

# The Dean's Report

2018



Professor and Founding Dean

# MESSAGE FROM THE DEAN

Howdy!

Welcome to the annual report for the Texas A&M University Irma Lerma Rangel College of Pharmacy.

Guided by its five core values, or five C's: Care, Compassion, Competence, Community, and Collaboration, the college advances pharmacy education and training and enhances the quality of lives in the border region, the state of Texas and beyond.

In all we do, we dedicate the full measure of our resources and abilities to advancing the knowledge and technologies of our profession. We strive to cultivate a culture of excellence in impactful research, transformational learning, and evidence-based practice and patient care in each professional student enrolled in our pharmacy program.

It was an incredible year for the college, and our accolades would not be possible if not for the fortitude and diligence of our faculty and staff. Our graduate program in pharmaceutical sciences received unanimous approval for implementation during the spring 2020 semester. Our Gamma Omega Chapter of The Rho Chi Society was named a finalist for the Chapter Achievement Award. Our faculty and staff 'Walked Across Texas' to beat 32 other teams in promoting wellness through physical activity.

I invite you to take a closer look at who we are, what we do and where we are heading.

Gig 'em!

# MISSION

To provide a comprehensive pharmacy education in a stimulating, learning intensive, student-centered environment to prepare a diverse student body for the practice of pharmacy as competent, caring, ethical professionals dedicated to the provision of optimal pharmaceutical care through a balanced program of education, research and service.

# VISION

A leader in pharmacy education, research, scholarship and outreach.

# OUR CORE VALUES

**CARE** - Our students put their skills and knowledge to work to constantly improve patient care.

**COMPASSION** - We focus on the patient as a person, extending compassion to all we serve.

**COMPETENCE** – Out experiential curriculum builds professional competence in every student.

**COMMUNITY** - We bring our expertise where it's needed most to improve the quality of life in our community.

**COLLABORATION** – We forge interprofessional collaborations to advance research and scholarship.

# STAY CONNECTED



### WEBSITE

Pharmacy.tamhsc.edu



### **FACEBOOK**

Facebook.com/AggiePharmacy



### TWITTER

Twitter.com/TAMUpharmacy



### **KINGSVILLE**

MSC 131, 1010 W. Avenue B Kingsville, TX 78363 361.221.0604 | Fax: 361.221.0790

### **COLLEGE STATION**

159 Reynolds Medical Bldg., MS 1114 College Station, Texas 77843 979.436.0561

# HISTORY

# ABOUT THE COLLEGE

The college is named after the late Irma Lerma Rangel, District 35 State Representative and chair of the Texas House Higher Education Committee, who long sought to begin the first professional school in South Texas. Thus, the Texas A&M Irma Lerma Rangel College of Pharmacy was established in Kingsville, Texas, as a member of Texas A&M University-Kingsville.

Following approval by The Texas A&M University System Board of Regents and the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board, the Texas A&M Irma Lerma Rangel College of Pharmacy officially joined the Texas A&M University Health Science Center in April 2006 and welcomed its first class in August 2006. Its inaugural class of 70 students completed the first PharmD degrees in May 2010.

After an increasing need for additional capacity each year – with 647 applicants vying for 87 spots in Kingsville in 2013 – the college opened a second campus in College Station, Texas, and welcomed its first cohort of students on that campus in 2014. In 2018, the college graduated its then largest class of 112 students from both campuses.





# **EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**



**Indra K. Reddy, PhD, FAAPS, FAPhA**Professor and Founding Dean

LEADERSHIP



Mansoor A. Khan, PhD, FAAPS
Texas A&M Presidential Impact Fellow
Professor and Vice Dean and Acting Department Head of Pharmaceutical Sciences



Asim Abu-Baker, PharmD
Clinical Professor and Associate Dean for Clinical & Professional Affairs and Acting Department Head of Pharmacy Practice



Steven L. Peterson, PhD
Professor and Associate Dean for Academic
Affairs



Ramey A. Benfield, MBA, MS
Assistant Dean for Finance & Administration



**Amanda M. Galindo, EdD**Assistant Dean for Student Affairs

# **DIRECTORS**



**Juan J. Bustamante, PhD**Instructional Assistant Professor and Interim
Director of Admissions



**Elaine L. Demps, PhD**Director of Instructional Design & Support Services



Amanda M. Galvan, LPC, MS
Director of Student Success



**Simi Gunaseelan, PhD** Instructional Associate Professor and Director of Assessment



**Carolynn Mathews, RPh**Director of Experiential Education

Lowest tuition of accredited professional pharmacy program in Texas.\*

Affordability in offering professional pharmacy

In Hispanic graduates in he nation for the past

Professional program located South of San Antonio The College established **Health Care Partnerships** 



Classes 2010 to 2018 are licensed to practice in Texas

of graduates practice in community pharmacies students in medically underserved areas

graduates return to South Texas

full-time faculty

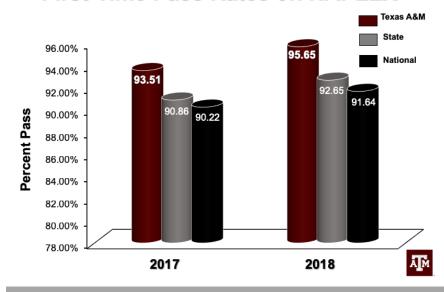
**Post-Doctorate** Fellows & graduate research scientists

### **RESIDENCY MATCHES**

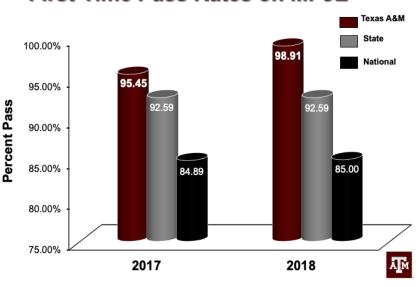
Sixteen students from the Texas A&M Rangel College of Pharmacy Class of 2018 were matched for PGY-1 residency programs which represents 14%, and three students from the Class of 2017 have been matched for PGY-2 residency programs which represents 3%.

**CLASS OF 2018 NATIONAL EXAMINATION PASS RATES**<sup>+</sup>

# **First-Time Pass Rates on NAPLEX**



# **First-Time Pass Rates on MPJE**

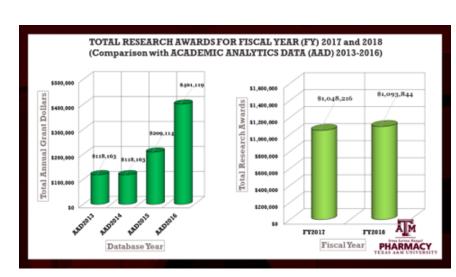


\*AACP Institutional Data

+Based on NABP Second Trimester Results \*\* College of Affordability Guide Include Cost of Education

# FINANCIAL SUMMARY

# COLLEGE OF PHARMACY FY18 REVENUE AND EXPENSES



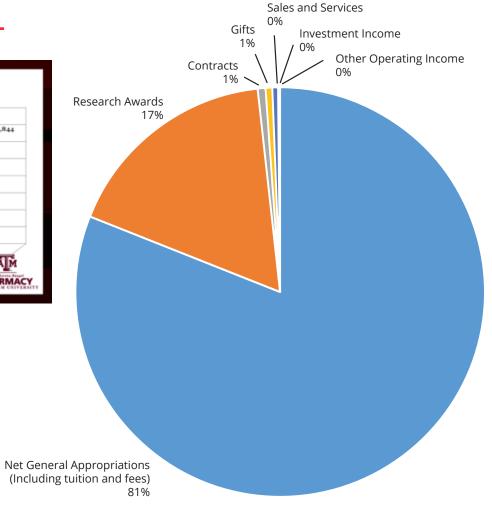


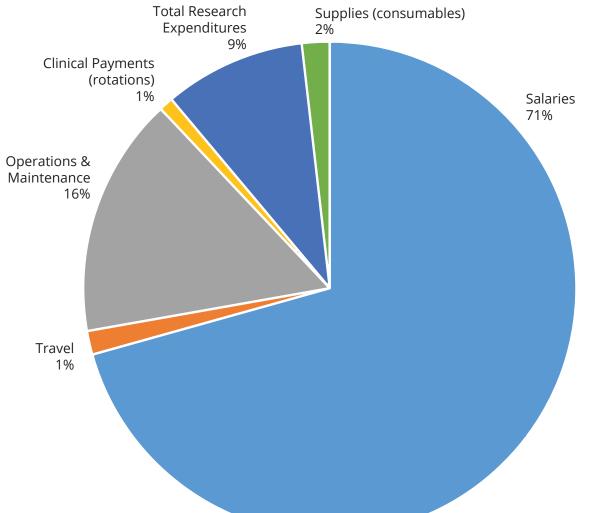
(Including tuition and fees) \$12,788,688 Research Awards \$2,720,000 Grants and Contracts \$96,903

