



UPCOMING EVENTS

COLLEGE NEWS

ALUMNI NEWS

FACULTY SCHOLARSHIP

## A MESSAGE FROM GARY M. POLLACK



April 2018

Dear Friends and Colleagues:

An interesting and important paper was published recently in the journal *Demography*, and has begun to generate additional analysis and commentary. The focus of this work is the relationship between student success and family wealth; the story it tells is concerning.

Not surprisingly, there is a positive relationship between family wealth (distinct from family income) and college participation. With the exception of the highest wealth category, which has consistently high college participation rates, the percentage of high school graduates electing to pursue further education has increased over time. This generally would be viewed as a positive change, especially in the academy: we aspire for diversity in all characteristics, including economic status. For programs in land-grant universities, addressing disparities in access to educational opportunity is especially mission-relevant. However, although college participation rates have increased recently among students from the lowest family wealth category, the percentage of those students actually earning a college degree has barely budged. The failure to graduate has a variety of negative outcomes, ranging from debt associated with an uncompleted degree program to perpetuation of stereotypes (“those” students simply are not good enough).

There are a number of factors that might contribute to students from low-wealth groups failing to complete a college degree. The obvious ones (attending challenged public schools in a wealth-segregated district; being the first member of a family to attend college) are mentioned frequently. Other factors, such as food insecurity and the difficulties associated with attaining academic achievement on a chronically-empty stomach, are beginning to receive more attention.

What does this have to do with post-baccalaureate degree programs such as we have in our college? Here’s the thing: the issues facing students from economically-challenged backgrounds do not magically disappear once they have completed their undergraduate work. To some extent, the pressures on these students to help support aging parents, or to begin supporting their own families, might intensify as they transition from undergraduates to professional or graduate students. The days of an “immersive” experience in a post-baccalaureate program are in the past, if indeed they ever existed as a general concept. Given the projections for high-school graduation rates, the challenges associated with student retention and progression will become more substantial at all levels of higher education.

What can those of us aligned with professional and graduate education do to support student success across the range of students we enroll in our programs? Some of the changes we have adopted in our college have positioned us well to engage and assist students who may otherwise find the challenges associated with pursuing a professional or graduate degree to be insurmountable. Delivering our professional curriculum in a competency-based manner, and appropriately aligning educational philosophy with expectations for student performance, has resulted in a significant improvement in student retention. Our curricular delivery approach provides some measure of flexibility for those students who need to work while pursuing their degree. Utilizing an active- and collaborative-learning approach, as opposed to traditional lecture, has supported the “deep learning” that is required for long-term success, and is particularly well-suited to engaging students who may struggle with traditional lecture-based approaches.

Student support and culture will be one of the topics at our upcoming TIPed Institute June 12-14 in Spokane. We are looking forward to discussing these and other topics addressing the innovation of pharmacy and health sciences education. There is still space if you would like to send a team from your institution, you may register online here: <https://pharmacy.wsu.edu/tiped/registration/>

Best wishes,



Gary M. Pollack  
Dean, College of Pharmacy  
Washington State University



## UPCOMING EVENTS



**Tribute to Excellence**  
Yakima, Wash.



**CougsFirst**  
Davenport Grand Hotel  
Spokane, Wash.



**R. Keith Campbell  
Celebration of Life**  
Spokane, Wash.



**Celebrating Generosity**  
Columbia Tower Club  
Seattle, Wash.

[More college events >>](#)

### WSU pharmacy faculty joins national scholars program

SPOKANE, Wash.—Julie Akers, Pharm.D., has been selected for the National Association of Chain Drug Stores (NACDS) Foundation Faculty Scholars program.

Akers will receive a \$2,500 research grant from NACDS and is currently working on a research proposal. According to the program outline, each faculty scholar will design and implement a patient-focused research project conducted in a community pharmacy setting during the next year.

“Community pharmacy patient-care focused research will lead to better access to care and health outcomes for our patients, which is always my primary focus,” Akers said.

