

# UC San Diego Skaggs School of Pharmacy & Pharmaceutical Sciences Newsletter

Fall 2014

## 2014 White Coat Ceremony Class of 2018 A Distinctive Milestone By Binh Tran, PharmD

This year's White Coat Ceremony marks a new chapter in the history of the school. A new Dean has arrived: Dr. James McKerrow has replaced Dr. Palmer Taylor who was the Founding Dean for the past ten years, and is now an Emeritus Dean.

(Dean McKerrow brings the knowledge and experience of a long-time Professor of Pathology and Director of the Center for Discovery and Innovation in Parasitic Diseases at the UC San Francisco.) A much larger incoming class of 71 students compared to 60 in previous years denotes the ever high prestige of Skaggs School of Pharmacy & Pharmaceutical Sciences. The address by Rebecca Cupp, Vice President of Pharmacy at Ralphs Grocery Company, spoke to the high level of professional services the future pharmacists will provide to the community. Associate Dean for Student Affairs Candis Morello presented the students who then received their white coats from Dean McKerrow. All recited the Oath of a Pharmacist, an all-time valued tradition to remind entering students as well as past graduates of their vocations through the years. Carmen Truong, class of 2017, extended a vibrant welcome to the entering class. Dean McKerrow concluded the ceremony by inviting all for refreshments on the patio.













## Student News

### Experiences in Mental Health and Pharmacy

By Andrew Valine, P-3

October 5th through October 11<sup>th</sup> was depression screening week in San Diego County, and once again Skaggs Students were out in full force. This is the second year now that the CPNP student chapter, College of Neurological and Psychiatric Pharmacists, has hosted a depression screening booth by the biomedical library. Time and time again, students here at UC San Diego School of Pharmacy & Pharmaceutical Sciences have devoted numerous hours in community service activities. This time was no different, with over 120 screening tests successfully given. Students asked people passing by to fill out a short survey addressing mental health awareness. Afterward, the survey was reviewed by our own Dr. Kelly Lee to see if the person was at risk for depression. He or she was then given the proper resources and encouraged to follow-up and receive help with any problems or concerns. Mental Illness is just beginning to receive the recognition and attention it deserves in health care, and pharmacists are a great resource



to help fight depression and other mental conditions.

The depression screening was a perfect segue for students to get exposure to psychiatric health. Following the depression screening, CPNP hosted a roundtable experience with psychiatric pharmacists in San Diego County. Psychiatric pharmacy is a new and expanding profession bridging the gap between traditional pharmacist roles and mental illness. Psychiatric Pharmacists who shared their knowledge with students included Dr. Rene Endow, Dr. Quynh Vu, Dr. Angela Crispo, and Dr. Kelly Lee at UC San Diego. This event provided eager students a perfect opportunity to ask those in the field about “what’s it really like”. Question topics ranged from daily activities to atmosphere and work conditions. As a student, it’s always nice to hear first-hand accounts of the profession.

A special thank you to all the students and preceptors who came out and made these events successful.

## SSPPS Academy of Managed Care Pharmacy Student Chapter Wins Multiple Awards at Annual Conference

By Jonathan H. Watanabe, PharmD

The new UC San Diego SSPPS student chapter for the Academy of Managed Care Pharmacy (AMCP) had an impressive showing at its first national AMCP conference with three award winning abstracts at the AMCP Nexus Conference in Boston, MA in October. Samantha W. Ma (P2) received a platinum award for having one of the top 15 abstracts submitted in her research category. She was selected to present her

research, co-authored by chapter faculty advisor Dr. Jonathan H. Watanabe, titled "Association between Mental Health and Medication Access, ER Visits, and Hospitalizations in a Nationally Representative Survey Database" as a podium presentation. Danial Husain (P2) received a bronze award for his poster titled "Health Services Utilization of Intravenous Immunoglobulin (IVIG): Predictive Variables for Non-Adherence and Adverse Events in IVIG Patients". This poster was co-authored by Dr. Jan Hirsch of SSPPS, Dr. Watanabe, and Dr. Michael Rigas of Kaba Fusion. SSPPS Alum (2007) and current

chapter co-advisor Dr. Sara Erickson along with SSPPS 2014 graduate Dr. Sean Kim received a bronze award for their poster titled

"Longitudinal Utilization and Cost Trends of Oncology

Drugs Within the Pharmacy Benefit". The poster was also co-authored by Wenyi (Amanda) Qiu and Bimal V. Patel of MedImpact. SSPPS will be hosting its first annual local AMCP P&T Student Competition on Saturday, January 17, 2015 coordinated by student pharmacist John Khoan (P3). The winning four student pharmacist teams will have their formulary reviews submitted to the national AMCP organization for consideration for the national AMCP Student Competition in April 2015 in San Diego.

If you are interested in attending the local competition please contact John Khoan at [jkhoan@ucsd.edu](mailto:jkhoan@ucsd.edu).



