# SCHOOL OF PHARMACY NEVSLETER

La Pharmacie en Louisiane

FALL / WINTER 2014 VOLUME 4

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University of

LOUISIAI

at Monroe

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### ALUM'S JOURNEY TAKES HIM BACK TO SCHOOL

Dr. Shane Desselle began his collegiate journey as a sixteen-yearold who skipped his senior year of high school to start college early. During recruitment he was torn between ULM and another university, but once he visited the ULM campus, he knew it would be a perfect fit. Dr. Desselle says "I still remember that day, seeing Sugar Hall for the first time and receiving help from someone in student services who was very accommodating. Everyone was friendly. It was a great day."



Shane Desselle, (B.S. Pharm. '90), (Ph.D. PharmAdmin '96), FAPhA

By starting his college career at sixteen, Dr. Desselle's college friends were older but, he recalls, wonderful. He has great memories of parading around Monroe and hanging out in the old Sherrouse Hall. He was a student during ULM's

football championship days and says he never missed a game. When asked what he would do differently if he could go back, his reply was:

"As cliché as it sounds, I wouldn't change a thing! I didn't have four bad days while at ULM. I loved every minute of my experience. Fortunately, I learned to manage my time. I studied just enough and I played just enough. "

Whatever he did worked out well for him. After receiving his B.S. in Pharmacy and Ph.D. in Pharmacy Administration from ULM, he established his educational pursuits in various

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# ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

"Plan vigorously but be sure your plan includes the unexpected because the unexpected is inevitable."

**Dr. Shane Desselle** 

# DEAN'S MESSAGE



Benny L. Blaylock, Ph.D. Dean, College of Health and Pharmaceutical Sciences

The Fall 2014 semester was an eventful one. In October the area was hit by a tornado, resulting in damage to ULM's main campus and other Monroe/West Monroe areas. The pharmacy building was not hit and there were no injuries, but we were without power and had to cancel classes for a few days. Our Department of Basic Pharmaceutical Sciences faculty continues to be quite successful with grant acquisition and publications. Several patents have resulted from their pharmaceutical research including the first international patent for ULM. One of our students was crowned as "Miss ULM 2015," and several organizations and students brought home awards from conferences and meetings throughout the semester.

Our School has been busy. Students and faculty have participated is numerous health fairs. Several new neighborhood Walmart stores have opened in the Monroe-West Monroe metropolitan area in the past few months and Pharmacy student organizations have provided a variety of services in these new stores. Also, our students have presented proper hygiene techniques at several elementary schools in the area. St. Vincent DePaul was also a site for our students to provide medication reviews to patients in the assisted living facility.

#### ALUM'S JOURNEY TAKES HIM BACK TO SCHOOL (continued from page 1)

roles at Long Island University's Arnold & Marie Schwartz College of Pharmacy, Duquesne University's Mylan School of Pharmacy, University of Oklahoma's School of Pharmacy, and currently serves as Dean and Professor of the California Northstate University (CNU) College of Pharmacy. This is a new private institution that has grown exponentially since its inception.

Dr. Desselle has been selected for the elite Fulbright Specialist Program and is currently awaiting international assignment. He travels the country talking about his research interests, including but not limited to: pharmacy technician labor supply, pharmacists' role in migraine management, and consumer advertising of prescription medications. He also participated in pioneering a nationwide mentoring program of social and administrative pharmaceutical scientists through AACP. He describes his greatest accomplishments as earning his Ph.D. from ULM, founding his own journal titled "Research in Social and Administrative Pharmacy (RSAP,)" and becoming the Dean of Pharmacy at CNU. Dr. Desselle is very passionate about his role as Dean, sharing that he loves the extraordinary amount of responsibility he has for his students, saying, "It provides some stress, and keeps me up some nights, but there is nothing I'd rather be doing."

Dr. Desselle's ongoing success has yet to distract him from his ULM roots, and he has chosen to give back by establishing an endowed scholarship to be called The Shane P. Desselle Doctor of Pharmacy Scholarship for students pursuing a Doctor of Pharmacy (PharmD) degree. When asked what advice he would give our students, his reply was "Plan, Plan, PLAN! Plan vigorously but be sure your plan includes the unexpected because the unexpected is inevitable. You can't control the inevitable but when it does happen, you will at least be prepared to accommodate it and hopefully incorporate it into your plan. " Dr. Shane Desselle currently resides in Sacramento, California, with his wife, Debbie, and daughter, Brittney. They are all enjoying tremendously the quality of life afforded them by living in Northern California.

# FIRST DUAL PATENT BY ULM RESEARCHERS

A team of researchers from the University of Louisiana at Monroe's School of Pharmacy recently received the university's first-ever dual United States and International patent for natural Vitamin E compounds with enhanced anticancer activity.

The patent, titled "Tocotrienol Derivatives and Associated Methods," is based on compounds created by Dr. Khalid El Sayed, Professor of Medicinal and Natural Products chemistry; Dr. Paul W. Sylvester, the holder of the Pfizer Inc - B. J. Robison Professorship in Pharmacy; and alumnus Dr. Fathy Behery, a former ULM pharmacy graduate student.

"Basically, we took natural Vitamin E compounds called tocotrienols and made semi-synthetic spin-offs of these compounds that display greatly enhanced anticancer activity as compared to the natural parent compounds. This patent is very special because it was awarded as both a U.S. and International patent," said El Sayed.

