

SSPPS Office of Experiential Education Preceptor News



SSPPS students providing diabetes and hypertension screenings at the Kobey Swap Meet

Progress Notes and Updates from Renu Singh, Associate Dean for Experiential Education

SSPPS UPDATES: Holiday Season is upon us already and I'm wondering where the year went! We are pleased to share with you the Summer/Fall issue of our quarterly OEE Newsletter. A new **CEO Dean, Brookie Best, PharmD, MAS**, was appointed by our Chancellor on August 1. Brookie is one of our founding faculty and Professor of Clinical Pharmacy and Pediatrics. Her research and teaching have focused on pharmacokinetics and maternal/fetal and pediatric clinical pharmacology. Brookie looks forward to meeting all of you in the near future, and we hope to strengthen and expand many of our partnerships.

OEE UPDATES: A request for preceptor availability for APPE and IPPE rotations was emailed out to preceptors in early October. If you have not done so already, please respond by the end of the year. We greatly appreciate and value our experiential partners who play a key role in educating our future pharmacists. We are also very appreciative of all of you who have precepted our students for health-related service learning IPPEs, including vaccination events and various health education events in our community, as well as CV reviews and other workshops/presentations on evenings, weekends, and week days. Our students truly benefit from your expertise and learning from your career backgrounds. Thank you for everything you do to support our students.

Supporting our P4 students:

An OEE correspondence was emailed to all active APPE preceptors on November 29 reminding preceptors that attending professional pharmacy meetings and residency/fellowship interviews are an important component of professional and career development for student pharmacists. Preceptors are encouraged to allow APPE students to attend professional meetings and interviews required for postgraduate applications. 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 request in advance (not notify) and work with their preceptors when planning/scheduling interview dates. The Experiential Education Attendance and Absence Guidelines for the SSPPS may be viewed at this link:

[Experiential Education Attendance and Absence Guidelines](#)

If you did not receive this preceptor email, please contact Ezra.

On behalf of the faculty and staff in OEE, I wish you all a happy, healthy and relaxing holiday season. —Dr. Renu Singh

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Special points of interest

- OEE Website: <https://pharmacy.ucsd.edu/>
- OEE Website: <https://pharmacy.ucsd.edu/faculty/experiential-education-preceptors>
- CORE log-in: <https://www.corehighered.com/login-elms>

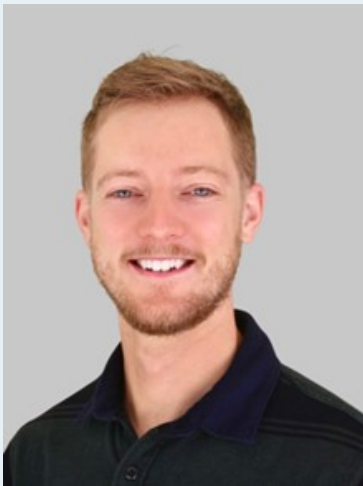
Progress Notes and Updates (continued)



Dr. Renu Singh, PharmD, Associate Dean for Experiential Education

2023 APPE Rotation Fair

The 2023 SSPPS virtual APPE Rotation Fair will be held on February 22 from 4.30-6.30pm. Invitations will be sent by Dec. 14, 2022. The APPE Rotation fair gives P4 students a chance to meet and interact with rotation sites and preceptors prior to their choosing sites in the APPE lottery. If you don't receive an invitation, but would like to attend, please contact Ezra Blaize at eblaize@health.ucsd.edu



Dr. Alex Luli, PharmD, Director of IPPEs

IPPE Updates: Our IPPE program had a very busy and productive Fall Quarter. Our P1 student pharmacists are wrapping up their longitudinal community pharmacy rotations – and they were a huge success! At the same time, we are busy planning ahead for 2023 Winter and Spring Quarters and ensuring all students and rotation sites have the resources they need. Thank you to all our amazing preceptors and teams that create positive learning environments. These early experiences are instrumental in shaping students' perspectives on pharmacy practice.

During this time, we always reflect on how grateful we are to collaborate with so many outstanding pharmacists and sites in our region. All our preceptors are not only dedicated to their patients, but also to the profession by giving back and training our next generation of pharmacists.

