SAPh Newsletter

Social & Administrative Pharmacy Graduate Program
College of Pharmacy University of Minnesota

2018 Graduate Hooding Ceremony

SAPh students hooded on May 5, 2018 were Ryan Bortz, MS; Jake Hansen, MS; Melissa Sanders, MS; Sherein Farag-El-Massah, PhD and Khashayar Memari, PhD

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Greetings Colleagues:

Each year, Val Cremin and I collect photos and news items for the SAPh Graduate Program and then summarize them in our newsletter. This year was filled with an abundance of news and activities. We know that you will enjoy reading about the SAPh program. It is quite likely that we missed some things. If there is news that you would like to share, please send that information to Val Cremin (cremi001@umn.edu) and Jon Schommer (schom010@umn.edu) and we will send that information out as well.

The word that summarizes this past year is “Abundance.” We continue to till, plant, water, weed, grow, and harvest.

Have a Great 2019!

Jon C. Schommer, PhD

2018 Graduates’ Final Thesis Presentations


Jake Hansen, PharmD, MS Thesis Projects: 1) The Impact of Limited Distribution Drugs on Patients within a Health System and 2) Effective Utilization of Rapid 3 Assessment with Rheumatoid Arthritis as an Approach to Impact Disease Activity and Adherence.

Debbie Pestka, PharmD, PhD Thesis: Assessing the components needed to support and operate comprehensive medication management in primary care clinics.

Sirikan Rojanasarot, PhD Thesis: Asthma health outcomes achieved through a clinic-based quality improvement program.

Melissa Sanders, PharmD, MS Thesis Projects: 1) Implications for Integrated Health Systems and 2) Optimizing EPIC Entries through Analysis of Pharmacist Clinical Interventions.
Student News

Zachary Rivers, Awarded a University of Minnesota CTSI TL1 Grant

Zach Rivers has been selected as a 2019 UMN CTSI TL1 Program awardee through the University of Minnesota CTSI - Research Education, Training, and Career Development (CTSI-Ed) group. The program’s mission is to improve human health by catalyzing and accelerating the translation of research findings to the community. The two-year training program integrates a mentored research experience, an individualized curriculum, and professional development activities that focus on team-based research and effective collaboration and communication with the larger community.

More information about this prestigious award may be found at: https://www.ctsi.umn.edu/career-development-programs/education-and-training/tl1-program

Alina Cernasev, Awarded the 2018-19 Doctoral Dissertation Fellowship (DDF)

This 9-month award provides a full stipend of $25,000 plus tuition and fringe benefits, as well as a $1,000 conference presentation grant. Outstanding doctoral candidates from across the University were nominated. 102 fellowships were awarded (53% award rate). Alina’s dissertation work involves the examination of African-born HIV patients’ socio-cultural, socio-economic, and personal beliefs and how these are associated with medication use.

Alina Cernasev has been elected by her peers to serve as Student Liaison in the Pharmacy Section for the American Public Health Association. The 1-year term begins on November 15, following the 2018 Annual Meeting in San Diego, CA. The American Public Health Association has the goal of "creating the healthiest nation in one generation." Alina’s participation will help build an engaging public health movement.

Prosperity Eneh, SAPh Liaison for FIP

Prosperity was been appointed to the Young Pharmacists Group committee of International Pharmaceutical Federal (FIP) and served as a liaison for Social & Administrative Pharmacy involved in programming organized for young pharmacists from all over the world at the 78th FIP World Congress of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences in Scotland, September 2018.

Summer Tran & Bethany Von Hoff awarded 2017-2018 Outstanding TA

Our students and faculty benefitted greatly from their involvement in the College of Pharmacy PharmD courses.

Summer Tran was also awarded $3,000 for the Olstein Fellowship Influence of human microbiome on effectiveness of immunotherapy by using surveillance, epidemiology, and end results (SEER) database (advisor, David Stenehjem).
Student News

APhA - Academy of Research and Science, Nashville, TN

SAPh Graduate Program members were active at APhA-Academy of Pharmaceutical Research and Science in Nashville on March 15-19, 2018. They were active in research round tables, podium presentations, leadership sessions, mentoring sessions, poster presentations, and national research initiatives. SAPh graduate student, Tony Olson, was inducted as APhA-APRS Postgraduate Officer and led several initiatives at the meeting. He will serve as Postgraduate Officer this next year at APhA.

SAPh attendees pictured: Lawrence Brown, Tony Olson, Jon Schommer, Arun Kumar, Robert Bechtol, Joel Farley, Ben Aronson, Steve Schondelmeyer.

