

CougarRx News

WASHINGTON STATE UNIVERSITY

Events

Give Now

Top Stories

Alumni Updates

Faculty Scholarship

September 2019

A NOTE FROM LINDA GARRELTS MACLEAN

Dear Friends and Colleagues:

It is a distinct privilege to write my first column as the interim dean of the Washington State University College of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences. And, more importantly, it's an honor to lead our college, which is represented by incredibly dedicated faculty and staff; highly engaged and invested alumni and friends; and, of course, our student pharmacists and Ph.D. students, who continue to amaze me every day with their professionalism and leadership.



No one can deny that these are particularly challenging times in health care and pharmacy is no different. But when challenges arise, the need for innovation, leadership, and entrepreneurship, becomes even greater. Those are three tenets of the WSU CPPS experience, which I believe help set our program apart. We are not about the status quo and never have been. Status quo = standing still. We are a program on the move. A good example of this is our bold advocacy for provider status. And our movement from a program ranked in the top 50 colleges of pharmacy, to the top 20—due to robust growth in our research portfolio while continuing to provide an exceptional PharmD program. In addition, we have implemented programs to treat patients for minor ailments and conditions, and we have data to prove that it works as access to care is increased, patient health outcomes are achieved and costs are decreased.

The status quo is not what fierce leadership is about and it's not what pharmacy practice needs right now. We need to create openings for innovative, accessible care and create opportunities for pharmacists to treat patients in new and advanced ways. That takes leadership and an entrepreneurial mindset. We know that pharmacists are the most accessible health care providers who are uniquely positioned to bridge the health care shortage, particularly in rural communities all over this country.

As a former board member for the American Pharmacists Association, I have seen first-hand how our national organizations are continuing the momentum to achieve provider status. That's a start, but there's much more work to be done and many more opportunities that lay ahead in this great profession. At our college's recent white coat ceremonies in Spokane and Yakima, I reiterated one of my all-time favorite quotes from former WSU College of Pharmacy Dean Allen I. White. Although he made this statement nearly 40 years ago, it's never been more relevant. In 1978, Dean White quoted the poet Berton Brayley, writing that for pharmacists, "the best jobs haven't been started, the best work hasn't been done."

We're on this journey together and I look forward to working with each of you during the coming months.

With much respect,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Linda Garrelts MacLean". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Linda Garrelts MacLean, interim dean
WSU College of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences

P.S. I hope you like the new design of CougarRx News.

Top Stories

WSU football hero to be honored by College of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences

William (Bill) Gaskins is a 1969 College of Pharmacy graduate, clinical pharmacy instructor, Washington State University (WSU) Athletics Hall of Fame inductee and was director of pharmacy at Pullman Regional Hospital for 43 years. This fall he will also be the first-ever recipient of the College of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences R. Keith Campbell Lifetime Achievement Award.



Every fall the college celebrates the leadership and support of alumni, mentors and preceptors during Pharmacy Homecoming Weekend. As part of the Crimson Gala on Friday, October 18, 2019, the college will celebrate the career and lifetime achievements of William Gaskins.

“Any accomplishments which can be attributed to me are because of the individuals with whom I interacted,” said Gaskins. “I am a perfect example of the prodigious words, ‘it takes a village.’”

Today, Gaskins acts as a part of that village for current WSU student pharmacists. He continues to be a strong supporter of the college, frequently offering student pharmacists advice and counsel.

“Our students are the best and the brightest,” said Gaskins. “It has always amazed me that these young men and women keep us fresh by exploring new ways to look at the future.”

In an effort to support these bright students, proceeds from the 2019 Crimson Gala will fund a William and Felicia Gaskins Scholarship at the CPPS to honor the life work and legacy of Bill and Felicia Gaskins at WSU. Bill and Felicia are college sweethearts, having met at WSU in 1962 as undergraduates. They married in 1964 and recently celebrated 55 years of marriage.

“I came to WSU as a freshman because it appeared to me from my recruiting visitations that WSU was like being in a family,” said Bill. “Through the years that initial feeling has only been enhanced.”

Bill was recruited to WSU from Spokane’s Lewis and Clark High School to play football and run track for the Cougars. He played football for WSU from 1962-66 and as a member of the 1965 “Cardiac Kids” team, was awarded the J. Fred Bohler Inspirational Award. He finished his collegiate career with second team All-American honors. After playing two years of professional football for the Calgary Stampeders, Bill returned to WSU to finish his pharmacy degree. He was inducted into the WSU Athletics Hall of Fame in 1990.