As always, please let our IPPE team know of any questions or feedback. In the meantime, I hope everyone stays safe and enjoys the holidays with family and friends! -Dr. Alex Luli

APPE Updates: Many thanks to those of you who have welcomed me into the APPE Director role! I'm delighted to work with our preceptors and students in this capacity and have already enjoyed my first few months in this role.

Our current P4 students will be completing their fourth rotation this December and resuming rotations on January 3rd. Our first two of three sessions throughout the year focused on improving stress and coping skills in our P4 wellness series have been successful. Students participate in facilitated small group discussions to reflect on challenges faced during the P4 year and listened to faculty and alumni share stories about their failures, successes,

resilience, and career journeys. Thank you to our faculty preceptors and PGY1 residents who helped facilitate or spoke at the event.

The final wellness session for the class of 2023 will be on Wednesday, March 8th from 4 to 6PM. The wellness series has given students an opportunity to reconnect with their classmates and faculty during their P4 year and we appreciate your continued support in allowing their attendance.

As a reminder, students still need to follow UC San Diego COVID-19 protocols for testing and returning to their rotation if they have a positive test. Students are aware that any make-up time is at the discretion of the preceptor. Please do not hesitate to contact our office if you have any questions about missed time or concerns related to student performance. Our team is happy to provide assistance.

Finally, many of our students are preparing to apply for residencies, fellowships, and career opportunities and may be seeking advice for this process. We are grateful to our sites and preceptors for their ongoing support and thank you in advance for your support of their career development opportunities. Have happy and healthy holidays and thanks again for all that you do! - Dr. Christina Mnatzaganian

Dr. Christina Mnatzaganian Named New APPE Director

We are very pleased to announce that Christina Mnatzaganian was appointed as Director for Advanced Pharmacy Practice Experientials (APPE) in the Office of Experiential Education (OEE), effective August 1, 2022. Dr. Mnatzaganian replaces Dr. Felix Yam, who resigned from his faculty position at the SSPPS at the end of July.

Dr. Mnatzaganian precepts APPE students in her Family Medicine clinic at UC San Diego Health. She has received several Excellence in Teaching awards from our students and the SSPPS Awards Committee, in addition to receiving the prestigious UC San Diego Barbara and Paul Saltman Campus Distinguished Teaching Award. She was founding Residency Program Director for the SSPPS Community PGY1 Residency Training Program, where she established new residency sites and preceptors, and monitored quality of the training sites and program. She has also provided several preceptor development presentations to preceptors and residents. In 2020, Dr. Mnatzaganian led the creation of a very successful P4 Wellness Series, which has now been incorporated into the P4 curriculum as a mandatory program. The OEE faculty and staff are delighted to welcome Dr. Mnatzaganian to her new position within our office.

Changes in the Office of Experiential Education

Dr. Felix Yam has left UC San Diego and taken a new position at Apple, Inc. Felix co-chaired in Therapeutics, chaired the PharmD Research Project, and served as the APPE Director and student coordinator at the VA San Diego. We greatly appreciate Dr. Yam's outstanding and dedicated service to OEE, our students and our school, and wish him well in his new position.

Preceptor Development Programs

On Saturday, August 6th, 2022, preceptors from the community joined us for a virtual preceptor development seminar via Zoom. The seminar, "Don't Be Basic: Glow Up Your Rotation for Gen Z! Precepting Potpourri for Gen Z" was presented by Kelli Keene, PharmD, BCCCP from UC San Diego Health, La Jolla. The presentation outlined tips for motivating unmotivated learners, discussed the impact of pharmacist workplace burnout and methods of preventing and treating it, and described practical time management approaches. Case studies were examined, and a style of "a la carte" learning was presented as an effective way to teach material to students. If you would still like to view the presentation for CAPE credit, it can be accessed in the on-demand preceptor education section of CORE: ["Don't Be Basic: Glow Up Your Rotation for Gen Z! Precepting Potpourri for Gen Z"](#)

