

February 2021

MESSAGE FROM THE DEAN

Dear Friends and Colleagues,

Welcome back to the start of the new year. I hope you all had a chance to refresh and recuperate during the winter break.

With the start of a new year, I've had a chance to reflect on my own journey at the helm of the college in the last six months. According to a recent [survey](#), the top reasons CEOs fail within their first 100 days of leadership begins with the poor grasp of how organizations work, a misalignment with organizational structure, and difficulty forging alliances with peers. This article made me realize how grateful I am to the pillars that support our college: alumni, faculty, staff, students, university administrators, the leadership and membership of the Washington State Pharmacy Association and the Spokane Pharmacy Association, our colleagues in the School of Pharmacy at University of Washington, community partners, and administrators of regional medical centers—have all been so generous of their time, sharing perspectives, insight, and feedback. Collectively, you have facilitated my return to Washington and the profession in the state—after 30 years of living in Oregon.



My interactions with you have illuminated my understanding of our college, and our aspirations for the future. To all of you, I thank you for your time and wisdom in helping to navigate the stormy waters of this once-in-a-lifetime pandemic. Many of you have counseled me and helped me to avoid missteps, which has been vitally important for my success and that of the college.

In the last six months, I've sat down (virtually, of course) with every faculty and staff member in the college to hear their perspectives. The virtual fireside chats with alumni and one-to-one visits, have shown me the network of supporters available to our students. These networks are critical to the success of all of our students and alums. Each conversation has been truly a privilege and honor.

As time goes on, I hope that you continue to offer your insights. As I've mentioned to many of you before, I love data and information. The more information I can absorb, the better I can support our college in our path forward.

Thank you all again, and I look forward to hearing from you all this year.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mark Leid".

Mark Leid, Professor and Dean
WSU College of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences

REFER A FUTURE COUGAR PHARMD!

Top Stories

Two students who found a passion for pharmacy and each other

In celebration of Valentine's Day, the WSU College of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences would like to feature one of the many couples who found their match in pharmacy school. Ryan Nottingham and James (Jimmy) Leonard found their passion for pharmacy and each other while pursuing their Doctor of Pharmacy degree. Hear their story and what they have been up to since graduating.

In 2016, Ryan Nottingham and James (Jimmy) Leonard sealed the deal – personally and professionally. Shortly after receiving their Doctor of Pharmacy degree from Washington State University, the two committed to spending the rest of their lives together on June 25, 2016, in a wedding embodying the Cougar spirit with a traditional wave the flag moment. Together, they offer their words of wisdom to future Cougar pharmacists entering the profession now.

“Remember that getting to your ideal job is often a long and winding path, with plenty of hard work. Make the best of opportunities that come your way, but also remember that you will grow from your failures as much as your successes,” the two shared in an interview with the college.

The two have seen their careers flourish over the years. Now on the other side of the country in Maryland, far from their roots in the Pacific Northwest, they find themselves excelling on their own unique paths.

Leonard now works for the Maryland Poison Center as a clinical toxicologist, assisting in patient care by consulting with health care providers to help diagnose, monitor, and treat poisonings. He also teaches at the Maryland School of Pharmacy, educating pharmacy students, physicians and others on how to diagnose and treat poisoning. When he's not counseling patients, or teaching, Leonard spends his time researching looking at the epidemiology of poisoning, drug misuse and abuse, and outcomes from poisoning with specific medicines and other sources of poisons. On top of that, he also works part time at the University of Maryland Medical Center as a clinical specialist in the emergency department to help make pharmacotherapy decisions in real time.

“During school, we kept each other focused and pointed in the right direction. In our careers, we continue to support each other. We try to advise each other in projects, clinical care, and practical aspects of care almost every day,” said Leonard. “Having someone that understands your work and workday provides for an opportunity to have someone to celebrate and commiserate with!”

Nottingham's career has also skyrocketed since graduating from the WSU Doctor of Pharmacy program. She currently works as a clinical pharmacist at LifeBridge Health as part of a critical care team providing recommendations and assistance for the hospital's sickest patients. Working with the medication safety team, Nottingham also reviews medication errors to help the system prevent future mishaps.