From Left: Danial Husain (P2), Chapter Co-Advisor Dr. Sara Erickson (SSPPS Class of 2007), Dr. Sean Kim (SSPPS Class of 2014)



AMCP Chapter Diplomat Dr. Jennifer Leung, Samantha W. Ma (P2), Dr. Sara Erickson

## CSHP Seminar

By David Adler, PharmD

UC San Diego SSPPS students were individually and as a group well recognized at CSHP Seminar for their academic and professional accomplishments.

Congratulations to all.

Alan Chin CSHP Student Leadership Award.

Sarah Brown accepting the three awards on behalf of students for Student Chapter Community Service Project Awards for Asthma Camp, Smoking Cessation Outreach, and Poison Prevention

UC San Diego SSPPS Team placed 2nd in the Annual CSHP Quiz Bowl, tied with the lead at the first round and scoring just behind UCSF in Final Jeopardy.

Aakash Patel and Mitch Vitale competed in the CSHP Clinical Skills Competition and were selected as the leading clinical skills team of the eight California schools of pharmacy and will now go on to ASHP Midyear Clinical Meeting to compete at the national level in early December.

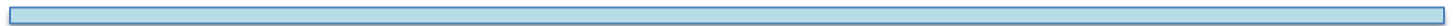
Four posters:

Francis Wang, Crystal Zhou, Eduardo Fricovsky and team - Establishing a Tobacco Cessation Clinic at a Student-Run Free Clinic.

Johnny Zhou, Jonathan Watanabe and team - The Search for Quality Over Quantity: The Role of Pharmacists in Reducing Polypharmacy

Crystal Zhou, Brittany Newton and team James Colbert, Sarah McBane CAPSLEAD-Demands of Student Pharmacist Inspired Programming: Challenges and Opportunities for Small Class-size Pharmacy Schools

Anna Tran and Brookie Best - Pharmacokinetics of Rilpivirine (Edurant) in HIV Infected Women During Pregnancy



## Faculty News

### Dorrestein Selected as Recipient for the John Jacob Abel Award in Pharmacology

By Palmer Taylor, PhD

It is my pleasure to announce that Professor Pieter Dorrestein has been selected to receive the John Jacob Abel Award in Pharmacology. This is an award to young investigators in the discipline and is the oldest and most recognized award given by the American Society for Pharmacology and Experimental Therapeutics. Associated with the award is a lecture to be delivered at the Experimental Biology meetings in Boston in the Spring. This award has also been received by three Nobel Laureates, as well as Katharina Akassoglou, who is now at UCSF, Eugene Braunwald, the Founding Chair of the Department of at UC San Diego.

This is a great credit to Pieter, the Skaggs School of Pharmacy & Pharmaceutical Sciences, UC San Diego Health Sciences and UC San Diego. I might also add that a few years ago the Society raised the age limit for the award by five years because of extended training periods at pre- and post-doctoral levels, but Pieter would have been eligible for the award even if they had not raised the age limit. As most of you well know, Pieter has collaborated extensively and brought new facets of high resolution and laser imaging mass spectrometry across our campus Sciences and the San Diego Supercomputer Center. These developments have been highlighted in several companion articles written by senior Medicine and Steven Mayer, the Founding Head of the Division of Pharmacology extending from the Scripps Institution of Oceanography to the Engineering investigators in top tier journals.

Pieter also serves as the Director of the Collaborative Mass Spectrometry Innovation Center and is a Co-director of the Institute for Metabolomic Medicine. The Global Natural Product Mass Spectrometry Social (GNPS) molecular networking that is being co-developed with Nuno Bandeira has been responsible for developing linkages for identification and annotation of natural products where there is world-wide participation.

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### An Important Announcement

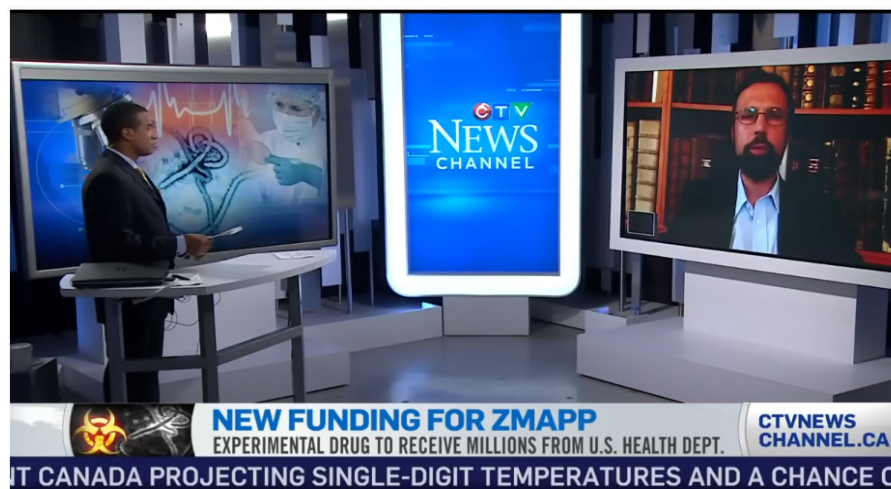
By Binh Tran, PharmD

Dr. Palmer Taylor, Dean Emeritus and Professor from Skaggs School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences has been selected to receive the 2014 Asian Heritage Award in Medicine. He shared this distinction with the Asian Pacific Islander community and the greater community of Southern California during an exclusive reception and stage presentation the evening of November 22, 2014 at the California Center for the Arts in Escondido, San Diego County, California, where his achievement was displayed and received congressional recognition.



