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Dates to Remember

October 27

Distinguished Alumni Panel
Enzi STEM Building, Atrium
1:30-3:00 p.m.

October 27

Homecoming Reception
Linda Wells Reading Room
3:00-5:00 p.m.

October 28

Homecoming Tailgate
Corbett PE Building
Two hours prior to kickoff

November 22-24

Thanksgiving Break

December 4

School of Pharmacy Reception
ASHP Midyear Clinical Meeting
Rosen Centre Hotel, Salon 5
5:30-7:30

December 13-19

Finals Week



The News Capsule

Third Quarter, 2017

Student News

In September the School of Pharmacy held the local ASHP Clinical Skills Competition for all third and fourth year students. The competition involves a two-hour evaluation of a patient case and the development of a written care plan, as well as a two-minute oral presentation followed by a question and answer period. The winner of the local competition this year will represent the School of Pharmacy at the ASHP Midyear Clinical Meeting in Orlando, Florida, in December. The School had six very competitive teams compete, including six P3 participants. The results of the competition are:

1st place: **Nicole Hlavacek** and **Erin Yarborough**

2nd place: **Danielle Trierweiler** and **Christina Wilkinson**

We wish Nicole and Erin the best of luck as they go on to represent the School of Pharmacy at the Clinical Skills Competition in December!

Luiza Bosch, undergraduate research assistant working with Assistant Professor **Guanglong He**, was awarded a Wyoming Research Scholars Program Mini-Grant to help fund her project, titled "CARD9 KO protects the heart from ischemia reperfusion injury," for academic year 2017-2018.

The University of Wyoming chapter of **Phi Lambda Sigma**, the Pharmacy Leadership Society, welcomed new members at an initiation dinner in September (pictured below). New initiates are **David Baca**, **Sarah Bockman**, **Nolan Gecan**, **Joshua Graham**, **Ashley Moore**, **Kara Nazminia**, **Meghan O'Donnell**, and **Kirsten Valcic**.



UNIVERSITY OF WYOMING



The School of Pharmacy welcomed the class of 2021 in a white coat ceremony on August 24th.

Student News



Lihan Deng, PharmD candidate 2020, has received an INBRE Research Fellowship for Fall 2017 and Spring 2018. INBRE funding is intended to enhance biomedical research capacity, expand and strengthen the research capabilities of biomedical faculty, and provide access to biomedical resources for undergraduate students.



Vanessa Sorrels, PharmD candidate 2019, was a featured speaker at the Grand Opening of the University of Wyoming Native American Education Research and Cultural Center on September 29th. As president of the UW Keepers of the Fire, Sorrels brought a student perspective to the event. The Native American Education Research and Cultural Center is intended

to be a “living learning” community that will provide many services and resources to Native American students to support academic success and promote community. Keepers of the Fire is a UW student group whose goal is to maintain and promote the American Indian culture, and to improve the understanding between American Indians and other ethnic groups.



Vanessa Sorrels, second from left, participates in the ribbon cutting at the Native American Education Research and Cultural Center

Alumni News



Stephen Adams (class of 1980) has been selected as a University of Wyoming Distinguished Alumnus for 2017. Dr. Adams is also the School of Pharmacy 2017 Distinguished Alumnus. Throughout his career Dr. Adams engaged in multiple leadership and service activities, from his work in the development of cancer treatments to his military service during natural disasters and in the United Nations peacekeeping force. Some highlights include serving as chief pharmacist and commanding officer in the St. Bernard Parish clinic during the Hurricane Katrina relief effort, serving in combat support hospitals in Afghanistan, and setting up a civilian hospital in Croatia as part of his work with the United Nations. As he reflects back on his career, his advice to pharmacy students is to keep an open mind about the opportunities available to them. He says “there are so many different career paths open to pharmacy students, and many opportunities to serve and to lead.”

To read more about Dr. Adams’ service and leadership, [click here](#).



The School of Pharmacy was saddened to hear of the passing of **John Villegas Martinez**. John grew up in Colorado and Wyoming with his 3 brothers and 5 sisters. He attended the School of Pharmacy, graduating in 1955. John began his career in Deming, New Mexico, and later moved to Mesa and became the owner and pharmacist at Mesa Drugs. Throughout his career he displayed his love of his community and dedication to the people he helped. John will truly be missed.