In 1970, Bill and Felicia returned to Pullman when Bill accepted the positions of Director of the Pullman Regional Hospital Pharmacy and clinical pharmacy instructor in the College of Pharmacy. In his dual role, Gaskins was a preceptor and mentor to more than 300 WSU student pharmacists, who earned internship hours and clinical experience in the hospital pharmacy. In the Pullman community, he served the American Cancer Society, Pullman Presbyterian Church and on the Pullman City Council. For 17 years Gaskins was a PAC-10 football official and served as the starter for WSU track events.

Felicia graduated from WSU with a B.A. in Music Education and later earned a M.A. in Intercultural Relations from the McGregor School of Antioch University. During her 40-year tenure at WSU Felicia was Senior Associate Director of the International Education Program, Director of the Conflict Resolution Program and Associate Vice President of Equity and Diversity.

Bill and Felicia are now both retired and living in Pullman. They have two children, Helen and William III, both of whom are WSU graduates, and five grandchildren.

Scholarship support to help student pharmacists is an issue of critical importance to the Gaskins. In Bill’s words, “the cost of education continues to increase and it is important to invest and provide funding to help the next generations of young people reduce their post-graduation indebtedness.”

If you would like to contribute to the William and Felicia Gaskins Scholarship please visit bit.ly/Gaskins-scholarship or go to pharmacy.wsu.edu/alumnifriends/ to learn more about Pharmacy Homecoming Weekend and Crimson Gala sponsorship.

You can also contact Kelly Sylvester, director of advancement and alumni relations at 509-358-7651 or gocougs@pharmacy.wsu.edu if you have any questions or would like more information.

Johanna Pantig named WSU student regent

By Addy Hatch, WSU News

Johanna Pantig, a fourth-year pharmacy student at WSU Health Sciences in Spokane, has been named Washington State University Student Regent for the 2019-20 academic year.

At age 26, Pantig's resume is already filled with leadership positions, honors, and volunteer experiences.

She served as president and vice president of the Associated Students of WSU Health Sciences and chair of the WSU Student Government Council. She received the Chancellor's Excellence Award last spring, and the student of the year award for third-year students in the WSU College of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences. She's a math-club tutor at Sheridan Elementary School in Spokane, and a volunteer at the Ronald McDonald House.



"My interest in leadership started at my WSU sorority in Pullman," said Pantig, who received her Bachelor of Science in biology in 2016. "I wanted to find a way to give back to the university in my final year here."

Pantig's appointment by Gov. Jay Inslee marks the second year in a row the student regent has come from the WSU campus in Spokane. Student regents serve one-year terms on the 10-member Board of Regents, which supervises and regulates the WSU system. Student regents have the same voting rights and responsibilities as the other members of the board, though they don't participate in matters relating to faculty hiring, discipline or tenure.

"I've enjoyed working with Johanna over the past two years and look forward to seeing how her leadership as a regent benefits WSU," said WSU Health Sciences Spokane Vice President for Health Sciences and Chancellor, Daryll DeWald. "Her familiarity with health sciences and the unique needs of students is critical as we strive to be a university preeminent in research and discovery, teaching and engagement."

Pantig said she'll use her position to advocate for all WSU students, including those attending online through the Global Campus.

"I want to make sure every student, no matter what campus they're from, has the opportunity to share what's going on at their campus or be able to voice their concerns," she said.

Technology will make it possible for her to work with administrators and student leaders in Vancouver, Everett, Pullman, Spokane and the Tri-Cities during her busy fourth-year clinical rotations in the College of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences.

Post-graduation, she hopes to enter a residency program but she's still deciding whether her long-term interest is in administration or in direct patient care.

"After being vice president and then president of the Associated Students of WSU Health Sciences, I found that I like the behind-the-scenes administrative work and getting to do more long-term problem-solving," she said. "But I've also learned that I really love talking to patients, getting to know them and building those close relationships."

She credits her WSU experiences for giving her the opportunities to make such a choice.

"You can get an education at any college," she said, "but it's the experiences and connections WSU has to offer. Once a Cougar, always a Cougar."

Brain injury expert returns to WSU

Darrell Jackson wants to train a new generation of healthcare practitioners in the Inland Northwest to help people with ALS and other neurodegenerative diseases live longer, healthier and happier lives.

An experienced educator who is nationally recognized for his work investigating the sometimes fatal after effects of strokes, Jackson is returning to WSU after spending nearly two decades away.