"This patent is the next level direction in Vitamin E research because its chemically novel compounds showed activity in animal models, unlike most other Vitamin E members. These compounds are considered as potential new anticancer drug entities."

The Vitamin E similarities in the new patent are considered to be new chemotherapeutic chemical units for the control of breast cancer, and also appear to be very effective against several malignancies including colon cancer, melanoma, and many others.

"Most Vitamin E members act through their ability to remove or minimize oxidative stress, which later can lead to cancer," said El Sayed. "New patent compounds are not acting through this direction, but likely through a novel and unprecedented mechanism, which is currently under investigation by our groups. Our compounds were designed to modify and enhance the activity of natural Vitamin E functional groups."

This is the first international patent award for ULM. Three other anticancer patents, which were each U.S.-only patent designations, were awarded in July 2010, June 2012, and October 2012. El Sayed says that international patents have much better commercialization potential and scientific impact.

"Although the way these compounds apply their anticancer activity is not fully studied yet, these compounds showed very good safety and selectivity profiles when tested in the U.S. National Cancer Institute and Eli Lilly screening programs. The compounds showed no toxic effects on normal cells, and also showed potent and selective activity against cancer cells," said El Sayed.

Among the most important strengths of the patent is compound's ability to fight against breast cancer and several other malignancies including ovarian cancer, colon cancer, melanoma, brain cancers, and leukemia.

"This was based on data acquired in our laboratories and at the National Cancer Institute," said El Sayed. "We are very excited about this patent award because it will open several commercialization and scientific directions for Vitamin E."

"ULM's Vitamin E team, which includes Sylvester, El Sayed, and Drs. Amal Kaddoumi and Sami Nazzal, is providing a multidisciplinary model for successful research efforts, and gaining more international recognition through such accomplishments. If successfully commercialized to a major pharmaceutical company, ULM and its partner First Tech International Ltd. in Hong Kong will gain rewarding revenue."



Dr. Khalid A. El Sayed



Dr. Paul W. Sylvester



Dr. Amal Khalil Kaddoumi



Dr. Sami M. Nazzal

http://www.ulm.edu/news/2013/1217-national-competition.html

# FIDDLING FUTURE PHARMACIST TAKES THE CROWN



Brains, beauty and talent. These are all words that can be used to describe Lauren Ford. Lauren is in ULM's professional pharmacy program but on October 7, 2014, she showcased other talents and was crowned "Miss ULM 2015." In addition to winning the crown, she also won preliminary awards for evening gown, interview, talent and Miss Congeniality. Lauren has been playing the fiddle for over 12 years after getting her start through a strings program at her elementary school. According to Lauren, the talent portion is the best for her. For the pageant she wowed the crowd with her skills by playing "The Devil Went Down to Georgia."

Lauren's platform, "Character Counts," is a program that focuses on teaching children the universal traits of character and helps lay a strong ethical foundation. She became involved in the program while in elementary school and still loves speaking to young children. She looks forward to speaking at elementary schools during her reign as Miss ULM and hopes to get others involved in the program as well.

## LEARNING ABOUT ADDICTIONS AND RECOVERY

For the past several years The SOP has given several students the opportunity to attend Utah's School of Alcoholism and Other Drug Dependencies annual conference. These students share their experiences and what the opportunity meant to them:

Kelsey Clark, Kristin Lousteau, Charlotte Pastor, and Brittany Strong were selected to attend the University of Utah School of Medicine's Conference on the School of Alcoholism and Other Drug Dependencies June 15-20, 2014. This was the 63rd annual session and unfortunately it was the last session. We were not informed that



From left to right: Charlotte Pastor, Brittany Strong, Dr. Anthony Walker, Kelsey Clark and Kristin Lousteau

we would be the last people to go to this conference until the first general session. We were shocked of this news, but it allowed us to really open up to the idea of the conference and what it had to offer.

Going into this conference, we were skeptical of what to expect. We networked

with a lot of students, pharmacists, recovering pharmacists, recovering addicts, and even doctors. Aside from learning about the pathophysiology of addiction, we were able to attend many meetings: Al-anon, Narcotics Anonymous, Alcoholics Anonymous, 12 steps. These meetings involved those who attended the conference such as the students and the pharmacists. Many of the recovering pharmacists have attended this conference for decades. It was astonishing to see the impact these meetings and this conference had on each of us personally and those who continued to come back. The meetings allowed those who were recovering to stay sober, help the families of the recovering addicts, and inform the new members of the conference of the reality of the recovering process. This conference gives the health care professionals a safe place to recover from their disease with other professionals who are in the same boat. Working in the environment that tests these addicts everyday is challenging; however, the support from this conference allows these professionals to network with others who understand their situations.

Each of us have personally been affected by this disease in more ways than one. We all have our own battles, but attending this conference allowed us to open up with each other and form a support system unlike any that we have previously encountered. This conference was an emotional roller coaster for us all, but we made friendships and bonds that will last a lifetime. The impact this week had on us will stay in our hearts forever. We all see this disease in a completely different way than when we first arrived.

# APHA-ASP MAKES AN IMPACT

## AND BRINGS HOME AWARDS

Pharmacy students from the University of Louisiana at Monroe recently brought home multiple awards from the American Pharmacists Association Academy of Student Pharmacists (APhA-ASP) mid-year regional meeting (MRM), held in Austin, Texas.