Akers is a clinical assistant professor in the Department of Pharmacotherapy and is the second faculty member from the Washington State University College of Pharmacy to be selected for the program. She will be working with former NACDS scholar Kimberly McKeirnan as her onsite faculty mentor in Spokane. McKeirnan is also a clinical faculty member at the College of Pharmacy.

Akers is from Lewiston, Idaho, and joined the faculty at WSU in 2013 after working as a pharmacy district manager for Bartell’s in the Seattle area and then as the retail pharmacies manager for the Everett Clinic. Akers is a past president of the Washington State Pharmacy Association (WSPA), is currently serving her 10th year on the WSPA board of directors, serves on the American Pharmacists Association (APhA) government affairs committee, and has served as a delegate to APhA representing the State of Washington for several years.

The NACDS Foundation focuses on community pharmacy and public health research that contributes to improving patient outcomes. The Faculty Scholars program helps new faculty members to get research in this field off the ground.

“Coming from a community pharmacy background, research methodology and publication were not something I had spent time on after graduating pharmacy school,” Akers said. “Through this program I hope to better understand different research methodologies as well as learn strategies to systematically progress through a project.”

Details on the NACDS Foundation Faculty Scholars Program: <https://www.nacdsfoundation.org/>

More information on Dr. Julie Akers: <https://pharmacy.wsu.edu/directory/julie-akers/>



Akers

### Retired Washington legislator to speak at pharmacy commencement May 3

SPOKANE, Wash.—Linda Evans Parlette, a former Washington state senator and WSU pharmacy alumna, will be the keynote speaker at the commencement ceremony of the Washington State University College of Pharmacy at 1:00 p.m. Thursday, May 3, at the Martin Woldson Theater.

Parlette’s selection as the commencement speaker for pharmacy maintains the college’s practice to bring thought leaders to campus. Her record in state government is in alignment with the college’s position as a leader in advancing, promoting and protecting human health.

In 2015, legislation sponsored by Parlette was passed in Washington requiring insurance carriers to recognize pharmacists in the same way as other providers. Not all states have this kind of legislation in place and insurance companies routinely refuse to reimburse pharmacists for the growing number of services they provide. Washington was the first state to pass legislation of this kind.

“Linda Evans Parlette has made a real impact on the ability of a pharmacist to practice as part of the health care team to tackle the nation’s health care problems and collaborate on solutions to make our world a better place,” said Vice Dean Linda Garrelts MacLean. “She is a shining example for our graduating pharmacists and I am excited and honored to have her speak at commencement.”



Parlette represented Washington’s 12th Legislative District from 1997 to 2016 and is the fourth generation in her family born and raised in central Washington. Parlette graduated from Chelan High School as valedictorian, attended Washington State University and in 1968 graduated from the WSU pharmacy program with honors. During her time in the state Senate, Parlette served on several standing committees, but her main focus remained on Health Care, Natural Resources, and Ways and Means. Her experience as a pharmacist was a good foundation for her work on health care issues.

News media interested in interview availability should contact Lori Maricle at [Imaricle@wsu.edu](mailto:Imaricle@wsu.edu), or at 509-368-6679. Parlette will be available for interviews on Wednesday, May 2, based on interest and time allowance.

Full details on the WSU College of Pharmacy commencement ceremony can be found online at <http://www.pharmacy.wsu.edu/commencement>.

## WSU leads in expanding scientific knowledge on natural products

### Part 1 (of 3)

Dietary supplements. Natural remedies. Botanicals. Energy drinks. Wellness boosts. Health foods. Vitamins.

There’s a lot out there when choosing whether or not to use dietary supplements or other natural products. There are also many questions about the value of these products and how beneficial they are, or are not. They often tout claims such as “all natural” ingredients, but that doesn’t necessarily make them safe for you. Natural products are not required to go through the same rigorous research and clinical trial process that pharmaceuticals do prior to marketing, so many potential health dangers are simply unknown.