He received his Ph.D. in Pharmacology/Toxicology from WSU in 1990, served as an assistant professor at the College of Pharmacy from 1996-1999, and returned to the college for a sabbatical in 2017. This fall, he is beginning a new role of clinical associate professor for both the

Elson S. Floyd College of Medicine and College of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences (CPPS), teaching pharmacology to students in both colleges.

“We used to think, ‘wouldn’t it be cool if there was a medical school at WSU?’ It’s kind of a dream come true,” Jackson said. “I’ve come full circle. It feels good to be home.”

Last year while on sabbatical at CPPS, Jackson had the opportunity to attend the CPPS White Coat ceremony, where he was impressed by the diversity of the students in the pharmacy program.

“I wanted to be involved,” Jackson said. “It’s important to show students that they can get a quality education from diverse backgrounds and cultures.”

According to Jackson, the CPPS flipped classroom model also appealed to him. This model flips traditional learning to put the focus on the successful development of the student. Students are expected to be actively involved and take ownership in the learning process both inside and outside the classroom.

“The flipped classroom was a real challenge,” Jackson said. “When I exposed myself to it I really liked that way of teaching. It challenges students to work at their highest level.”

Jackson is also looking forward to bring neuroanatomy to students who would like to learn.

“My favorite thing about teaching is when the student gets the concept, when they understand. I love interacting with students.”

Jackson was born in Oakland, California, but was raised in Seattle and considers himself a Seattleite. It was in that city that he first found his interest in the sciences.

During middle school, when Jackson was on a trip to the University for Washington, he got bored and wandered off up to the sixth floor, into their neurosurgery department. While he was there, he met a research technician who told Jackson if he was really interested he should return.

“It took two buses, but I went back,” Jackson remembered.

Jackson did mostly grunt work at UW while the people around him were working on nerve regeneration surgery and epilepsy work. After two years, he moved into the department of pharmacology. His time at UW solidified his love of sciences.

Now, Jackson’s areas of expertise are neurobiology, neuropharmacology and neurochemistry. He researches stroke brain injury and neurotransmitter receptor trafficking following ischemic stroke injury.

“Our work involves studying the brain and understanding how injury to the brain effects brain function,” Jackson explained.

According to the [American Stroke Association](#), an ischemic stroke occurs when a vessel supplying blood to the brain is obstructed, cutting off blood flow to the brain. It is the most common form of stroke, accounting for



approximately 87% of all strokes. Jackson’s research deals directly with the one of the results of this type of stroke, delayed neuronal death (the death of brain cells).

“Delayed neuronal death takes place 24-72 hours after blood flow is re-established,” said Jackson. “We’re trying to identify key events responsible for delayed neuronal death and prevent that from happening.”

Jackson first started stroke research when he was an assistant professor at the WSU College of Pharmacy, from 1996-1999. Following this interest, Jackson went to Atlanta, which is considered the stroke belt, where there is a high incidence of stroke death in minority communities. He was at the Morehouse School of Medicine for five years before returning to the Northwest. After which, he spent fifteen years as an associate professor at the University of Montana.

Now that Jackson has returned to WSU, he hopes to get involved in the community, by using research to work with ALS and stroke groups.

“It’s important to show the community and the students that African Americans can be strong researchers doing cutting edge research,” said Jackson.

Spotlight on Success

New WSU technology to improve delivery of anti-inflammatory drugs - Pharmaceutical scientist awarded \$1.3M NIH grant to advance research

By Judith Van Dongen, Office of Research, WSU Health Sciences Spokane

SPOKANE, Wash. – A researcher at Washington State University Health Sciences Spokane has developed a new technology that harnesses the immune system to deliver drugs directly to infection sites within the body.

“Most diseases develop in local tissues within the body,” said Zhenjia Wang, an associate professor in the WSU College of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences. “That makes drug delivery challenging, because many drugs don’t have targeting properties—they simply go wherever they go. By delivering drugs to the disease site specifically, we can improve treatment while dramatically decreasing side effects.”



Wang’s technology uses neutrophils—a type of white blood cells that play a key role in the body’s natural immune response—to deliver drugs directly to diseased tissue. Neutrophils make up as much as 70 percent of the white blood cells that travel through the bloodstream to help fight off bacteria, viruses, or other pathogens that invade the body and cause inflammation in affected tissue.