These meetings are the only meetings in the country designed exclusively for student pharmacists. According to Katelyn Horn, ULM's APhA-ASP's Vice President of Communication, MRMs offer great networking, professional and leadership development, educational programming, and much more.

ULM was presented with the Chapter Challenge Award. The ULM chapter earned the award after accumulating the most points in their region. Point-earning opportunities included chapter attendance, miles traveled, and participation at social events.

"Our chapter also received the "Outstanding Development and Implementation of 'Operation Diabetes,' Award," said Horn.

"Our chapter hosted a total of 18 patient care events to enhance diabetes

provide free diabetes screenings to elementary school children, and devoted significant efforts to the overall promotion of our efforts through a partnership with a major broadcaster, which facilitated radio interviews, radio commercials in different regions of the state, and multiple morning shows. Our events were diverse as we collaborated with a major medical center, the state fair, a local nursing school, and community churches to offer services to patients in the state."

Overall, 176 student pharmacists provided 1,257 patients in Louisiana with diabetes focused health and wellness services.

During the meeting, Chapter President Drew Register and "Operation Immunization" Chair, Hannah Holbrook, hosted a roundtable discussion. Register and Holbrook's goal was to inform the other chapters in the region on how to foster partnerships with local media in order to reach more patients in the community.

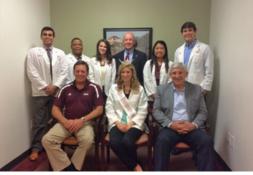


Members of ULM's chapter of APhA-ASP pose at the APhA Mid-year Regional Meeting after winning the Chapter Challenge Award



ULM APhA-ASP Chapter President, Drew Register, and "Operation Immunization" Chair, Hannah Holbrook, appear on Good Morning ArkLaMiss.

In August 2014, ULM's chapter of APhA-ASP promoted National Immunization Awareness Month on various platforms, including local television, newspapers, and the ULM website.



APhA-ASP's Operation Immunization held a flu campaign with ULM President, Dr. Nick Bruno, Head Football Coach Todd Berry, and Miss ULM and pharmacy student, Lauren Ford

# REGISTER HONORED WITH APHA LEADERSHIP AWARD



Drew Register, a Monroe native and pharmacy student at the University of Louisiana at Monroe, was recently honored with the American Pharmacists Association, Academy of Student Pharmacists (APhA-ASP) Student Leadership Award.

The award is given to only four student pharmacists in the United States in

recognition of outstanding academic achievement and leadership ability in APhA-ASP at the local, regional and national levels. Register serves as the Chapter President of the ULM APhA-ASP organization.

#### "Being recognized for striving to advance the profession I am so passionate for is truly an honor."

Drew Register, Pharm.D. Candidate 2016

"It is extremely humbling to have been chosen to receive this award," said Register. "Myself, as well as the other students in this organization provide screenings and education to our community members because that is sincerely what we love to do. Being recognized for striving to advance the profession I am so passionate for is truly an honor."

According to APhA-ASP, all nominees must be members of APhA-ASP and currently in their next to last year of graduation from an accredited school or college of pharmacy. A minimum grade point average of 2.75 (on a 4.0 scale) must be maintained.

Established in 1983, the APhA Student Leadership Awards recognize outstanding academic achievement and leadership ability in APhA-ASP at the local, regional, and national levels of students. The awards are endowed by Procter & Gamble.

Drew received nomination letters and letters of recommendation from both professors and peers.

The award consists of a \$500 scholarship and a plaque, which will be presented at the APhA-ASP Awards Ceremony during the APhA Annual Meeting and Exposition in 2015.

"Moving forward, this award only further motivates me to make an impact on the health of those within our community," Register said. "Our organization has innovative programming in the works to educate children and community members alike about diabetes, heart health, and drug abuse in the upcoming year."

Register plans to graduate from ULM with a Pharm.D. in 2016.

## SOP Spared as Tornadoes Sweep through Monroe/West Monroe

Monday, October 20, 2014, started out as a typical day for most in the Monroe/West Monroe area. Possible severe storms were in the forecast but everything was business as usual in the pharmacy building. Around 11:15 A.M. the skies began to darken and the rain began to pour. Word spread fast about possible tornado touch-downs in West Monroe and Monroe so, as the power went out, everyone gathered in the hallways of the Bienville Building.

According to the National Weather Service, an EF-2 tornado touched down around 11:16 A.M. about 8.5 miles west of the West Monroe city limits. The tornado reached maximum winds of 125 mph and a maximum width of three football fields. The tornado traveled across parts of West Monroe, before traveling across the Ouachita River and ripping through Monroe's Garden District. The NWS states that around 11:27 A.M. the tornado lifted at the intersection of Lamy Lane and Armand Street, which is within sight of the School of Pharmacy building. Power was out for a couple of days but there was no major storm damage to the building or lots and, most importantly, there were no injuries. Many businesses, homes and even ULM's main campus were not so fortunate, sustaining significant damage and the loss of power for several days.

## BPS GRADUATE STUDENTS RECEIVE AAPS AWARDS

Two graduate students from the University of Louisiana at Monroe's Department of Basic Pharmaceutical Sciences earned prestigious awards from the American Association of Pharmaceutical Scientists (AAPS), for their graduate studies work.