Gift \$84,214

Sales and Service \$70,344 Investment Income \$2,266 Other Operating Income \$23,496

Total FY18 Revenue: \$15,785,911.00





Salaries \$8,886,598.00 Travel \$195,000

Operations and Maintenance \$1,981,156.00 Clinical Payments (rotations) \$116,800.00 Total Research Expenditures \$1,167,717.79 Supplies (consumables) \$228,946.34

> Total FY18 Expenses: \$12,576,218.13 Total FY18 Actuals: \$12,522,749.79 Total (Difference): \$(53,468.34)

# SPECIALIZED FACILITIES AND INNOVATIVE CLASSROOMS

In the delivery of the Doctor of Pharmacy program, the college employs a variety of teaching and learning methods with coordinated activities in order to develop adult learners who embrace lifelong learning. Strategies employed are traditional lecture and laboratory techniques; problem-based, team-based and case-based techniques; peer-to-peer teaching and service learning; flipped classrooms; and active learning methods/ pedagogical techniques. Faculty members strive to deliver course and laboratory material in a manner that encourages and allows students to become active and independent participants in the perpetual process of learning.

## Good Manufacturing Practices (GMP) Laboratory

The GMP is located in the Reynolds building in College Station. It will help create solid medication dosage forms, such as immediate and modified-released capsules and tablets, and novel drug delivery systems including nanoparticles

and topical products, such as ointments or creams, for animal or human testing under rigid regulatory protocols. The GMP meets the FDA compliance and the requirements of the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), Title 21.

Additional labs in Reynolds were renovated for a functional Good Laboratory Practice (GLP) facility for quality control, bioequivalence, and stability studies. Together, these GMP and GLP facilities support research in pharmaceutical formulation development, stability, bioavailability, and bioequivalence products.

### **Sterile Products Laboratory**

The Sterile Compounding Laboratory course is designed to train Doctor of Pharmacy students how to compound medications that are only available by injection or infusion and that must be diluted before administration so that the final preparation is sterile and will not cause infections to patients needing these

types of medications. In addition to aseptic techniques, students are taught proper calculations for sterile preparations, stabilities of IV mediations in various base solutions, and compatibilities of these medications if they must be mixed together in the same solution. Students also learn proper gowning/ garbing procedures, safe handling of cytotoxic and hazardous drugs, quality assurance, and labeling and other topics that are for determining how these medications are to be handled and prepared.

### Videoconferences and Distance Learning

Digital video walls adorn both campuses' classrooms, which allows for high quality transmission of lectures. Audio equipment was recently upgraded in all classrooms to enable more effective communication between campuses.









Kingsville Sterile Products Lab





Good Manufacturing Practices Laboratory

International Extravaganza





International Extravaganza



Walgreens and CVS Donate to Support Diversity and Inclusion





# DIVERSITY

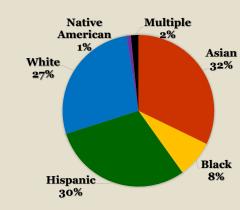
Diversity is an integral element of the Texas A&M Irma Lerma Rangel College of Pharmacy's mission to prepare a diverse student body for the practice of pharmacy as competent, caring, ethical professionals dedicated to the profession of optimal patient and pharmaceutical care. While engaged in didactic activities, experiential rotations and service-learning exercises, our students practice in an educational atmosphere that reflects the ethnic and cultural make up of our society.

The college remains committed to diversity and inclusion amongst its students, faculty, and staff – it has established the Diversity Leadership Council and the Cultural Diversity Committee to promote and improve accountability and to highlight and celebrate diversity and inclusion. Its diversity website promotes resources available on both campuses and is the primary site to provide information for diversity events and outcomes.

In the 2018 American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy (AACP) student surveys, 95.7 percent of students agreed or strongly agreed that their pharmacy practice experiences allowed direct interaction with diverse patient populations. In the same survey, 94.6 percent of students agreed or strongly agreed that the Rangel College of Pharmacy was welcoming to students with diverse backgrounds.

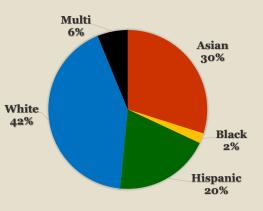
### Walgreens and CVS Donate to Support Diversity and Inclusion

In 2018, the college received \$12,000 from the Walgreens Co. for the Walgreens Multilingual Scholarship, the Walgreens Diversity & Inclusion Excellence Award, and to support its programs and initiatives which foster diversity and inclusion. The college has also received \$12,000 from CVS Health for student scholarships and interprofessional education activities.



### Classes 2019 to 2022 443 Currently Enrolled

- 57% Women
- 43% Men



**Faculty & Staff** 97 Currently Employed

- 54% Women
- 46% Men



# CARE & COMPASSION

# COLLEGE OF PHARMACY TAKES ON THE OPIOID EPIDEMIC

The opioid crisis is a national public health emergency, and Texas has experienced its own significant increases in overdoses in recent years. The Texas A&M University Health Science Center has responded with a multidisciplinary Opioid Task Force to help curb the crisis in the Lone Star State, and students across Texas A&M University are doing their part to intervene.

That includes Kingsville and College Station, where students from the Texas A&M Irma Lerma Rangel College of Pharmacy receive training on naloxone, a medication designed to rapidly reverse an opioid overdose, and they are training others on how to use this life-saving drug with "Operation Naloxone."

Operation Naloxone provides training and support to community partners regarding opioid overdose education and naloxone rescue kits for law enforcement, first responders, and junior college students and staff throughout the Houston, Galveston, and Greater Brazos Valley areas.

Naloxone works as an opioid antagonist – meaning that it binds to opioid receptors and can reverse the effects of an opioid overdose and quickly restore the person's respiration so they regain consciousness. Naloxone is available as prescription medication as an injectable or nasal spray, and

some states, including Texas, allow naloxone to be distributed by pharmacists to the public without a prescription from a physician. Texas also passed legislation allowing for community distribution of naloxone rescue kits by trained individuals to the general public in response to the rising crisis.

Joy Alonzo, PharmD, clinical assistant professor of pharmacy practice at the Rangel College of Pharmacy, has been instrumental in securing a grant from Adapt Pharmaceutical Co. to the Health Science Center for 20,400 Narcan (nasal naloxone) rescue kits worth in excess of \$3.5 million in November 2018. "Operation Naloxone is a student-led program to introduce 'harm reduction' to the community," said Alonzo. "The idea is for students to go to their campus communities – on-campus and off-campus housing, and the surrounding communities – to help others learn about naloxone use."

The Narcan kits are part of an effort spearheaded by the Texas A&M University Health Science Center Opioid Task Force, a multidisciplinary group of scholars and practitioners who serve as an urgent response team with members from the College of Pharmacy, College of Medicine, School of Public Health, College of Dentistry, and the College of Nursing.

Originally published by Dominic Hernandez in The Vital Record, April 16, 2018



# CARE & COMPASSION





# INTERPROFESSIONAL HEALTH CARE TEAMS TRAVEL INTERNATIONALLY

### **Bolivia Trip**

An interprofessional health care team from the Texas A&M University Health Science Center, led by Bree Watzak, PharmD, clinical assistant professor of pharmacy practice, and including four pharmacy students, operated a medical and dental clinic for five days in the remote Andean village of Quesimpuco, Bolivia, in May 2018. A total of 363 patients were counseled and 1,160 prescriptions were dispensed.