Here is how that works: When inflammation occurs, the immune system releases white blood cells into the bloodstream to fend off the invading pathogens. Inside the infected tissue, inflammation triggers endothelial cells—which line the interior walls of blood vessels—to start producing molecules that stick to receptor molecules in the neutrophils, causing the two cell types to bind together and allowing the neutrophils to start fighting the infection. It is this interaction that allows neutrophils to home in on inflammatory sites, which makes them of interest to scientists working on targeted drug delivery.

Wang’s technology takes neutrophils and removes their contents, which yields tiny hollow cell membranes that he loads up with drug molecules. The resulting neutrophil-based “nanovesicles” retain the same characteristics that cause neutrophils to seek out inflammation, which ensures that drug molecules are automatically sent to where they are needed. And because they are made from human cell membranes, the body does not reject and eliminate them, as it does with artificially produced membranes used as part of earlier technologies, Wang said.

Preliminary study data suggest that Wang’s nanovesicles could successfully treat acute lung injury, a type of respiratory failure that causes inflammation in the lungs and can progress to a more serious condition known as acute respiratory distress syndrome. There are currently no drugs available to treat acute lung injury, and about 40 percent of patients die.

As part of their preliminary work, Wang and his research team used a rodent model of acute lung injury to test the technology's feasibility to deliver anti-inflammatory drugs directly to the lungs, with promising results.

Now, with funding from a new, four-year, \$1.3 million grant from the National Institutes of Health, Wang will do further research to validate and refine the new technology. As part of this, he hopes to delve deeper into how the nanovesicles interact with lung tissue and answer outstanding questions related to nanovesicle drug-loading techniques and capacities. Finding answers to these questions will take him one step closer toward the next goal, which is to get the technology tested in human clinical trials.

"Down the line, our technology could potentially help treat not just lung disease, but a wide range of other diseases that involve inflammation, including stroke, cancer, and rheumatoid arthritis," Wang said.

CPPS Welcome Class of 2023

"You need to remember you are not going on this journey by yourself, so I'm going to ask you to rely on yourself, each other and your networks."

This is the advice that Interim Dean Linda Garrelts MacLean gave to 27 Yakima and 105 Spokane incoming student pharmacists at the College of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences (CPPS) white coat ceremonies over the course of two days from August 15-16.

The new student pharmacists were welcomed to the college, and profession, first by MacLean then by a Student Ambassador Executive Committee Member student speaker for the respective campuses.



Linda Garrelts MacLean speaking at White Coat

On Thursday, August 15, Virginia Gonzalez issued the Yakima student welcome, where she continued on MacLean's theme of support by reminding incoming students, "we are all pharmily now. If you ever need help or someone to talk to you, you can always reach out."

The Spokane white coat ceremony followed on Friday, August 16, when student speaker Justin Vo addressed the incoming students for Spokane. In one memorable piece of advice, Vo told the new students, "I know it can be tough with everything that will be happening and sometimes it feels like everything is falling apart. Just remember tacos fall apart all the time but YET... we still love them."

Both ambassadors were followed by the White Coat Ceremony keynote speaker, Sarah Beaty-VanDeMark. Beaty-VanDeMark is a 1976 Washington State University graduate and the former director of system pharmacy program development for Providence Health Services.

Over the course of her speech she shared memories from her 45-year career as a pharmacist and insights as to where she believes the profession is headed.

"Our role is to optimize therapeutic outcomes by promoting safe, cost-effective medication therapy for our patients," said VanDeMark. "We can actively engage them in their own care, empowering their commitment to their own well-being... Health care in the U.S. is actively promoting wellness, appropriate medication treatment is a key factor in this wellness, as well as part of the treatment, and you will be the driver of this aspect of the new paradigm."

The college has a longstanding tradition of presenting student pharmacists with white lab coats at the beginning of their first year to signify their entry into the professional ranks. For new student pharmacists, the white coat ceremony is often seen as a symbol of professionalism, trust and care.

The white coats for the class of 2023 were donated by Nick, '04, and Gloria Bruck. Nick Bruck also took the stage during the ceremonies, coating the new student pharmacists. The ceremonies and receptions were made possible with the support of Walgreens. Yakima and Spokane White Coat Ceremony and reception photos can be found on Facebook.

