

## SSPPS Office of Experiential Education

### Preceptor News



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

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

**SSPPS UPDATES:** Welcome to our Spring issue of our quarterly OEE Newsletter. We were very grateful that Class of 2022 were able to have a live commencement ceremony on May 14, after two years of virtual commencements. There were many celebratory cheers, as well as tears, from families, friends, faculty, and staff as our graduates crossed the stage to

receive their doctorate hoods and diplomas. The students have worked hard with their studies, exams, and adapted to the many changes brought on by the COVID pandemic while completing experientials and career/residency interviews. Fortunately, based on the Associated Student Body Banquet program and slide show, the Class of 2022 also enjoyed socializing and created strong bonds with each other over the past four years, which is all part of our pharmacy school experience too. For students who applied for residencies, the Class of 2022 had an ASHP match rate of 87%, which is our highest ever. Five students (7% of the class) were awarded Fellowships. This was truly an impressive achievement! We are also very excited to announce that SSPPS was ranked #1 amongst 130 pharmacy schools nationally according to [Pharmacy Technician Guide](#). The criteria for the ranking included NAPLEX pass rate for the last 4 years, research activity, graduation rate, student-to-faculty ratio, faculty credentials, as well as various other school factors. This ranking is similar to what is used for the US World News and Report, but with greater emphasis on NAPLEX pass rate and without the subjective peer assessment score. Finally, the SSPPS is in the process of finding a new CEO Dean. Candidate interviews were completed last week, with the Vice Chancellor of Health Sciences' final decision announcement expected in the coming weeks.

**OEE UPDATES:** Our summer IPPE and APPE rotations are now finalized and site directors and preceptors should have received their schedules for summer IPPEs and/or the 2022-2023 APPE cycle. If you have not yet received instructions on how to access your schedule, please contact our IPPE Coordinator, Pam McGlynn, or our APPE coordinator, Ezra Blaize. OEE provided an Experiential Updates Webinar on June 9 from 12:00-12.45pm to preceptors to provide timely updates prior to IPPEs and APPEs starting in mid-late June. If you missed the webinar, a recording is available on CORE-ELMS.

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Above: The team at UC San Diego  
Specialty Pharmacy

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#### Special points of interest

- OEE Website: [https://  
pharmacy.ucsd.edu/](https://pharmacy.ucsd.edu/)
- OEE Website: [https://  
pharmacy.ucsd.edu/faculty/  
experiential-education-  
preceptors](https://pharmacy.ucsd.edu/faculty/experiential-education-preceptors)
- CORE log-in: [https://  
www.corehighered.com/login-  
elms](https://www.corehighered.com/login-elms)



Above: Dr. Felix Yam, PharmD  
Director of APPEs

Below: Dr. Alex Luli, PharmD  
Director of IPPEs



### PRECEPTOR DEVELOPMENT AND NEWS:

Please hold the date for our upcoming Preceptor Skills Workshop to be held in-person on the SSPPS campus on Saturday, August 6th from 9-11 am. The topic will be Don't be Basic: Glow Up Your Rotation for Gen Z! *Precepting Pot-pourri for Gen Z*. CAPE credit will be offered and a light breakfast will be served. Invitations will be emailed to preceptors the first week of July.

## Progress Notes and Updates (continued)

### OEE UPDATES (cont.):

APPE preceptor evaluations for the class of 2022 are now available. Instructions to access these evaluations through CORE-ELMS were emailed to preceptors last week from Ezra Blaize. If you did not receive the email, instructions are posted on CORE-ELMS, or you can email Ezra.

We are truly grateful to our preceptors who offered rotations to our students, despite the uncertainties of an ongoing global pandemic, and who continue to care about teaching student pharmacists.

### APPE UPDATES:

Our next class of P4 students will be starting their first APPE rotations on Monday, June 27th. The students are eager to start and we appreciate your willingness to serve as their preceptors. It takes hundreds of preceptors each year to train our students. We are grateful for your dedication to training the next generation of pharmacists. To prepare them for APPE rotations, they completed a four part orientation series with a variety of topics including: making the transition from classroom to experiential setting, how to provide and receive feedback, lessons from a recent graduate and how to work-up patients. The patient work-up workshops included simulation cases with acute care and ambulatory care patients. We also provided examples of how to navigate electronic health records to find pertinent patient information. If you have any suggestions on additional orientation topics to help improve our students' APPE readiness, please feel free to share them with the OEE team.