### **Costa Rica Trip**

Texas A&M Irma Lerma Rangel College of Pharmacy Students traveled to Costa Rica to participate in an International Service Learning (ISL) Global Health Team in June 2018. The team consisted of one physician, one pharmacist, three translators, and 13 volunteers from a variety of interprofessional disciplines such as medicine, pharmacy, nutrition, and ophthalmology from California, Louisiana, New York, Pennsylvania, and Texas. The team traveled to Alajuela, San Jose, and Puntarenas during its nine-day stay in Costa Rica.





Kleberg County Health Fair

25% of graduates practice pharmacy in south texas





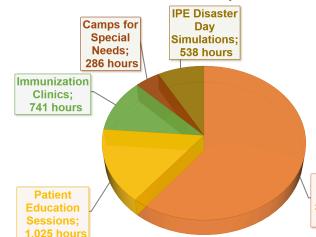


# STUDENT ENGAGEMENT IN COMMUNITY AND STATE OUTREACH HEALTH FAIRS

CARE & COMPASSION

Since 2017, students from the Texas A&M Irma Lerma Rangel College of Pharmacy have provided health care services to approximately 5,760 members of the local and rural communities in the form of health and wellness screenings (4,009 hours), immunization clinics (741 hours), patient education sessions (1,025 hours), and camps for individuals with special needs (286 hours). Some of the events and locations where these services were rendered include Twin Cities Mission, H-E-B Second Saturday Health Screenings, Operation Lone Star, Project SHINE, Fiesta Patrias, and COP LEADS.

# **Outreach Impact**





# CARE & COMPASSION

# HURRICANE HARVEY RELIEF EFFORTS

Andrew Ramirez and Bryan Sigoloff, members of the college's Class of 2020, organized the Pharmacy Public Health Committee to aid in recovery efforts for Coastal Bend areas affected by Hurricane Harvey throughout fall 2017 and spring 2018. Five crews consisting of students, faculty, and staff, cleared massive amounts of debris in the Port Aransas, Rockport, and Aransas Pass Communities in addition to delivering Zika prevention kits and over-the-counter medications to the affected communities.

The Texas A&M Irma Lerma Rangel College of Pharmacy chapter of Kappa Psi Pharmaceutical Fraternity, Inc. and the American Pharmacists Association – Academy of Student Pharmacists (APhA-ASP) partnered with the Coastal Bend Blood Center to host a community-wide blood and donation drive for those affected by Hurricane Harvey at the Texas A&M University-Kingsville campus. Along with blood, donation items were collected to distribute to those affected areas in need of immediate assistance.





# COMMUNITY

# HEALTHY SOUTH TEXAS INITIATIVES

# Students Collaborate on National Prescription Drug Take Back Day

The college's chapters of the Student Society of Health-System Pharmacists (SSHP) and the American Pharmacists Association – Academy of Student Pharmacists (APhA-ASP) collaborated in April 2018 for the DEA National Prescription Drug Take Back Day. The National Prescription Drug Take Back Day aims to provide a safe, convenient and responsible means of disposing of prescription drugs, while also educating the general public about the potential for abuse of medications.

### **College Hosts Pharmacy Discovery Camp**

The Texas A&M Irma Lerma Rangel College of Pharmacy hosted a two-day Pharmacy Discovery Camp in July 2018. Twenty high school students attended the camp where they participated in campus tours, practiced pharmacy skills, and learned about opportunities available in the field of pharmacy.

### **Global Institute for Hispanic Health**

The Texas A&M and Driscoll Children's Hospital Global Institute for Hispanic Health (GIHH) awarded grant funding to four research teams in its inaugural Clinical Research Seed Grant program. This program provides research seed funding for clinical, translational and health services research projects primarily aimed at eliminating health care disparities in Hispanic communities.

Four faculty members from the Texas A&M Irma Lerma Rangel College of Pharmacy have received GIHH Inaugural Seed Grants. They are: Jose J. Hernandez, PhD, Joy P. Alonzo, PharmD, and Lixian Zhong, PhD, for their project, Effect of an Asthma-related Educational Intervention Targeting Pharmacies in the Driscoll Health Plan Texas CHIP/Medicaid Network in the Provision of Pharmaceutical Care Incentive Programs for Asthma and Patients' Outcomes; and Narendra Kumar, PhD, for his project, Development of Biomarkers for Obesity-Associated Mental Health.







# TST PLACE







# TIES & TENNIS SHOES MEMORIAL FUN RUN

More than 200 community members, students, faculty, and staff gathered for the fifth annual Ties & Tennis Shoes 5K/10K Memorial Fun Run and Walk on Feb. 23, 2018. Students raised more than \$27,000 through the event for the Dr. James Robertson Jr. Memorial Fund. This student-led tradition has expanded its mission to support student scholarships and educational programming.

COMMUNITY

James Robertson, Jr., PhD, was a cornerstone to the Texas A&M Irma Lerma Rangel College of Pharmacy and served as the first associate dean for student affairs. He died on Nov. 21, 2012, after complications from pneumonia. Since that time, students wish to honor his legacy by making a difference in the lives of those around them through the Dr. James Robertson Jr. Make a Difference Award and the endowed Dr. James Robertson Jr. Memorial Scholarship.



# ASPIR<sup>2</sup>E PRE-MATRICULATION GRANT AWARDED TO DR. ELAINE DEMPS AND DR. AMANDA GALINDO

Elaine Demps, PhD, director of instructional design & support services, and Amanda Galindo, EdD, assistant dean for student affairs, received a two-year grant award in the amount of \$158,519 from the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board through the Minority Health Research and Education Grant Program for their project, Aggie Student Pharmacists Initiative for Recruitment|Retention and Education or ASPIR<sup>2</sup>E. The overarching aim of the grant is to increase recruitment and retention of underrepresented minority and first generation students in the pharmacy program.

The ASPIR<sup>2</sup>E program includes four tracks to help prepare and support students who are applying to or entering the professional pharmacy degree program at the Texas A&M Irma Lerma Rangel College of Pharmacy. Tracks 1 and 2 help undergraduate pre-pharmacy students become more competitive pharmacy school applicants while Tracks 3 and 4 help admitted pharmacy students transition to the rigors of the PharmD program. The program welcomed its first cohort of participants in June 2018.





# COMPETENCE

# THE OFFICE OF STUDENT SUCCESS

Trained ASPIR2E Peer Mentors

Developed
Student Success
ASPIR2E Modules

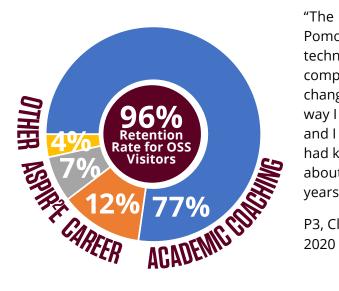
- Developing Professional Skills
- Learning and Study Habits
- Time Management
- Metacognition
- Communication
- Physical and Emotional Health

145 Students Served

112

academic coaching sessions

18 career planning sessions



Pomodoro technique has completely changed the way I study and I wish I had known about it ten years ago!"

P3, Class of 2020

Factors that contribute to Academic Difficulty STUDENTS REPORT 32% Study Skills, 31% Time Management, 12% Personal Issues, 9%Test Taking Anxiety, 4% Family Concerns, 4% Physical Health Problems, 3% Working too many hours, 3% Learning Issues, and 2% Financial Issues.

# STUDENTS EXCEL IN PHARMACY PRACTICE AND CLINICAL SKILLS

### **State Clinical Skills** Competition

Sarah Bermudez (Class of 2020) and Yovani Canales (Class of 2018) placed first amongst all teams in the Texas Society of Health-System Pharmacists (TSHP) Clinical Skills





Competition held April 2018 in The Woodlands, Texas. Bermudez represented the college during the annual meeting of the American Society of Health-System Pharmacists in December 2018.

