Preceptor Spotlight: Frank Chu, Pharm D.

Staff Pharmacist II; UC San Diego Health

Training: Undergraduate studies at UC Irvine, UC San Francisco Pharmacy School; PGY1 residency in Acute Care and PGY2 residency in Critical Care at UC San Diego Health.

Specialty: Critical Care

SSPPS: What inspired you to become a preceptor, and how long have you been precepting?
Frank: I was inspired to become a preceptor after completing my two years of pharmacy residencies. I had really excellent preceptors who guided me and facilitated my learning when I was transitioning from a student to a clinician. I have been a preceptor approximately 10 years.

SSPPS: What challenges do you see as a preceptor for pharmacy students?
Frank: One of the biggest challenges is having enough time and resources to perform precepting at a satisfactory level. Pharmacist preceptors have many responsibilities and are pulled in many different directions during the work day and as a result, not much time is left to precept students. However, because I greatly enjoy precepting, and appreciate the value of giving back to students and fostering the next generation of clinical pharmacists, we find creative ways to teach and provide clinical pearls whenever we have a spare moment.

SSPPS: Are there some specific challenges for future pharmacists you feel are important to address with your students?
Frank: I think as technology becomes more sophisticated, a lot of what pharmacists do now will be automated (e.g. verifying, checking, dispensing). How pharmacists can remain relevant is performing tasks that will be more difficult for machines to perform, such as having face-to-face interactions with our patients, listening and responding to their problems, and providing the human touch. I think pharmacy curriculums nowadays are incorporating more and more of the component of working with other disciplines and also talking to patients. I think this is a very important part of our education and will help to serve us well into the future.

Transitions and Achievements

- Jason Lam, PharmD, CSSBB, FCPHA, FCSHP, was recognized as CPhA Fellow at the California Pharmacists Association
- Therese Sage Clark, PharmD, BCPS, Pharmacy Student Coordinator at Sharp Healthcare, received her third Board recertification in pharmacotherapy for 2018-2024. She has been board certified since 1995.
- Anthony P. Morreale, PharmD, MBA, BCPS, FASHP received the Distinguished Federal Pharmacist Award, which recognizes pharmacists who distinguish themselves and the profession through outstanding contributions in federal pharmacy practice resulting in significant improvements in the health of the nation and the populations they serve.
- The San Diego County Pharmacists Association was awarded a Chapter of Excellence Award at the 2018 CPhA annual meeting.
Upcoming Preceptor Development Events

The Office of Experiential Education is hosting a preceptor’s conference on Saturday, June 30th from 8 am to noon. The event, which will include breakfast, will be held on the SSPPS campus. The topic is “Today’s Pharmacy Curriculum from a Preceptor’s Perspective.” Two faculty members and six preceptors from the community will present information about the SSPPS curriculum. CAPE continuing education credit will be offered for this event. If you did not receive an invitation, but would like to attend the event, please email Pam McGlynn at pmcglynn@ucsd.edu. A Preceptor Skills Workshop will also be hosted at the school on Saturday, August 25th. Invitations for that event will be emailed out the end of July.

SSPPS Welcomes New Experiential Education Leadership

Dr. Renu Singh has been appointed as Assistant Dean for Experiential Education upon the retirement of Dr. James Colbert in June. Dr. Renu Singh is a Clinical Professor and a founding faculty at the UC San Diego Skaggs School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences since 2002. She has been a pharmacy preceptor for more than 20 years, precepting IPPE and APPE students, in addition to Ambulatory Care and Community Pharmacy residents. Her clinical practice is at UC San Diego Health Diabetes Self-Management Clinics, which she co-founded. She is also a course chair for the Pharmacy Practice course at the SSPPS. Dr. Singh is excited for the opportunity to meet with and engage our preceptors and community partners for mutually beneficial collaborations.

Dr. Sarah Lorentz has been working in the Office of Experiential Education (OEE) since 2009, after many years of precepting students and residents in Home Infusion and Ambulatory Care Practice. She has served as Coordinator and Director, Ambulatory Care and Community Practice Experiential Education, in advanced pharmacy practice experiences. She has worked closely with preceptors to develop high quality experiential learning sites. Additionally, she has been involved with the creation and promotion of experiential education preceptor development programming.

We are pleased to announce that Sarah will be expanding her expertise and talents in OEE in a new position, as Director of Introductory Pharmacy Practice Experiences (IPPE’s).

Dr. Felix Yam has been appointed as Director of Advance Pharmacy Practice Experiences (APPE). Dr. Yam is an Associate Clinical Professor at the UC San Diego Skaggs School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences and has been at SSPPS since 2010. His clinical practice is at the VA San Diego where he practices in a pharmacist-run heart failure clinic and precepts pharmacy residents and students in cardiology and acute care medicine. He also serves as the UCSD SSPPS/VA APPE program coordinator and is a course chair in the therapeutics course for SSPPS students. Dr. Yam is excited for this opportunity and looks forward to strengthening existing relationships and creating new partnerships to meet the present and future demands of the APPE program.
Reminder of SSPPS Rotation Absence Policy

- Students are to contact both their preceptor and the Office of Experiential Education (Lisa Avery lavery@ucsd.edu for APPEs and Pam McGlynn pmcglynn@ucsd.edu for IPPEs) if they are unable to attend the rotation due to illness or emergency.
- Missed rotation time will need to be made up at the discretion of the preceptor.
- The preceptor’s approval needs to be secured in advance if a student needs to be absent on a scheduled rotation day.
- A plan should be developed by the preceptor and student for the completion of missed time from the rotation, if the preceptor deems necessary.
- Conditions for excused absences: Students are encouraged to attend professional meetings and interviews required for residency application activities. It is the responsibility of the student to organize these dates in ways to minimize the impact on their educational experiences. Students are expected to work with their preceptors when planning/scheduling interview dates.

Do You Have an Appointment with SSPPS?

**Benefits of an Appointment:**

- Physical and VPN access to the UC San Diego **library system**
- Utilize the UC San Diego **shuttle bus service** (shuttles serve campus, UC San Diego medical centers and key points off campus)
- May be eligible for reimbursement for **poster presentations and/or meeting registration** (see SSPPS website for details)
- For questions about the appointment process, please contact Cynthia Barlow at **(858) 822-6690** or cbarlow@ucsd.edu
- After you have your appointment, contact Andrina Marshall at amarshall@ucsd.edu to set-up VPN access to library resources (please allow one week for processing). Please provide first name, middle name or initial, last name, and date of birth when you request access.

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<td><strong>Renu Singh</strong>, Pharm.D., BCACP, APh, CDE, Assistant Dean, Experiential Education <a href="mailto:rfsingh@ucsd.edu">rfsingh@ucsd.edu</a> 858.822-5585</td>
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<td><strong>Lisa Avery</strong>, APPE Experiential Education Coordinator <a href="mailto:lavery@ucsd.edu">lavery@ucsd.edu</a> 858.822.2216</td>
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<td><strong>Pam McGlynn</strong>, IPPE Experiential Education Coordinator <a href="mailto:pmcglynn@ucsd.edu">pmcglynn@ucsd.edu</a> 858.822.7803</td>
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