

IN COLLEGE NEWS



Sharon Rush and Dr. Veronica Young

**Program to focus on medication reviews**

The National Association of Chain Drug Stores Foundation has awarded a \$20,000 to the college to develop a program that trains pharmacists to help patients better manage their medications and avoid injuries and deaths from misuse and adverse drug reactions. Faculty members Sharon Rush and Dr. Veronica Young will oversee development of the new program that will primarily target medication reviews and interventions in elderly patients.



Student researcher with Dr. Carl Erickson

**Tenth annual Littlefield Celebrating Pharmacy Research Excellence Day**

Announcement of student abstract and poster awards, and presentations by two faculty honorees were among the highlights as the college observed the tenth annual Celebrating Pharmacy Research Day. Dr. Jamie Barner, professor of health outcomes and pharmacy practice, presented the distinguished faculty lecture while Dr. Paul Ambrose gave the keynote scientific lecture. The event is sponsored by the Office of Research and Graduate Studies led by Dr. Carl Erickson, associate dean for research and graduate studies. See photos of student award winners in the *In Student News* section.



Explore UT 2014

**Explore UT 2014**

The College of Pharmacy joined the rest of the UT Austin community on Saturday, March 1 as it flung open its doors to welcome visitors for Explore UT 2014, the biggest open house in Texas. This year marked the 15th anniversary of the event that featured activities from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Under the theme science safari, a variety of events and activities were presented at the college including information targeted to prospective students in both pharmacy and nursing, current events topics of general interest, free health screenings, and fun activities for the kid in all of us.



Attendees at the McGinity reception

**A company of friends**

Approximately 100 former students and colleagues of retiring pharmaceutical professor Dr. James McGinity gathered in November to celebrate 37 years of service by the college's favorite Aussie. A reception honoring McGinity was held in conjunction with the annual meeting of the American Association of Pharmaceutical Scientists in San Antonio. Highlight of the gathering was announcement of the Dr. James W. McGinity Graduate Endowment in Pharmaceuticals. Fundraising continues toward the \$250,000 goal.



*Dr. Veronica Young*

### **Young to lead interprofessional education**

Dr. Veronica Young has been named as the inaugural director of interprofessional education and community engagement for the college. Currently serving as a clinical associate professor within the Pharmacotherapy Division in San Antonio, she assumes her new appointment immediately. She will lead the college's efforts to build an array of interprofessional education curricular elements in core and elective content as well as didactic, laboratory and experiential courses. She and her family will relocate to Austin this summer.



*Dr. Patrick Davis*

### **Davis honored for citizenship to university**

Dr. Patrick Davis, senior associate dean for academic affairs, has been named by The University of Texas at Austin as a 2014 recipient of the Civitatis Award. The award, established in 1997, recognized outstanding faculty citizenship and is conferred upon members of the faculty in recognition of dedicated and meritorious service to UT Austin above and beyond the regular expectations of teaching, research, and writing. The UT Austin president makes the award presentation based upon recommendation of the Faculty Council Executive Committee.



*Dr. Robert Talbert*

### **Talbert to receive pharmacy educator's highest award**

Dr. Robert L. Talbert, professor of pharmacotherapy, has been named the 2014 recipient of the Robert K. Chalmers Distinguished Pharmacy Educator Award, the highest recognition of outstanding contributions to pharmacy education awarded to a pharmacy academician. The award will be presented in July by the American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy (AACP) at its annual meeting in Grapevine, Texas. Talbert presented the Philip C. and Ethel F. Ashby Distinguished Lecture in April at the invitation of the Oklahoma University College of Pharmacy.



*Dr. Patrick Davis*

### **Teaching awards**

Dr. Patrick Davis, senior associate dean for academic affairs, was named educator of the year at the 2014 Spring Social hosted by Pharmacy Council. In addition to Davis, other honorees include P1 teacher of the year - Dr. Maria Croyle, Pharmaceutics Division; P2 teacher of the year - Dr. Elizabeth Hand, Pharmacotherapy Division; P3 teacher of the year - Dr. Bryson Duhon, Pharmacotherapy Division. Matt Herpin was named teaching assistant of the year while Sarah Clements was named preceptor of the year. This is the second year for the student driven awards program of teaching.



*Dr. Carolyn Brown*

### **Brown named APhA fellow**

Dr. Carolyn Brown, professor of health outcomes and pharmacy practice, has been named a fellow in the American Pharmacists Association - Academy of Pharmaceutical Research and Science. Brown's research focuses on understanding cultural and social elements that may impact both quality of care and therapeutic outcomes of patients with chronic illnesses, particularly ethnic minority patients who experience a disproportionate burden of poor health. She was recognized at the APhA meeting in Orlando in March.



*Dr. Carlton Erickson*

### **Erickson named to Purdue honor**

Dr. Carlton Erickson, the associate dean for research and graduate studies, has been selected as a distinguished pharmacy alumnus at Purdue University. He joins a growing number of faculty members within the college to receive the recognition including Dr. James T. Doluisio (1984), Dr. Steven Leslie (1994), and Dr. James Kehrer (2004). He also was appointed to a three-year term on the Board of Governors at the Hazelden Graduate School of Addiction Studies which after its merger with the Betty Ford Center is the largest addiction treatment center in the nation.



*Jennifer Ridings-Myhra*

### **Ridings-Myhra cited for leadership award**

Jennifer Ridings-Myhra, assistant dean for experiential and professional affairs, received the 2014 KE/Merck Vanguard Leadership Award presented by Kappa Epsilon Fraternity. A 1978 UT pharmacy graduate, Riding-Myhra directs the state wide experiential program, lectures in several pharmacy courses, and coordinates the professional development convocation for third year students. She also serves as a career counselor and as an advisor to students on academic probation. In 2004, she received the William J. Sheffield Outstanding Alumnus Award from the college's Alumni Association.