WSU recognized as a top performing Phi Delta Chi chapter

By Anthony McDonald, class of 2020

This year at the Phi Delta Chi Professional Pharmacy Fraternity's 72 Grand Council in Anaheim, California, Washington State University's Gamma Psi chapter was once again recognized as a top performing chapter and several members were elected and appointed to national and regional offices:

Dr. Amanda Norman (class of 2015), who was instrumental in chartering the chapter, was elected by her peers to serve for two years as the Grand Vice President for Alumni Affairs after serving for three years as the Pacific Regional Director for Alumni Affairs. In this position, Dr. Norman will work closely with her regional counterparts to develop, oversee, and enhance the Fraternity's alumni programming as well as provide guidance to chapter advisors.

In addition, Anthony McDonald (class of 2020), was appointed by the executive council to serve as the national Leaders for Life Coordinator, also a two-year term. In this position, Anthony will work closely with the Grand President and others within the Leaders for Life Program to retain volunteers within the fraternity through a high-touch system. Previously, Anthony served as the treasurer, and most recently, the president of the Gamma Psi chapter.

Also at the meeting, Angela Barnick (class of 2020), was appointed to serve for two years as the Pacific Regional Director for Communications. Angela will work closely with other members of the regional and national leadership teams, to create and share the activities of the local chapters in National and Regional publications. This past year, Angela served the Gamma Psi chapter as the Worthy Prelate, a position charged with maintaining chapter histories and celebrating individual achievements within the chapter.

Established in 1883, the Phi Delta Chi Professional Pharmacy Fraternity is one of the largest pharmacy fraternities in the United States and one of two on the campus of Washington State University Health Sciences. Phi Delta Chi is a diverse, committed, and engaged Brotherhood of students and alumni which values purpose-driven leadership, maintaining and creating Brothers for Life, serving selflessly, and encouraging lifelong learning. The Brothers at Washington State are active in the community, many of whom also hold leadership positions within other student organizations on campus.



From left: Katie Restis (2022), Jennifer Tu (2021), Dr. Amanda Norman (2015), Mercedes Felix-Contreras (2020), Angela Barnick (2020), and Anthony McDonald (2020)



PHILANTHROPY FOCUS

Ian Warren, class of 1989, recalls being very hesitant to apply to WSU. As one of nine children being raised by a single mother, he knew the financial strain it would put on his family. But his mother, Janet Ruth Warren, who is now 87 years old, insisted that all of her children go to college. Ian remembers her telling him, "the good lord has gotten us this far, he will get you to Pullman, Ian." Thanks to the foundation his mother laid out for him and their family, Ian made it to Pullman and went on to graduate with a pharmacy degree.

Two years ago, Ian established a scholarship in honor of his mother as a tribute to her resilience and to help other pharmacy students with financial need. Recently, Ian made another generous donation to the scholarship as he continues to work to get it endowed. Contributions to the Janet Ruth Warren Financial Need Scholarship are still being accepted and can be made at: <https://foundation.wsu.edu/give/>.

Alumni Updates

- WA State Pharmacy Quality Assurance Commission Executive Director, and WSU College of Pharmacy alum, **Steve Saxe**, class of 1977, gave his thank you and farewell speech at his last commission meeting before retiring. We wish him a happy retirement and are proud of the many avenues he positively impacted our profession over his career.
- Recently **Don and Marge Cox** celebrated 75 years of marriage with a cruise to Alaska. Don is 98 years old and graduated from the WSU college of Pharmacy in 1947.
- **Craig Cox**, class of 1999, was recently promoted to full Professor at Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center School of Pharmacy where he has been teaching for the past 20 years. Craig serves on the Board of Directors for the American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy and has spent the past several years creating a collection of innovative movie training series aimed at teaching health professionals the art of teaching. View movie trailers at www.mini-series.org. Craig's grandfather, **Don**, father, **David** and brother, **Matt** are also WSU Pharmacy grads (classes of 1947, 1971 and 2005, respectively). Craig currently resides in Lubbock, Texas with his wife Shalyn (also a pharmacist) and children Aubrey (5 yrs) and Cayson (18 months).
- Speaking of generations of WSU pharmacists, congratulations to entire Doane family on the admission of Andrew Doane to the Yakima pharmacy class of 2023. Andrew will represent the third generation of Doane family pharmacists, after his grandparents Ronald '50 and Carol Doane; his father Dave '86 and uncles Rick '71 and Ken '75. Pictured are (l to r): Dave, Andrew and Rick Doane.
- We are sad to report the death of **Kenneth Ramon Petersen**, class of 1996. Our deepest condolences to his family. [Read full obituary](#)

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

Other News

Breaking News!

