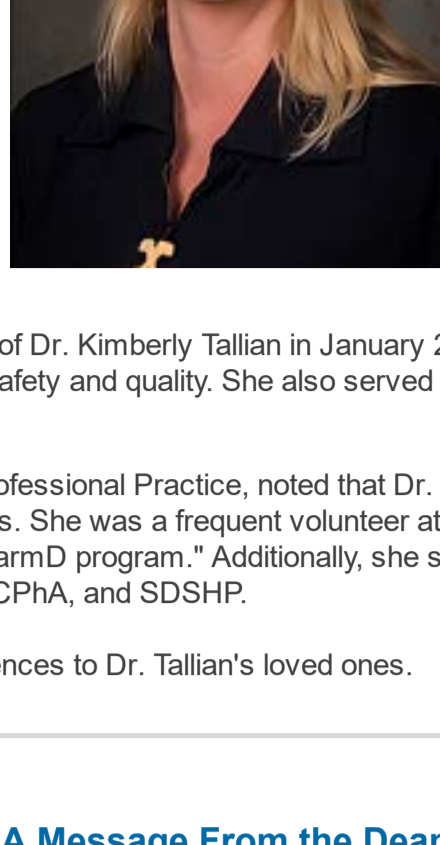




Winter 2023 Newsletter



In Memoriam

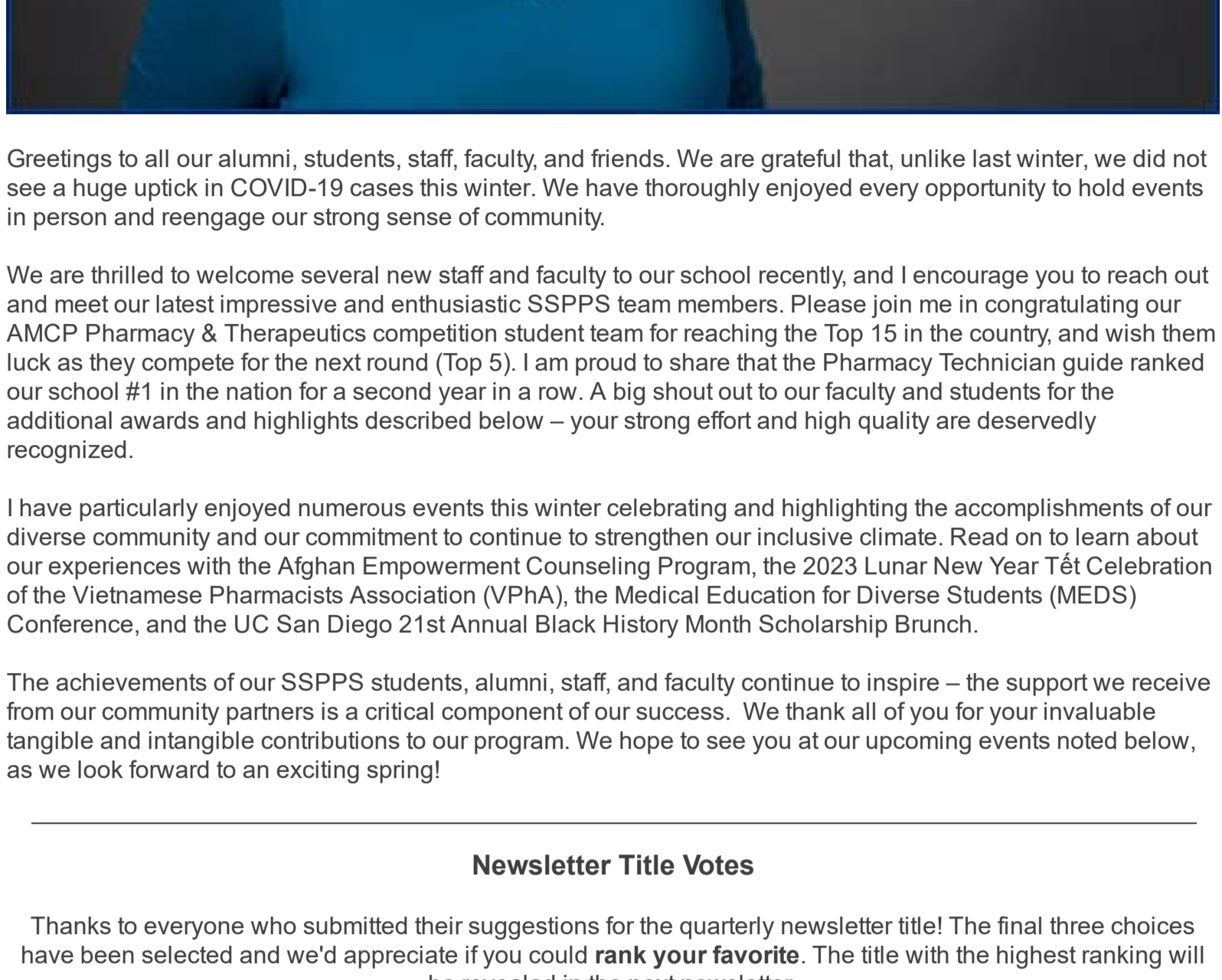


We are saddened to announce the passing of Dr. Kimberly Tallian in January 2023. Dr. Tallian served on the UC San Diego pharmacy team as a leader of medication safety and quality. She also served as a psychiatric pharmacist at UC San Diego Health and Scripps Mercy.