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Faculty News

Thanh-Nga Nguyen, Clinical Assistant Professor, published an article titled “Hierarchical Modeling of Patient and Physician Determinants of Blood Pressure Outcomes in Hypertensive Patients with and without Diabetes: Pooled Analysis of Six Observational Valsartan Studies with 15,282 Evaluable Patients” in the International Journal of Chronic Diseases.





Carol Kobulnicky, Associate Professor of Social and Administrative Pharmacy, presented at the 2017 Banner Health Fall Regional Cancer Conference on September 8 in Loveland, CO with Mary Anne Purtzer, Associate Dean in the Fay W. Whitney School of Nursing at UW. The title of their presentation was “Self-Monitoring: Illuminating the Potential of the Patient-Caregiver-Health Professional Triad.” It represents six years of their research collaboration in this area.

Dr. Baskaran “Baski” Thyagarajan and his research team, known as **Baskilab**, were invited to attend Governor Mead’s 4th Annual Global Technology Summit at Jackson Hole, WY on September 18-21, 2017. The goal of this technology partnership initiative is to identify cutting-edge technologies that can help rural people in Wyoming and accelerate accessibility to that technology on a global scale.

Dr. Thyagarajan also was invited to present at five major Universities in India and received a UW International Travel Grant. The theme of his research presentation was on the strategies of inducing browning of white adipose tissue to combat obesity.

Dr. Thyagarajan received a GRC Fellowship to attend the Gordon Research Conference on “Organellar Channels and Transporters” held in Mount Snow, Vermont between July 29 and August 4, 2017. Dr. Thyagarajan presented a poster entitled “TRPV1 activation restores mitochondrial quality control to counter non-alcoholic fatty liver disease.”

In August Baskilab researchers presented a poster entitled “TRPV1 activation stimulates SiRT-1-PPAR α interaction and PGC-1 α upregulation in the liver to counter obesity and NAFLD” at the Kern Lipid Conference August 7-9, 2017 held in Vail, CO.

During the Endocrine Research Conference at the University of Colorado, Dr. Thyagarajan presented a research talk entitled “TRPV1 puts a heat in WAT: A BRITE approach to counter obesity.”



Members of the Baskilab research team



Mary Onysko, Clinical Associate Professor of Pharmacy Practice, presented an invited podium presentation “Maximizing Medication Reconciliation” on August 25th at the Medicare’s Comprehensive Primary Care Plus Learning Session in Denver. There were over 300 physicians, care managers, and primary care administrators in attendance at the event. Dr. Onysko’s copresenters were Dr. Brad Winslow and Dr. Susan Kunihiro from Swedish Family Medicine.



Upcoming Events

The University of Wyoming is celebrating Homecoming, and the School of Pharmacy and the College of Health Sciences has some exciting events as part of the celebration.

On Friday October 27th the School of Pharmacy is hosting a reception at 3:00 p.m. in the Linda Wells Reading Room (School of Pharmacy Room 291). We’re looking forward to visiting with alumni and friends of the School, and to honoring our 2017 distinguished alumnus and the class of 1967.

The College of Health Sciences Homecoming Tailgate takes place on Saturday October 28th at 3:30 p.m. in the Corbett PE Building. This event leads up to kickoff in War Memorial Stadium at 5:30 p.m. Alumni and friends from all Health Sciences disciplines are welcome and encouraged to attend.

IPE News

The College of Health Sciences is hosting its 4th Annual Distinguished Alumni Interprofessional Panel Discussion on Friday, October 27, 1:30-3:00 p.m. This annual celebration features presentations from the distinguished alumni and a panel discussion on interprofessional practice.

College of Health Sciences
Distinguished Alumni Interprofessional Panel
 Friday, October 27, 2017
 1:30-3pm
 Enzi STEM Building Atrium
Sharing career insights and discussing leadership and interprofessional collaboration
 Sponsored by the UW College of Health Sciences Interprofessional Education Committee

Share Your News

The School of Pharmacy would love to hear your news and to share it in our newsletters, annual report, and social media accounts. To share your news with us, please [click here](#) to fill out our news form, or send an email to rstevens@uwyo.edu.