Hisham Qosa and Shanthi Kanthala presented their research work as poster and podium presentations at the annual AAPS annual meeting in San Diego, Calif.

Oosa received the AAPS Graduate Student Research Award in "Pharmacokinetics, Pharmacodynamics, Drug metabolism (PPDM) and clinical pharmacology and translational research (CPTR)."

Qosa won for his work titled "Kinetics modeling of amyloid- disposition by brain endothelium."

The award recognizes excellence in graduate education as well as drug metabolism, pharmacology, toxicology, and other related disciplines.

Qosa is advised by Dr. Amal Kaddoumi, associate professor of pharmaceutics. Qosa received a Ph.D. in pharmacy at ULM's fall 2014 Commencement Ceremony.

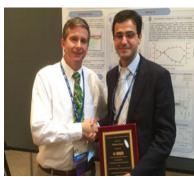
Kanthala received the AAPS Graduate Student Research Award in "Drug Discovery and Development Interface," for her work titled, "Targeting Protein-Protein Interactions of EGFRs Using Novel Peptidomimetics."

This award recognizes excellence in graduate education in the fields of drug discovery and development interface. Kanthala is advised by Dr. Seetharama Jois, associate professor of Medicinal Chemistry. Kanthala will receive a Ph.D. in pharmacy in spring 2015.

http://www.ulm.edu/news/2014/1209-qosa-kanthala.html



Kanthala (left) receives research award from Dr. Debra Luffer-Atlas (right)



*Qosa (right) receives research award from Dr. Douglas Sweet (left)* 

# 2014 PHARMACY

On Thursday, October 30, 2014, the School of Pharmacy hosted its annual Pharm.D. Career Fair. All pharmacy students participate, giving vendors a chance to meet the incoming P1 class, network with all classes, and interview P4 students graduating in May.

SOP pharmacy students are in high demand and the fair allows vendors from all areas of pharmacy practice to showcase their companies. The fair also helps familiarize students with the various career opportunities open in the pharmacy field. Being able to meet and speak informally gives vendors and students a chance to get acquainted and discuss interests, get a feel for what each is looking for, make future connections and, if both are interested, the opportunity to perform on-site interviews the following day.

The School of Pharmacy also hosts a Spring Interview Day prior to graduation in May, where companies can return and interview those P4 students who have not committed to residencies or employment, and also interview the undergraduates for possible internships or summer positions.

The ULM School of Pharmacy 2015 Career Fair will be held on Thursday, October 29, 2015. For more information or reservations contact Michelle Massey at mmassey@ulm.edu or call (318) 342-3804.

# PRE-PHARM TO PROFESSIONAL - THE PEP WAY:

First student accepted through the SOP's Provisional Entry Program shares her story:

#### By: Tailor Marcantel



I grew up in Kinder, Louisiana, a small town in Southwest Louisiana, where I was privileged to attend a high school that had all the perks of

being small and yet offered a superb education program. It was in my sophomore biology class that I first entertained the thought of becoming a pharmacist. After watching a few surgery videos, I quickly figured out that my plan to go to medical school would not be the best idea considering that I could barely stomach the sight of a scalpel cutting into flesh. I asked myself that day, "What can I do that is just as challenging as being a doctor and is still in the medical field?" My answer was a pharmacist! It seemed perfect! I started doing some research, and I almost instantly decided that pursuing a PharmD would be my new plan. Then I realized that I would have to move away from home, and I settled for a different major.

After completing a semester of dual enrollment

in the accounting program at McNeese State University, I received a letter in the mail from the ULM School of Pharmacy notifying me about the brand new Early Acceptance Program. This program was an attempt to provide exceptionally successful high school students with the opportunity to reserve a seat in their prospective pharmacy class. The opportunity was phenomenal, and I immediately began the application process for EAP. I welcomed the new challenge, and I felt as if the EAP program was a "sign" that I needed to pursue pharmacy.

In June of 2012, after graduating high school with sophomore status, I made my first trip to Monroe, not knowing that it would be the first trip of many. I still remember walking into the school of pharmacy for the first time. Excitement, disbelief, and intimidation fought for control of my mind. I completed my interview process, which mirrored the regular selection process, and in a couple of weeks, I found out that I had been accepted into EAP!

I moved to Monroe in August 2012 to begin my pre-pharmacy career that I was privileged to complete in 2 years. Being a part of EAP, later renamed the Provisional Entry Program, relieved so much stress that seemed to be the main concern of my peers. The only thing I had to worry about was keeping my GPA at the required level and attending a few obligatory meetings. The competition that is usually felt, as students fight for seats in pharmacy school, was virtually nonexistent for me; the only person I was competing with was myself! I also did not have to complete the PharmCAS application, which was a very welcomed added bonus.

If there was one thing about PEP that I wish I had taken more advantage of, it was the opportunity to meet the faculty, staff and students of the school before I became a P1. Being a part of PEP allows one access to many clubs, professional organizations, and school functions that regular pre-pharms do not have. I am sad to say that I did not attend any events or meet any faculty other than the ones involved in our PEP meetings because I was not close to any of my peers in PEP and did not feel comfortable attending alone.