The wheat grass and bee pollen in your smoothie, the Echinacea in your natural cold remedy, and the licorice and catnip in your herbal tea all fall into the category of natural products, along with other herbs and plant-derived products (botanicals), vitamins, minerals, and amino acids.

What complicates the equation even more is the fact that many people turning to natural products for health benefits have also been prescribed at least one conventional medication by their health care providers. But research being led by Washington State University in Spokane is focused on uncovering potential interactions that may cause health risks.

Introducing Mary Paine, a pharmaceutical sciences researcher and associate professor at the WSU College of Pharmacy in Spokane. Paine is also a registered pharmacist. After practicing as a hospital pharmacist for a few years, she earned her Ph.D. from the University of Washington and undertook a postdoctoral fellowship at the University of Michigan Medical Center. She began and solidified her career in academia at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Several years later, she had the opportunity to return to her native Pacific Northwest, joining the WSU College of Pharmacy in 2013.



*Paine*

According to Paine, there needs to be more definitive information available to health care providers and patients about the risks of supplementing prescribed pharmacotherapeutic regimens with natural products. St. John's wort is listed on her [research group website](#) as an example. St. John's wort is a flowering plant that is used as an herbal remedy for mild to moderate depression, but has several known drug interactions including some post-organ transplant medications, causing them to be ineffective.

Adverse health effects could impact anyone looking to use natural products and conventional medications at the same time. [According to the CDC](#), nearly half (48.9%) of the American population surveyed in 2016 had used at least one prescription drug in the past 30 days. With a U.S. population topping 323 million, that's nearly 158 million prescriptions not accounting for the people who are taking multiple medications at once.

Originally a co-principal investigator, Paine was recently appointed as the sole principal investigator to lead a massive research initiative to develop a set of recommended approaches to determine the clinical relevance of pharmacokinetic interactions between natural products and conventional medications. This specialized center-cooperative agreement grant (U54), funded through the National Institutes of Health National Center for Complementary and Integrative Health, started in 2015.

The grant, totaling roughly \$10 million over five years, funds the Center of Excellence for Natural Product-Drug Interaction Research (NaPDI Center). The center, composed of experts in clinical pharmacology, natural products chemistry, health informatics, and health communications, is intended to provide leadership in the rigorous study of interactions between natural products and conventional drugs.

Collaborating partners for the NaPDI Center include the WSU Edward R. Murrow College of Communication, University of Washington, University of North Carolina Greensboro, University of Pittsburgh, City of Hope, and the National Center for Complementary and Integrative Health.

The NaPDI Center will soon be providing a valuable resource for people across the nation who are just trying to do what they can to live their best, healthy life.

[Part 2: the NaPDI Center](#)



## A MESSAGE FROM LINDA GARRELT'S MACLEAN



Dear Alums, Colleagues and Friends of Pharmacy,

I am pleased to report that the Allen I. White Lectureship on March 13 featuring Dr. Richard Okita, a program director with the National Institutes of Health National Institute of General Medical Sciences and a former pharmaceutical sciences professor at WSU, was a tremendous success. Dr. Okita's presentation described his work in pharmacology and toxicology over his many decades in academia and at NIH. Our students and faculty appreciated the time that was spent with this national leader in biomedical sciences research and policy. Pharmaceutical Sciences Associate Professor Mary Paine also expressed her appreciation: "Dr. Okita is the epitome of NIH program directors, and I will be eternally grateful to him for his never-ending encouragement, advocacy, and sage advice."