### **AMCP Student Pharmacist Finalist**

Anh Thu Tran (Class of 2019) serves as the president of the Academy of Managed Care Pharmacy (AMCP) for the Texas A&M Irma Lerma Rangel College of Pharmacy. She was selected to participate in the AMCP Advanced Pharmacy Practice Experiences Experiential Program in Association & Leadership Management



### **USPHS Excellence in Public Health Pharmacy Practice Award**

The United States Public Health Service (USPHS) is a diverse team of over 6,500 highly qualified, public health professionals. Driven by a passion to serve the underserved, these men and women fill essential public health leadership and clinical service roles with the nation's federal government agencies. Bright Yorka (Class of 2019) has been awarded the USPHS Excellence in Public Health Pharmacy Practice Award for 2018 for his contributions and dedication in service to his community.



# COMPETENCE

# STUDENT SCHOLARSHIP **RECIPIENTS FOR 2018**

### **Bexar County Pharmacy Association Scholarship**

Fatima Bodalbhai Ioel Gardea Beltran Anis Cano Mafaz Mohammed Salih

## **CVS Health Foundation Pharmacy School Grants** Scholarship

Shireen Ali Kassandra Cervera Abigail Drum **Jarod Fowler** Nancy Limon Gonzalez Zaul Landaverde Diana Pena Domingo Rodriguez Shahrouz Shoghi Thuy Duong Wu Lei Wu Bright Yorka

# Dr. Martin Farias, III Memorial Scholarship

Eunae Jeong

larod Fowler Thuy Duong Vu Eunae Jeong

# Dr. James Robertson, Jr. **Memorial Scholarship**

Shireen Ali Kevin Chan Christine Hong

### **Estill Foundation Scholarship**

John Acosta Shireen Ali Heaven Carrejo Niaz Deyhim Hsin-yu Fan Jung-Hyun Han Lindsey Hernandez Christine Hong **Emmy Jiang** Paris Karr Zaul Landaverde Minh Le Junnie Mwaniki

Dealer Rockwell

Vanessa Salinas

Shahrouz Shogh Anh Thu Tran Lei Wu

# Moore's Incorporated/ **Texas Pharmacy Foundation Endowed Scholarship**

Jane Jeon Shaza Weiss

### Mai Nguyen Endowed **Scholarship**

Russell Clark Li Liu

# Nancy W. Dickey Endowed Scholarship

Andrew Ramirez

# **PM Rangel Family Endowed** Scholarship

Heaven Carrejo Zaul Landaverde Stacie San Pedro

# Safeway Scholarship

Jenny Ly

Ioseph Nnani Susan Thomas

# **Tarrant County Pharmacy Association Endowed** Scholarship

Joseph Nnani

### **Walgreens Diversity & Inclusion Excellence** Scholarship Heaven Carrejo

# **Wal-Mart Scholarship**

Jane Jeon Ruselle Vasquez

# AGGIE CORE VALUE FACULTY SPOTLIGHT – EXCELLENCE

Ravikumar Majeti, PhD, professor of pharmaceutical sciences at the Texas A&M Irma Lerma Rangel College of Pharmacy, was elected into Fellowship status in the American Association of Pharmaceutical Scientists (AAPS) in November 2018. Majeti joins Indra Reddy, PhD, professor and founding dean of the college, and Mansoor Khan, RPh, PhD, professor and vice dean of the College Station campus, acting head of the Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences and director of the Formulations and Drug Delivery Core Laboratory, to make the third AAPS Fellow in the college.

AAPS members honor the Fellows for "facing challenges head-on with creative solutions in discovery, development or regulation of pharmaceutical and biologics," according to the organization's website. Majeti does exactly that with his research. He often applies innovative delivery strategies to existing small or large molecules for improving drugs' risk versus benefit ratio. He also realizes new indications or applies innovative delivery technologies early on in the drug discovery program to minimize attrition rates.

"Dr. Majeti's research in the pharmaceutical sciences is vital to the development and availability of new drug products," Reddy said. "As a Fellow of the AAPS, Dr. Majeti [is] recognized as a national leader in his field. His outstanding accomplishments and innovative contributions have helped to advance the college's research enterprise. I am very proud of Dr. Majeti and [was] pleased to see him accept the award in Washington, D.C."

Originally published by Mary Leigh Meyer in The Vital Record, November 7, 2018



As a Fellow of the AAPS, Ravikumar Majeti, PhD, is recognized as a national leader in his field. His outstanding accomplishments and innovative contributions have helped to advance the college's research enterprise.

# COMPETENCE

# NOTABLE FACULTY AND STAFF AWARDS

Texas A&M University has established the President's Excellence Fund Initiative, a \$100 million investment over 10 years for the advancement of faculty innovations in teaching and research. The first initiative, T3: Texas A&M Triads for Transformation, launched in spring 2018 and has selected 100 innovative interdisciplinary projects for funding. Approximately \$3 million is committed annually to T3 projects.

Seven faculty members from the Texas A&M Irma Lerma Rangel College of Pharmacy received T3 grants in this cycle: Hamed Ismail Ali, PhD, Zakaria Elmageed, PhD, Ayman Hamouda, PhD, Dongin Kim, PhD, Michael Miller, DrPH, Srinath Palakurthi, PhD, and Lixian Zhong, PhD.

### **Faculty Fellowships**

Andrea Mora, PharmD, clinical associate professor of pharmacy practice, was accepted to the American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy (AACP) Academic

Leadership Fellows Program for 2018-19. The AACP program supports and contributes to the development of leaders in academic pharmacy and higher education. It also provides fellows an opportunity to expand relationships with peers and colleagues in other institutions and to improve networking within their own institutions.

Charlotte Farris, PharmD, clinical assistant professor of pharmacy practice, was accepted to the 2017-18 Student Success Faculty Fellows Program at Texas A&M University for her proposal Student Success through Multimodal Assessment and Self-Regulated Learning.

### **Faculty Scientific Awards**

Mahua Choudhury, PhD, associate professor of pharmaceutical sciences, was awarded a scholarship from the National Institutes of Health (NIH).

Lin Zhu, PhD, associate professor of pharmaceutical sciences, was awarded \$445,000 from the NIH for his study on improving tumor specificity with targeted drug delivery.

### **Teaching and Staff Awards**

### Teachers of the Year

Mohammad Nutan, Ph.D. Gregory Sawyer, Ph.D. Juan Castro, M.D. Heather Hay, Pharm.D.

### Teaching Teams of the Year

IPT I: Electrolytes, Acid Base and Kidney Diseases Charlotte Farris, Pharm.D. Merlyn Joseph, Pharm.D.

IPT VII: Infectious Diseases Andrea Luce, Pharm.D. Hamed Ismail Ali, Ph.D. Juan Bustamante, Ph.D. Michael Horseman, Pharm.D. Ladan Panahi, Pharm.D. David Potter, Ph.D. Jaye Weston, Pharm.D.

### Staff Members of the Year

Maria "Cordie" Benavides Steve Leggio, B.F.A. Agatha Moy Gilbert Reyna, M.S.



# CONGRATULATIONS CLASS OF 2018

One hundred twelve students completed the professional pharmacy degree (PharmD) program from the Texas A&M Irma Lerma Rangel College of Pharmacy in 2018. The Class of 2018 is the ninth cohort for the college and the first to include students who attended the College Station campus since it opened in 2014. The keynote speaker for the May 26 commencement ceremony was Janet Woodcock, MD, director of the Center for Drug Evaluation and Research at the U.S. Food and Drug Administration.













