015 Mar 4 PMID: 25821629

Validation Study of Energy Requirements in Critically Ill, Obese Cancer Patients. Tajchman SK, **Tucker AM**, Rodriguez JE, Cardenas-Turanas M, Finch CG, Nates JL. *JPEN J Parenter Enteral Nutr*. 2015 Mar 9. pii: 0148607115574289. [Epub ahead of print] PMID: 25754439

The Role of Socioeconomic Status and Health Care Access in Breast Cancer Screening Compliance Among Hispanics. **Jadav S, Rajan SS, Abughosh S, Sansgiry SS**. *J Public Health Manag Pract*. 2015 Mar 9. [Epub ahead of print] PMID: 25756197

Resveratrol Restored Nrf2 Function, Reduced Renal Inflammation and Mitigated Hypertension in Spontaneously Hypertensive Rats. **Javkhedkar AA**, Quiroz Y, Rodoriguez-Iturbe B, Vaziri ND, **Lokhandwala MF, Banday AA**. *Am J Physiol Regul Integr Comp Physiol*. 2015 Mar 11;ajpregu.00308.2014. doi: 10.1152/ajpregu.00308.2014. [Epub ahead of print] PMID: 25761698

Chronic angiotensin AT2R activation prevents high-fat diet-induced adiposity and obesity in female mice independent of estrogen. **Nag S**, Khan MA, Samuel P, **Ali Q, Hussain T**. *Metabolism*. 2015 Mar 14. pii: S0026-0495(15)00077-3. doi: 10.1016/j.metabol.2015.01.019. [Epub ahead of print] PMID: 25869303

Tempol treatment reduces anxiety-like behaviors induced by multiple anxiogenic drugs in rats. **Patki G, Salvi A, Liu H, Atrooz F, Alkadhi I, Kelly M, Salim S**. *PLoS One*. 2015 Mar 20;10(3):e0117498. doi: 10.1371/journal.pone.0117498. eCollection 2015. PMID: 25793256

Expansion of clinical pharmacy through increased use of outpatient pharmacists for anticoagulation services. **Philip A**, Green M, Hoffman T, Gautreaux S, **Wallace D**, Roux R, **Garey KW**. *Am J Health Syst Pharm*. 2015 Apr 1;72(7):568-72. doi: 10.2146/ajhp140404. PMID: 25788511

Potentially Inappropriate Anticholinergic Medication Use in Community-Dwelling Older Adults: A National Cross-Sectional Study. **Kachru N**, Carnahan RM, **Johnson ML, Aparasu RR**. *Drugs Aging*. 2015 Apr 2. [Epub ahead of print] PMID: 25832970

Development of a conceptual model of health related quality of life among hepatitis C patients: A systematic review of qualitative studies. **Mhatre SK, Sansgiry SS**. *Hepatol Res*. 2015 Apr 6. doi: 10.1111/hepr.12521. [Epub ahead of print] PMID: 25847330