Many students and faculty have just returned from the annual APhA meeting held in Nashville. It was great to see many of you there, especially those of you who came to our [CougaRx Nation Alumni and Friends reception](#) on Sunday. We appreciate all of the networking and student mentoring that occurred at that event! Other highlights:

- Check out the podium and poster presentations that our faculty, residents, and fellows conducted under the [Faculty Scholarship](#) section.
- Natalie Tucker, a fourth-year student pharmacist, represented us well! As a member of the APhA – Academy of Student Pharmacists standing committee for communications, she was thanked for her work at the student general session. Her exceptional writing skills were acknowledged and it was noted that southern roots could be detected in her work!
- [The Community Pharmacy Foundation](#) was awarded the H.A.B. Dunning Award at the first general session. This organization has funded research for many of our pharmacotherapy faculty.
- Congratulations to our community partner Albertsons Companies! It has been great collaborating with them on immunization training. They received an [APhA Immunization Champion Award](#) in the corporation/institution category.
- Finally, a huge thank you to Executive Vice President & CEO Donnie Calhoun and Vice President of Operations Dana Easton with the American College of Apothecaries (ACA). Their sponsorship for the Sunday evening reception is so appreciated. Our students, alumni and friends of the WSU College of Pharmacy value the time spent with the ACA members.

In addition to great faculty like Dean Allen White and Professor Emeritus Keith Campbell who have made a profound impact on our college, there are also dedicated staff who not only support faculty in their scholarship but also keep the business of running a college going daily with seemingly effortless grace. In that regard, many of our alumni got to know and love Vicki Burnham, who served as the dean's assistant from 2005-2014. We are saddened to hear of Vicki's passing on March 11, 2018, after a long battle with cancer. Our deepest condolences go out to her family. You can read more about [Vicki here](#).

I wish each of you the best as you enjoy the sunshine and everything associated with spring!

With Cougar Pride,



Linda Garrelts MacLean, BPharm, RPh  
Vice Dean of External Relations  
Clinical Professor

## ALUMNI NEWS



### CONTINUING EDUCATION

The college now has on Online Continuing Education Center hosted by The World Continuing Education Alliance (WCEA).

[Full story on page 8 »](#)



### COMPOUNDING

The College of Pharmacy compounding team won the national Student Pharmacist Compounding Competition in Aventura, Florida!

[Full story on page 8 »](#)



### COUNCIL MEMBERS

Sunil Wadhvani and Leon Alzola recently become members of the advisory council for Dean Gary M. Pollack.

[Full story on page 8 »](#)

## ALUMNI UPDATES

- **Will Quinby**, class of 2010, from Centralia Pharmacy, won an NCPA Innovation Center Excellence Award for best external remodel! [View photos »](#) Will is married to fellow pharmacy alum Courtney Quinby, who also graduated in 2010.

Want to be listed in our alumni updates? Send us your career information or let us know what you've been up to! [gocougs@pharmacy.wsu.edu](mailto:gocougs@pharmacy.wsu.edu)

## Online continuing education center

By: Danial E. Baker, pharmacotherapy professor, director of the Drug Information Center

The Washington State University College of Pharmacy now has an Online Continuing Education Center hosted by The World Continuing Education Alliance (WCEA). All pharmacists can access online pharmacy continuing education through the college's education portal at [wsu.wcea.education](http://wsu.wcea.education).

It is quick and easy! The first step is to go to the college's education portal and register. This will require you to enter your NABP e-Profile number and your birth month and day (MMDD format). If you have forgotten your NABP e-Profile number you can go to [www.MyCPEMonitor.net](http://www.MyCPEMonitor.net) to get that information.

This educational portal will be your gateway to all of our online continuing education materials and selected programs offered by other continuing education providers. The college currently has eight programs available and more to come. Once you are registered at WCEA you can select the continuing education program you want to use and go to work. When you have successfully completed the activity the information will be automatically submitted to CPE Monitoring and placed in your NABP e-Profile record.

## Champion compounders

### WSU student pharmacists earn top prize in national compounding contest

Three student pharmacists from the Washington State University College of Pharmacy competed in the national Student Pharmacist Compounding Competition March 17-18 in Aventura, Florida.

WSU student pharmacists Shauna Leggett, class of 2018, Katie Cashman, class of 2019, and Megan Baker, class of 2020, made up one of 20 teams from pharmacy programs across the country.

