

The 7th White Coat Ceremony at SSPPS

By Binh Tran, PharmD

The White Coat Ceremony at the Skaggs School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences (SSPPS) on September 25th held special meaning as the University of California - San Diego celebrates its 50th Anniversary this year.

SSPPS faculty, alumni, student pharmacists, the incoming class of 2014, their families and their friends listened to Dean Palmer Taylor's welcoming address in the spacious Health Sciences auditorium modeled with panels made of eucalyptus wood. Dr Rita Shane, Director of Pharmacy Services at Cedars-Sinai Medical Center and Assistant Dean of Clinical Pharmacy at the UCSF School of Pharmacy delivered an energizing speech on *The Power of Differentiation: Will you be a Brand or Generic?* Attributes mentioned were competency, responsibility and accountability, intellectual curiosity, being able to seize opportunities, and establishing credibility.

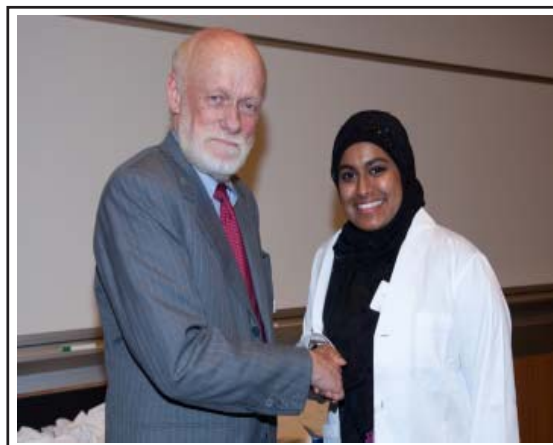
Dr. Anthony Manoguerra, Associate Dean for Student Affairs, reported that the class of 2014's grade point average of 3.71 broke the record set by the previous class which averaged 3.70. The White Coat hooding by Dean Taylor was a moving ceremony with Justine Abella being last due to a recent foot injury. The class recited the Pharmacist's Oath, which brought back memories of our own experiences.



The Student Welcome by second-year student, Ammar Zaniyal, was heartfelt and reminiscent of his comments during pharmacy conference class. Little did I know at the time that the student pharmacist who volunteered at many outreaches in the community and helped backstage during Cultural Fusion Night was the President of his class.

In closing, Dean Taylor commented on the ingeniousness of

the class when he observed them tacitly move their seats in order to step closer to the stage. They will surely pass the National Board exam with flying colors four years from now and bring the practice of pharmacy to ever heightened levels.



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UCSD Team Excels in ACCP Clinical Pharmacy Challenge

By Sarah McBane, PharmD, CDE, BCPS and Kelly Lee, PharmD, BCPP

The American College of Clinical Pharmacy (ACCP) hosted the first Clinical Pharmacy Challenge for student members this year at the Annual Meeting in Austin, Texas. The Clinical Pharmacy Challenge consists of three rounds. The first round—Trivia/Lightning—requires the participants to answer 15 questions as quickly as possible. The second round involves evaluation of a complex clinical case. The third round is based on the popular game show “Jeopardy” with 15 questions of varying difficulty in five different categories.

The Clinical Pharmacy Challenge is a team-based competition with each school’s team having three members and three alternates. The team representing University of California, San Diego

(UCSD) consisted of Angel Lam (team leader), Shaddy Javadinejad, Tim Bassell, Cathy Chang (alternate), and Robin Kinnear (alternate). Ninety-four teams competed in the initial online competition. Forty-eight teams were selected based on their scores to compete in the second online round two days later. Only four semi-finalists were invited to compete at the annual meeting. This year, the four semi-finalists were UCSD, Nova-Southeastern University (Puerto Rico campus), Purdue University, and University of Minnesota.



Our UCSD team made it to the final round for a very close competition with University of

Minnesota. We are very proud of our team as runners-up for the initial ACCP Clinical Pharmacy Challenge. They were awarded a team plaque, (which will be displayed in the Pharmaceutical Sciences Building at UCSD), and each team member received \$250. The winning team received a trophy for display at their school, a plaque for each team member, and an award of \$500 per team member.



Congratulations to Angel, Shaddy and Tim for a terrific performance!! If you are interested in competing next year or want more information about ACCP, please contact Dr. Sarah McBane or Dr. Kelly Lee.

Congratulations!