Washington State was one of 27 states selected by the Community Pharmacy Foundation and Community Pharmacy Enhanced Services Networks (CPESN) to participate in the new "Flip the Pharmacy" grant program. Holly Whitcomb Henry, ('78), Pharmacotherapy Clinical Associate Professor Julie Akers ('00), along with other CPPS faculty, employees of the Washington State Pharmacy Association, and a faculty member from the UW School of Pharmacy, will collaborate on a plan to help transform community pharmacies in Washington state from a product-driven business focused on a moment in time, to a service-driven business focused on a patient care plan over time.

[See the CPF website for more information](#)

Free clinic at Logan Elementary vaccinates dozens of children

Students from the College of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences joined the Spokane Regional Health District to offer free vaccines to students at Logan Elementary.

[Read more from KXLY](#)

Steve Gleason Institute for Neuroscience featured at symposium

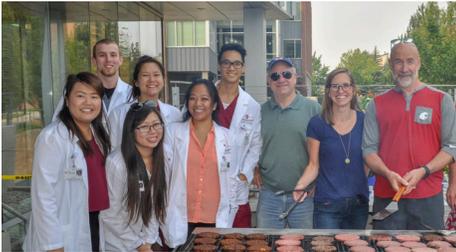
Three inaugural fellows who will play a pivotal role in researching new treatments for ALS and other neurodegenerative diseases were announced, including Pharmaceutical Sciences Assistant Professor Travis Denton.

[Read more](#)

CPPS looking for pharmacy alumni to participate in Pharm.D. applicant interviews

The College of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences believes alumni and current student pharmacists are the best representatives of our college and program and want to give applicants opportunity to interact with both groups while on campus for interviews. We need your help to get this done. Please email us at pharmacy.admissions@wsu.edu to learn more or sign up at <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/9040a45aaa723a57-201720181>

Events



Dean's Welcome Back BBQ

September 6 | Pharmaceutical and Biomedical Sciences Patio



Crimson Gala

October 18 | DoubleTree
Spokane, Washington



Homecoming Tailgate

October 19 | DoubleTree
Pullman, Washington

Faculty Scholarship

PUBLICATIONS

Pharmacotherapy Clinical Assistant Professor **Cheyenne Newsome** and five co-authors published, "A cross-sectional survey evaluating transgender-related care education in United States pharmacy school curricula," in *Currents in Pharmacy Teaching and Learning* in August 2019. [Read article](#)

J. Roberts and Marcia Fosberg Distinguished Professor **Danial Baker** published, "Drug evaluation – midazolam nasal spray (Nayzilam)" in *Wolters Kluwer Health's The Formulary Monograph Service (FMS)* in August 2019. Wolters Kluwer Health is a drug and health information publisher, the FMS is a resource used in the formulary decision making process for hospitals and managed care systems on recently released and investigational drugs.

Danial Baker and Pharmacotherapy Research Associate **Jesse Dinh** published, "Drug evaluation – mannitol inhalation powder (Bronchitol): preliminary evaluation," in the FMS in August 2019.

Danial Baker published, "Drug evaluation – alpelisib (Piqray)," in the FMS in August 2019.

Danial Baker, Pharmacotherapy Clinical Professor **Terri Levien** and co-authors published, "Drug evaluation – fosfomycin IV (Contepo): preliminary evaluation," in the FMS in August 2019.

Danial Baker, **Terri Levien** and co-authors published, "Drug evaluation – erdafitinib (Balversa)," in the FMS in August 2019.

The August 2019 issue of the radiation safety journal, *Health Physics*, was dedicated to a special issue on USTUR research:

- Pharmaceutical Sciences Research Professor and U.S. Transuranium and Uranium Registries (USTUR) Director **Sergei Y. Tolmachev** and one co-author published, "The United States Transuranium and Uranium Registries (USTUR): A five-decade follow-up of plutonium and uranium workers."
- **Sergei Tolmachev** and three co-authors published, "The importance and quantification of plutonium binding in human lungs."