International Social Pharmacy Workshop (ISPW) July 2018

The International Social Pharmacy Workshop (ISPW) July 23-26, 2018 is a biennial conference for scientists all over the world that focuses on the psychosocial aspects of medication use. This workshop critically examines the scientific aspect of pharmacy services research and the resulting policy implications on health systems across the world. The ISPW provides many networking opportunities that yield valuable collaborations across institutions and systems. SAPh Attendees pictured: Alina Cernasev, Tony Olson, Lisa Hillman, and Jon Schommer.
Midwest SAPH 2018

Faculty and students attended the 18th Biennial Midwest SAPH Conference in Madison, Wisconsin on August 15—17, 2018. This conference was co-hosted by UW-Madison and University of Minnesota, with our U of M group coordinating abstract reviews and scientific programming. In addition, our group led research round tables, led awards programs, served as faculty discussants for sessions, and made podium presentations. The abstracts from this conference were published in INNOVATIONS in pharmacy as a special issue.
Dr. Ron Hadsall has mentored numerous faculty and students in the areas of economic and policy issues surrounding the delivery of pharmaceutical services to the patient. He has guided the Graduate Program in Social & Administrative Pharmacy for four decades and has championed the foundational principles of sound science, innovation, and collaboration. He continues to serve and guide the SAPh Graduate Program in his role as Emeritus Professor.

Kristin Janke was named a Distinguished Teaching Scholar by the American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy. The AACP Distinguished Teaching Scholar Award is designed to recognize excellence of academic pharmacy faculty engaged in and/or supporting scholarly teaching and the scholarship of teaching and learning.

David Stenehjem has been promoted to associate professor with tenure. His research focuses on oncology outcomes and experimental therapeutics.

Todd Sorensen, along with Kylee Funk, Lindsay Sorge, and Debbie Pestka, (SAPh PhD 2018) received a $100,000 grant from the Center for Health Care Strategies and the Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation for their project, “Comprehensive Medication Management for High-Risk Patients Discharged from Inpatient Behavioral Health Care.”
Professor Don Uden, PharmD, received the 2017 Lawrence C. and Delores M. Weaver Medal. The award is given annually to someone who supports the College and its students through service to education, the profession, research and the community.

Don Uden (center, seated) joins past Weaver Medal recipients (first row, left to right): Philip Portoghese, Julie Johnson, Dee Weaver, Yusuf Abul-Hajj, Cherie Perlmutter and Marilyn Speedie; (back row): Ron Hadsall, Steve Schondelmeyer, Bruce Benson, Wendy Simenson, Steve Simenson, Jim Cloyd, Tim Stratton, Lowell Anderson, Randy Seifert, Ken Miller and Ron Sawchuk.

Dr. Paul Ranelli, Recognized by the Pharmacy Alumni Society

On November 30, 2018, Dr. Paul Ranelli received the Pharmacy Alumni Society, Faculty Recognition Award. Paul was recognized for his innovative approach to promoting the pharmacy profession through the arts. His work to develop, promote, and bring to a broad audience the play "Go Ask Alice," and the art installation "To Really See: Medication Experience and Visual Arts," is indicative of his intense commitment to education, the arts and the profession.


SAPh PhD program alums, Dr. Djenane Oliveira, ’03 PhD and Dr. Mateus Alves, ’12 PhD were presented with the Distinguished Leadership Award for Internationals on November 29, 2018. This is a University-wide award and is conferred to individuals who have attained unusual distinction as professionals in their careers within institutions and have demonstrated sustained, outstanding achievement and leadership.

https://global.umn.edu/awards/dlai/18_alves_oliveira.html

They provide extraordinary leadership in Brazil for leading transformations in medication use and patient-centered care. Together they have been able to found and direct the Centro de Estudos em Atenção Farmacêutica - CEAF at the Universidade Federal de Minas Gerais. Their mission is to reach a higher standard for medication use in Latin America through the delivery of comprehensive medication management services. Their vision is to become the most trusted institutional reference in comprehensive medication management services in Latin America. Their goals are to (a) deliver care to patients through medication management services; (b) prepare competent pharmacist practitioners to provide quality services through training programs; (c) establish effective and efficient practices through practice development techniques, and (d) evaluate and analyze the quality of patient services through sophisticated and state of the art evaluation techniques.

Through this center, they have served as public policy experts for (a) Unimed-BH (Brazilian Private Health Care Plan) in which they developed and supervised medication management services at ambulatory clinics in the City of Belo Horizonte and (b) the Brazilian Ministry of Health in which they provided technical supervision of the implementation process of medication management services in two cities of the State of Minas Gerais. Twenty pharmacists were trained and supervised as they took care of over 3000 patients.
Greg Rhee, ’16 PhD recently published a study in the Journals of Gerontology, Series A: Biological Sciences and Medical Sciences examining prescribing trends of co-medicating in outpatient settings of opioids and benzodiazepines. He used a national representative sample to estimate national rates and prescribing trends and found that: the rate of prescription benzodiazepines alone increased from 4.8 percent in 2006-2007 to 6.2 percent in 2014-2015; the rate of prescription opioids alone increased from 5.9 percent in 2006-2007 to 10 percent in 2014-2015; and the co-prescribing rate of both benzodiazepines and opioids increased over time from 1.1 percent in 2006-2007 to 2.7 percent in 2014-2015.