The WSU team won the competition. They took home trophies, a check for \$1,000 for the WSU compounding lab, and gift certificates for training opportunities for each student member and faculty mentor valued at over \$3,000 per person.

Leggett and Baker were part of the WSU team that placed fourth last year and [won a separate research proposal contest](#).

Their faculty mentor is Connie Remsberg, Ph.D., Pharm.D., a clinical assistant professor in the College of Pharmacy, and a registered pharmacist.

This is an example of how the WSU Doctor of Pharmacy program provides a transformative student experience. [Read more](#) on the local compounding competition that took place in Spokane on January 20.

The national competition is hosted and co-sponsored by [MEDISCA](#), a FDA-registered supplier of pharmacy compounding ingredients and products, to promote the compounding pharmacy community and provide student pharmacists with an opportunity to practice their skills and receive national recognition in the process.

## College names new members of advisory council

SPOKANE, Wash.—The Washington State University College of Pharmacy recently named Sunil Wadhvani and Leon Alzola to the advisory council for Dean Gary M. Pollack.

It is important the college stay connected to key thought-leaders and experts within the professional and scientific community in order to stay apprised of the ever-evolving health care landscape. The Dean's Advisory Council convenes twice a year to provide external perspective and insight on the

strategic direction of the college and its initiatives. The council was established by the dean in order to ensure the college's educational and research focus remain aligned to develop practice-ready graduates who are well-equipped to tackle the health challenges of the future.

Wadhvani joins the group this spring, Alzola was named to the council last fall.

Wadhvani is the chief of pharmacy at Mann-Grandstaff VA Medical Center in Spokane. He holds a Doctor of Pharmacy degree, a master's degree in pharmacy administration, and completed an American Society of Hospital Pharmacy accredited post-graduate one-year (PGY1) residency in clinical pharmacy.

He serves as a senior leader in building bridges for his organization, supporting VHA's transformational initiatives and sustaining excellence in serving to improve the health and wellbeing of Veterans.

"I enjoy building relationships and synergy in my workplace to achieve win-win outcomes. It gives me great joy and energy to help others achieve desired outcomes in their lives. It is this joy and energy that keeps me going," Wadhvani said. Also in his role at the VA, Wadhvani is a preceptor to student pharmacists in the WSU Doctor of Pharmacy program.

Wadhvani is a member of the Dean's Council at Idaho State University College of Pharmacy. He received the VA Spokane Clinical Excellence Award and the VA Administrator's Hands and Hearts Award in 2002. He has received numerous special achievement awards from 2002-2014, a Certificate of Appreciation for serving as interim associate medical center director, and in 2014 a Professional Achievement Award from Idaho State University.

Alzola graduated from the WSU College of Pharmacy in 1991. After practicing in home health care and independent pharmacy, he changed paths and has spent most of his professional career with Fred Meyer Pharmacy. He has held a variety of positions, working his way up from staff pharmacist to his current role as the director of pharmacy for Fred Meyer. He is also a member of the WSU Board of Trustees.

Alzola is a past-president of the Washington State Pharmacy Association (WSPA) and has received three WSPA awards: Distinguished Young Pharmacist, Bill Mueller Outstanding Mentor, and Pharmacist of the Year. He has served on multiple advisory boards, including the Washington State Board of Pharmacy and the National Association of Boards of Pharmacy where he served on several committees. He is also active in his local Southwest Washington Pharmacy Association.