Being the first student accepted into the ULM SOP through PEP is such an honor to me. I am thankful that I was afforded this opportunity, and I am looking forward to being a part of the many experiences that are encompassed in PEP. I hope to be a mentor to future PEP students that will receive their own information letters. I firmly believe that if it wer not for that letter, I would not be pursing my dreams of becoming a doctor of pharmacy.

### YOUR COMMUNITY HEALTH IS WEALTH FAIR







Baton Rouge faculty and students participated in the 5th Annual Your Community Health is Wealth Fair organized by the Louisiana Center for Health Equity on Saturday, November 22, 2014, at BREC Howell Community Park. Students Katherine McArdle, Jackie Olinde, and Courtney Cain joined Dr. Mary Lewis, Dr. Susan Sirmans, and Dr. Jennifer Smith to perform blood glucose screening and provide disease state and medication education to the health fair participants.

## JAY ROMERO, R.PH. NEW CEO FOR EPIC PHARMACIES

EPIC Pharmacies, Inc., announced the appointment of Jay Romero, R.Ph., as CEO effective January 1, 2015. Romero replaces Angelo C. Voxakis, P.D., who will retire at the end of December after 16 years of service. Romero has had a long and successful career in independent pharmacy. He has been an independent pharmacy owner for more than 10 years and a practicing pharmacist for more than 20 years. Romero currently serves on the EPIC Pharmacies board of directors and plays a key role in advocating for the interests of community pharmacy as chairman of the EPIC PharmPAC of Mississippi.

"On behalf of the board of directors, we are delighted to welcome Jay into his new role as CEO in January. Jay has a realworld understanding of the challenges facing independent pharmacists today and in the future. Those insights, along with his already proven dedication to the advancement and success of EPIC Pharmacies and its members, will be integral in leading the company," says Jeff Sherr, P.D., vice president of the EPIC Pharmacies board of directors and president of Apple Discount Drugs.

"Jay will work with the existing executive team at EPIC Pharmacies and its subsidiaries to lead the company's strategy and implement the company's

University of Louisiana at Monroe alumnus Dr. Vishal S. Vaidya was honored by the Society of Toxicology (SOT) with the 2014 SOT Leading Edge in Basic Science Award.

Vaidya, a 2003 ULM toxicology Ph.D. graduate, is an assistant professor of medicine and environmental health at Harvard Medical School and Harvard School of Public Health.

Vaidya leads the Systems Toxicology Program within the Harvard Program in Therapeutic Sciences, and directs the Laboratory of Kidney Toxicology and Regeneration at Brigham and Women's Hospital.

His laboratory uses cellular systems, mouse models, as well as human biospecimens, and applies methodologies at the interface of bioinformatics, cell & molecular biology, systems toxicology, and translational science in understanding kidney disease.

According to the SOT, the award was given in honor of discoveries that illuminate the heart of toxicology.

With this award, SOT—a professional association of more than 7,700 toxicologists—annually honors a scientist whose recent research has made influential contributions to understanding the fundamental mechanisms of the science of toxicology.

Dr. Frank D. Sistare nominated Vaidya for the award. In an interview with SOT, Sistare said, "Dr. Vaidya's work over the past five years will change the way textbooks are written and science is conducted with respect to deploying biomarkers for monitoring kidney damage."

mission," says Mark Barwig, EPIC Pharmacies executive vice president. Romero joined the EPIC Pharmacies board of directors in 2012 as a licensed pharmacist and independent pharmacy owner. He is a member of the Mississippi Pharmacists Association, Mississippi Independent Pharmacies Association, and National Community Pharmacists Association, and a graduate of the University of Louisiana at Monroe School of Pharmacy.

About EPIC Pharmacies, Inc.: Formed in 1982 and headquartered in Maryland, EPIC Pharmacies is a true co-op of community pharmacies dedicated to personal, quality service and competitive prices. By providing its members with

group buying power, provider networks, and managed care solutions essential to delivering quality patient care, EPIC Pharmacies is committed to helping independent pharmacies thrive in today's chain-saturated marketplace. For more information about EPIC Pharmacies, visit www. epicrx.com.

News release provided by Epic Pharmacies

## ULM ALUM WINS SCIENCE AWARD

qualification efforts, while demonstrating the tremendous value that such efforts can bring to drug development."

The SOT Leading Edge in Basic Science Award recognized Vaidya for his work with a protein known as kidney injury molecule-1 (Kim-1) as a biomarker for kidney injury, including developing new tools for biomarker detection.

Due, in part, to the research of Vaidya and his colleagues, Kim-1 is now an accepted biomarker by the U.S. Food & Drug Administration (FDA), European Medical Agency, and Japanese Agency for ascertaining renal injury during drug discovery tests. His work also led to the development of a bedside test for monitoring Kim-1 levels in preclinical and clinical settings.

#### About SOT:

Founded in 1961, the Society of Toxicology (SOT) is a professional and scholarly organization of more than 7,700 scientists from academic institutions, government, and industry representing the great variety of individuals who practice toxicology in the U.S. and abroad.