“I love working side-by-side with the ICU team to care for vulnerable populations,” said Nottingham.

Together, the dynamic couple offer a few words of wisdom to future pharmacy students:

- When you look at others in their roles, it's easy to see them as having perfect jobs. It is crucial to know that many of us have made our jobs perfect over time. Don't expect to walk into the perfect job but expect to make your job perfect for you.
- WSU provided excellent opportunities outside of classes and rotations. We both had volunteer opportunities, jobs, and faculty with a diverse array of positions to model. Our advisors and faculty were also able to make connections and bring opportunities to the table to help us grow. Additionally, we were both part of the first year of residency block scheduling for fourth year and ended up matching where we had done multiple rotations.



Ryan Nottingham (left) and Jimmy Leonard (right) wave the Cougar flag on their wedding day, June 25, 2016.

- Focus on school. As a student, your job is to learn pharmacy. Take all of the electives you can, learn about different roles in the field of pharmacy, and be open to making changes in your career “plans.

Holding the line on the fight against COVID-19

See how our students, faculty, and alumni are meeting this once-in-a-lifetime pandemic head on. Many are working on the frontlines to administer COVID-19 vaccines, assist with testing and support public health across the country. pharmacy.wsu.edu/covid-outreach-roundup/



HealthChats recap: Pharmacy Goes to War

What secrets might be held in an ordinary basket containing a ration of bread, canned goods, a roll of paper towels, and a letter? During the most recent [HealthChats](#), Pharmacy Goes to War, Pharmacotherapy Associate Professor Megan Undeberg used these everyday items to take viewers on a tour of pharmacy through World War II, hiding names of pharmacists in the same ways Resistance members hid messages decades before.

Written on a scrap of paper deep within a loaf of bread was [Marinette](#), the code name of Anne-Marie Jeanne Lafaye Menut. Using her position as a pharmacist, Marinette acted as a go between for Resistance messages to get members much-needed medical supplies before eventually moving into the woods to help run their field hospital. But when the Resistance tried to move the hospital to a more secure location, Marinette was captured by Nazi soldiers and eventually died at their hands.

Marinette was the first of many pharmacists covered during Undeberg’s presentation. Pin pricks across a roll of paper towels held Morse code for the names [Jean-Francois Salomon](#) and [Paul Antoine Joanny](#), pharmacy school friends who authored articles for the Resistance throughout the war. The back side of a postage stamp held the name [Laure Gatet](#), a French pharmacist and biochemist who carried messages between France and neighboring counties until her capture. In the seam at the bottom of a bag of grain was the name [Bochove](#), a Dutch husband-and-wife pharmacy team who hid 37 people from German soldiers over the course of the war.

Under the label of a can, was the name [Paula Schultz](#). Schultz worked at a pharmacy in Furstenburg, one of the closest towns to the Ravensbruck camp where women faced heavy labor and experimentation. When Schultz took Nazi purchases from the pharmacy to the camp, she would also smuggle supplies to prisoners with medical backgrounds. Surprisingly, the two most popular items were hair dye and stimulants. Though these items might not seem like obvious lifesavers, they were in high demand because a prisoner’s value was dependent on their use to the war machine, appearing old or weak could be a death sentence.

Undeberg explained that between stress, lack of nutrition and other factors, “Even if [the prisoners] were in their 20s, even if they were in their late teens, it was not uncommon for them to go entirely white.”

Leaving her basket behind, Undeberg moved away from the Resistance and into the ghettos of Krakow, Poland.

When Krakow was walled-off, [Tadeusz Pankiewicz’s](#) family pharmacy was left inside the ghetto. Rather than relocating, Pankiewicz stayed and continued to serve ghetto residents—even smuggling some out through

sewers connected to his pharmacy or sedating babies and sending them outside the ghetto walls in baskets with groceries or food goods on top—right up until the final liquidation of the ghetto when most surviving residents were sent to Auschwitz.

Undeberg said Pankiewicz later explained that, “He always felt it was number one his duty to serve any population... They were his people to take care of. It didn’t matter which side of the wall they lived on.”