## FACULTY SCHOLARSHIP

### Publications

- Pharmacotherapy Clinical Associate Professor **Kimberly McKeirnan** with five co-authors published, "Assessing pneumococcal vaccination availability in under-vaccinated rural counties: a pharmacy perspective," in the journal *The Consultant Pharmacist* in March 2018.
- **Kimberly McKeirnan**, Pharmacotherapy Research Resident in Medication Optimization **Kyle Frazier**, Vice Dean for External Relations and Pharmacotherapy Clinical Professor **Linda Garrelts MacLean** and one co-author published, "Training pharmacy technicians to administer immunizations," in the *Journal of the American Pharmacists Association*. [Read abstract »](#)
- Pharmaceutical Sciences Assistant Professor **Travis T. Denton** and two co-authors published, "Multiple-step, one-pot synthesis of 2-substituted-3-phosphono-1-thia-4-aza- 2-cyclohexene-5-

carboxylates and their corresponding ethyl esters,” in *Bioorganic and Medicinal Chemistry Letters* on February 15, 2018. [Read abstract »](#)

- Pharmaceutical Sciences Research Technologist **Kenneth Porter**, Pharmaceutical Sciences Assistant Professor **Hui Zhang**, Pharmaceutical Sciences Assistant Professor **Shobhan Gaddameedhi** and six co-authors published, “The circadian clock regulates cisplatin-induced toxicity and tumor regression in melanoma mouse and human models,” in *Oncotarget*, a peer-reviewed open access journal, on March 6, 2018. [Read article »](#)
- Pharmaceutical Sciences Associate Professor **Grant Trobridge** and three co-authors published, “Replication-incompetent gammaretroviral and lentiviral vector-based insertional mutagenesis screens identify prostate cancer progression genes,” in *Oncotarget*, a peer-reviewed open-access journal, on March 20, 2018. [Read abstract »](#)
- Pharmacotherapy Clinical Assistant Professor **Cheyenne Newsome** and three co-authors published, “Breadth of statistical training among pharmacy residency programs across the United States,” in *Hospital Pharmacy* in April 2018. [Read abstract »](#)

## Presentations

- **Travis Denton** presented, “Development of lanthionine ketimine analogues and their potential role as therapies for ALS, Alzheimer’s Disease and other neurological disorders and research opportunities at WSU Spokane,” for the Whitworth University Department of Chemistry Seminar Course on February 7, 2018, in Spokane, Wash.
- **Kimberly McKeirnan** and two co-authors presented, “PharmTalk innovations in interprofessional education: improving rural pneumococcal immunization acceptance through interprofessional academic detailing,” at the American Pharmacists Association (APhA) Annual Meeting in Nashville, Tenn. in March 2018.
- **Kimberly McKeirnan**, **Kyle Frazier** and Pharmacotherapy Academic Fellow **Taylor Bertsch** presented, “PharmTalk innovations in technician opportunities: training pharmacy technicians to administer immunizations,” at the APhA Annual Meeting in Nashville, Tenn. in March 2018.
- **Kimberly McKeirnan**, **Kyle Frazier**, **Taylor Bertsch** and three co-authors presented the poster, “Pharmacists’ perspectives on working with immunizing technicians,” at the APhA Annual Meeting in Nashville, Tenn. in March 2018.
- **Kimberly McKeirnan**, **Taylor Bertsch** and one co-author presented the poster, “Implementing student pharmacist tuberculin skin test training using team-based learning (encore presentation),” at the APhA Annual Meeting in Nashville, Tenn. in March 2018.
- **Kimberly McKeirnan** and **Kyle Frazier** presented the poster, “Identifying drug-related problems through patient home visits,” at the APhA Annual Meeting in Nashville, Tenn. in March 2018.

## Service

- Boeing Distinguished Professor **Philip Lazarus** has been reappointed to a four-year term as the chair of the Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences.
- R. Keith Campbell Distinguished Professor in Diabetes Care **John R. White Jr.** has been reappointed to a four-year term as the chair of the Department of Pharmacotherapy.