Dr. Charles Daniels, Associate Dean for Professional Practice, noted that Dr. Tallian, "was committed to education and training for pharmacy residents and students. She was a frequent volunteer at SSPPS. Please join me in congratulating our AMCP Pharmacy & Therapeutics competition student team for reaching the Top 15 in the country, and wish them luck as they compete for the next round (Top 5). I am proud to share that the Pharmacy Technician guide ranked our school #1 in the nation for a second year in a row. A big shout out to our faculty and students for the additional awards and highlights described below – your strong effort and high quality are deservedly recognized.

We at SSPPS extend our sincerest condolences to Dr. Tallian's loved ones.

A Message From the Dean



Greetings to all our alumni, students, staff, faculty, and friends. We are grateful that, unlike last winter, we did not see a huge uptick in COVID-19 cases this winter. We have thoroughly enjoyed every opportunity to hold events in person and reengage our strong sense of community.

We are thrilled to welcome several new staff and faculty to our school recently, and I encourage you to reach out and meet our latest impressive and enthusiastic SSPPS team members. Please join me in congratulating our AMCP Pharmacy & Therapeutics competition student team for reaching the Top 15 in the country, and wish them luck as they compete for the next round (Top 5). I am proud to share that the Pharmacy Technician guide ranked our school #1 in the nation for a second year in a row. A big shout out to our faculty and students for the additional awards and highlights described below – your strong effort and high quality are deservedly recognized.

I have particularly enjoyed numerous events this winter celebrating and highlighting the accomplishments of our diverse community and our commitment to continue to strengthen our inclusive climate. Read on to learn about our experiences with the Afghan Empowerment Counseling Program, the 2023 Lunar New Year Têt Celebration of the Vietnamese Pharmacists Association (VPhA), the Medical Education for Diverse Students (MEDS) Conference, and the UC San Diego 21st Annual Black History Month Scholarship Brunch.

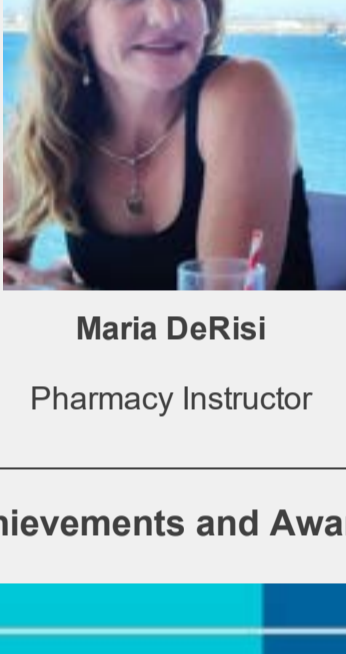
The achievements of our SSPPS students, alumni, staff, and faculty continue to inspire – the support we receive from our community partners is a critical component of our success. We thank all of you for your invaluable tangible and intangible contributions to our program. We hope to see you at our upcoming events noted below, as we look forward to an exciting spring!

Newsletter Title Votes

Thanks to everyone who submitted their suggestions for the quarterly newsletter title! The final three choices have been selected and we'd appreciate if you could **rank your favorite**. The title with the highest ranking will be revealed in the next newsletter.

[Vote Now](#)

New Faculty and Staff



Jacinda (JAM) Abdul-Mutakabbir

Assistant Professor of Clinical Pharmacy



Patty Camacho

Associate Dean for Business and Fiscal Affairs



Maria DeRisi

Pharmacy Instructor

Achievements and Awards



SSPPS was once again voted #1 Best Pharmacy School by the [Pharmacy Technician Guide](#).

Jacinda Abdul-Mutakabbir, PharmD, MPH, AAHIVP (Faculty)
• Appointed to the [Clinical Microbiology Reviews editorial board](#) and the [Antimicrobial Agents and Resistance Program Committee](#) for the American Society for Microbiology

Sylvia Evans, PhD (Faculty)
• Selected as [Director of the Sanford Stem Cell Discovery Center](#) within the Sanford Stem Cell Institute

Michael K. Gilson, MD, PhD (Faculty)
• Appointed to the [Journal of Computational Biophysics and Chemistry editorial board](#) of World Scientific

Michael Yoon, PhD (PharmD/PhD Class of 2024)
• [Roger Tsien Symposium Best Poster Awardee](#)

Alumni Spotlight



The Alumni Relations team at SSPPS checked in with Dr. Gellan Kashou (Class of 2018) to learn what she's been up to since graduating. [Read more](#) →

Winter Quarter Events



Introducing our 2023 winners!