Moving across the Pacific Ocean, Undeberg refocused on the war in the United States. Following the attack on Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941 the U.S. declared war on the Axis powers. On February 19, 1942, U.S. President Franklin Roosevelt signed Executive Order 9066 which forced the relocation of Japanese-Americans living on the West Coast to camps in the interior of the country with only those possessions they could carry in two suitcases.

They were registered and vaccinated before their forced relocation away from the West Coast, but the close quarters and harsh desert climates made the camps a breeding ground for disease. With delays in receipt of government supplies (sometimes 1-2 years), medical professionals held in the camps quickly became determined to find other ways to help.

The solution: pharmacists working with drug distributors outside of the camps.

In a box found at the Japanese American National Museum in California, Undeberg came across letters between seven pharmacists and the Los Angeles drug distributor John Bonomi detailing conditions at the camps. They eventually developed partnerships to get medical professionals held in the camps desperately needed supplies.

It was a similar story originating out of Denver, Colorado which drove Undeberg to pursue the topic in the first place. When the building that used to be the TK Pharmacy was renovated, construction site workers discovered hidden letters in the walls. The letters revealed that pharmacist Yutaka “Tak” Terasaki received requests from internees in camps across the country, often sending the product back within two days of receipt.

Even after six years of research, Undeberg still discovers new pharmacists every time she investigates the subject, “This is such a gigantic story that’s been lost to time and it’s incredible what’s still to be uncovered. It’s really such a joy to give voices to these people who just were living their everyday lives.”

HealthChats is an ongoing panel series by the Washington State University College of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences. Videos of past events and live virtual panels can be found on the college [YouTube](#). To learn more about our future HealthChats events please visit: pharmacy.wsu.edu/health-chats/

WSU pharmacy students in Pullman assisting with arrival testing

By RJ Wolcott, WSU News

[Originally published in the WSU Insider January 19, 2021](#)

WSU College of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences students put their training into practice assisting with arrival testing in Pullman ahead of the start of the Spring 2021 semester.

More than a dozen pharmacy students helped Pullman students who live off campus with their COVID-19 nasal swab tests, providing instruction on how to administer the test and ensuring samples are handled and stored properly. Nearly all fraternities and sororities reserved times for their members to visit the Adams Mall, located in the Greek Row area of College Hill, for COVID-19 testing as part of the program.

The university encouraged all students living in off-campus Pullman housing to participate in arrival testing. For students living in university housing as well as those who plan on visiting campus facilities during the semester, the arrival testing is required.



Second-year pharmacy student Tyler Boles assisting with COVID-19 arrival testing in Pullman on Thursday, January 14, 2021. Photo by WSU Photo Services

Misty Lefler, president of the WSU chapter of the American Pharmacist Association's Academy of Student Pharmacists, helped to organize the event and traveled to Pullman to lend a hand.

"What's great about being able to lead this organization is that you're surrounded by people who want to give back," Lefler said.

Being captivated by chemistry in high school coupled with a desire to help others drove Lefler to pursue a career in pharmacy.

Spending much of her childhood with her grandparents, Lefler closely observed the effects of aging on her loved ones. Seeing the difference having a compassionate pharmacist had on her grandparents drove her to be that person for others.

It was her grandfather that pointed her to an article about the high demand for pharmacists, a career path that would allow her to do so. After completing her fourth year of pharmacy school, Lefler plans on pursuing a residency en route to specializing in ambulatory care.

Arrival testing for [Greek Life](#) students ran from Jan. 14 through Jan. 18 at 600 NE Colorado St, Ste 100 in Pullman. Pharmacy students are also providing COVID-19 tests and administering the vaccine on an ongoing basis in addition to their volunteering in Pullman. It's something students are used to, having assisted in flu vaccination campaigns across local communities for years.

"The work of our students and health care providers across time is to respond to those in need, particularly during a health crisis," Dr. Jennifer Robinson, associate dean of professional education and an associate professor of pharmacotherapy, said. "The work of student pharmacists will continue as we battle back COVID and we work to prevent the next crisis."