- **Rustin Crutchley** was interviewed for the article, “Simplified regimen approved for patients with virologically suppressed HIV-1,” published in PharmacyToday in February 2018.
- **Sue Marsh** served as a grant reviewer for the NIH/CSR ZRG1 F10A Physiology and Pathobiology of Cardiovascular and Respiratory Systems (F31 pre-doctoral fellowships) Panel in Washington D.C., on March 9, 2018.
- Pharmacotherapy Professor and Associate Dean for Professional and Continuing Education **Danial Baker** had his biography accepted into the Marquis Who’s Who.
- Professor and Dean **Gary Pollack** and Pharmacotherapy Clinical Associate Professor and Associate Dean for Professional Education **Jennifer Robinson** were appointed as the administration delegate and alternate, respectively, for the American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy (AACP) House of Delegates.
- Pharmacotherapy Clinical Associate Professor **Megan Willson** and **Kimberly McKeirnan** were elected as the faculty delegate and alternate, respectively, for the AACP House of Delegates.

## STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT

### Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D) students

- **Mahamudul Haque** (pharmaceutical sciences, Ahmed lab) won the college’s Three Minute Thesis contest. Haque represented the college at the university-wide contest in Pullman on March 28, 2018, and received third place.
- **Shamema Nasrin** (pharmaceutical sciences, Lazarus lab) presented, “Tobacco-specific nitrosamines and risk for H & N cancer, and drug-drug interactions between cannabinoids and NSAIDs,” as part of the WSU College of Pharmacy Graduate Research Seminar Series on February 2, 2018, in Spokane, Wash.
- **Panshak Dakup** (pharmaceutical sciences, Gaddameedhi lab) presented, “Understanding the roles of the circadian clock and sex-related mechanisms in melanoma genesis,” as part of the WSU College of Pharmacy Graduate Research Seminar Series on February 9, 2018, in Spokane, Wash.
- **Yadira Pérez-Páramo** (pharmaceutical sciences, Lazarus lab) presented, “Identification of the enzymes responsible for N-Oxide detoxification of nicotine and the tobacco-specific nitrosamines (TSNAs),” as part of the WSU College of Pharmacy Graduate Research Seminar Series on February 16, 2018, in Spokane, Wash.
- **Shannon Kozlovich** (pharmaceutical sciences, Lazarus lab) presented, “The impact of genotype and tobacco additives on the detoxification pathway of NNAL, a potent tobacco carcinogen,” as part of the WSU College of Pharmacy Graduate Research Seminar Series on February 23, 2018, in Spokane, Wash.
- **Xinyue Dong** (pharmaceutical sciences, Z. Wang lab) presented, “Neutrophil membrane-derived nanovesicles prevent cerebral ischemia/reperfusion injury,” as part of the WSU College of Pharmacy Graduate Research Seminar Series on March 2, 2018, in Spokane, Wash.
- **Phillip Wibisono** (pharmaceutical sciences, Sun lab, College of Medicine) presented, “Single neuron RNA sequencing to study neural-immune communication in *C. elegans*,” as part of the WSU College of Pharmacy Graduate Research Seminar Series on March 9, 2018, in Spokane, Wash.

- **Ana Vergara** (pharmaceutical sciences, Lazarus lab) was elected Ph.D. at large senator for the 2018-19 Associated Students of WSU Spokane leadership team.
- **Dunxin Shen** (pharmaceutical sciences, Denton lab) with faculty co-author **Travis Denton** and one additional co-author published, “Multiple-step, one-pot synthesis of 2-substituted-3-phosphono-1-thia-4-aza-2-cyclohexene-5-carboxylates and their corresponding ethyl esters,” in *Bioorganic and Medicinal Chemistry Letters* on February 15, 2018. [Read abstract »](#)
- **Panshak Dakup, Alexander Little** (pharmaceutical sciences, Zhang lab) with faculty co-authors **Kenneth Porter, Hui Zhang, Shobhan Gaddameedhi** and six additional co-authors published, “The circadian clock regulates cisplatin-induced toxicity and tumor regression in melanoma mouse and human models,” in *Oncotarget*, a peer-reviewed open access resource, on March 6, 2018. [Read article »](#)
- **Panshak Dakup** received a \$300 travel award from Burroughs Wellcome Fund and NASA Astrobiology to attend the Science Talk conference in Portland, Ore.
- **Ruby Siegel** (pharmaceutical sciences, Ahmed lab) presented, “Investigating the role of HLA-C in rheumatoid arthritis,” as part of the WSU College of Pharmacy Graduate Research Seminar Series on March 23, 2018, in Spokane, Wash.
- **Chris Szlenk** (pharmaceutical sciences, Natesan lab) presented, “In silico identification of GHB ligands,” as part of the WSU College of Pharmacy Graduate Research Seminar Series on March 30, 2018, in Spokane, Wash.

