

Texas Pharmacy Congress Update – August 2018

Organizational Announcements

- Dr. Charles Taylor, Provost and EVP of Academic Affairs, Dean of the SCP
- Dr. Randy Martin, Associate Dean for Clinical Affairs
- Dr. Tina Machu, Senior Associate Dean for Academic Affairs
- Dr. Emanuel George, Associate Dean for Student Engagement & Alumni Affairs
- Dr. Lisa Killam-Worrall, Associate Dean for Curriculum
- Russell Coyle, Director of Student Experience and Academic Services (SEAS)

Student News

- Walgreens provided the System College of Pharmacy with \$8,000 to be used for diversity, equity and inclusion scholarships and activities.
- Our NCPA Student Chapter hosted "Pharmacist Roundup" on campus Saturday, March 31st. The intended audience was pharmacy owners, managers and staff and was completely orchestrated by our students. The agenda included a campus tour, an informative CE class, followed by a networking lunch with a presentation focused on building an outcomes-based business model for pharmacy. "Our goal was to increase interest in preceptorship and facilitate more preceptor partnerships with the SCP. The event was very well attended, and we definitely accomplished our goal," said Anh Dong, President of the UNT SCP NCPA Student Chapter.
- Congratulations Chinedu Diokpa. Chinedu will be representing the SCP as the newly elected Chaplain for the Kappa Psi Southwest Province. The Southwest Province includes 11 collegiate chapters and 7 graduate chapters in Texas, Oklahoma and New Mexico.
- Congratulations to the following two students for receiving scholarships at TPA:
Heily Pham -- \$1,000 Texas Pharmacy Foundation Ladies Auxiliary Scholarship
Ashton Terry -- \$1,000 Texas Pharmacy Foundation General Scholarship
Both Heily and Ashton were recognized at the 2018 Texas Pharmacy Association Awards Luncheon held on Friday, July 13th in The Woodlands, Texas.
- Ellias Hishmeh rocked the Student Pharmacists Patient Counseling Competition at TPA winning First Place.
- Congratulations to Sophia Le, To Quyen Phan, Sarah Edwards and Dipa Patel for winning 3rd Place in the Student Pharmacists Patient Counseling Competition at TPA

Faculty and Staff Updates

- Dr. Randy Martin has been elected as the 2018-2019 Texas Society of Health-System Pharmacists (TSHP) Treasurer-Elect. Randy has been actively involved in TSHP since 2004, serving in three elected officer positions.
- Congratulations to our outstanding SCP Faculty who have been selected to present projects at the upcoming 2018 USPHS Scientific and Training Symposium in Dallas, TX.
SCP Faculty: Ashwini Zolekar, Drs. Annesha White, Kassie Pfluger, Emanuel George, Jennifer Fix and Ayyappa Chatervedula
- Dr. Crystal Howell was recently accepted into AACP's new MeRIT Program and received \$1,000 to use towards her tuition. The MeRIT Program is the AACP Research Institute's newest investigator development program, connecting an accomplished ACCP research mentor with a mentee and local advisor. This is an individualized 2-year program that allows participants to be mentored through research design, data collection, results presentation and manuscript preparation.
- Beginning this September, Dr. Larry Cohen will begin his term as Treasurer of the American College of Clinical Pharmacology which coincides with the end of his term as Secretary of the same organization. He will also continue in his role as a member of the Board of Regents for the American College of Clinical Pharmacology.
- Congratulations to Dr. Cheng Yuet for being honored as a New Faculty Scholar at the 2018 STFM Annual Conference. She was the only PharmD to receive this prestigious recognition.

Research Roundup

- Dr. Liu recently received the following notice from HSC Texas Center for Health Disparities: "Congratulations on your pilot project award for your research project titled 'Big Data Analysis to Characterize Triple-Negative Breast Cancer' for the 'STAR Leadership Program/Pilot Projects' offered by the Texas Center for Health Disparities through the U54 Specialized Center of Excellence Program. We are pleased to support your project with \$40,000 for a period of six months effective March 1, 2018."
- Dr. Jerry Simecka recently received an award in the amount of \$101,630 from VenatoRx Pharmaceuticals, Inc. entitled "Efficacy of Ceftibut3en + VNRX-5236 in the murine UTI model" for a contract period covering June 1, 2018 - January 31, 2019.
- Dr. Wang has been selected to present a brief talk and highlight his Team's exciting research in "developmental abnormalities and pathogenesis caused by the dysregulation of protein deglycosylation" at the 2018 NIH FDA Glycoscience Research Day Conference in Bethesda, MD. Others attending this research conference include several well-known senior investigators in glycobiology fields and multiple program officials who are managing pre-awarded and awarded research grant applications in relevant research.

In the Community

- On March 28th, Dean Taylor participated in a Health Care Forum on the TCU Campus that focused on the Opioid Crisis in North Texas. He joined moderator, Dr. Stuart Flynn, Dean of the TCU and UNTHSC School of Medicine as well as fellow panelists Drs. Glenn Hardesty, D.O. and Carol Nati, M.D
- Dean Taylor was invited to present at "Science on Tap" hosted by the Fort Worth Museum of Science and Natural History on Friday, April 13th. "This was a great opportunity to connect with the community and share my thoughts on *Fighting the Opioid Epidemic*," said Taylor. "This was a well-attended event and I look forward to other opportunities where we can continue to educate the community on who we are and what we do at the System College of Pharmacy."
- Drs. Ayyappa Chaturvedula, Mike Kastellorizios and Donna Coyle participated in this year's 2018 Impact Showcase on behalf of TechFW. There were more than 375 people who attended and received information on some of the great things happening in Research at the UNT System College of Pharmacy.
- Hepatitis C Clinic Shows Future of Pharmacy
 - <https://www.unthsc.edu/newsroom/story/hepatitis-c-clinic-shows-future-of-pharmacy/>