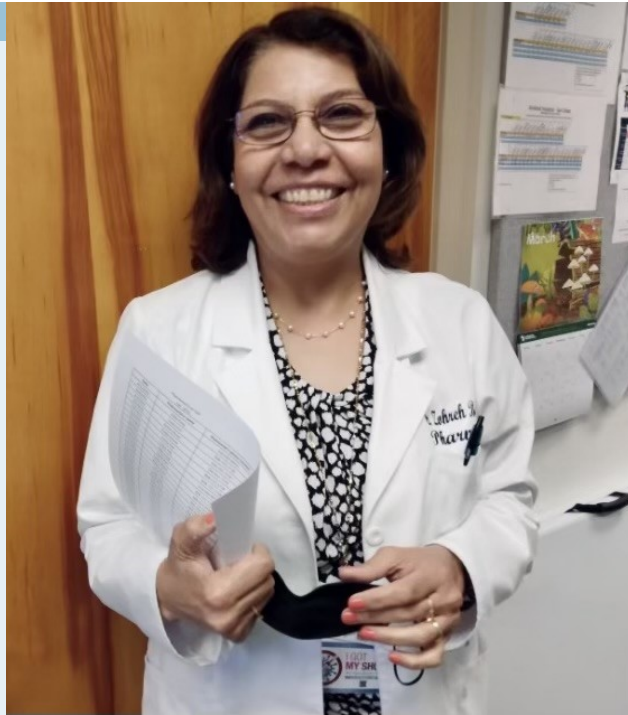
On October 1, our school Director of Careers, Sarah Lorentz, PharmD hosted a preceptor presentation titled: [How Can Preceptors Support Students: Preparing for Residency Application and Career Interviews? A Candid Discussion with Residency Program Directors](#)". A panel of four residency program directors shared their excellent pearls on how preceptors and faculty can prepare and support students for the residency interview season. If you missed it, the link to the recorded program may be found here: [How Can Preceptors Support Students: Preparing for Residency Application and Career Interviews? A Candid Discussion with Residency Program Directors](#)



*Dr. Christina Mnatzaganian,
PharmD, Director of APPEs*

Preceptor Achievements

John Garrett, PharmD, BCOP, received ASHP accreditation for Scripps Mercy PGY2 Oncology Pharmacy Residency, where he serves as founder and Residency Director.



Preceptor Spotlight: Zohreh Banakar, PharmD, IDSP

Infectious Disease Specialty
Pharmacist (IDSP)

Kindred Hospital San Diego
Recipient: OEE Preceptor Ex-
cellence Award for IPPE Hos-
pital for 2022

Training: Isfahan Pharmacy
School in Iran (PharmD) and
Isfahan Medical University in
Iran (PhD in Pharmacology)

Dr. Zohreh Banakar, PharmD

SSPPS: *What inspired you to become a preceptor, and how long have you been precepting?*

Zohreh: Before coming to the United States of America as an immigrant, I was Assistant Professor of Pharmacology with 14 year's experience in teaching and when I had the opportunity to become a preceptor in 2018, it was the best decision I have made.

SSPPS: *Explain how your team and facility benefit from precepting our pharmacy students.*

Zohreh: My team gets a chance to engage with bright students and the learning experience is mutual for both students and my team.

SSPPS: *What challenges do you see as a preceptor for pharmacy students?*

Zohreh: Since Kindred Hospital is a long-term acute care hospital, there are few challenges for pharmacy students to learn a broader aspect of inpatient pharmacy; however, my team and myself cover most of the materials that might benefit the pharmacy students.

Reflections from an IPPE student by Shreya Bahl

I completed my summer block community IPPE rotation at Von's pharmacy under the supervision of Dr. Charlton Chuang. I worked with two pharmacists, Charlton and Brandon, as well as the pharmacy technician, Avery.

From the first day of the rotation, I appreciated that expectations were clearly communicated. I knew exactly what was expected of me – a willingness to learn, ask questions, and complete tasks in a timely manner – and what to expect from the preceptor – a willingness to teach, answer questions honestly, and provide a variety of learning opportunities. Over the course of the rotation, Charlton made sure

that I learned at least one new skill or task in the pharmacy each day. While learning new skills and being in a new environment is often overwhelming, this experience did not feel overwhelming to me. Some days, I would be exhausted by the end of the day, however, I thought that the pharmacists were able to appropriately assign me new tasks when I was ready to learn them.