For the third year in a row, our P4 students participated in a wellness series that included three sessions throughout the year. Led by SSPPS faculty member, Dr. Christina Mnatzaganian, students participated in facilitated small group activities to reflect on challenges faced during the P4 year and listened to faculty and alumni share stories about their failures, successes and career journey's. The first wellness session for the class of 2023 will be on **Wednesday, September 7 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. Have a great summer and thanks again for all that you do!

### IPPE UPDATES:

Our IPPE program is rolling smoothly along into Summer! Our P1 student pharmacists have recently finished their Spring Quarter longitudinal community pharmacy experiences. This marks the successful completion of the inaugural year for our longitudinal community program! Of course, it would not have been possible without our amazing preceptors – thank you to all the pharmacy sites that stepped up this year and provided a fantastic learning environment. The feedback from our students has been overwhelmingly positive. You have helped create the foundations on which our students will continue building their knowledge as they progress in their studies and careers.

# Progress Notes and Updates (continued)

## IPPE UPDATES (cont.):

As the longitudinal community rotations are ending, summer block rotations for both community and health-system sites are just kicking off! We are looking forward to more fantastic learning experiences that will take place this season.

Our team will be reaching out to pharmacy sites towards the end of June to begin planning for the next round of longitudinal community rotations in Fall Quarter 2022. As always, please let our IPPE team know of any questions or feedback for us. In the meantime, I hope everyone stays safe and enjoys the summer!



Above: Dr. Mina Said, PharmD

## Preceptor Spotlight: Mina Said, PharmD

**Recipient:** OEE Preceptor Excellence Award for APPE Community Pharmacy for 2022

**SSPPS:** What is the most satisfying aspect of precepting students?

**Mina:** We have made education and teaching a primary mission at PureCare Pharmacy

and having students fits into that mission very well. I have been precepting students ever since I was a resident in 2008 in various settings, in a clinic setting, hospital setting, and now most recently in the community setting. Students give me a refreshing perspective on the way I practice pharmacy. It keeps the fact that people are very different and building a healthy relationship with each person allows for the best way to educate; whether that is educating students or educating patients. Precepting students allows for me to constantly look at my practice through new eyes and evolve into a better practitioner. It is great to see students that I've precepted, take the concept of relationship building to their practice years down the road and see how they have grown themselves.

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

**Mina:** PureCare Pharmacy has really grown with the help of students. One of our main goals is to have a culture that promotes inclusion and growth and is just a great environment to work. The benefit of precepting students keeps our staff and our environment constantly in the mood to teach. With education as one of our primary missions, when we're in teaching mode, we're always keeping that in mind for our patients and willing or eager to educate them as well. Throughout these past 2 years we have taken the opportunity to be a pillar for our community in the midst of the COVID pandemic to educate on reliable medical information when many unreliable sources are available. Students have been vital in keeping this top of mind for our team, and keeping our approach and focus on education for our community.

## Preceptor Achievements

**Dr. Robert Gish** has accepted the position of Chairman of the Board for the Asian Pacific Health Foundation (Oct. 2021), and published "An Evidence-based Practical Guide to Vaccination for Hepatitis B Virus in the *Journal of Clinical Gastroenterology* (2022).

**Dalga Surofchy**, PharmD, APh, has published "[Perceptions and Attitudes of Pharmacogenomics Through the Lens of Community Pharmacists and Patients](#)" in the Winter 2021 edition of the *Journal of Contemporary Pharmacy Practice*, and "[Value-Based Contracting: A Future for Drug Pricing, Access, and Reimbursement](#)" on OpMed in Doximity.