## Dr. Michael Gilson, MD, PhD

### New Funding for ZMAPP



Dr. Michael Gilson was interviewed by Canadian news about advances in ebola vaccination and therapy, including new federal funding for the experimental drug ZMapp, from San Diego biotechnology company Mapp Biopharmaceutical. If you wish to learn more go to:

[http://ucsdnews.ucsd.edu/pressrelease/pharmaceutical\\_companies\\_to\\_share\\_data\\_for\\_drug\\_design\\_via\\_new\\_uc\\_san\\_diego](http://ucsdnews.ucsd.edu/pressrelease/pharmaceutical_companies_to_share_data_for_drug_design_via_new_uc_san_diego).

## SSPPS News

### Make it in America Conference By Binh Tran, PharmD

“We live in a world of turbulent change, and creativity is the magic word that can turn around America” said Rosalynn Carmen, co-founder and chair of the Making It In America conference which took place at the Center for the Arts in Escondido, California on November 19 through 22, 2014.



Through innovation and entrepreneurship focused on latest advances in stem cell research, nanotechnology, virtual reality and other disciplines in science and technology, we can make the American dream come true. The conference, a collaborative effort by federal, county, local and non-profit officials, provided a venue for overseas investors and innovators to examine potential partnerships in San Diego and elsewhere in Southern California.

Guests came from China, the Philippines, Thailand, and other places. U.S. Representative Scott Peters, representing California's 52nd Congressional District, and San Diego County District 3 Supervisor Dave Roberts chaired the conference; Escondido Mayor Sam Abed served as host.

On the 2<sup>nd</sup> day of the conference, Dr. Palmer Taylor presented on the activities at SSPPS, and the impact on community health in San Diego. Dr. Taylor delivered a powerful speech at the Asian Heritage Awards Gala night, as honoree for Medicine.

On the 3<sup>rd</sup> day of the conference, Dr. Flossie Wong-Staal presented an excellent talk on the migration of the HIV virus to many parts of the world. I was glad to renew contact with Dr. Wong-Staal after many years seeing her at the Asian Heritage Awards in 2007 when she was the keynote speaker on the topic of HIV. Dr. Robert Gish spoke on Hepatitis B and C in the US and the world, especially in Asia and the Philippines. Dr. Gish was the Diversity Pioneer honoree at the Asian Heritage Awards in 2012, along with Dr. Grace Kuo, Honoree for Medicine at that event.



Binh Tran presented the results of screening events hosted by the Asian Pacific Health Foundation in San Diego, highlighting local efforts to detect Hepatitis B and other diseases at an early stage to prevent harmful effects to the liver, and enhanced linkage to care for at-risk groups in San Diego.

## Health Fair at Holy Spirit Church By Binh Tran, PharmD

A large number of UC San Diego pharmacy students and medical students participated at the Community Health Fair at Holy Spirit Church on October 5, 2014. We had several free health services for the members at the church who attended the Vietnamese mass ending at 10 AM, and the English mass ending at 11:30 AM.

The event, planned several months before, coincided with the beginning of the school year and outreach activities of the entering class of the SSPPS students, who shadowed the work of upper level students.

Team leaders were:

- Erika Hefazi for Diabetes
- Jecedthel Dumpit for Hypertension
- Garrett Rueda for Cholesterol
- Tuyet Phan for Safe Meds and Self-Care topic
- Esther Park recruited classmates for the Osteoporosis project using Bone densitometry.

Kayla Giang was the preceptor. Tommy Kwong and UC San Diego APAMSA members performed vision acuity and glaucoma screenings under the supervision of an ophthalmologist.

Attendance: 34, in the following services:

Hypertension: 17

Diabetes: 28

Hyperlipidemia: 23

Self-care: 11

Hepatitis B screening: 10

Bone densitometry: 10

Vision acuity and glaucoma screening: 17

Immediately after the health fair was the Annual Knights of Columbus commemoration, with a colorful procession from the Friendship Hall to the church.

We thank the Pastors, Mr. Binh Nguyen, leader of the Vietnamese Community, Ms. Angela Nguyen, coordinator of the church's events, and all members of the church, the Skaggs School of Pharmacy & Pharmaceutical Sciences students, the APAMSA students and ophthalmologist, pharmacists and physicians who provided a broad range of services at Holy Spirit Church.

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## UC San Diego Biomedical Library

9500 Gilman Drive 0699  
La Jolla, California  
92093-0699

**Penny Coppernoll-Blach, MLS**  
Biomedical Librarian Liason for SSPPS  
**pblach@ucsd.edu**  
**(858) 534-4431**

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