Arrival testing for Pullman students, the university's only residential campus, is just one of several efforts WSU has made this spring to help curb the potential spread of COVID-19. WSU Spokane students and faculty involved in clinical programs and patient subject research also had to participate in arrival testing.

It wasn't the first time WSU's pharmacy students have been deployed to help. Amid the rise in COVID-19 cases last fall, WSU pharmacy students were among those who traveled from Spokane to help with student screenings. The William A. Crosetto Mobile Health Care Unit, operated by [Range Health](#), traveled to Pullman to serve as the testing hub ahead of the Labor Day Holiday weekend, succeeded by the arrival of the Washington National Guard in September.

Shayne Fontes was one of the pharmacy students sweating it out in extensive PPE suits conducting COVID-19 tests days before the start of the fall semester.

"Having graduated from Pullman, I was used to seeing thousands of students walking around," Fontes said. "Campus was very quiet, and the only students we were seeing were those looking to be tested."

He expected more students to turn out for testing this month than in the fall. Partially, that's due to WSU's requirement that arrival testing take place before students access places like the Student Recreation Center and the Compton Union building. It's also helpful that the volunteers are taking over a location very familiar to students, transforming it from a college bar to a full-on healthcare site.

WSU provided volunteers a place to stay during their time in Pullman. With the semester already underway for pharmacy students, they also attended classes remotely while assisting the Pullman community.

"Now is the time when we all have a responsibility to come together and serve the communities where we reside," Robinson said. "As healthcare professionals and students pursuing a career in healthcare, it's even more important that we rise to meet this challenge."



Second-year pharmacy student Vong Chang assisting with COVID-19 arrival testing in Pullman on Thursday, January 14, 2021. Photo by WSU Photo Services

A NOTE FROM LINDA GARRELTS MACLEAN

Dear Friends and Colleagues,

I hope you all had wonderful holidays and are looking forward to a busy year ahead. A month into the new year, and already we have many reasons to be optimistic. Though the initial roll out of the COVID-19 vaccine has not been entirely smooth, we are hearing of alumni, faculty and students working in clinical settings who have received their doses of the COVID-19 vaccines without any major complications. It has been inspiring to see photos and stories from our alumni and students, near and far, in how they are serving their communities by administering vaccines to those who need it the most. To recognize this important turning point in history, we have documented all the work that our community of pharmacists, faculty and students are doing on the frontlines to combat this pandemic. Thank you for representing the college and the profession so well. As the vaccines are distributed more widely, we look forward to hearing additional stories on how you have changed your communities through your care.



In recognizing those who give back to the community, I am pleased to announce the 2020 Mentor of the Year awardees, who were thoughtfully nominated by fourth-year student pharmacist Trevor Schultz and second-year student pharmacist Kennedy Erickson. Congratulations to Tyler Fischback (class of 2009), and James (Jimmy) Leonard (class of 2016) who have inspired future pharmacists through their work and professional wisdom. Tyler, Clinical Pharmacy Manager at Confluence Health in Wenatchee, has inspired many students through our Career Seminar Series and as a mentor/preceptor for many of our students throughout the years. Tyler, Trevor, and a team of health care workers will soon be working with the National Guard to ramp up COVID-19 vaccines in the Wenatchee area after vaccinating over 3,500 frontline health care workers and first responders. Jimmy, Clinical Toxicologist at Maryland Poison Center, has continued his community work by volunteering his time at a clinic set up at a local high school in Baltimore to vaccinate frontline health care workers. He also has shown his dedication to our students through offering career advice and connecting them to their next steps in their profession.

We hope to congratulate these two exemplary people in person at the Crimson Gala this fall. While we remain unsure of how normal will look as the vaccine becomes more widely available, we are hoping to see and thank the many faces who continue to support our mission and vision as a college. Until then, wishing you all a happy and healthy February.

With best regards and much respect,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Linda Garrelts MacLean".