**Kimberlyn Dang**, PharmD, BCPS, won the Professional Employee of the Year 2022 award at Scripps Memorial Hospital– La Jolla . She is shown with her team below:



## Preceptor Spotlight: Mina Said, PharmD (continued)

*SSPPS: What advice would you give to new preceptors of pharmacy students?*

**Mina:** New preceptors are always very eager to teach everything that they know in a 6 week period. I highly recommend they narrow that education on 2 factors: 1. What is the student's interest and tailor that specific rotation to keep the student motivated and interested in learning. 2. Identify 2 topics to focus on throughout the 6 weeks, whether it's specific disease states that you'd like the student to master or how the student approaches communication to patients. This really helps the student engrain these concepts and take them to grow upon their next rotation or next area of practice. We are here to take all the knowledge they've just learned in the didactic setting and apply it to real life.

## IPPE Student Rotation Spotlight: Claire Davis

**Location:** Point Loma Shelter Island Drug

*SSPPS: What was the most unique aspect of this rotation?*

**Claire:** The most unique feature that I encountered at my rotation was that it is an independent pharmacy that serves many locals who have been receiving the same medications for years. The patients that I assisted were very friendly and I truly felt like I had an impact on the community. My previous experience within the pharmacy field was in the retail setting at a pharmacy chain, so it was exciting to see the difference in the atmosphere as well as operations on a smaller scale.

*SSPPS: What do you wish you had known before starting this rotation?*

**Claire:** What I wish I had known before starting this rotation is that I will not know every possible medication out there since I am only a first year student, and that it is beneficial to remain open and patient when learning about foreign medications that I may come across. Sometimes it can be overwhelming with the amount of material in the pharmacy field, but I learned that it is important to be confident in the current material I know and to be consistent with researching information regarding new medications.

*SSPPS: What challenges did you see this rotation?*

**Claire:** A challenge that I faced was tackling the technical side of having to learn a new pharmacy system. It was difficult to adjust to a new program when having to process tasks such as insurance claims and authorization approvals, but I was able to quickly adapt and become aware of how to utilize key aspects when assisting patients. Answering phone calls and helping patients directly allowed me to become more comfortable with navigating the system, as I can apply these learning strategies at future rotations.

*SSPPS: What advice would you give to preceptors of pharmacy students?*

**Claire:** I think it is beneficial to ask the student questions about medications so that you can gauge their knowledge and see what material they possibly need improvement on. I noticed that my preceptor used this technique, and it was beneficial as he went into further detail teaching me certain medication classes.



Above: Claire Davis  
Pharm.D Candidate, Class of 2025

## IPPE Student Rotation Spotlight: Claire Davis (continued)

I believe that it is helpful to have this bridge of communication so that the preceptor will not place unrealistic expectations upon the student, but will create an environment that challenges them in a positive manner.

*SSPPS: What about this rotation surprised you?*

**Claire:** At first I was surprised when I found out that a majority of the technicians and clerks have been around for 20+ years, but I was able to further understand that they had been here for that period of time due to the warm and welcoming environment that the pharmacy fostered. Although it was only a short spa of time, I felt that it was a positive place for an introductory rotation as the people that I worked with had a large impact on my overall experience.

## APPE Student Rotation Spotlight: Monica Sliwa

Location: CKD/Transplant Ambulatory Care at UC San Diego Health  
Preceptors: Janice Kerr, Pharm.D., BCPS, BCACP and Linda Awdishu, Pharm.D., MAS

*SSPPS: What was the most unique aspect of this rotation?*

**Monica:** I would have to say teamwork. At the transplant and CKD clinics, I was just a few steps away from the physicians, preceptors, residents, and other healthcare professionals. It was the ideal work situation, with no delays or unanswered questions. Patients had a full team of experienced healthcare providers to thoroughly address all of their needs, including a caring student pharmacist, me. In addition to teamwork, the rotation offered me practical preparation that I envision using on a daily basis. I not only witnessed the work of ambulatory care pharmacists, learned from their experiences, and applied this knowledge during my patient interviews, but also became more efficient at writing my notes, presenting my patients, and prioritizing disease states. I felt independent, trusted, and safe asking questions and applying what I had learned every day. The combination of collaboration and autonomy was a perfect primer for what to expect in my career as a pharmacist.