SOT is committed to creating a safer and healthier world by advancing the science of toxicology. The Society promotes the acquisition and utilization of knowledge in toxicology, aids in the protection of public health, and has a strong commitment to education in toxicology and to the recruitment of students and new members into the profession.

http://www.ulm.edu/news/2014/0602-vishal-vaidya.html

"His research has set a high standard for future safety biomarker

# ORGANIZATION UPDATES

#### RHO CHI HONOR SOCIETY

The 2014 -2015 Beta Beta Chapter of the Rho Chi Society was heavily involved in serving the pharmacy students and the community during the Fall semester of 2014. This small organization of newly inducted honorary students provided many tutoring services to the public and younger pharmacy students. Every year Rho Chi does a service project to give back to the community. This year we went to the Council on Aging in Monroe, LA, and also sponsored a book drive for an undeveloped school in Baton Rouge, LA. We held a professional development meeting for the School of Pharmacy to help students with interviewing skills, as well as fundraising for our organization in the form of a kickball tournament.

The semester started off with a professional development meeting featuring CVS Pharmacy's Regional Manager, Jude Olivier, Pharm.D. Dr. Olivier discussed interviewing tips and skills that he looks for as an employer, and even gave out CVS gift cards for those who participated. The students really enjoyed his time and the topic. Later that evening, the School of Pharmacy held an induction for the new members of this Society. Parents and family were invited to enjoy dinner and a professional speaker while these members were honored for their achievements. The school did a great job preparing a lovely induction for Rho Chi. September 23 - October 9, 2014, Rho Chi held a book drive at the School of Pharmacy for junior high students at an underdeveloped school in Baton Rouge. This school did not have a library for its students, and we were able to collect hundreds of books and gift cards to bookstores over the course of the week from the student body.

On October 30, 2014, Rho Chi had a kickball tournament fundraiser in conjunction with a CVS-sponsored fish fry. We had a great turnout, and the students had a lot of fun.

Rho Chi enjoys giving back to the community every year, so our service project was held at the Council on Aging. Our advisor, Dr. Michelle Zagar, works there to help with pharmaceutical services for the geriatric population. Rho Chi members had a great time serving lunch and visiting the residents.

Rho Chi is also very active in tutoring. Our students offer pathophysiology and calculations tutoring to other SOP pharmacy students during the semester, along with having students from high schools in the area reaching out to us.

Overall, the Rho Society has been very involved in the community and the school. We will continue to serve in the future and look forward to next semester.

#### AMERICAN PHARMACISTS ASSOCIATION (APHA-ASP)

APhA-ASP held over 20 patient care events this past semester. These events included multiple health fairs, such as Glenwood Health Fair and Community Pharmacy Health Fair, many elementary outreach events for example OCS and Carver elementary, walks such as the Heart Walk and Race for the Cure, seminars, a flu clinic, the chili cook off and much more.

Our chapter also attended the APhA-ASP Midyear Regional Meeting (MRM), which was held in Austin, TX. At MRM our ULM Chapter received the Chapter Challenge Award, which was achieved by having the most points out of all the chapters in our region. Points were earned in different ways such as chapter attendance, miles traveled, and participation at the social events. We had the largest chapter attendance in our region. Our chapter also received the outstanding development and implementation of Operation Diabetes Award.

Our Operation Immunization held a flu campaign with President Bruno, Head Football Coach Todd Berry, and Miss ULM, Lauren Ford.

Two more interesting things from last semester: We put on a Patient Counseling Competition as well as participated in the APhA-ASP PharmFlix Video Contest.

Last but not least, our Chapter President, Drew Register won the APhA-ASP Student Leadership Award. This award is only given to 4 student pharmacists in the entire U.S.

#### CHRISTIAN PHARMACIST FELLOWSHIP INTERNATIONAL (CPFI)

The ULM Chapter of Christian Pharmacist Fellowship International (CPFI) continues its purpose of uniting Christian students at ULM School of Pharmacy through community service, fellowship, and bible study. CPFI members participate in monthly outreach events both in our pharmacy school community, as well as the local Monroe community. This year, our bible study is David Platt's Follow Me, which discusses how God wants us to follow Him and what it takes to be a disciple of Christ. At our chapter meetings, members are encouraged to find Christ in everyday life by participating in drawings for little toys accompanied by a scripture that explains how Christ can be found in everything around us. CPFI participates monthly with food distribution at St. Andrew's food pantry in Sterlington by

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packing food, stocking shelves, distributing food, and most importantly, praying with the people who benefit from the food bank. For Halloween, students in CPFI went to the Veterans Home of Northeast Louisiana, playing BINGO and taking pictures with the residents. We also did a service-learning project at Grace Place ministries where we provided blood pressure screenings as well as information on where indigent patients can receive healthcare. For Christmas, members participated in Operation Christmas child through Grace Place Ministries, creating several boxes for children in the community. Fellowship is also important to CPFI. In the fall, CPFI hosted a movie night, showing God's Not Dead to students and invited guests. Overall, the mission of serving Christ and others is being shared throughout the ULM School of Pharmacy campus and the local community.

#### KAPPA EPSILON

Kappa Epsilon's Alpha Epsilon chapter at the ULM School of Pharmacy has participated in many community service projects throughout the Fall 2014 semester. At the beginning of every school year, Kappa Epsilon coordinates with our brother fraternity, Phi Delta Chi, in a social at Forsythe Park in Monroe. Our brothers barbeque for us, we bring a pot luck, and both fraternities socialize and play volleyball, football, and washers. Getting to know our brother fraternity as well as working with them throughout the semester is key to adequately servicing our community each semester. In addition, PDC hosted pharmacy tailgates for every home football game. This semester, KE provided food and games for the pharmacy students as well as the PDC

guys. We also planned a social with PDC that involved dressing up at a local establishment where we could dance and enjoy each other's company. Also, KE intramurals as well as PDC/ KE Co-Ed intramurals teams won the volleyball championships and made it to the playoffs in football.