Linda Garrelts MacLean, Vice Dean of External Relations
WSU College of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences

Spotlight on Success

Mentors of the Year

Over the past seven years, Washington State University pharmacy alumni have been sharing their wisdom and experience with the next generation of Cougar pharmacists as part of the Fred Meyer Alumni-Student Mentor Program. Through the program, alumni mentors guide students through the four-years of their pharmacy education and help them prepare for their future careers.

In recognition of this influential work, each year the College of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences (CPPS) selects two mentors from student



Tyler Fischback receiving his COVID-19 vaccine from his WSU Doctor of Pharmacy mentee, Trevor Schultz.

nominations for our Mentor of the Year award, recognizing those mentors who show a dedication to helping their mentees develop into outstanding health care professionals. For the 2020 Mentor of the Year award, the college has selected James (Jimmy) Leonard, class of 2016, and Tyler Fischback, class of 2009.

By sharing their own experiences, mentors such as Leonard and Fischback provide a roadmap for students to better navigate challenges and successes during their education and into their future.

Leonard explained that his own mentors inspired him to continue the tradition, “[My mentors] shared their successes, failures, and provided excellent insight into the full experience of working as a pharmacist. I try to pass this on and provide guidance to avoid my failures and set students up for success.”

Such mentor-mentee relationships can leave a lasting impact on students and alumni-mentors alike. In an ever-changing profession like pharmacy, these relationships supply a unique opportunity for collaboration, lifelong learning, and growth.

“Few relationships are as life-shaping as a strong mentor/mentee bond,” said Fischback. “In an era of independence being so highly valued we must not forget that there is a deep and sacred dependence on investing in the building up of one another’s knowledge and character through these bi-directional relationships. We must be compelled to create spaces for unrestrained idea sharing and open ourselves to seeing the world through a new lens.”

HERE’S WHAT THEIR NOMINATORS HAD TO SAY:

James (Jimmy) Leonard, Clinical Toxicologist at Maryland Poison Center in Baltimore, Maryland

Nominated by Kennedy Erickson, Spokane class of 2023

“Jimmy is the BEST mentor I could ever ask for. He is so caring, authentic, and gives very valuable advice. He has helped me prepare for interviews, pick out classes, and navigate pharmacy school. When I told him I was interested in psychiatric pharmacy, he got me in contact with one of his friends who is a psychiatric pharmacist. He has reviewed my research and gone above and beyond to get me in contact with pharmacists in the Olympia community.

I really cherish my monthly check-ins with him.”

Tyler Fischback, Clinical pharmacy manager at Confluence Health in Wenatchee, Washington

Nominated by Trevor Schultz, Yakima class of 2022

“Tyler has been a tremendous influence toward my success and confidence as a student pharmacist. We have regular discussions on the state of the pharmacy profession and health care in general. He is a down to earth guy, easy to talk to and I can tell he truly cares about my journey. Through talking with him, I have found a fresh outlook on the future of the profession and my potential role in being an advocate for the profession. He challenges me constantly and has inspired me to be the best pharmacist I can be. I hope to someday become a similarly strong leader and look forward to the day where I can inspire someone else in a similar fashion to be the best person they can be. Tyler has demonstrated strong leadership on our campus. He has traditionally taught one of our PY3 therapy lectures and has given at least one motivational presentation to students during a guest speaker event. He is ambitious and I can see more great things coming from him in the future.”

Learn more about mentorship: pharmacy.wsu.edu/doctor-of-pharmacy/mentor-program/

Industry Perspective: Rethinking pharmacists’ traditional roles

Gerald Engley, Executive Director of Medical Affairs at Seattle Genetics, discusses the versatility of a PharmD degree to work in a wide array of fields. From research, to patient care, the common string that ties the profession together is the passion for science and to help people live better, healthier lives.

Watch the video: youtu.be/Cd2ubsVhCVI



James Leonard administering COVID-19 vaccines at the Carroll county vaccine clinic. Photo courtesy the Carroll County Times.

Industry Perspective: Getting started in your pharmacy career

Tim Maynard, Senior Director of Talent Acquisitions for the Albertsons Companies, shares his wisdom and experience from working as a pharmacist to climbing the corporate ladder. Maynard, a WSU College of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences alumni, gives his insights on how to champion and differentiate oneself, as well as common misconceptions about pharmacy school.