*SSPPS: What did you like the most about this rotation?*

**Monica:** I was lucky to have back-to-back ambulatory care rotations at UCSD Health's Clinics, where one focused on kidney and lung transplants and the other centered on chronic kidney disease and kidney transplant. I most valued the close relationships and friendly, trusting environment. Within the 12 weeks, I formed strong, positive bonds with my patients, preceptors, and staff. I got to know my assigned patients very well and left them with a smile every time I walked in and out of their rooms. Gaining the trust of my patients and preceptors allowed me to fully immerse myself in the care process, hone my skills, and strengthen my knowledge for the betterment of patients' long-term health.

### On-demand Preceptor Development

On-demand preceptor development is now available in [the CORE-ELMS Document Library](#) section at left under the heading "On-demand Preceptor Development CE." The Spring preceptor webinar given June 9, 2022 can now be found in this section.



Above: Monica Sliwa  
Pharm.D., Class of 2022

## Contact the OEE

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**Reminder:** If your contact information changes please email Pam McGlynn at [pmcglynn@health.ucsd.edu](mailto:pmcglynn@health.ucsd.edu) to update

## APPE Student Rotation Spotlight: Monica Sliwa (continued)

*SSPPS: Explain how the team and facility enhanced your learning experience.*

**Monica:** Their trust, support, and love encouraged me to go above and beyond (they even celebrated my birthday - how sweet, right?) Firstly, I was equipped with the clinics' protocols, resources, a pharmacist on-site (always), and an organized workflow. Frankly, I had no prior experience in transplants, but they helped me acclimate to the routine: a day in advance, the pharmacist would send a list of assigned patients to pre-chart, and the day of, I would present my patient either before or after seeing them and provide my recommendations. Along the way, I learned important aspects of examining labs and reading notes to fill in gaps I may have missed. There were days where the workflow changed, but I was never ignored and always felt like an asset to the team. Towards the end of my rotation, I began interviewing a higher number of patients. I was honored and proud when I interviewed up to 11 patients on a single day. Overall, I am lucky to have been so well-trained. I recognize that my future job entails a serious commitment, high stakes, and ongoing responsibility, so I am grateful for the team's trust and genuine investment in my development as a professional.

*SSPPS: What advice would you give to preceptors of pharmacy students?*

**Monica:** It is very important to create an open, safe, and welcoming environment, where preceptors and residents are approachable and encouraging towards questions. Please take the time to check in with students (one-on-one) and quiz them on the most relevant topics from the get-go, specifically the logic and reasoning behind decision-making and recommendations. Assign a topic or two every other day and spend a few minutes going over them together (basic knowledge, guidelines, mechanisms of actions, etc.).

*SSPPS: What skills or knowledge will you take from this rotation that you believe you can apply to other professional areas (career, academics, etc.)?*

**Monica:** From this rotation, I have taken away critical thinking, interpersonal skills, and self-confidence in my ability to tactfully and adeptly handle any patient case. I am currently at an outpatient community practice setting where I recently counseled a patient on an antibiotic. Little did I know that she was struggling to fit it into her busy schedule, but my curious line of questioning helped me discover the root of the issue. As the dialogue unfolded, I learned that she had her liver and kidney transplanted. Based on my knowledge and preparation, I was able to confidently recommend a few times during the day when her new medication regimen wouldn't conflict with her immunosuppressants. I feel incredibly grateful to have had 12 weeks of outpatient transplant experience and look forward to applying my knowledge in retail settings very soon. Beyond counseling and interacting with patients, I learned ample knowledge about immunosuppressants and how to bill insurance properly. I know my future transplant patients are in good hands!

## 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>

## The Pharmacist's Letter Resource

Through our partnership with the Pharmacist's Letter, you have access to the Preceptor Training & Resource Network. Here's what your access to Preceptor Training & Resource Network includes:

- Sample student syllabi, activities, assignments and schedules
- Targeted professionalism, patient safety and practice-based teaching resources
- PL Journal Club (APPE teaching tools)
- Pharmacy 101 (IPPE teaching tools)

To access these benefits please log in through the following link and create an account: <http://info.therapeuticresearch.com/pharmacists-letter-journal-club-application> If you have any questions or require assistance accessing the Preceptor Training & Resource Network, please contact Pam McGlynn at [pmcglynn@healthucsd.edu](mailto:pmcglynn@healthucsd.edu)