

IN COLLEGE NEWS



*Dr. James McGinity and former students*

**Former students, colleagues honor retiring Jim McGinity**

Approximately 100 students and colleagues of the retiring pharmaceuticals professor travelled across town and across the world in November to celebrate 37 years of service by the college's favorite Aussie, Dr. James McGinity. A reception in his honor 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. Many of those attending the event contributed to the endowment that currently stands at more than \$160,000. Fundraising continues toward the \$250,000 goal.



*Dr. Janet Walkow*

**Take Your Medicine draws impressive results**

Take Your Medicine (TYM), the college's first massive open online course, drew a world audience of more than 23,000 student enrollees. A total of 11% of the enrollees completed the course and earned a certificate of completion, almost double the average completion rate for other courses offered via edX, the online platform founded by the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and Harvard University in 2012. The UT System is one of approximately 29 other recognized institutions of higher education that offers courses using the platform. EdX has nearly 1.6 million users.



*Explore UT 2014*

**Explore UT 2014**

The College of Pharmacy joins the rest of the UT Austin community on Saturday, March 1 as it flings open its doors to welcome visitors for Explore UT 2014, the biggest open house in Texas. This year marks the 15th anniversary of the event that features activities from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Under the theme science safari, a variety of events and activities are scheduled at the College of Pharmacy 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.



*Dr. Robert Talbert*

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

Dr. Robert L. Talbert, professor of pharmacotherapy, has been named to receive the 2014 Robert K. Chalmers Distinguished Pharmacy Educator Award presented by the American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy (AACP). The award, the highest recognition of outstanding contributions to pharmacy education awarded to a pharmacy academician, will be presented at AACP's annual meeting scheduled for July in Grapevine, Texas. "It is rare that one finds a professor who truly challenges a student pharmacist to be the best possible pharmacist that she or he can possibly be. Bob possesses that rare ability," said Dean Lynn Crismon.



*Dr. Ben Liu*

### **Liu to be honored by American Chemical Society**

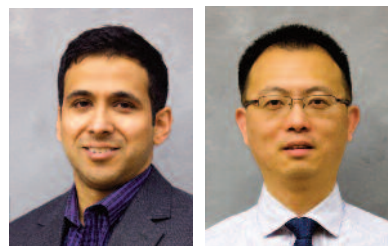
Dr. Hung-wen (Ben) Liu, professor of medicinal chemistry, has been named to receive the Arthur C. Cope Late Career Scholars Award from the American Chemical Society. The award recognizes and encourages outstanding achievement in the field of organic chemistry. It will formally be presented to Liu at the ACS's national meeting in San Francisco in August 2014. The award consists of \$5,000, a medallion and a certificate. In addition, an unrestricted grant-in-aid of \$40,000 for research in organic chemistry will be made to any university or nonprofit institution selected by the recipient.



*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 in the Division of Pharmaceutics. Both have been named as assistant professors of pharmaceutics. Dr. Ghosh's research interest focuses on the rational design of biomolecules and nanoscale materials towards cancer diagnostics and therapeutics. Dr. Zhang has been issued six US patents and currently has four patent applications under review. His research interest 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.



*Dr. Deana Dossey*

### **Dossey receives TSHP recognition**

Dr. Deana Dossey, M.S. '92 and Pharm.D. '03, has been selected to receive a special recognition award from the Texas Society of Health-System Pharmacists. Dossey, a senior pharmacist and the pharmacist-in-charge, at the Baylor Scott and White Hospital Taylor, received the "TSHP Special Recognition Award" for her outstanding organizational activities. The Austin Area Society of Health-System Pharmacists nominated Dossey for the state recognition. Ladan Panahi, president of the Austin chapter, said, "Deana has been a staple and a big reason Austin Area Society of Health-System Pharmacists has been successful and active for all these years." Dossey serves as a preceptor faculty member for pharmacy students from both UT Austin and Texas A&M Health Science Center. She also supervises students in the pharmacy tech program at Austin Community College.

### **ASHP honors Katherine Perez, Pharm.D. '10**

Katherine Perez, Pharm.D., Class of 2010, has been named recipient of the 2013 Literature Award for Innovation in Pharmacy Practice. The American Society of Health-System Pharmacists (ASHP) Research and Education Foundation sponsors the award program. Perez is an infectious disease clinical specialist at The Methodist Hospital in Houston, TX. Her winning article is titled "Integrating Rapid Pathogen Identification and Antimicrobial Stewardship Significantly Decreases Hospital Costs." The Literature Awards Program honors important contributions by pharmacists to biomedical literature. Awards are made to individuals who publish high-impact articles in primary, peer-reviewed, biomedical literature.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### **March**

- 1 Explore UT 2014
- 10-14 Spring Break

### **April**

- 4 Advisory Council meeting
- 12 UT Austin Honors Day
- 22 Louis C. Littlefield Research Day

### **May**

- 16 131st Spring Commencement