**Megan Nguyen
Anthony Mba
Paul Simental
Sherman Wong**

UCSD ANNUAL P&T competition

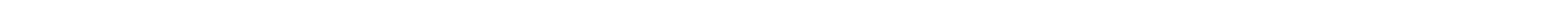
UC San Diego SSPPS AMCP Annual Pharmacy & Therapeutics Competition

On January 7th, 2023, the UC San Diego SSPPS Academy of Managed Care Pharmacy (AMCP) Student Chapter hosted its annual Pharmacy & Therapeutics (P&T) Local Competition. [Read more](#) →



Afghan Empowerment Counseling Program

The [Research Methodology Training Laboratory](#) had a wonderful time hosting students on January 9th from the Afghan Empowerment Counseling Program. These students attend El Cajon Valley High School, Valhalla High School, and West Hills High School.



SSPPS Students Awarded SDCPhA Scholarships

Three SSPPS students were honored at the recent San Diego California Pharmacists Association (SDCPhA) Annual Banquet on January 15, 2023. Laura Lucero (P3), Ryan Ha (P3), and Michelle Phung (P2) each received a scholarship award from outgoing SDCPhA President, Jennifer Hendricks, and President-Elect, Cathy Lam. [Read more](#) →



Summer Research Symposium

On January 26th, 2023, students who participated in the 2022 Summer Research Program presented their work at the Annual Poster Symposium. [Read more →](#)



2023 VPhA-USA Tét Celebration

The 2023 Lunar New Year Tét Celebration of the Vietnamese Pharmacists Association (VPhA) in the USA took place on January 29th at the Diamond Seafood Palace #1 in Stanton, CA. [Read more →](#)



2023 SSPPS Career Fair

On Thursday, February 16th, SSPPS hosted its first in-person Career Fair since 2019. The Career Fair took place on campus in the Health Sciences Education Center. [Read more →](#)



2023 MEDS Conference

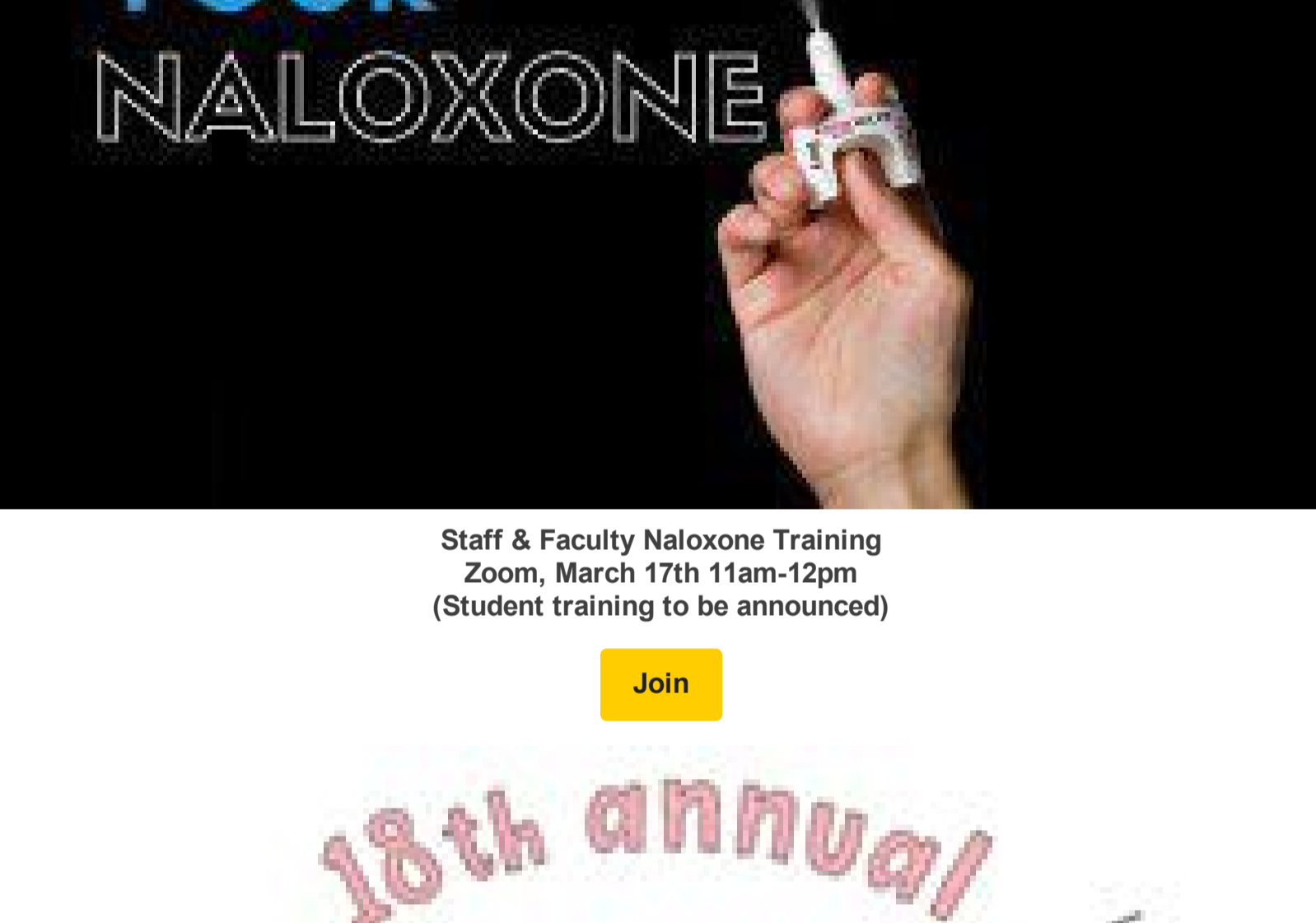
The [Medical Education for Diverse Students \(MEDS\) Conference](#) took place on Saturday, February 25th. P3 Allamar Moore, Dr. Eduardo Fricovsky, and Mr. Dominic Cooper represented SSPPS and spoke to many dozens of students interested in the pharmacy profession.