By Kelly Lee, PharmD

We are thrilled to announce that our student team composed of 4th year students, Angel Lam (Team Leader), Tim Bassell and Shaddy Javadinejad, competed in the Finals of the American College of Clinical Pharmacy Clinical Skills Challenge at the Annual Meeting in Austin, Texas, October 16-17th, 2010.

Among 94 schools that competed in the competition in the virtual rounds, they competed head-to-head against Nova Southeastern-Puerto Rico campus on Saturday during the semi-final rounds. In the end, they defeated their opponent and qualified for the Final Round to compete against University of Minnesota.

It was a close race but ultimately University of Minnesota won the final competition. Regardless, our students clearly demonstrated their knowledge and speed in front of a packed crowd and they took home the 2nd place prize.

Please help us congratulate these students for their excellent clinical skills and professionalism during the competition! It was a true demonstration of the remarkable training and educational program here at SSPPS.

Microsoft Research Jim Gray eScience Award



Philip Bourne (left) joins Tony Hey at the 7th annual eScience Workshop to accept the Microsoft Research Jim Gray eScience Award. (Microsoft)

Philip E. Bourne, a computational biologist and professor with the University of California, San Diego, is this year's recipient of Microsoft's [Jim Gray eScience Award](#) for his contributions to data-intensive computing.

Bourne is a professor with the Skaggs School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences at UC San Diego, as well as a distinguished scientist with the San Diego Supercomputer Center (SDSC) and an academic participant in the California Institute for Telecommunications and Information Technology (Calit2), both part of UC San Diego. Bourne received the award at Microsoft's eScience Workshop held in Berkeley, California, this week.

Bourne is also co-founder of [SciVee](#), the Web 2.0 resource dedicated to the dissemination of scientific research and science-specific research networking. Launched in late 2007 as a collaboration between the National Science Foundation and SDSC, SciVee has been used by hundreds of thousands of students and professional scientists as a means of learning and sharing research through online science videos that supplement peer-reviewed journal articles, stimulate discussion, and promote collaboration.

"Phil's contributions to open access in bioinformatics and computational biology are legion, and are exactly the sort of groundbreaking accomplishments in data-intensive science that we celebrate with the Jim Gray Award," said Tony Hey, corporate vice president of the External Research Division of Microsoft Research, in a corporate blog this week following the announcement. "In particular, Phil's role as the founding editor-in-chief of the open-access journal *PLoS Computational Biology* has significantly advanced open access in mathematical and computational biology."

The Jim Gray eScience award was established in 2008 as a tribute to Jim Gray, a Technical Fellow for Microsoft Research who disappeared at sea in 2007. Gray was intrigued by the explosive growth of data in modern science, and viewed the accumulation, organization, and utilization of this data deluge as the next step in the evolution of scientific exploration. He was dedicated to the idea that data-intensive computing would help solve some of society's greatest challenges.

"Jim defined data-intensive computing as a *Fourth Paradigm* in the evolution of scientific thinking. I am honored and humbled that our small efforts have been recognized in this way," said Bourne

Bourne is also the Associate Director of the RCSB Protein Data Bank (PDB), the single worldwide, open-access repository for three-dimensional structures of large molecules and nucleic acids. The PDB has more than 170,000 unique users per month, with more than 68,000 molecule structures archived to date. The RCSB PDB is jointly managed by Rutgers University, under director Helen M. Berman, and the Skaggs School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences at UC San Diego, with SDSC serving as the primary web and FTP site for users.

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Bourne's research focus is on relevant biological and educational outcomes derived from computational science and scholarly communication, employing algorithms, text mining, machine learning, meta-languages, biological databases, and visualization to advance discovery in drug effects, evolution, cell signaling, apoptosis, and systems biology.

Bourne received his doctorate in 1980 from the Flinders University, South Australia. His other recent awards include 2009 Benjamin Franklin Award in recognition of his efforts as a leading advocate for the free and open dissemination of science and scientific data, the Flinders University Convocation Medal for Outstanding Achievement (2004), and the Sun Microsystems Convergence Award (2002).

About SDSC

As an Organized Research Unit of UC San Diego, SDSC is a national leader in creating and providing cyberinfrastructure for data-intensive research, and is celebrating its 25th anniversary this fall as one of the National Science Foundation's first supercomputer centers. Cyberinfrastructure refers to an accessible and integrated network of computer-based resources and expertise, focused on accelerating scientific inquiry and discovery. SDSC is a founding member of TeraGrid, the nation's largest open-access scientific discovery infrastructure.