93% of students enrolled graduated on time

# **Operation Lone Star**

Disaster Day

# Disaster Day

# Operati

Operation Lone Star

# COLLABORATION

# INTERPROFESSIONAL EDUCATION

### **Disaster Day**

Disaster Day, a day long mock disaster to prepare for unforeseen events that require quick and efficient health care without access to the sufficient medical facilities or supplies, is the nation's largest student-led, interprofessional emergency management simulation. More than 650 students from Texas A&M University colleges and schools, including nursing, medicine, pharmacy, public health and veterinary medicine, responded to a train derailment, engaging in triage at the disaster scene, patient care in a mock field hospital, and disaster management at the Brayton Fire Training Field in College Station on Friday, February 16. Over 150 participants represented the Irma Lerma Rangel College of Pharmacy at the 10th annual event

### **Operation Lone Star Emergency Preparedness**

Students from the College of pharmacy joined others students from the Colleges of Dentistry, Medicine, Nursing and the School of Public Health along with the College of Agriculture & Life Sciences and the Department of Food & Nutrition Sciences to assist in the provision of health care at six locations along the south Texas border. Faculty also joined in to precept and deliver care. Operation Lone Star is an annual event that provides health care services during a five-day medical emergency preparedness exercise coordinated by the Department of State Health Services in partnership with the National Guard. Over this five-day exercise, approximately 3,000 individuals were delivered primary health care.

# FEATURED STORIES

# COLLEGE RECEIVES TOP MARKS FOR AFFORDABILITY

As rising costs of higher education have become a national debate, good news has come from the Texas A&M Irma Lerma Rangel College of Pharmacy. The college was ranked second in the nation for most affordable pharmacy degrees. College Affordability Guide gave the school a score of 97, only 0.2 below the first ranked college.

A cost/benefit analysis compared the strengths and weaknesses of what is achieved with the degree. This was designed to identify schools affordable for average students and those from low-income families. To be included in the rankings, the university must have a nonprofit status, 500 or more students and accept Advanced Placement or Reserve Officers' Training Corps credit. In addition, 20 percent of the students must be Pell Grant recipients.

Degree Prospects also looks at equitable usage of financial aid funds, as in more

aid for families earning less. Furthermore, the university must have at least half of its students graduating or transferring to another school within six years, and half with student debts must be actively paying it back three years upon graduation.

The College of Pharmacy's 8:1 student-to-faculty ratio was cited as a factor for the high ranking. Another contributing item was the Doctor of Pharmacy program enabling students to gain pharmacy experience as soon as the second year of studies. Combining the aforementioned factors created a small group of colleges, those which are ensuring that students are getting their money's worth.

The college continually pursued innovative and economical ways to ensure for students a strong didactic education, a broad and applied pharmacy experience early in the curriculum, and availability of mentoring across many aspects of professional life. The college's cost is met with its quality education. By 2012, the college ranked among the top 50 pharmacy programs in the nation, according to U.S. News & World Report.

"Our mission was to develop a high-quality, low-cost program, bar none. In just six years, the quality of our program allowed us to reach the top 50 programs in the country," said Indra K. Reddy, PhD, founding dean and professor.

"This was largely due to the success of our students, and the hard work of our faculty in obtaining extramural funding and publication of research and scholarly activities. However, our focus was not on rankings but rather on the mission. We understand our students' need for affordability—we strive to offer a quality program with a high return on investment."

The college remains steadfast in its mission to provide a learning-intensive, stimulating pharmacy education—combined with research and service—that prepares its students to be competent, caring and ethical health care professionals.

Originally published by Tamim Choudhury in The Vital Record, May 16, 2018

# FEATURED STORIES



# TEXAS A&M JOINS NIPTE AS ITS 17TH MEMBER

The National Institute for Pharmaceutical Technology and Education (NIPTE) Board has confirmed official membership by the Texas A&M Irma Lerma Rangel College of Pharmacy. NIPTE, Inc. is a not-for-profit organization dedicated to fundamental research and education in pharmaceutical product development and manufacturing. NIPTE's goal is to increase science- and engineering-based understanding of this area such that novel state-of-the-art technologies can be developed and science-based regulations can be implement. Indra K. Reddy, PhD, professor and founding dean, has been named chair-elect of NIPTE's executive board.



# FEATURED STORIES

# NEW PHD PROGRAM IN PHARMACEUTICAL SCIENCES

A doctoral degree program in pharmaceutical sciences at the Texas A&M Irma Lerma Rangel College of Pharmacy was approved by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board. The first cohort in the PhD program will start in spring 2020 at the Kingsville and Bryan, Texas, locations, which operate under a "one program, two campuses" model.

The Rangel College of Pharmacy will distinguish itself by offering graduate training and education based on the U.S. Food and Drug Administration's (FDA) recommendations for transforming the way medical products are developed, evaluated and manufactured. Students will design and conduct research, have hands-on experience at research centers and laboratories and complete a dissertation.

Karen Butler-Purry, PhD, PE, associate provost for graduate and professional studies at Texas A&M, said, "We are excited to have this great addition to our graduate programs. FDA's critical path and modernization of pharmaceutical development was the missing piece of our puzzle. It is great to see the convergence of multidisciplinary faculty to help train the future generation of pharmaceutical scientists in this modern paradigm."

Development of the Texas A&M graduate program in pharmaceutical sciences began in 2016. Leading the charge to initiate the graduate program was Mansoor Khan, RPH, PhD, professor and vice dean of the College Station campus, interim head of the Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences and director of the Formulations and Drug Delivery Core Laboratory. He had shepherded a similar process at Texas Tech University in 1999.

The addition of the PhD will elevate the graduate program and help Texas A&M recruit strong faculty members and turn out solid researchers.

Originally published by Kelli Reynolds in The Vital Record, July 26, 2019



# FEATURED STORIES

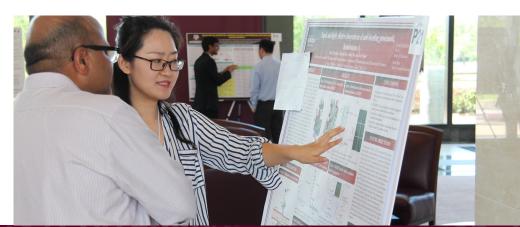




# TEXAS A&M HOSTS 45TH ANNUAL MALTO MEETING

The Texas A&M Irma Lerma Rangel College of Pharmacy hosted the 45th Annual MALTO Medicinal Chemistry-Pharmacognosy Meeting-in-Miniature May 23-25, 2018 at Texas A&M University in College Station, Texas. Carol Fierke, PhD, provost and executive vice president, delivered the Nelson Volmering Memorial Keynote at the conference. Mansoor Khan, RPh, PhD, and Dai Lu, PhD, served as co-chairs for the planning committee.

MALTO is a research consortium between Mississippi, Arkansas, Alabama, Louisiana, Texas, and Oklahoma. It was established with the concept of a miniature medicinal chemistry meeting at which students could have the opportunity to present their research to their peers and mentors.



# COLLEGE NEWS & EVENTS

# A WINNING FORMULA FOR PHYSICAL ACTIVITY

A fitness team from the Texas A&M Irma Lerma Rangel College of Pharmacy won the Walk Across Texas! 2018 grand championship trophy for Kleberg-Kenedy County. The winners included Elaine Demps, PhD, Rachel Garza, Narendra Kumar, PhD, Jayshree Mishra, PhD, Pooja Patel, PharmD, Victoria Pho, PharmD, Gilbert Reyna, and Greg Sawyer, PhD. Competing against 32 other South Texas teams, this group walked a combined 3,295 miles in eight weeks.

Mishra, a research assistant professor of pharmaceutical sciences, served as team captain. Upon noticing people signing up at the Texas A&M University—Kingsville campus for this competition, she decided to form an interdisciplinary team with faculty from both the Departments of Pharmacy Practice and Pharmaceutical Sciences, staff and administrators. The idea was to build a collaborative team outside the office environment.

"We named ourselves Crazy Walkers,

because we were passionate about it. Being in a health profession college, we thought what would be a better way to advocate for a healthy lifestyle in our community than first experiencing and demonstrating it ourselves." Mishra said. "As the weeks went by, we became very close, talking about something different from our research and teaching. We built a network, in addition to our goal of developing and promoting a healthy lifestyle for our College of Pharmacy and Aggie community."

the width of Texas—this team walked more miles than the width of continental United States. Mixing commitment with thorough execution, as some members walked 90 miles per week at times, this team created the right formula to win. Mishra tracked the team's progress—not always an easy task with two members living in Houston and the rest in the Kingsville area. All teammates documented the miles they walked and other activities that converted to mileage for input into the Walk across Texas! database.