In addition to having great pharmacists willing to mentor students, this rotation had a knowledgeable and experienced pharmacy technician. Avery usually taught me how to do new tasks and patiently showed me how to do a task again if I forgot or ran into problems.

As a student pharmacist, I had typical intern responsibilities, including ad-

ministering vaccines, filling prescriptions, answering phone calls, and counseling on OTC products. Additionally, Charlton and Brandon ensured that I observed or took part in responsibilities unique to a pharmacist. For example, a patient asked if they needed any specific vaccines before traveling to Panama. Brandon had me look up the information, reviewed it with me, coached me on how to counsel the patient, and then had me counsel

the patient.

One of the more challenging and uncomfortable aspects of being a pharmacist is dealing with unhappy patients. I observed some of the strategies Charlton

used when interacting with these patients, such as collecting relevant information from the patient file or reminding the patient that they are trying to help. I believe this is an important, yet seldom discussed skill during IPPE rotations.

It is apparent that Charlton is an experienced pharmacist and understands the importance of taking the time to teach students how to complete each task. When he taught me a new task, he did not want me to learn to do it any way, he wanted me to learn to do it the right way. While Charlton and the staff want me to learn from them, they also wanted to learn about me and my career aspirations. Together, the pharmacy staff created a learning environment in which I felt welcomed as well as more prepared to be a future pharmacist.

"Together, the pharmacy staff created a learning environment in which I felt welcomed as well as more prepared to be a future pharmacist."

- Shreya Bahl, Class of 2025



Shreya Bahl, SSPPS class of 2025

Students Enhancing Patient Care

In this new feature to our newsletter, we invite preceptors to share how an IPPE or APPE student has enhanced patient care or medication safety in their practice while on rotations. We welcome and thank preceptors for their contributions.

I would like to recognize my current Hospital Practice APPE student Sahar Khalili for her efforts in our Omnicell education program here at Scripps Encinitas. Sahar began her rotation with us 3 weeks ago in the midst of a massive undertaking to convert our Pyxis dispensing cabinets to Omnicell. In a very short period of time, she has exhibited not only a masterful understanding of the cabinet functions but a systematic and precise approach to sharing her knowledge amongst our pharmacy staff. She has been instrumental in reinforcing knowledge, identifying gaps, and demonstrates excellent follow through as she circles back to techs and pharmacists to verify their skills and knowledge. She also has good insight into the art of teaching as she picks up on nuances of different types of learners at different stages in their journey. As if that were not enough, she also assisted with optimizing the Omnicell item mapping, which allowed us to move forward with our plans to assign “dynamic drawers” to reduce our daily cart fill and improve overall operational efficiency.

Long story short, she is a wonder to behold as a teacher and a learner herself. I am sure she is destined for great things in the pharmacy world and she will be an asset to any institution lucky enough to employ her. I consider myself to be lucky to have such a gifted student and I look forward to any other such students who come our way!

-Dr. Timothy Chow, PharmD

P4 student Maya Yu caught an oversight on a busy day and made patient care much safer by appropriately rotating a morphine regimen to an oxycodone regimen in a patient with severe and worsening AKI. She even did the equianalgesia and successfully advocated with the primary team to make the change. Super good job, Maya!

Revisiting the Experiential Education Absence Policy

Attending professional pharmacy meetings and residency/fellowship interviews is an important component of professional and career development for student pharmacists. Preceptors are encouraged to allow APPE students to attend professional meetings and interviews required for postgraduate applications. 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. The Experiential Education Attendance and Absence Guidelines for the SSPPS may be viewed at this link: <https://pharmacy.ucsd.edu/sites/pharmacy.ucsd.edu/files/Experiential%20Education%20Attendance%20and%20Absence%20Guide->

Contact the OEE

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SSPPS Preceptors: Do You Have an Appointment with us?

Benefits of an Appointment include:

- 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
- Eligible to attend SSPPS Preceptor Development Programs, with CAPE credit

For more information visit our Experiential Education website at:
<https://pharmacy.ucsd.edu/faculty/experiential-education-preceptors>