Fall Community Health Fair

By Binh Tran, PharmD

The semi-annual Asian Pacific Health Foundation Fall Community Health Fair organized on October 17, 2010 at the Vietnamese Federation of San Diego drew a record number of 220 attendees.

This was only possible because of the outstanding collaboration of :

- The UCSD student pharmacists who performed an array of screenings for hypertension, diabetes, cholesterol, heartburn assessment and immunization guidelines.
- The medical students who screened for glaucoma under the supervision of Dr. Michelson and other specialists in the UCSD School of Medicine Student Sight Savers Program.
- The SDSU volunteers recruited by Nhat and Anh Pham.
- The Asian Pacific Health Foundation long-time staff.
- All the Volunteers in the community.

The Vietnamese Federation expressed interest in participating in the free health services provided at



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this central location. We also received funds from Gilead Sciences and Bristol-Myers Squibb for Hepatitis B, Warner Chilcott for Bone densitometry, and Community Health Group for general expenses.

Dr. Tuan Nguyen, gastro-enterologist in town, gave support for the Hepatitis C tests which ran concurrently with the Hepatitis B tests, making the blood testings even more attractive to the fair attendees. The glaucoma screening performed by the UCSD School of Medicine Student Sight Savers Program completed the spectrum of tests offered at the health fair.



Student Pharmacist at UC San Diego wins Statewide Award for Leadership

San Diego, CA, October 14, 2010 – A UC San Diego Skaggs School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences (SSPPS) student has been named the recipient of a 2010 Student Leadership Award by the California Society of Health-System Pharmacists (CSHP).

Yolanda Dickey is a fourth year student pharmacist at SSPPS. Dickey was elected CSHP – UCSD Chapter President, served on the Student Section Executive Committee, was a co-chair of the Poison Prevention Judging Committee, and was the UCSD Culture Fusion Co-Coordinator, a fundraiser with proceeds funding various outreaches in San Diego.

Dickey has devoted the last three years of her professional education to leading student pharmacists in innovative community outreach projects including poison education in elementary schools, asthma awareness, and fundraising projects for the Free Medical clinics. “Her enthusiasm, ethics, communication skills and strong leadership skills will make her a leader in our profession long after she has graduated,” said Candis Morello, Associate Professor of Clinical Pharmacy at SSPPS and the student chapter’s faculty student liaison.

Dickey continues to participate in the student chapter, as well as the local regional chapter, the San Diego Society of Health-System Pharmacists. Dickey currently works at a CVS Pharmacy in San Diego.

The Student Leadership Award was presented at CSHP’s annual meeting, Seminar, held October 21-24th in San Francisco, California. One student from each California School of Pharmacy who has contributed to CSHP and the pharmacy profession was recognized.

Highlights from the Fall 2010 Applied Pharmacoeconomics and Outcomes Research Forum

By Jan Hirsch, RPh, PhD

The seventh Applied Pharmacoeconomics and Outcomes Research Forum was held September 27th at the University of California San Diego, Price Center. The event was hosted by the Skaggs School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences and supported by a grant from Partnership for Health Analytic Research.

The topic for the Forum was “*Pharmacoeconomics and Pricing: Now and After Health Care reform*”.

Speakers:

Pricing Basics and What to Expect from Health Care Reform

Jack M. Mycka
Global President & CEO
Medical Marketing Economics LLC

What could this mean? Perspectives of two key stakeholder groups.

Issues for Medical Centers

John H. Grubbs, MS, MBA, RPh
Director of Pharmacy
UC Davis Medical Center

Issues for Pharmacy Benefit Managers (PBMs)

Bill Barre
VP, Business Development
Rich Lieblich
VP, Industry Relations
MedImpact Healthcare Systems



Panel Member Q&A Session



John H. Grubbs, Director of Pharmacy
UC Davis Medical Center



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A summary of the Forum Highlights and speaker slides are posted at <http://pharmacy.ucsd.edu/faculty/research.shtml>.

