



SWOSU College of Pharmacy



August 2021 Updates

Faculty/Staff News

- Dr. Melanie Claborn – received tenure and promotion to Associate Professor effective August 2021.
- Dr. Debra Stevens – received tenure and promotion to Associate Professor effective August 2021.
- Dr. Horrick Sharma – receive tenured and promotion to Associate Professor effective August 2021.
- AACP Teacher of the Year for 2021 for Pharmacy Practice is Dr. Krista Brooks and for Pharmaceutical Sciences is Dr. Steve Drinnon
- Dr. Tom Davis will be retiring December 2021.

Program News

- Jerry and Margaret Hodge of Amarillo, Texas donated \$5 million (SWOSU Pharmacy Graduate, 1965). This generous donation will enable SWOSU to take the next steps toward construction of a state-of-the-art facility dedicated to rural healthcare education/services and pharmacy patient care, named in honor of the Hodges as the “Jerry and Margaret Hodge Pharmacy and Rural Health Center”. Additionally, \$500,000 of the gift will be used to establish a pharmacy scholarship endowment, to be matched by raising an equal amount to reach the \$1 million endowment level.
- Southwestern Oklahoma State University’s (SWOSU) College of Pharmacy in Weatherford and Oklahoma State University Center for Health Sciences (OSU-CHS) in Tulsa have signed a memorandum of understanding (MOU) to cooperate to serve students and the citizens of Oklahoma through expansion of rural healthcare education. SWOSU and OSU-CHS will explore options for a dual-degree partnership involving SWOSU’s Doctor of Pharmacy (Pharm.D.) program and the OSU-CHS Physician Assistant (P.A.) program.
- Beginning in January 2021 and running through April, students, faculty, and staff from both the College of Pharmacy and nursing school administered shots at vaccination clinics held by the SWOSU College of Pharmacy and Custer County Health Department hosted at the Pioneer Event Center on campus. Over 16,000 vaccines were given during these clinics. Students, faculty, and administration from all over campus also volunteered at the vaccination clinics. SWOSU College of Pharmacy Rural Health Program was also approved as a storage site for vaccine distribution in Western Oklahoma.
- Our NAPLEX & MPJE results for 2020 were good.
 1. NAPLEX – SWOSU first time takers pass rate – 90.7%
National average – 88.4%
 2. MPJE – SWOSU first time takers pass rate – 94.7%
National average – 84.6%
- The Rural Health Center has been awarded a federal sub-grant for FY21 by the Oklahoma State Department of Health from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in the amount of \$215,000. Dr. Aimee Henderson is the principal investigator of the program to increase MTM, Diabetes, and Heart disease education as well as promote disease state management and academic detailing.
- Rural Health has also applied for grants to create Telehealth service programs for rural public schools and to develop RPM partnerships in rural communities.

- In January 2021, SWOSU College of Pharmacy and its Rural Health Center provided APhA Certified Immunization Skills Training for pharmacists to help with administering the Coronavirus vaccine.
- On January 19, the College of Pharmacy held the annual Professionalism Banquet VIRTUALLY. Guest speakers Keevie Chinsethagid Ridener with the Oklahoma State Board of Pharmacy and Travis Wolff with MedWorld Pharmacy in Sapulpa delivered inspiring messages for our students.
- Two new scholarships have been established for Southwestern Oklahoma State University pharmacy students in Weatherford because of generous gifts made by Bryan and Deanne Hammons of Kennedale (TX) and Vonya Streetz of Oklahoma City.
- Southwestern Oklahoma State University's Rural Health Center (RHC) has achieved the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) full recognition for the university's Diabetes Prevention Program on the Weatherford campus.
- This is the seventh year for SWOSU students to complete the dual degrees of the Doctor of Pharmacy and the Masters of Business Administration. Eleven students graduated in May 2021, having completed the additional 33 credit hours of course work with their PharmD.
- Ten students in the Nelson Sims Leadership, Innovation, and Quality Outcomes degree specialization program graduated in May 2021. They are recognized as Sims Scholars.
- For 2021-22, fifteen COP students matched with a PGY1 program and three SWOSU COP graduates matched with a PGY2 program.
- The SWOSU-Walgreens Co. PGY1 Community Pharmacy Residency program matched with Dr. Damini Patel, graduate of the University of Tennessee College of Pharmacy.
- OSU Medical Center-SWOSU PGY2 Internal Medicine Pharmacy Residency matched with Dr. Zachary Dunn, who is currently completing his PGY1 residency at OSU Medical Center in Tulsa and is a graduate of OU College of Pharmacy.
- The SWOSU White Coat Ceremony 2021 was conducted in March with only P-3 students attending and family & friends able to watch via live streaming. Scholarships for COP students totaling \$185,000 were announced in April 2021.