Watch the video: youtu.be/1oxwEK1vDU0



PHILANTHROPY FOCUS

Did you know that pharmacy was one of the first four areas of study at Washington State University?

Established in 1891, the program began only one year after WSU's inception as a land-grant university. As the oldest pharmacy school in the state, we are proud of the legacy we have built together. In 1913, Jessie L. Sims made history when she was the first African American to graduate from the University and our college. In 1970 we established our Drug Information Center as a service to Washington and began our pilot program for students to work in Spokane hospitals. Today, we remain on the cutting edge of research in natural product-drug interaction, cancer, nanotechnology and much more, while educating student pharmacists who end up working in a variety of professions.

In honor of this history, and to help us continue to progress into the future, the WSU College of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences is pleased to announce the new [Club 1891 Dean's Circle](#) giving society.

Learn more about the Club 1891 Dean's Circle: pharmacy.wsu.edu/deans-circle

Perscription for Love

In honor of Valentine's Day we're spotlighting some of our pharmacy alumni couples!

Steve and Lisa Boulanger, class of 1988

The year was 1985, a time of bright colors, heavy metal music and big hair. A group of eight Washington State University pharmacy students got together to study, hang out, go skiing, etc. and eventually they all became close friends. Steve and Lisa Boulanger are part of that original group of eight that met in 1985. They dated throughout pharmacy school and graduated together in 1988. After graduation, they moved to Salt Lake City to work and ski. Lisa worked at the VA hospital and Steve worked at Holy Cross Hospital. They were married in December of 1989 and moved back to Washington state the following summer.

After returning to the Seattle area, Lisa went to work at Swedish Hospital First Hill and has worked there for more than 30 years. Steve went to work at Providence Everett and then did long term care consulting. Steve always wanted to own his own pharmacy-related business, and now they own and operate Mercury Pharmacy Services, a long-term care pharmacy that services



many nursing care facilities on the westside. Steve and Lisa have twin sons, a dog, and cat. They are engaged in many activities at WSU, including mentoring and precepting students, supporting a variety of fundraising efforts at the CPPS, and serving on the CougaRx Nation volunteer board. Congratulations to Steve and Lisa Boulanger on their recent 31 year wedding anniversary, successful careers, and loving marriage.

Patrick Tabon and Cassie Law, class of 2012

Patrick and Cassie met in pharmacy school and while their road had a few twists which separated them, they came back together and have been married since 2015. They now have a daughter, Celeste, who is 3.5 years old and will be a big sister at the end of March. We recently received this update from Patrick about their family:

As taxing and exhausting as it is, I think we are drawn to pharmacy because of how important our roles are in the community. It feels less of a burden knowing that pharmacists and other health care providers are doing their parts to get us back to some sort of normal during this pandemic.

I am primarily at Dodger Stadium here in Los Angeles county. LA has to vaccinate 10 million-plus people (twice!!). Part of my role is to help at some of our LA county sites in drawing up doses and coordinating the students as a preceptor. Pharmacists are playing a key role in operations and making sure we don't waste any doses, they are drawn up safely, and stored under the proper conditions. My colleagues at USC have been instrumental in collaborating and expanding the COVID vaccine clinics so we can hopefully get up to 12,000 vaccines a day. The site is drive-through vaccinations and runs from 8 am – 8 pm, Monday – Saturday. We are vaccinating 8,000-10,000 people currently on any given day. At any given time the parking lot can have 700 cars waiting in line to be given a vaccine (last two photos). We are able to collaborate and draw up about 500 – 1,000 every hour and the students help administer them in cycles.

I also work in our underserved communities trying to figure out how to get some of the older adults their vaccines. It has been a challenge but we are still working out some of the logistics. On top of all of this, I am coordinating three courses this semester and lecture in a handful of other classes. I also am finishing up my Master's in Public Health at the Keck School of Medicine so this has been quite the ride as a student again, too. I am pretty sure my grey hairs will start appearing in the near future so I actually look like a wise professor.