Forum participants included representatives from managed care, government, pharmaceutical and biotech companies, medical centers and academia. Each was invited because of mutual interest in expanding the practical application of pharmaco-economic and outcomes research to enhance decision-making. Represented companies included:

Aetna	Partnership for Health Analytic Research
Aequitas	Prescription Solutions
Allergan	PRO –Spectus
Amgen	ReimbursementIQ
Amylin	Sharp Healthcare
Astra Zeneca	Sharp Rees-Stealy
Bristol Meyers Squibb	Touro University
E.B.D. Group	UC Davis Medical Center
Health Economic Associates	UCSD Medical Center
Kaiser Permanente	UCSD School of Medicine
MedImpact Healthcare Systems	UCSD SSPPS
Medi-Cal Dept Healthcare Services	USC School of Pharmacy
Miller Pharma Consulting	UCSF School of Pharmacy
Milliman	VA – San Diego
Novartis	Veritas
Ortho-McNeil Janssen	Western University Health Sciences
Pfizer	

Many thanks to our sponsor: Partnership for Health Analytic Research, LLC

Outreach with the Tai-Chi Practice Group

By Binh Tran, PharmD

Saturday, September 25th marked a second outreach event between the Asian Pacific Health Foundation and the Tai Chi Practice group at the Linda Vista Recreation Center in San Diego. Thanks to the coordination of Mrs. Hien Ngo the first outreach in October of 2008 occurred in a series of three events that extended to the City Heights and Mira Mesa Recreation Centers.

The program began with a briefing of the Asian Pacific Health Foundation's activities which brings programs of raising awareness and dissemination of information for prominent health conditions to the Asian communities in San Diego. Unfortunately, Dr. Hiep Nguyen, Internal Medicine specialist, who was scheduled to speak on *Skin Cancer: How to prevent it*, was unable to make it, so I presented for her. The topic was helpful since one needs to protect the skin from the sun's harmful rays at all ages and under various conditions. Questions on how often to apply sunscreen are commonly asked. One patient asked about an intermittent mass on the back and was referred to Dr. Hiep for more followup.



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The second topic was on *Immunizations*, presented interactively by Lyn Nguyen and Tino Tran, 2nd year student pharmacists at the Skaggs School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences at UCSD. The flu season is approaching, so information on the flu vaccine is important to know, as is the case with the Hepatitis B and other disease immunizations. As the school celebrated the White Coat Ceremony the evening before, four first-year students, Nicholas Vu, Nikki Pham, Jennifer Cao and Chausa Nguyen, participated at the outreach, earning Introductory Pharmacy Practice Experience (IPPE) credit for their attendance, per Dr. James Colbert, Assistant Dean for Experiential Education.



Tina Nguyen, 3rd year student, joined the group at SSPPS, making a strong representation of the School of Pharmacy in community outreach. One attendee inquired about availability of medical students for potential outreach in Alabama. This reinforces the need for existing and more extensive collaborative work between the pharmacy and medical students at UCSD.

Nhan Pham, a recent UCSD graduate, is considering entering medical school. For the moment, he volunteers at the APHF, providing great help with the audio-visual equipment for this event.

About 15 adult students of the Tai Chi class were present at the outreach, joined by parents of the badminton class next door. Lunch of vegetarian fare was provided to all.

SSPPS Volunteers: Our Unsung Heroes

By James Colbert, PharmD, Assistant Dean, Experiential Education

The great political activist and civil rights leader, Mohandas Gandhi once said: “The best way to find yourself is to lose yourself in the service of others.” This is clearly a charge that our SSPPS volunteers have taken to heart, for they are an important reason why our school has become so successful in such a short period of time. Our volunteers are an integral component in every aspect of our educational program. They volunteer as lecturers and course coordinators on campus, participate as preceptors in Introductory Pharmacy Practice Experiences (IPPE) and Advanced Pharmacy Practice Experiences (APPE), work with our students on research projects, work with our students in the Student-Run UCSD Free Clinics, serve as advisors to a number of student organizations, participate as members of advisory boards, collaborate with our faculty on important projects, and serve as role models for our students involved in Community Outreach events. These are just a few of the many ways in which our volunteers enrich our program here at SSPPS. They are dedicated, inspiring, and selfless. The success of SSPPS is a reflection of their great talent, skills, and commitment. We owe them a great debt of gratitude, and offer them our sincerest thanks!

Julie Abraham
Victoria Adams
Leonna Aldrich
Sheila Aligned-Rivera
Rachael Allwine
Michael Amantea
Philip Anderson
Anisa Arjmand
Doris Auth
Nahed Bahlawan

Brandon Bailey
Craig Ballard
Nyra Balquiedra
David Bartlett
Jennigrace Bautista
Amy Benner
Shanna Block
Joel Boerth
Daniel Boggie
Daniel Boggie

Shiva Bojak
Mark Bounthavong
Catherine Bousman
Kevin Box
Theodore Briski
Sherry Brown
Maggie Brownell
Quynhloan Bui
Frank Cantrell
Linda Cao

Edmund Capparelli
Christina Chambers
Betty Chan
Elena Chan
Timothy Chen
Helen Chen
Joann Cheung