Research News/Publications

- **Sharma, H.**; Mondal, S. "Functionalized Graphene Oxide for Chemotherapeutic Drug Delivery and Cancer Treatment: A Promising Material in Nanomedicine." *Int. J. Mol. Sci.* 2020, 21(17), 6280; <https://doi.org/10.3390/ijms21176280>
- **Sharma H.**, Leffler, M and Khan, F. Antidepressant Drugs in the series title Medicinal Chemistry for Pharmacy Students, Vol. 2, Medicinal Chemistry of Drugs Affecting the Nervous System, Pp. 163-206, 2020. (Book Chapter published in Sep 2020)
- Calnan L, Holliday L, Ogle K, **Johnson JL**. How to Differentiate Between Varying Types of Diabetes in Adult Patients. *Oklahoma State Medical Proceedings (OSMP)* 2020;4(1): published online at <http://www.okstatemedicalproceedings.com/index.php/OSMP/article/view/134>. Published July 6, 2020.
- O'Hare C*, Rahman T*, **Williams NT**. Treatment of chronic refractory cough in adults: focus on neuromodulators and other therapeutic modalities. *Journal of Pharmacy Technology*. 2020; 36(6):251-64. doi:10.1177/8755122520954866 (*Denotes student involved with article)

Student Related News

- In May 2021, Jackson Beach, P2 student, created a YouTube tutorial on how to add a legislation tracker to your computer that is featured on the NCPA website.
- Brianna Hassett, May 2021 graduate, and Dr. Darrell Willyard, PharmD (Oklahoma Cancer Specialists and Research Institute) authored an article in September 2020...THE DIR LABYRINTH: HOW CONFLICTING ADHERENCE RULES HAMPER MID CLINICS. It was recently published in Oncolytics Today, which is a publication of the National Community Oncology Dispensing Association (NCODA) professional organization.

- In September 2020, SWOSU College of Pharmacy student, Brianna Kirchgessner, was named the recipient of the NCPA Foundation Presidential Scholarship. This national scholarship is awarded to a pharmacy student who has an interest in independent pharmacy and has also demonstrated great leadership qualities and accomplishments.
- In September 2020, Benjamin Sandecki (December 2020 graduate) of Tahlequah (Sequoyah) participated in the Great Cycle Challenge to help raise money for the Children's Cancer Research Fund. His efforts led to him being featured on a New York City Times Square billboard.
- In August 2020, the SWOSU chapter (Alpha Omega) of Phi Delta Chi was named the Most Improved Collegiate Chapter for the 2019-2020 school year. Brothers from this co-ed pharmacy leadership fraternity worked hard on activities and reports to improve from 74th place to 36th in the nation.
- Caitlin Seigrist, a P1.1 COP student, was chosen to be one of the keynote speakers at the Texas Rural Education Association virtual state conference held in July 2020.

Admission Classes for 2020 & 2021

For 2020, 65 accepted from 89 qualified applicants.

For 2021, 73 accepted from 104 qualified applicants.

Calendar of Upcoming Events...

- Fall Break scheduled for October 14-15
- October 30 – Homecoming at SWOSU
- Final exams resume December 6-10
- December 10 – Fall Semester ends