Newsletter Title Submissions Open

As you can see, our quarterly newsletter has a new look! Along with this new look, we'd like to give our newsletter its own special title (e.g. The Capsule). If you have ideas, we invite you to use the button below to submit them between now and the end of January 2023. We will take top suggestions and put them to a reader vote during our Winter Quarter 2023 newsletter.

Submit Title Ideas Here

A Message From the Dean

Season's Greetings to all our alumni, students, staff, faculty, and friends. We've thoroughly enjoyed welcoming our students back to campus this Fall and welcoming the Class of 2026 into our Skaggs family. As the pandemic continues to wax and wane, everyone is doing a wonderful job at adapting to and making the best of our new normal.

We are excited to welcome several new staff and faculty to our school recently, with several more faculty coming on board in the next few months. The successes, accomplishments, and engagement of our SSPPS team continue to amaze and inspire, as you will see below. Our students and alumni, and their mentors and preceptors, improve the lives of our community members in both direct and indirect ways, through community events, clinical care and through research to improve the health of entire populations.

As we take a moment to reflect on this past year, we are so proud of our SSPPS achievements and grateful for the support we receive. We thank all of you for your invaluable tangible and intangible contributions to our program. I wish you and your loved ones good health, rejuvenation, joy, and peace this holiday season and beyond.

Health Sciences and SSPPS News

John M. Carethers, MD, has been named UC San Diego Vice Chancellor for Health Sciences effective January 1, 2023. Vice Chancellor Carethers will replace David Brenner, MD, who stepped down as Vice Chancellor on July 1, 2022. → Read more

SSPPS and the UC San Diego School of Medicine were recognized as Apple Distinguished Schools for 2022-2025 for "successful integration of the Triton MedTech Program" into their curricula. → Read more

Dr. Shirley Tsunoda has been appointed as the next Associate Dean for Pharmacy Education at SSPPS, effective December 1, 2022.

New SSPPS Faculty and Staff

Faculty

Claire Kerr, Pharmacy Proctor
Zaid Yousif, HS Assistant Clinical Professor of Pharmacy

Staff

Karla Barranco Marquez, Administrative Coordinator
Deanna Perez, Student Affairs Officer
Heidi Rosenthal, Research Administrator
Nicholas Vistro, Administrative Coordinator

SSPPS Achievements and Awards

Associate Dean Rabia Atayee received the inaugural Palliative Care Values in Action Award with the UC San Diego Division of Geriatrics, Gerontology, and Palliative Care. → Read more

She also achieved status of Fellow of the Academy of Hospice and Palliative Medicine. → Read more

Dr. Fleur Ferguson was recently named a recipient of the National Institutes of Health Director's New Innovator Award. → Read more

Dr. Tracy Handel has been selected as a 2022 fellow of the American Society for Pharmacology and Experimental Therapeutics. → Read more
Dr. Laura Hart received the Distinguished Alumni Award: Early Career Achievement Award from the University of Washington School of Pharmacy, and the Next Gen-Rx Award from the American Society of Consultant Pharmacists.

→ Read more

She was also recently inducted as a Fellow of the American Society of Consultant Pharmacists.

→ Read more

Dr. Victor Nizet has been elected to the National Academy of Medicine.

→ Read more

Dr. Michael Yoon (Pharm.D./Ph.D. P3) received the 2022 Roland K. Robins Pharmacology Outstanding Thesis Award.

→ Read more

Drs. Pieter Dorrestein and Victor Nizet were recently recognized among UC San Diego's Highly Cited Researchers.

→ Read more

Drs. Shirley Tsunoda (faculty) and Mary Moss Chandaran (Class of 2012) received Fellow Status from American College of Clinical Pharmacy.

→ Read more

Faculty Appreciation

Thanks to Dr. Jorge Garcia for his generosity and thoughtfulness to bring individual cakes for our class of 2026 twins, Dima and Mina Kamal, to celebrate their 25th birthdays! Dr. Garcia is a physician and volunteer faculty at SSPPS who teaches the Spanish elective for our student pharmacists. It is individuals like Dr. Garcia who make our school feel more like a Pharmily. Happy birthday, Dima and Mina!

Alumni Highlights

Check in with Dr. Sophie Tan from the Class of 2021 to see what she’s been up to since graduating.