Whereas the goal was to walk 830 miles—

The team began its trek from March 19 through May 11, and it received the award on May 16. Walk Across Texas!, designed to

habituate Texans to regular physical activity, has had thousands participate since 1996 when it began. The educational program is by Texas AgriLife Extension Service. Implemented annually at more than 100 Texas counties, the mission is to mitigate risks such as heart disease, type 2 diabetes, hypertension, osteoporosis and cancer. This program part of Healthy South Texas, an initiative that combines the expertise of Texas A&M University Health Science Center with Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service's statewide reach to promote preventative health at the grassroots level, thereby improving health for Texans.

The Crazy Walkers decided to place their trophy inside the dean's suite, so that everyone visiting can see it and be inspired to establish physical activity as a lifetime habit. In addition to the trophy, they received eight fully packed gym bags, one free personal training session for each member, and a Fitbit Alta for Garza, who was the top female walker. Kumar was recognized by the team for contributing the highest overall miles.

Originally published by Tamim Choudhury in The Vital Record, June 5, 2018

# COLLEGE NEWS & EVENTS

### **Rho Chi Chapter Selected as Finalist for Chapter Achievement Award**

The Rangel College of Pharmacy Gamma Omega Chapter has been selected as a finalist for the Chapter Achievement Award. The winning chapter will be announced and recognized at the Annual Meeting of the Rho Chi Society in Seattle, Washington, tentatively scheduled for Sunday, March 24, 2019 (held in conjunction with the APhA 2019 Annual Meeting scheduled for March 22-25). In its 10-year history since initiation in 2008, the Gamma Omega chapter has won many awards—most notably, the Most Improved Chapter Award in 2014, Chapter Excellence Award in 2016, and the Chapter Achievement Award for Region 6 in 2017.













### Two Student Teams Receive First Make a **Difference Award**

Two College of Pharmacy teams received the first Dr. James Robertson Jr. Make A Difference Award, Operation Naloxone team members Austin Bridges (P4), Caitlyn Clifton (P3) Stephanie Bravo (P4) and Lorena Gonzalez (P3) will purchase teaching aids and acquire Naloxone kits for disbursement to the South Texas Region and Bryan, College Station community with the award funds. Pharmacy Public Health Committee team members Andrew Ramirez (P3) and Bryan Sigoloff (P3) hosted a Public Health Symposium in March 2019.

### **AACP Excellence in Student Services Award**

Dean Indra K. Reddy presented the James Robertson, Jr. Leadership Excellence in Student Services Award to Renae Chestnut, RPh, EdD, MBA, Dean of Drake University College of Pharmacy & Health Sciences at the AACP Annual Meeting in Boston, Massachusetts on July 24, 2018. This award was established by the AACP in honor of the late Dr. James Robertson, Jr., to recognize faculty for their student service

excellence.

### **TSHP Annual Seminar**







# STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS **ATTEND CONFERENCES**

### **TSHP Annual Seminar**

Thirty-six students attended the Texas Society of Health-System Pharmacists (TSHP) Annual Seminar in The Woodlands during April 6-8, and actively participated in the annual poster and clinical skills competition and other activities.

COLLEGE NEWS & EVENTS

### **APhA Alcoholism and Drug Dependencies**

The Texas A&M Rangel College of Pharmacy had it largest group ever with 20 students attending along with Debra Wood, RPh, Experiential Education Coordinator, and Jeffrey Luke, PharmD, Clinical Assistant Professor of Pharmacy Practice. The five-day conference provided education, personal development, networking and an exchange of ideas related to the disease of addiction and inspired attendees to increase awareness of health and social problems related to alcoholism and other drug dependencies.

### **Pharmacy Student Council Leadership Retreat**

A total of 16 student leaders attended the two-day event. Four external speakers were invited to present The Retreat topics included Proven Keys to Success, Habits of Mind: Evidence and Application for Pharmacy Practice, Leadership, Diversity, and the 21st Century Pharmacist, and Leading with Emotional Intelligence.

# Texas Pharmacy Association Conference and Expo

Pharmacy students, Christopher White (P4), Cody Kibbee (P1), Jennifer Meza (P1) and Zachary Bridges (P4) placed second in the Texas Student Pharmacist Self-Care Championship that occurred on Saturday, July 14 at the conference.



# COLLEGE NEWS & EVENTS

# CLASS OF 2021 RECOGNIZED AT WHITE COAT CEREMONIES

College of Pharmacy recognizes pharmacy students entering their second year of studies who have earned their Texas Pharmacy Intern Licenses in a White Coat Ceremony for the Class of 2021 for the campuses of College Station and Kingsville that were held September 22 and October 20, respectively. The class of 2021 donned their white coats, a symbol of clinical service and patient care, and pledged a personal commitment to work to ensure the welfare of individual patients and the welfare of the south Texas and College Station communities.



Michael Mone, JD, RPh served as the keynote speaker for the College Station White Coat Ceremony. He is the Vice President and Associate General Counsel for Regulatory Affairs at Cardinal Health, Inc.

Evan Robinson, PhD, RPh served as the keynote speaker for the Kingsville White Coat Ceremony. He is the Founding Dean at the College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences and Associate Provost for Academic Affairs at Western New England University.



# COLLEGE NEWS & EVENTS

### **New ISPOR Chapter Established**

The Texas A&M Rangel College of Pharmacy has formally approved and established a student chapter for International Society for Pharmacoeconomics and Outcomes Research (ISPOR). The ISPOR student chapter is affiliated with national ISPOR and is the leading global scientific and educational organization for heath economics and outcomes research. ISPOR student chapter is aimed to provide our Pharm.D. students with pharmacoeconomic resources, networking, foster interest in pharmacoeconomics and support cutting-edge research and outcomes. The activities of the organization will familiarize students with health related decision making process and prepare them for careers in managed care, pharmaceutical industry and other health care settings.



# Kappa Psi and Phi Delta Chi Granted Colony Memberships

Both our student chapters – Kappa Psi and Phi Delta Chi – have received approval from the Pharmacy College Organization Group (PCOG) to move forward with Colony memberships on our College Station campus. Current chapters of our fraternities will have members on both campuses in Kingsville and College Station. Further, each fraternity will have a member on the leadership team of PCOG in College Station.

### Rho Chi & Phi Lambda Sigma Induct New Members

The Texas A&M Rangel College of Pharmacy held a joint induction ceremony banquet of the Rho Chi Society Gamma Omega Chapter and the Phi Lambda Sigma Gamma Mu Chapter on April 13, 2018.

The Rho Chi Society inducted 21 new members while Phi Lambda Sigma inducted 14 new members. Ms. Debbie Garza, CEO of Texas Pharmacy Association, served as the guest of honor at the ceremony. She also delivered the Rho Chi keynote lecture, "Leadership in the Pharmacy Profession," to the student body earlier that day.