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David Dirig	Margo Karriker	Edna Ng-Chen	Jilian Skog
Benjamin Dishman	Rashid Kazerooni	Khanh Nguyen	Leia Skol Hoang
Alex Dominguez	Ashkan Khabazian	Kathryn Nguyen	Sally Smith
Larry Drechsler	Naureen Khan	Ty Nguyen	Mark Smith
Michael Dunn	Michael Kruse	Thi Nguyen	Alicia Somers
Debbie Duwe	Jonathan Lacro	Stacey Nguyen	Eyman Sonbol
Candace Eacker	Jennifer Lai	Christine Nguyen	Kelli Stadalman
Melissa Egan	Nancy Lam	Annette Nguyen	Katherine Steffel
Tarek El-Ansary	Yuet-Hing Lam	Ken Nguyen	Craig Steinberg
Rene Endow-Eyer	Jason Lam	Thanh Nguyen	Dieter Steinmetz
Amy Eng	James Lane	Edward Norton	Maria Stubbs
Sara Erickson	Megan Lang	Kayte O'Brien	Janice Sudaria Kerr
Williams Ettouati	Ann Le	Robert Pachorek	Caroline Sul
Marian Eusebio	Thuan Le	Sophia Pak	Rochelle Sullivan
Sanaz Farhadian	Tung Le	Craig Park	Ji Sun
Ashley Feist	Susan Leckband	Helen Park	Kimberly Tallian
Jessica Fiedelak	Cynthia Lee	Pratima Patel	Phuong Thai
Ron Floyd	Jeremy Lee	Bimal Patel	Gary Thomas
Emerald Foster	Taekyun Lee	Seema Patel	Robert Tindula
Anthony Fox	Marcie Lepkowsky	Stephanie Peck-Wheeler	Linh To
John Frater	Dmitri Lerner	Danielle Pierce	Juan Toledo
Darlene Fujimoto	Beatriz Lewis-Batarse	Rosene Pirrello	Thanh (Tanya) Tran
Wendy Fung	Kimberly Liang	Yazdi Pithavala	Cynthia Tran
Joan Furlano	Diane Lieu	Kara Plauger	Kim Tran
John Gama	Lesley Lim	Brian Plowman	Binh Tran
Nasim Ghafouri	Kevin Lor	Mariam Qozi	Josephine Tran
Muoi Gi	Sarah Lorentz	Susan Raber	Susan Trieu
Denise Gomez	Chai Low	Sally Rafie	Ed Tsu
Richard Gordon	Jennifer Lowe	Andy Rathbun	Gloria Tsu
Rebecca Graham	Grant Lum	Chantal Reed	Lillian Udomphonkul
William Greenberg	Phong Ly	Linda Reynolds	Catherine Ulep
Jerome Greene	Carol Manifold	Roxanna Rodriguez-Ramirez	Karen Umali
Anh-Thu Ha	Belinda Martinez	Gale Romanowski	Shadi Vaccani
Gary Hagney	Samuel Martinez	Amy Rorstad	Christina Valencia
Natalie Hall	William Mastin	James Ross	Susan VanCampen
David Haller	Stephanie Matinpour	Laurie Rubie	Michael Vancheri
Gerald Hammond, Jr.	Shannon Matsko	Andrew Ryan	Merry Wang
Paul Hamrah	Michele Mc Cue	Neda Sarijlou	Lindsay Wargel
Paul Hansen	Kenneth McAndrews	Crystal Sau	Sherry Watanabe
Jessica Harris	Sue McGuinness	Jason Sauberan	Scott Weber
Shawn Heiati	Gordon McGuire	Kenneth Schell	Shannon Welch
Pieter Helmons	Colin McGuire	Michelle Schlueter	Thomas Wilson
Jennifer Howard	Katherine Medley	Robert Schoenhaus	Eva Wong
Carol Huang	Margaret Mendes	Marie Scott	Christopher Woo
Douglas Humber	Michael Misel	Stephen Segal	Sheryl Wu
Yelena Itkin	Daniel Montoya	Pamela Shatwell	Thomas Yi
Max Jahng	Brian Moore	Todd Shinohara	Calantha Yon
Charles James	Anthony Morreale	Harminder Sikand	Alice Yu
Jaclyn Jaskowiak	Providence Morris	Raffi Simonian	Larry Zelman
Scott Johns	Bill Murray	Armen Simonian	Michael Ziegler
Diana Jung	Jennifer Namba	Julie Sklenicka	