### Doctor of Pharmacy (Pharm.D.) students

- On March 21 student pharmacists from American Pharmacists Association- Academy of Student Pharmacists (APhA-ASP), Student National Pharmaceutical Association (SNPhA) CKD and Washington State Pharmacy Association (WSPA) participated in the Hillyard Senior Center Patient Care Collaboration. This event was a collaboration between APhA-ASP Operation Diabetes, Operation Heart, SNPhA CKD and WSPA Project Airway. Students provided Hillyard Senior Center patients with blood glucose and cholesterol screenings, diabetes and heart-healthy education, as well as chronic kidney disease and asthma/COPD education.
- On March 21 student pharmacists in SNPhA volunteered with Blessings Under the Bridge to help provide food and necessities to those in need. Blessings Under the Bridge is a weekly feed that occurs on Wednesday nights, as volunteers they provide meals, snacks, drinks and clothing to community members.
- On March 31 student pharmacists from APhA, SNPhA, ASCP and WSPA organized and participated in a health fair at Shaw Middle School in Spokane that served the Marshallese community and any individuals who do not have access to health care.
- **Peter Tang** received a summer internship with the National Community Pharmacists Association (NCPA) in Alexandria, Virginia.
- The following students were elected to the Professional Pharmacy Student Organization (PPSO) executive board: **Pari Iverson**, president-elect; **Lee Roy Esposito**, director-elect of public relations; **Shaham Dowlatshahi**, treasurer-elect; **Megan Rice**, fundraising chair-elect.
- The following students were elected to the following PPSO positions: **Jonathan Chen**, American

College of Clinical Pharmacy (ACCP) president-elect; **Vanessa Tuy**, American College of Veterinary Pharmacists (ACVP) president-elect; **Julia Kim**, APhA-ASP president-elect; **Janelle Schweitzer**, American Society of Consultant Pharmacists (ASCP) president-elect; **Christina Tran**, American Society of Health-System Pharmacists (ASHP) president-elect; **Hena Seo**, College of Psychiatric and Neurologic Pharmacists (CPNP) president-elect; **Amber Olsen**, NCPA president-elect; **Audrian Santos**, SNPhA president-elect; **Connor Capdeville**, WSPA junior liaison.

- Student pharmacists participated in Longfellow Elementary School's Science Night educating the elementary students on the role of a pharmacist and that compounding is a part of what a pharmacist does.
- **Johanna Pantig** and **Arleigh Cayanan** were elected president and vice president, respectively, for the 2018-19 Associated Students of WSU Spokane leadership team.
- **Majid Nazir** and **Kortney Dietz** were elected Spokane pharmacy senators for the 2018-19 Associated Students of WSU Spokane leadership team.
- **Debbie Li** was elected Yakima pharmacy senator for the 2018-19 Associated Students of WSU Spokane leadership team.
- The APhA-ASP chapter met their divisional fundraising goal during the annual Back the PAC Campaign.

## JOBS

- Clinical Assistant Professor: Kootenai Health
- Clinical Assistant Professor: Pharmacotherapy, Providence St. Peter Hospital Olympia
- Clinical Assistant Professor: Pharmacotherapy, Virginia Mason Memorial Hospital
- Clinical Assistant Professor: Pharmacotherapy, WSU Spokane



*College of*

# Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences

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