Dr. Rhee identified demographic and clinical factors associated with co-prescriptions of benzodiazepines and opioids. These correlating independent factors associated with higher co-prescriptions include: being of the female sex, a visit for chronic care, receipt of six or more concomitantly prescribed medications, and clinical diagnoses of anxiety and pain.

He makes the following recommendations on how health care providers can reduce co-prescribing opioids and benzodiazepines: health care providers should be more careful when prescribing these medications in older adults; health care providers can prescribe safer alternatives (e.g., non-opioid analgesics for opioids) to minimize potentially avoidable adverse drug events; and pharmacists can provide detailed pharmaceutical information and outreach by collaborating with the clinical team. This study was funded by the National Institute on Aging and the National Institutes of Health.

SAPh Graduate Alumni and Students Gather at the International ISPOR Meeting

Sirikan Rojanasartot (2018); Wenchen Kenneth Wu (1988); Jagannath Muzumdar (2010); Taehwan Park (2013); Trung Nguyen (2017); Greg Rhee (2016); Li Fan (visiting scholar); and Tien Vo (current PhD student) attended the 2018 ISPOR meeting in Baltimore, MD, May 19-23. The theme was "Real-World Evidence, Digital Health, and the New Landscape for Health Decision-Making."
Alumni

Lucinda Maine, a 1985 graduate of the Kellogg Pharmaceutical Clinical Scientist PhD program, is the recipient of the 2019 Remington Honor Medal, the highest honor in pharmacy. She will receive the award at the APhA Annual Meeting and Exposition in Seattle, March 22–25. She joins the other Minnesotan Remington honorees Marilyn Speedie, Lowell Anderson, Frank Moudry, Larry Weaver and Glenn Jenkins.

Jagannath Muzumdar, PhD ‘11; Associate Professor, Pharmacy Administration and Public Health, St John’s University, New York.
Visit with Dr. Schommer (past advisor)

Melissa Sanders, PharmD, SAPh MS ‘18 received her SAPh medallion after successfully presenting her MS Thesis projects.

ISPOR Indonesia Chapter Conference July 22, 2018
Ahmad Fuad Afdhal, PhD ‘83.
Pictured with Stephen Schondelmeyer

Thomas Rector, PhD ‘83 passed away on Thursday, February 1, 2018. Dr. Rector was the 33rd PhD graduate of the SAPh Graduate Program. He was part of the Kellogg Clinical Scholars Program and his dissertation was entitled “An Epidemiological Evaluation of the Potential Association between Central Nervous System Depressants and Nocturnal Death in the Elderly.”

Dr. Rector developed The Minnesota Living with Heart Failure Questionnaire. This instrument is a reliable and valid patient-oriented measure of the adverse effects of heart failure on their lives. The questionnaire is comprised of 21 important physical, emotional and socioeconomic ways heart failure can adversely affect a patient’s life. The instrument can be used as a key outcome measure in studies and evaluations of outpatients with symptomatic (NYHA class II to IV) heart failure with a reduced or preserved ejection fraction. This patient-reported outcome can be used to determine whether a treatment for heart failure is effective for improving patients’ quality of life by reducing the adverse impact of heart failure.

Dr. Rector was a scientist working at the Center for Chronic Disease Outcomes Research, Department of Veteran Affairs.
SAPh Fellowships

SAPh Fellowships 2018

Created to encourage and recognize leadership qualities and aspirations among PhD students in the SAPh graduate program:

- SAPh Alumni Fellowship
- St Peter & Leiner Family Fellowship
- Wertheimer Leadership Fellowship

Donations to these Fellowship Funds are welcome. Please visit the SAPh website; click on MAKE A GIFT.

You can also send a check payable to the University of Minnesota and mail to:
Jon Schommer, College of Pharmacy
7-155 Weaver-Densford Hall, 308 Harvard Street SE, Minneapolis, MN 55455

Fellowship Recipients

Alina Cernacev
Wertheimer Leadership

Dao (Summer) Tran
SAPh Alumni

Jhiying (Julie) Zhao
St. Peter & Leiner Family Outcomes Research

Congratulations!
The mission of the Social & Administrative Pharmacy graduate program is to educate and mentor graduate students in the discovery and dissemination of new knowledge to foster appropriate use of drugs in order to improve patient outcomes at the individual and societal level.