UC San Diego 21st Annual Black History Month Scholarship Brunch

On February 25th, 2023, SSPPS faculty and staff had the opportunity to attend the UC San Diego 21st Annual Black History Month Scholarship Brunch. [Read more →](#)

Upcoming Events



Staff & Faculty Naloxone Training
Zoom, March 17th 11am-12pm
(Student training to be announced)

[Join](#)



18th Annual
Phun Run 5k
and Silent Auction

[Register](#)



Skaggs' Got Talent
2023

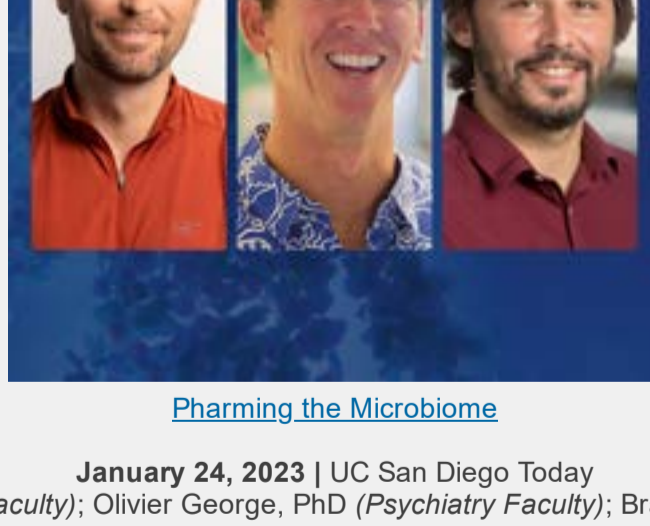
[Register](#)



Alumni Reunion
Classes of 2008, 2013, and 2018

[Register](#)

Features and Publications



Pharming the Microbiome

January 24, 2023 | UC San Diego Today
Pieter Dorrestein, PhD (Faculty); Olivier George, PhD (Psychiatry Faculty); Bradley Moore, PhD (Faculty)

Slowed progression: The utility of Test to Treat initiatives in improving the neglected inequities of COVID-19 among racially/ethnically minoritized groups

January 21, 2023 | Journal of the American Pharmacists Association

Jacinda Abdul-Mutakabbir, PharmD, MPH, AAHIVP (Faculty); Ila M. Saunders, PharmD, BCOP (Faculty)

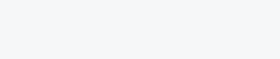
Implementation and impact of a fourth-year student pharmacist wellness series pilot on perceived stress and support

December 2022 | Currents in Pharmacy Teaching and Learning
Christina Mnatzaganian, PharmD, BCACP, APH (Faculty); Kelly Lee, PharmD, MAS, BCPP (Associate Dean); Renu Singh, PharmD, BCACP, CDCES (Associate Dean); Candis Morello, PharmD, APH, CDCES, FCSHP, FASHP (Associate Dean); Sarah Lorentz, PharmD (Faculty); Desiree Shapiro, MD (Advisor for Student Wellness)

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