- **Sergei Tolmachev**, USTUR Associate in Research **Stacey L. McComish** and four co-authors published, “The pseudo-pelger huët cell as a retrospective dosimeter: analysis of a radium dial painter cohort.”
- USTUR Assistant Research Professor **Maia Avtandilashvili** and **Sergei Tolmachev** published, “Modeling the skeleton weight of an adult Caucasian man.”
- **Maia Avtandilashvili**, **Sergei Tolmachev** and one co-author published, “Evaluating plutonium intake and radiation dose following extensive chelation treatment.”
- **Maia Avtandilashvili**, **Stacey McComish**, **Sergei Tolmachev** and one co-author published, “USTUR Case 0846: Modeling americium biokinetics after intensive decorporation therapy.”
- USTUR Assistant Research Professor **George Tabatadze**, **Sergei Tolmachev** and one co-author published, “Mapping 241Am spatial distribution within anatomical bone structures using digital autoradiography. Health Physics 117, 179-186.
- **Stacey McComish**, **Sergei Tolmachev** and one co-author published, “A Monte Carlo t-test to evaluate mesothelioma and radiation in the U.S. Transuranium and Uranium Registries.”
- **Sergei Tolmachev** and five co-authors published, “Measurements and Monte Carlo simulations of 241Am activities in three skull phantoms: EURADOS-USTUR Collaboration.”
- **Sergei Tolmachev**, **Maia Avtandilashvili** and one co-author published, “Estimation of total skeletal content of plutonium and 241Am from analysis of a single bone.”

PRESENTATIONS

Pharmacotherapy Clinical Assistant Professor **Anne P. Kim**, Allen I. White Distinguished Associate Professor **Joshua J. Neumiller** and co-presenters presented, “Impact of class attendance on exam performance in an active-learning classroom model,” for Pharmacy Education 2019 – Annual meeting of the American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy (AAPC) in Chicago, Illinois on July 13-17, 2019.

Josh Neumiller and one co-presenter presented, “Medications update: new treatment recommendations and emerging therapies,” for the 2019 Annual Meeting of the American Association of Diabetes Educators (AADE19) in Houston, Texas on August 12, 2019.

Clinical Assistant Professor **Jeffrey Clark** hosted the nationwide webinar, “Identify problems related to medication adherence in patients receiving home healthcare,” for the Visiting Nurses Association of American and ElevatingHOME on August 20, 2019. The webinar focused on sharing an assessment tool our team developed for home healthcare clinicians and published in 2017. The webinar had 125 attendees live and 250 registrations for online attendance.

Pharmaceutical Sciences Associate Research Professor and U.S. Transuranium and Uranium Registries (USTUR) Director **Sergei Y. Tolmachev**, USTUR Assistant Research Professor **Maia Avtandilashvili** and co-authors presented, “Case studies in brain dosimetry for internally deposited radionuclides,” at the 64 Annual Meeting of the Health Physics Society in Orlando, Florida, July 7-11, 2019.

USTUR Associate in Research **Stacey L. McComish**, **Sergei Tolmachev** and co-authors presented, “Limitations of cause of death data among autopsied population in the United States transuranium and uranium registries,” at the 64 Annual Meeting of the Health Physics Society.

Maia Avtandilashvili and **Sergei Tolmachev** presented, “Macrodistribution of plutonium among dosimetric compartments of the human respiratory tract,” at the 64 Annual Meeting of the Health Physics Society.

USTUR Adjunct Professor **Daniel J. Strom**, **Maia Avtandilashvili**, **Stacey McComish**, USTUR Assistant Research Professor **George Tabatadze**, **Sergei Tolmachev**, and co-author presented, “Cylindrical representations of recycling biokinetic models,” at the 64 Annual Meeting of the Health Physics Society.

Pharmaceutical Sciences Professor **Mary Paine** presented “Translational approaches to assess pharmacokinetic herb-

drug interactions,” during the inaugural HERO (Hepatic and Enteric Research Organizations) workshop at the 12 International ISSX (International Society for the Study of Xenobiotics) Meeting in Portland, Oregon on July 29, 2019.

Mary Paine presented “Natural product-drug interactions: cultivating best practices,” at the Linus Pauling Institute’s International Conference on Bioactives, Botanicals, and Redox Mechanisms at Oregon State University in Corvallis, Oregon on August 14, 2019.

SERVICE

Danial Baker was awarded the National Ski Patrol (NSP) Pacific Northwest Division’s Outstanding Alpine Patroller award for the 2018-2019 season on August 10, 2019 in Eugene, Oregon at their annual convention. The National Ski Patrol was founded in 1938. The Pacific Northwest Division includes 40 ski patrols from Washington, Idaho, and Oregon. Dr. Baker has been a member of the NSP and the 49 Degrees North Ski Patrol for 26 years

Three Pharmacotherapy faculty/student or faculty/fellow pairs were recipients of the AACP Walmart Scholars program.