In all the chaos, Celeste (our daughter) has learned about health and wellness. Celeste decided she wants to be a pediatrician. I was hoping she said pharmacist but she is firm on being a pediatrician. Maybe I can retire early so she can take care of the two of us!

For the class of 2021, we actually had three couples get married after graduation: Jimmy and Vy Du, Peter and Jasmine Chen, and Cassie and I. We are all close friends and still Zoom on weekends so our kids can talk to each other.

Cassie and I dated our second year of pharmacy school in Pullman but broke up our third year. We stayed separated until I finished residency. It was hard to maintain a relationship and have all the various roles and responsibilities of being student leaders. It all worked out in the end and we have been married since October 10, 2015. Falling in love has truly allowed me to be and do what I am today: helping out the communities of LA as a professor and pharmacist. I moved from Washington so we could actually be closer to each other, get married and start our family. Who knew that love and sacrifice also meant a lot of good for my career as well?

I truly miss all of my WSU family so hopefully we can take the kids up to Spokane and Pullman to take pictures in front of the WSU buildings and not have to use the USC ones as my background. Someone asked me who I cheer for when USC plays WSU. The answer is simple and will always be WSU. Part of our identity is rooted in Pullman and Spokane, which I am always grateful for.





Mark Goff and Alyssa Del Palacio, class of 2015

Mark and Alyssa met as pharmacy students in 2011 and their story will be featured in the upcoming Spring 2021 edition of the Washington State Magazine.

[Read more of their story in this Tweet from Washington State Magazine](#)

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

Other News

WSU pharmacy students pitch in with COVID-19 vaccination efforts

Pharmacy student volunteers recently spent the day at Summit Cancer Center vaccinating eligible health care workers and community members against COVID-19!

[Read more from KXLY](#)

Yakima Valley health care students get real life experience with vaccine rollout

Front page news! WSU pharmacy and nursing students pitch in to vaccinate eligible community members across the Yakima Valley.

[Read more from the Yakima Herald](#)

Hundreds of WSU students and faculty will be tested for COVID-19 prior to first day

KXLY recently talked to second-year pharmacy student Michael Asfha about the COVID-19 testing program on the Spokane campus going into the new semester.

[Read more from KXLY](#)

'Rise to the challenge': WSU nursing, pharmacy students volunteer to administer COVID-19 vaccine

WSU pharmacy and nursing students are volunteering at vaccination sites in the Spokane community.

[Read more from the Spokesman Review](#)

Kansas pharmacies hire and train more workers to help roll out COVID-19 vaccines faster

After a recent change allowing pharmacy technicians in Kansas to help administer COVID-19 and other vaccines, the Kansas City NPR talked to Pharmacotherapy Associate Professor Kimberly McKeirnan about the pharmacy technician immunization training she developed, now a national program in partnership with the American Pharmacists Association (APhA).

[Read more from KCUR](#)

2021 NCAA Today's Top 10 Award honorees named

Third-year pharmacy student, Kayla Leland was chosen by the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) as one of the Today's Top 10 Award recognizing outstanding former student-athletes. She did her undergraduate work at Whitworth University while also participating in track, cross country and basketball.

[Read more from the NCAA](#)

The sunshine vitamin

Pharmacotherapy Professor and Chair John White examines studies looking into vitamin D deficiency as it relates to COVID-19 incidence and severity.

[Read more from the Inlander Health and Home Magazine](#)

Faculty Scholarship

PRESENTATIONS

Allen I. White Distinguished Associate Professor of Pharmacotherapy **Joshua Neumiller** and co-authors published a book chapter titled, “Inflammatory mechanisms in diabetic kidney disease,” in the section, “Obesity and Diabetes,” in Faintuch and Faintuch’s second edition of Obesity and Diabetes Scientific Advances and Best Practice, pp. 437-455.

Josh Neumiller and co-authors published, “Update on the evolving role of GLP-1 receptor agonists in the management of Type 2 diabetes (Audio-enriched Monograph),” on December 30, 2020 on PowerPak’s Continuing Education for Pharmacists & Pharmacy Technicians website.