# THANK YOU, PRECEPTORS!

# THANK YOU, PRECEPTORS!

Neil Abraham May Archi Iane Adams Rose Agi Felicia Ahuna Artesia Aing Darowan Akajagbor Nasrin Akbarloyshabgah Adam Alarilla Melissa Allen Will Almond Joy Alonzo Iulia Alvarez Analiza Amava-Diaz **Enock Anassi** Kristen Andersor Ogechukwu Anozie Lucinda Aparicio Maria Apodaca Ioshua Aranda Fred Arispe Ebenezer Asare Susan Ashlock Osondu Awaraka Elizabeth Awudi-Henry Nana Ayesu Danny Babin Margaret Babin Olga Bacio-Saucedo David Baker Donna Baker Shannon Baker

Sara Balk Archana Banerjee Sandy Bar Adelina Barbosa Brien Barrera Jose Barrera Roy Basaldua Ojong Bate Daniela Bazan Tasneem Bedaii Nikki Benson Kipak Bhatt Lindsey Binns Stephanie Bishop Bruce Biundo Iohn Blanchett Karen Blanco Iohn Blee Linda Blum Christina Bobiei Adam Bohuslay Sara Bork lennifer Boudreaux Dana Boyers Whitney Brace Leon Bradway Amy Braun Mike Brimberry Adam Brown Amanda Brown Erika Brown Mallory Brown Sharon Brown Andy Bui Lynde Buras Karen Burns

Jaclyn Busker

Iulie Caldwell Bruno Cantu Thien Cao Denisse Carbajal Wendy Carnevale Aaron Carranza Mark Carrillo Gia Castorina Juan Castro Sheela Chamakala April Chamberland-Tremblay Katie Chase Melissa Chelf Stephen Cherukara Mandy Chow Yolanda Chretier Samuel Chung Wilda Chung On Lauren Clark Darren Clary Tonya Cochran Jon Cokley Chris Collard Essie Collins Christine Coope Timothy Corbin Ana Couriel

Alma Cox

Shawn Crichlow

Rachel Crowder

Justin Crouch

Michelle Cefaretti Ramon Cereceres

Evan Cunningham Landon Current Amber Curry Badal Dave Christine Davis LaToya Davis Lucretia Davis Stephen Davis Niyme De La Fuente Deborah De La Rosa Mikaela Debarba Belinda Deen Crvstal Del Bosque Caitlin Dickens Sandy Diec Jimmy Do Thuy Doan Michael Dore Alex Dudash Grace Dudley Ian Dunne Leah Eckart Cynthia El Rahi Shady Elattar Raul Elizondo Keith Enterkin Daniela Espino Jennifer Espinoza Gavin Estrada Christy Evans Michell Everett

Michael Fadevi

Brian Fagan

Mohammed

Fahimuddin

lenna Faircloth Charlotte Farris Celia Fencerov McKinsey Ford Rola Franks Scott Fredickson Stacey French Suzanne Fry Allyson Gabbard Mike Gadelsayed Nancy Gadelsayed Josue Garcia Yvette Garcia Erin Gardner Debra Garza Dina Garza Gabby Garza J.R. Garza Javier Garza Karina Garza Lucio Garza Shawn Gautreauz Michael George Amy Geurin Leslie Giang Marion Gilbreath Courtney Givens Kayode Giwa **Beatrice Godines** Adriana Gonzales Gilbert Gonzalez Lvdia Gonzalez Maridza Gonzalez Ricardo Gonzalez

Rolando Gonzalez

Kelby Gorman

**April Graves** 

Chas Grav Eric Grayson Christopher Greene David Griffith Marko Guest Rose Guevara-Garza **Grey Guidry** Richard Gunnoe Bene Gutierrez Sylvia Gutierrez Laura Gwosdz Cassie Haddon Linda Haines lason haislet Scotty Hajek Amer Hakam Amy Hambright Lina Hamid Keenan Hamouie Margo Hanerhoff Ienna Hardin Danny Harper Nicholas Harrel **Brennon Harstor** Heather Hartman Derek Harvick Jessica Haskins Heather Hay Lauren Hayden Eileen Herbeck Kerry Herm Iohn Herman Ion Herrington Cullen Hesbrook

Beau Heskes

Mary Hill

Svnthia Hill

Hochstetler

Annie Hong

Horseman

Paul Howell

DeeDee Hu

Michael Huff

**Amber Hughes** 

Christine Huls

Rob Hutchison

Nancy Huynh

Ioseph Isbell

Delaney Ivy

Lori lackson

Candance

Aliraza Jivraj

Ramil locson

Jessica Jones

Katie Jones

Tara Jones

Christy Joy

Joyce Juan

Ally Juarez

Adrian Iudie

Charissa Kam

Davender Kanwai

Katherine Kelly

Lizy Josekutty

Merlyn Joseph

Marilyn Johnson

Denise Jonathan

Jefferson

Khalil

Sumara Hussain

Michael

Jessica

Ryan Keul Odessa Hinojosa Ahmad Khalil Jay Khambhat Shama Khan Jeong Kim Julie Kim Alexis King Carlon King Christi Klassen Tete Koffie-Lartevi Rachel Kopetsky Anita Koppuzhayil Rose Kumenda Vincent Kuo lavan Kuruvilla Noble Kuruvilla Tiffany Ladow Greg Laine Jennifer Lange Elizabeth Lass Aleiandra Iirasek Amanda Lawrence Hung Le Sophia Le Shane Lechler Loretta Lemoine Dale Lewis Kristine Lopez Larry Lovett Rachel Lovett Arun Luke Jeffrey Luke Carlos Luna Ronda Machen Debbie Mack

Valerie Mack

Jahnavi

Madhavaram Nancy Mai Amv Manuel Dan Mao **Briget Martinez** Guadalupe Martinez Joseph Martinez Myla Martinez Perla Martinez Lee Dawn Martvn **Julin Mathew** Blake Maxson Iamie Maze Mahnaz Mazloomi John Mbue Brett McAda Kevin McCauley Erin McDade Greg McRaith Laura Meadow Matt Mekhaiel Yvonne Mendoza Becerra Kathrvn Merkel Jim Merritt Lisa Mican Andrea Midyett Michael Mills Anne-Cecile Mingle Candice Mitchell Coolev Nancy Moaddab lason Monroe Donna Montemayor Laura Moody  ${\tt OLLABORATION} \cdot {\tt CARE} \cdot {\tt COMPASSION} \cdot {\tt COMPETENCE} \cdot {\tt COMMUNITY} \cdot {\tt COLLABORATION} \cdot {\tt CARE} \cdot {\tt COMPASSION}$ TENCE - COMMUNITY - COLLABORATION - CARE - COMPASSION - COMPETENCE - COMMUNITY - COLLABORATION - CARE

Chikaego Nwosu Bill Moore Mary Moore Tochi Joy Nwosu John O'Banion Megan Moore Andrea Mora Cyril Obi Marlvn Moreno Teri Ogg Mila Moroz Brenda Ojeda Oteh Ojiogo Katie Mousavi Andrew Mulder Francis Okegbu Christyn Mullen-Ogey Okonkwo Jazmine Kyle Munch Okuboyejo Michael Muniz Jessica Olivetti Jose Muniz, Jr. Verenice Olmeda Tom Muniz Shannon Olson Ogbevoen Oriakhi Innocent Mwesiga Gabe Neal Davo Osho Dagim Negash Pamela Ouzts Anh-Dai Nguyen Beniamin Ovalle Anne Nguyen Nathaniel Chinh Nguyen Oyefeso Hien Nguyen Annette Ozuna Michelle Nguyen Ron Ozuna Ninh C. Nguyen Anna Pagel Nhat Nguyen Brianna Paolwitch Steven Nguyen Ladan Panahi Brian Parrish Thai Nguyen Thanh Nguyen Katashia Partee-Kendrick Thuan Nguyen Uyen Nguyen Akash Patel **Bhavin Patel** Violet Nguyen Wendy Nguyen Pooja Patel Sarin Patel Ann Nguyen-Sruti Patel Ieenal Nihalani Tejas Patel Anne Nowlin Roger Peart Lea Pedaci Thongsamuth Justin Pedigo Noymany Emily Pena Kingsley Nwogu

Luis Perez Sebastian Perez Sarika Persad Christine Pham Danny Pham Hannah Pham Ioseph Pham Ly Pham Michelle Pham Nancy Phan Kady Phi Blessy Philip Rekha Philip Victoria Pho **Brett Pierce** Rosemin Pirmohamed Toni Pitre Jennifer Placencia Matthew Plata Luisa Portugal Liz Prochaska Kimberly Putney Meredith Oualls Hannie Qureshi Michael Ramirez Ray Ramirez Vanessa Ramirez Mark Ramos Judd Ramsey Alex Rancier Iamie Rascher Ken Ratliff Sara Ray Teisha Rav Ben Reddoch Diane Renfro Karla Resendiz