Every year, the members of KE attend the Susan G. Komen race for the cure in Monroe to support our chapter charity. Members dress up, volunteer, race, and even educate the runners and families on breast cancer awareness as well as other women's health topics. We also raised money for Susan G. Komen by selling pink T-shirts at the pharmacy school. Also, KE invested in a self-breast exam model to use in future health fairs and activities to enhance our ability to educate the public properly on how to do a self-breast exam. In addition, KE participated in a health fair at King Solomon's church and educated its members on how to properly conduct a self-breast exam. Lastly, KE hosted its annual tacky Christmas party to celebrate the season and the end of the semester.

One achievement to note is the recent crowning of our own KE member, Lauren Ford, as Miss ULM as well as a member of homecoming court. Lastly, KE started off the spring semester with the annual trip to Lake D'Arbonne for a weekend to allow us to bond and think of ideas to continue to provide patient care and enhance women in pharmacy.

#### NATIONAL COMMUNITY PHARMACISTS ASSC./LOUISIANA INDEPENDENT PHARMACISTS ASSC. (NCPA/LIPA)A

The fall semester was very eventful for the NCPA/LIPA student chapter. Following this year's theme "Like a Boss...Be a B-O-S-S": Business-Ownership-Southern-Style, we invited speakers with business and pharmacy backgrounds to provide a broader perspective regarding ownership. They explained different aspects of business development, personal finance and pharmacy practice. Pharmacist, Dr. LeAnn Boyd from Causey's Pharmacy discussed aspects of growing a business, managed care and residency. Dr. Lesa Lawrence, former ULM Pharmacy faculty member, focused on the personal aspects of discovering your leadership style and developing a business plan. Ms. Stephanie Arvie, a banker form La Capitol Credit Union, discussed the importance of maintaining order in our personal finances.

Our initiative this fall semester focused on the elderly and Alzheimer's disease awareness. We were able to take our knowledge from the classroom to the community by conducting a brown bag medication review event at Francis Towers Retirement Community in Monroe. Residents were informed about their medications and were left with a concise medication list which could be easily referenced in case of emergency. Our members, along with Dr. Amal Kaddoumi, ULM pharmacy faculty member, volunteered during the Alzheimer's Walk to Remember event in November. Also, student members Courtney Cain (P3) and Ashley Sanders (P4) attended the NCPA Convention in Austin, Texas. They returned inspired and passionate about independent pharmacy and student involvement. The experience

sparked Ashley to take steps to purse a community pharmacy residency; meanwhile, more students are interested in the student business plan competition. We look forward to great things ahead this spring!



Dr. Lesa Lawrence spoke to NCPA/LIPA members about leadership and developing a business plan

# ULM HOMECOMING 2014 PHARMACY WEEKEND ACTIVITIES































# PHARMACY PHOTO FLASHBACKS











Congratulations to Dr. Josiah Land (PharmD '13) who has been hired by Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center in New York. Dr. Land is completing his PGY2 pharmacy oncology residency with them and will be starting clinical pharmacy services for the thoracic medical oncology service.

Congratulations to Dr. Jessica Helmer Brady (Pharm.D. '07), on the birth of her second daughter, Helen Rose, born June 24, 2014. Congratulations Dr. Savannah Posey

# MARK YOUR CALENDARS

May 21, 2015:	LSHP Annual Meeting
June 3, 2015:	CPFI Retreat & Convention
July 24, 2015:	SNPhA NPhA National Convention
October 2, 2015:	ULM SOP Preceptor Conference
October 2, 2015:	Pharmacy Alumni Event
October 3, 2015:	Pharmacy Super Tailgate Event
October 3, 2015:	ULM Homecoming
October 29, 2015:	ULM SOP Pharm.D. Career Fair
October 30, 2015:	SOP Fall Career Interview Day

(Pharm.D. '12), on the birth of her son, Asa Houston, born August 21, 2014.

Welcome Dr. Stephen Hill, Clinical Assistant Professor. Dr. Hill is the newest member of the SOP faculty.

#### Retirements:

Dr. Roy Parish Professor 15 yrs. with ULM

Dr. Jospeh Feldhaus Professor 25 yrs. with ULM

## Let us hear from you!

Add your alumni news to our next newsletter. Contact: Michelle Massey School of Pharmacy Student Affairs Coordinator Email: mmassey@ulm.edu Phone: (318) 342-3804

#### ULM ALUMNI EVENTS:

Greater Houston Area Chapter Event Event Date-Time: Sat., 07/18/2015 (Al day)

For more information see: http://www. ulm.edu/alumni/events/content/greaterhouston-area-chapter-event

For more information on these events, or to look for other upcoming ULM alumni events, please go to: http://www.ulm. edu/alumni/events/upcoming.