*Dr. Debbie Lopez*



*Dr. Amanda Loya*

### **Two cited for faculty promotions**

Dr. Debra Lopez, from the Division of Health Outcomes and Pharmacy Practice, and Dr. Amanda Loya, from the UT Austin/UT El Paso Cooperative Pharmacy Program, will see promotions effective September 1. Dr. Lopez will move from clinical associate professor to clinical professor while Dr. Loya will advance from clinical assistant professor to clinical associate professor. Both professors are graduates of UT College of Pharmacy's Pharm.D. program – Dr. Lopez, Pharm.D. 1999, and Dr. Loya, Pharm.D. 2003.



*Dr. Rana Ghosh*



*Dr. Feng Zhang*

### **Pharmaceutics welcomes two new faculty members**

Dr. Debadyuti (Rana) Ghosh and Dr. Feng Zhang have joined the faculty as assistant professors in the Division of Pharmaceutics. Dr. Ghosh's research interest focuses on the rational design of biomolecules and nanoscale materials towards cancer diagnostics and therapeutics. Dr. Zhang's research includes designing novel manufacturing processes and formulation compositions to prepare amorphous dispersions of BCS classes II and IV compounds in order to improve these compounds' pharmacokinetic performance.

### **Staff members honored for university service**

Nine staff and administrators of the college will be recognized May 7 when The University of Texas hosts The President's Staff Awards in the LBJ Auditorium. Pharmacy staff slated to be recognized include:

#### **10 years service**

- Rebecca Schwarz

#### **15 years service**

- Glen Baumgart
- Sharla Brewer
- Herman Schwarzer
- Pei Wang Thomas

#### **30 years service**

- Mario Bermea
- Elisa Fischer
- Debra Foulds

#### **35 years service**

- M. Lynn Crismon



*Pharmacy Honors Day 2014*

### **Honors Day 2014**

Academic achievement was the focus on April 12 as the college joined the university community for Honors Day 2014. The event marks the 66th year of recognizing student academic achievement. Pharmacy students recognized for academic successes and their guests gathered at Darrell K. Royal-Texas Memorial Stadium's North End Zone. Highlight of the event was individual recognition of students who received honor cords. Pharmacy students joined other university scholars in the university-wide celebration that afternoon.



*Staci Warren and Nancy Pattyn*

### **TSSHP patient counseling winners**

Longhorn students fared well in the clinical skills competition at the 2014 Texas Society of Health-System Pharmacists annual seminar in Houston. Nancy Pattyn and Staci Warren took first place honors in the P3 competition while Shiyi Geng and Steven Lee captured an honorable mention in the same category. Brittny Henderson and Sarah Rumbellow took honorable mention in the P1 competition.



*Grace Lee*

### **Three awarded AFPE fellowships**

The American Foundation for Pharmaceutical Education has notified three graduate students that they have received renewed or new fellowships for 2014-2015. Grace Lee and Sonya Veron received notification that their AFPE Pre-Doctoral Fellowships in the Pharmaceutical Sciences have been renewed for the next academic year while Benita Bamgbade was named as a new recipient of an Underrepresented Minority AFPE Pre-Doctoral Fellowship from AFPE.



*Dr. Nathan Pope, Ravi Davuluri, Ashlee Brunaugh and Felicia Kasra*

### **Longhorn team recognized as compounding competition**

A three-person student team captured second place at the fourth annual national Student Pharmacist Compounding Competition. The team consisting of students Ravi Davuluri, Ashlee Brunaugh and Felicia Kasra placed second overall in the competition. It was the first time that a UT Austin team has competed in the national event. The Longhorn team placed second in both the compounding classic and regulatory challenge. Dr. Nathan Pope, clinical assistant professor of health outcomes and pharmacy practice, serves as faculty advisor for the team.

### **Class of 2014 Pledge Drive**

This year, the Class of 2014 Pledge Drive has raised \$43,066 in pledges, the majority of which will be used to establish the Class of 2014 Scholarship Endowment. This amount is the second-highest yielded in student pledge drive history (since the Class of 2011 spearheaded this initiative). More notably, this is the highest participation rate we've ever had with 40% of the class pledging support. Regional volunteers did a superior job leading this pledge drive. They include Molly Curran in San Antonio, Nicole Casciello in Houston, Caroline Rodriguez in the Valley, Kristen Thomas in Austin, and Kristina Dinh in Dallas.

### **Longhorns recognized at TSHP meeting**

Among the varied awards and honors bestowed at the spring meeting of the Texas Society of Health-System Pharmacists were several that recognized Longhorns.

- New Pharmacist Award and newly installed TSHP Secretary - Steven Knight, Pharm.D. '09, Methodist Dallas Medical Center.
- Pharmacy Leadership - James P. Wilson, Pharm.D., Ph.D., FASHP, associate professor of health outcomes and pharmacy practice
- Distinguished Service Award and TSHP Board of Directors' Lifetime Award of Honor - Paul F. Davis, B.S. '70, executive director, TSHP
- TSHP President-elect - Shane Greene, Pharm.D. '99.
- TSHP Outgoing President - Emory Martin, clinical assistant professor of Health outcomes and pharmacy practice

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### **May**

- 16 College of Pharmacy Spring Commencement
- 17 University of Texas 131st Graduation Exercises
- 26 Memorial Day holiday

### **June**

- 2 Alumni reception during the ISPOR meeting, Montreal, Canada
- 5 Classes begin for summer school

### **July**

- 4 Independence Day holiday
- 31 Alumni reception during the TPA annual meeting in San Marcos

### **August**

- 26 Gone to Texas celebration for new students
- 27 First Day of Fall Classes