Trujano Michelle Reyna Adam Riezenmar Janie Riojas-Ramos Timothy Ritter Elsie Rizk Eric Rodriguez Rodrigo Rodriguez Iris RomÃ;n Bermúdez David Ross Regina Roy Manuel Ruiz Kinberly Saddle Jesus Saenz Vidya Saldivar Mariana Salib Donna Salinza Laura Sample Iohn Samuel Rachel Samuel Michael Sanchez Genee Santiago Amy Savarino Kendra Saxvik Amy Schilling Patrick Schmees Kristen Schroeder Diane Schuetze Ed Scott Iane Scott Liz Scott Leah Seehuser Grace Segura Elvia Selountos George Selmser

Torregrossa Sharmi Shahi Bryan Shaw Patricia Torres Abiola Shodipo Veronica Tovar Carrie Shuman Angie Toy Jaime Siegert Ly Tran Marc Tran Rose Mary Silva-Michael Tran Rodriguez Julia Trang **Emmily Simmons** Adam Sims Karlye Trevino Angel Trieu Stephanie Sisley April Trinh Amy Smith Jerry Smith Iamie Trinh Iohn Smith **Gaurang Trived** Marisa Smith Nhu Truong Andy Tsai Matthew Song Erik Sorenson Abdul Turav Samuel Stafford George Udean **Julie Stanton** Katherine Ung Sara Stephenson Danny Valencia Michael Steptoe Angela Valentin Meghna Vallabh Stephanie Stone Christy Su Chris Van Eaton Priya Sureja Joseph Varghese Mia Ta Shaji Varghese Griselda Tamez Prakash Varkey Ramsi Taylor Rene Verduzco Lanchi Thai Rohini Verghese Minal Thakkar Aimee Villalon Meghan Thibeaux Christina **Danielle Thomas** Villarreal Jessy Thomas Rizwana Virani Kavama Thomas Nathan Vo Tronown Thomas Trang Vo lennifer Julie Volz Ionathan Voss Thompson John Thompson Anh Vu Jennifer Vu William Tipping Allison Kevin Vu

Linda Vu Daniel Wanek Melissa Wanek **Curtis Ward** Jarod Watson Bree Watzak Rachel Webb Sarah Westbrook Jaye Weston Don White Elaina Wilkins Michael Willett Katherine Williams Reba Williams Allison Wilson David Wilson Richard Wong **David Woods** Angela Wu Nan Wu Megan Wynn-Yazzie Cha Yang Randall Yates Sherman Yeang Rosa Yu Hanna Zaghloul Shahnaz Zakeri Kathleen Zein Kai Zhang Krista Zwernemann

# ALUMN

# OUTSTANDING EARLY CAREER ALUMNI AWARD ESTABLISHED

The Outstanding Early Career Alumni Award is designed to honor graduates who are 15 years or less post-graduation and who have made significant contributions to their careers or through public service and volunteer activities. Honorees possess the highest standards of respect and integrity, which brings honor to the Texas A&M Irma Lerma Rangel College of Pharmacy.

Have YOU or a former classmate made a positive impact on pharmacy practice? Let us know! For more information, visit us online at **pharmacy.tamhsc.edu/alumni** 

### **WE WANT TO STAY CONNECTED!**

We want to make sure we have your most up-to-date information to keep you informed of all that's happening at the Rangel College of Pharmacy.

Please contact the Office of the Dean at 361.221.0604 or visit us online at **pharmacy.tamhsc.edu/alumni** 



# WAYS TO GIVE



### ONLINE

To make a secure gift online, visit Pharmacy.tamhsc.edu



### **OVER THE PHONE**

Texas A&M Rangel College of Pharmacy Office of the Dean 361.221.0604



### **BY MAIL**

Texas A&M Rangel College of Pharmacy Office of the Dean 1010 West Avenue B Kingsville, Texas 78363-8202



# FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT

Karen Slater '88
Director of Development and
Corporate Relations for the
Health Science Center
Texas A&M Foundation
800.392.3310 or
979.436.9107
kslater@txamfoundation.com

# FEATURED STORIES

# AGGIE CORE VALUE STUDENT SPOTLIGHT - SELFLESS SERVICE

Sarah Bermudez (Class of 2020) has demonstrated her passion for preventative care and chronic disease state management in many ways. She has started new health care projects, expanded existing health screening programs, and increased the number of student volunteers, in turn deepening the impact on her community.

Bermudez began contributing her time and talent to community service early in her pharmacy school career. One of the events she took an immediate interest in was Fiesta Patrias, an annual cultural event that brings thousands to the historical Downtown Bryan District to promote a community that values culture, education, and the arts. She has performed blood pressure and blood glucose screenings and offered the appropriate patient education based on her findings.

Her prior training as a registered dietician allows her to provide a more unique perspective when she educates her patients on disease management and healthy living. Furthermore, Bermudez can speak, read and write in Spanish. Her ability to translate and counsel patients in Spanish is a critical skill for reaching a larger population. In her second year, she teamed up with a fourth-year student and placed first in the Texas Society of Health-System

Pharmacists Clinical Skills Competition

Bermudez volunteers at HealthPoint Clinic in Bryan, Texas, a community-wide network of health care providers in Texas, serving Brazos Valley neighborhoods, since May 2017. Her primary focus has been educating patients on diabetes, hyperlipidemia, tobacco cessation, and anticoagulation. She has spent numerous hours teaching patients the appropriate utilization of insulin pens as well as self-titration of insulin. She developed a diabetes group education module and implemented that into the clinic.

As the Stroke Committee Chair for the college's Student National Pharmaceutical Association (SNPhA) chapter, Bermudez collaborated with another student organization on a unique program, "Project Downtown." In this project, students provide monthly health screenings, smoking cessation counseling, and immunization awareness in the underserved

neighborhoods of Bryan.

Bermudez's commitment to the public and to the profession of pharmacy are undeniable. She has devoted her time to making a significant difference in the lives of patients through meaningful service.



# FEATURED STORIES

# AGGIE CORE VALUE STUDENT SPOTLIGHT - LEADERSHIP

Julio Guerra (Class of 2021) values excellence in education and selflessness in service. As the vice president for the Gamma Chapter of the Rho Chi Society and the president of the Pharmacy Public Health Committee, he has been taking active health care initiatives to target communities with low-income households and low health literacy rates.

To these efforts, Guerra has led the Pharmacy Public Health Committee to initiate collaborations with two significant programs – Neighbors in Need of Services (NINOS), Inc. Head Start/Early Head Start Program and The Colonias Program.

The NINOS, Inc. Head Start/Early Head Start Program presents the following statistics from the 2,884 children (0 months to 5-years-old) who are enrolled: 29.9 percent are obese, 13.8 percent are overweight, and 89.5 percent have an income below the federal poverty line. Since there is a direct correlation between low-income household and low health literacy, Guerra and the Public Health Committee believe that educating parents is how these health disparities can be addressed. To prevent future diseases amongst these children, the Public Health Committee is working with NINOS, Inc. on educating parents about their children's health and the risk of developing diseases through blood pressure and glucose screenings, BMI measurements, and



education about the benefits of physical activity. He has also helped organize free clinics, medication counseling and healthy eating habit lessons.

Colonias are medically underserved communities, which lack in basic

services such as potable water, electricity, paved roads, proper drainage, and waste management. The Public Health Committee collaborates on The Colonias Program, which incorporates service learning through the establishment of a mobile medical clinic that offers blood pressure and glucose screening, BMI measurements, and diabetes education in these areas.

In addition to the community service hours Guerra lends to NINOS, Inc. and The Colonias Program, Guerra serves as a peer mentor for ASPIR2E (Aggie Student Pharmacists Initiative for Recruitment|Retention and Education). He tutors fellow pharmacy students and helps prepare prepharmacy students who are interested in pursuing a degree in pharmacy. Guerra was recently awarded the PM Rangel Family Endowed Scholarship in recognition of his efforts.

ABORATION CARE WEARE AGGIES! CON ABORATION CARE WEARE AGGIES!