- Pharmacotherapy Research Associate (Yakima) Emily C. Darst, the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill Eshelman School of Pharmacy with faculty mentor Pharmacotherapy Clinical Assistant Professor (Yakima) Damianne Brand-Eubanks.
- Pharmacotherapy Academic Fellow (Yakima) Micah E. Miller, the University of Montana Skaggs School of Pharmacy with faculty mentor Pharmacotherapy Clinical Assistant Professor (Yakima) Christina Buchman.
- Brandy R. Seignemartin, Pharm.D. class of 2020, Washington State University College of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences with faculty mentor Pharmacotherapy Clinical Assistant Professor Jennifer C. Miller.

Pharmacotherapy Clinical Professor Jean-Baptiste Roulet successfully completed a patent for the compositions and methods for treatment of neurological symptoms associated with alcohol-withdrawal and for convulsive seizure. This patent was a 15-year project, that was adapted and finalized through WSU and Dr. Jean-Baptiste Roulet.

Director of Graduate Studies and Pharmaceutical Sciences Clinical Associate Professor Sue Marsh was an invited participant in the first annual Leadership Summit for the American Physiological Society in Leesburg, Virginia, on April 22-23, 2019.

AWARDS

Pharmaceutical Sciences Postdoctoral Research Associate Tyler Bland (Wu lab) received the first-place award in the oral presentation category at the 2019 Washington State University College of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences Research Day.

GRANTS

Tyler Bland and Pharmaceutical Sciences Assistant Professor Boyang (Jason) Wu received \$30,000 from the Washington Research Foundation for a research project titled, “Repurposing anti-muscarinic drugs for lethal chemoresistant prostate cancer.”

Pharmaceutical Sciences Clinical Assistant Professor Connie Remsberg received a grant as a co-investigator with other faculty from the Elson S. Floyd College of Medicine and the College of Nursing in the amount of \$1,929,121 over five years from the Health Resources and Services Administration for the project, “Rethinking education on substance use through inter-professional education and rural community training (RESPECT).”

Jean-Baptiste Roulet received a subaward under an EWU NIH grant in the amount of \$80,050 over three years for the project, “Targeting the GABA-modulator microbiota against the progression of CNS inflammatory demyelination.”

Student Achievement

PHARMACEUTICAL SCIENCES (PH.D.) STUDENTS

Ana Vergara (pharmaceutical sciences, Lazarus lab) received a \$500 travel grant to attend the AAPS Rocky

Mountain Discussion Group in July 26-27 in Hillsboro, Ore. This award is possible through the Bracken Family Graduate Fellowship, which was established in 1995 to support cancer prevention research at the College of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences.

Ana Vergara gave the oral presentation, “Glycosylation of polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons by UDP-glycosyltransferase 3A2 (UGT3A2) and in tobacco-target tissues,” at the AAPS Rocky Mountain Discussion Group in July, 2019, in Hillsboro, Oregon.

Ana Vergara received second place for the best poster presentation at the AAPS Rocky Mountain Discussion Group.

Rakshit Tanna (pharmaceutical sciences, Paine lab) presented a poster, “The natural product kratom is a potential precipitant of pharmacokinetic interactions with common drugs of abuse,” at the 12 International ISSX (International Society for the Study of Xenobiotics) Meeting in Portland, Oregon on July 29, 2019. [WSU co-authors: **James Nguyen, Mary Paine**]

James Nguyen (pharmaceutical sciences, Paine lab) presented a poster, “Assessing the predictive performance of in silico generated binding parameters for various natural product constituents,” at the 12 International ISSX (International Society for the Study of Xenobiotics) Meeting, Portland, Oregon on July 30, 2019. [WSU co-authors: **Rakshit Tanna, Mary Paine**]

Ruby Siegel (pharmaceutical sciences, Ahmed lab) received a fellowship from NIH in the amount of \$72,522 over two years for the project, “Elucidating the role of sulfatase-2 in RA pathogenesis.”

Sara Dumit (pharmaceutical sciences, Tolmachev lab) with faculty co-authors **Maia Avtandilashvili** and **Sergei Tolmachev** published, “Evaluating plutonium intake and radiation dose following extensive chelation treatment,” in the radiation safety journal Health Physics in August 2019.

DOCTOR OF PHARMACY (PHARM.D.) STUDENTS

Ashley Ta with faculty co-presenters **Anne P. Kim, Joshua J. Neumiller** and others presented, “Impact of class attendance on exam performance in an active-learning classroom model,” for Pharmacy Education 2019 – Annual meeting of the American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy (AACCP) in Chicago, Illinois.



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