→ Read more

Event Highlights

Celebration of Life Ceremony for Mary Belaya

On Thursday, December 1st, SSPPS hosted an intimate Celebration of Life Ceremony to remember our Class of 2024 student, Mary Belaya. Mary had a heart full of joy and we were lucky to have known her during her two years here at SSPPS. Thank you to all who were able to gather together with us. SSPPS is a strong and well-connected Pharmily; it is truly beautiful to see how we bring each other up during times of loss.

Class of 2026 White Coat Ceremony

On September 23rd, SSPPS held its annual White Coat Ceremony. Our Class of 2026 received their white coats and recited the Oath of a Pharmacist in front of family, friends, faculty, and staff. We are very excited to watch them grow into the Doctors of Pharmacy they will become!

You can view a brief slideshow and a video of the full ceremony below:
Phi Lambda Sigma Initiation Ceremony

Our Phi Lambda Sigma Epsilon Alpha chapter initiated 44 new members into the national pharmacy leadership society this fall.

Staff Service Award Celebration

by Mandi Walker-Garhartt, HR Analyst

On Wednesday November 9th, the SSPPS Administrative Staff gathered for a picnic themed celebration in honor of the annual SSPPS Staff Service Award Celebration, presented by the SSPPS HR Team. During the celebration we recognized the years of service of three of our dedicated staff members. For 25 years of service, we recognized Cynthia Barlow. For 20 years of service, we recognized both Paradorn Thiel and Adrienne Gomez. Join us in recognizing their many years of service and make sure let them know your 'thanks' as you see them on campus!

More Events in Fall 2022

American College of Clinical Pharmacy Global Conference → Read more
APhA Immunization Delivery Course → Read more
ASCP Annual Meeting → Read more
ASP Fall Quarter Events → Read more
CSHP Highlights → Read more
National Patient Counseling Competition → Read more
National Pharmacy Week → Read more
Native American Heritage Month Kickoff Luncheon → Read more
SNPhA Participates in Voter Registration Event → Read more
Staff Bid Farewell to Keith Shannon → Read more
UC San Diego Pharmacy Student Receives ISPOR Student Conference Grant → Read more

Features and Publications

Linda Awdishu, PharmD, MAS (Faculty)
• "The Role of Pharmacists in CKD Care Teams",
  Kidney News

Brookie Best, PharmD, MAS (Dean)
• "The Questions We Pursue",
  YouTube

• "The Concentration of Etanercept in Human Milk and Infant Outcomes",
  The Journal of Rheumatology

Conor Caffrey, Ph.D. (Faculty)

Anjan Debnath, Ph.D., M.A.S. (Faculty)

David J. Gonzalez, PhD (Faculty)

Jair L. Siqueira-Neto, Ph.D. (Faculty)
• "A Broad Spectrum Antiparasitic Activity of Organotin(IV) Derivatives and Its Untargeted Proteomic Profiling Using Leishmania donovani",
  Pathogens

Anjan Debnath, Ph.D., M.A.S. (Faculty)
• "A Bioluminescence-Based Drug Screen Identifies Activities of Fexinidazole and Its Metabolites against Helicobacter pylori",
  Antibiotics

David J. Gonzalez, PhD (Faculty)
• "San Diego Postdoctoral Scholars Program Enhances Diversity in Biomedical Research",
  National Institute of General Medical Sciences Biomedical Beat Blog

• "Enzyme Drives Cognitive Decline in Mice, Provides New Target for Alzheimer's",
  UC San Diego Today

Inmaculada Hernandez, PharmD, PhD (Faculty)
• "High R&D isn't necessarily why drugs are so expensive",
  EurekAlert!

• "Association of Research and Development Investments With Treatment Costs for New Drugs Approved From 2009 to 2018",
  JAMA Network

• "Pharmaceutical Spending in Fee-for-Service Medicare: Looking Ahead to the Inflation Reduction Act",
  JAMA Network

• "Underprescribing vs underfilling to oral anticoagulation: An analysis of linked medical record and claims data for a nationwide sample of patients with atrial fibrillation",
  Journal of Managed Care + Specialty Pharmacy

Alejandro Nava, PharmD (Alumnus, Class of 2021)
• "How landlocked Lesotho's 1st and only oncology clinic addresses cancer crisis",
  ABC News

Zoran Radić, Ph.D. (Faculty)
• "Structural and dynamic effects of paraoxon binding to human acetylcholinesterase by X-ray crystallography and inelastic neutron scattering",
  Structure

• "Cobinamide is a strong and versatile antioxidant that overcomes oxidative stress in cells, flies, and diabetic mice",
  PNAS

Nexus