Josh Neumiller and co-authors published, “Clinical evidence and proposed mechanisms for cardiovascular and kidney benefits from glucagon-like peptide-1 receptor agonists,” in a 2020 edition of the journal of US Endocrinology.

Pharmacotherapy Chair and R. Keith Campbell Distinguished Professor in Diabetes Care **John White**, Pharmaceutical Sciences Professor **Mary Paine**, Paine Lab Postdoctoral Research Associate **Dan-Dan Tian**, and Fiscal Analyst **Deena Hadi**, along with co-authors published, “Assessing transporter-mediated natural product-drug interactions via in vitro-in vivo extrapolation: clinical evaluation with a probe cocktail,” in the American Society for Clinical Pharmacology and Therapeutics journal of Clinical Pharmacology and Therapeutics in November 2020.

J. Roberts and Marcia Fosberg Distinguished Professor of Pharmacotherapy **Danial Baker** published, “Drug evaluation – belantamab mafodotin-blmf (Blenrep),” in Wolters Kluwer Health’s The Formulary Monograph Service (FMS) in January 2021. 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 published, “Drug evaluation – evinacumab: preliminary evaluation,” in the FMS in January 2021.

Danial Baker and Pharmacotherapy Clinical Professor **Terri Levien** published, “Drug evaluation – remdesivir (Veklury),” in the FMS in January 2021.

Danial Baker published, “Drug utilization evaluation – remdesivir (Veklury),” in the FMS in January 2021.

United States Transuranium and Uranium Registries (USTUR) Assistant Professor **Maia Avtandilashvili**, USTUR Director and Professor **Sergei Tolmachev** and three co-authors published, “Long-term retention of plutonium in the respiratory tracts of two acutely-exposed workers: estimation of bound fraction,” in Health Physics.

Maia Avtandilashvili, **Sergei Tolmachev** and two co-authors published, “Modelling of long-term retention of high-fired plutonium oxide in the human respiratory tract: importance of scar-tissue compartments,” in the Journal of Radiological Protection.

Mary Paine and six co-authors published, “Refined prediction of pharmacokinetic kratom-drug interactions: time-dependent inhibition considerations,” in the Journal of Pharmacology and Experimental Therapeutics in January 2021.

SERVICE

Josh Neumiller was acknowledged as an expert consultant for the 2021 American Diabetes Association (ADA) Standards of Medical Care in Diabetes.

Josh Neumiller is serving on the Association for Diabetes Care and Education Specialists (ADCES) Oregon/Washington 2021 Annual Conference Planning Committee. The meeting will be held from April 29 to May 1, 2021.

The **WSU Spokane Research** team for the Arthritis Foundation virtual Jingle Bell 5K was among the top fundraising teams for the Arthritis Foundation for the third year in a row.

Student Achievement

DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY (PHD) STUDENTS

Rakshit S. Tanna (Paine lab) was selected as the Highlighted Trainee Author for the January issue of the Journal of Pharmacology & Experimental Therapeutics.

Rakshit S. Tanna (Paine lab) with faculty co-author **Mary Paine** and five other co-authors published, "Refined prediction of pharmacokinetic kratom-drug interactions: time-dependent inhibition considerations," in the Journal of Pharmacology and Experimental Therapeutics in January 2021

James Nguyen and **Rakshit Tanna** with faculty co-authors **John White, Mary Paine, Dan-Dan Tian** and **Deena Hadi**, and other co-authors published, "Assessing transporter-mediated natural product-drug interactions via in vitro-in vivo extrapolation: clinical evaluation with a probe cocktail," in the American Society for Clinical Pharmacology and Therapeutics journal of Clinical Pharmacology and Therapeutics in November 2020.

DOCTOR OF PHARMACY (PHARM.D) STUDENTS

Erica Chan with faculty co-authors Drug Information Center Resident **Brittany Craft** and **Danial Baker** published, "Drug evaluation – clascoterone cream (Winlevi)," in the FMS in January 2021.

Marissa Yocham with faculty co-authors **Brittany Craft** and **Danial Baker** published, "Drug evaluation – pralsetinib (Gavreto)," in the FMS in January 2021.



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