## **ULM HOMECOMING 2015**

#### SCHOOL OF PHARMACY WEEKEND EVENTS

PRECEPTOR CONFERENCE: PHARMACY ALUMNI EVENT: PHARMACY SUPER TAILGATE: Friday, October 2, 2015 Friday, October 2, 2015 Saturday, October 3, 2015

Watch for more Warhawk Homecoming events at: http://www.ulm.edu/homecoming/

## ULM SCHOOL OF PHARMACY RECENT PUBLICATIONS

" $\delta$ -Tocotrienol oxazine derivative antagonizes mammary tumor cell compensatory response to CoCl2-induced hypoxia." Ananthula S, Parajuli P, Behery FA, Alayoubi AY, Nazzal S, El Sayed K, Sylvester PW. *Biomed Res Int.* 2014;2014:285752. doi: 10.1155/2014/285752. Epub 2014 Jul 22.

"Enhanced solubility and oral bioavailability of -tocotrienol using a self-emulsifying drug delivery system (SEDDS)." Alqahtani S, Alayoubi A, Nazzal S, Sylvester PW, Kaddoumi A. *Lipids*. 2014 Aug;49(8):819-29. doi: 10.1007/s11745-014-3923-6. Epub 2014 Jun 17.

"Oxazine derivatives of - and -tocotrienol display enhanced anticancer activity in vivo." Ananthula S, Parajuli P, Behery FA, Alayoubi AY, El Sayed KA, Nazzal S, Sylvester PW. *Anticancer Res.* 2014 Jun;34(6):2715-26.

"Entrapment into nanoemulsions potentiates the anticancer activity of tocotrienols against the highly malignant (+SA) mouse mammary epithelial cells." Alayoubi A, Ayoub NM, Malaviya A, Sylvester PW, Nazzal S. *J Nanosci Nanotechnol*. 2014 May;14(5): 4002-5.

"Synergistic Antiproliferative Effects of Combined -Tocotrienol and PPAR Antagonist Treatment Are Mediated through PPAR -Independent Mechanisms in Breast Cancer Cells." Malaviya A, Sylvester PW. *PPAR Res.* 2014;2014:439146. doi: 10.1155/2014/439146. Epub 2014 Mar 4.

"Epidemiology and comorbidities of polycystic ovary syndrome in an indigent population." Sirmans SM, Parish RC, Blake S, Wang X. *J Investig Med*. 2014 Aug;62(6):868-74. doi: 10.1097/01.JIM.0000446834.90599.5d.

"Peptides and peptidomimetics as immunomodulators." Gokhale AS, Satyanarayanajois S. *Immunotherapy*. 2014 Jun;6(6):755-74. doi: 10.2217/imt.14.37.

"Structure-activity relationships of peptidomimetics that inhibit PPI of HER2-HER3." Kanthala S, Gauthier T, Satyanarayanajois S. *Biopolymers*. 2014 Jun;101(6):693-702. doi: 10.1002/bip.22441.

"Inpatient management of acute alcohol withdrawal syndrome." Perry EC. CNS Drugs. 2014 May;28(5):401-10. doi: 10.1007/s40263-014-0163-5.

"A Concise Review of Colloids for Fluid Resuscitation in Severe Sepsis and Septic Shock." Austin J, Treavor T. Riley, Chelsea K. Sanchez, Mary Gauthier-Lewis, Jessica L. Johnson. *Pharmacol Ther.* 2014; 2 (3).5

"Future Treatments for Chronic Hep C Patients." Evans, JD. Specialty Pharma Journal July (3rd Quarter/Summer)

To have your publications listed in future editions, email mmassey@ulm.edu

ULM SCHOOL OF PHARMACY

FALL/WINTER 2014

Le Pharmacie en Louisiane

## SUPPORT YOUR SCHOOL OF PHARMACY

The ULM School of Pharmacy is Louisiana's only state-supported pharmacy school. Alumni support and involvement are critical as we plan exciting cutting edge educational experiences for our students and faculty.

Join us, so that through your direct donations we can provide the absolute best pharmacists in the nation. Our current students stand on the foundation of excellence established by you, our alums. Maintenance of that established excellence is not our goal, we want to grow and expand it. With your involvement, we can do that.

# YOUR SUPPORT MAKES A DIFFERENCE

There are several ways to give to the ULM School of Pharmacy. They include:

#### ANNUAL GIVING

- DUFILHO SOCIETY
- Annual unrestricted gifts for the dean's priorities
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Check: payable to ULM Foundation/Pharmacy (please specify Dufilho Society or specific department) mail to Dr. Benny L. Blaylock, Dean, 1800 Bienville Dr., Monroe, LA 71201 Online: ulm.edu/pharmacy/alumni.html

#### MAJOR GIFTS

• NAMING OPPORTUNITIES

Endowments such as chairs and professorships, as well as facilities (building, college, classrooms, labs)

#### ESTATE GIFTS

- BEQUESTS
- CHARITABLE GIFT ANNUITIES
- CHARITABLE TRUSTS

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION OR QUESTIONS, CONTACT: Dr. Benny L. Blaylock, Dean 318.342.1600 • blaylock@ulm.edu

## ulm.edu/pharmacy

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#### ULM ALUMNI ASSOCIATION PHARMACY CHAPTER Are you a member?



Did you know that the ULM School of Pharmacy has an alumni chapter?

If you are not already a member, be sure to join. Reconnect with old classmates and network with other SOP graduates.

To become a member:

- 1. Go to http://www.ulm.edu/alumni
- 2. Select "Alumni Chapters"
- 3. Select "Pharmacy"

Chapter Contact / Contact Information:

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