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Southwestern Oklahoma State University, "2022 Edition" (2022). *The Sig*. 34.  
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# THE SIG

## NEWSLETTER

Southwestern Oklahoma State University<sup>TM</sup> College of Pharmacy Weatherford, Oklahoma

### 2022 Edition



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# LETTER FROM THE INTERIM DEAN



## Greetings from the College of Pharmacy!

One of the most defining qualities of the SWOSU College of Pharmacy Community is a spirit of service. There are countless instances in which our students, faculty, staff, preceptors, and alumni have gone above and beyond to serve others. Examples include serving hundreds at Remote Area Medical clinics on campus, administering vaccines to thousands of Oklahomans, providing prescriptions and health screening services at free, charitable clinics in Weatherford and Oklahoma City, volunteering for medical missions in Panama, providing diabetes education and prevention services to the community, and student organizations raising funds for charitable causes such as the Susan Komen Breast Cancer Foundation, St. Jude Children's Hospital, the Agape Free Clinic, and many others.



Our College of Pharmacy Community is also well known for its service to the profession. For a small, regional College of Pharmacy in Western Oklahoma, we continue to have a big presence at state, regional, and national meetings. Oklahoma Legislative Day, OPhA and OSHP meetings, APhA-ASP Midyear Regionals, NCPA national meetings, Rural Health conferences, ASHP Midyear National Clinical Skills Competitions, APhA-ASP National Patient Counseling Competitions, and association internships at the NCPA national headquarters are just some of the many examples. Our faculty and students are also committed to supporting and advancing the profession by providing training and certification for pharmacists in the areas of immunization administration, point-of-care-testing, and diabetes education and prevention. We continue to hear about the impressive turnout of our student pharmacists at events, as well as their professionalism and involvement. We are blessed with students, faculty, staff, preceptors, and alumni who contribute their time and talents despite busy workloads.

The profession of pharmacy needs our spirit of service more than ever. Across the nation, pharmacy school applications and admissions have been declining for years. The reasons for this decline are many but one thing is clear: we need to get young people interested in our profession again. Increasing awareness of the profession and encouraging middle school, high school, and college students to consider pharmacy are priorities. The College of Pharmacy is committed to increasing engagement with young people. Events such as the annual SAGE STEAM Science and Technology Summer Camp for middle schoolers and the PharmCORP Pharmacy Boot Camp for high schoolers are led by COP faculty and students. Faculty and students are formulating strategies to visit high schools and reach out to regional colleges and universities, as well as biomedical sciences technology programs. The university is coordinating the development of a digital campaign to promote the profession and the College of Pharmacy. We are thankful to our many alumni who continue to encourage young people to consider pharmacy by providing shadowing and job opportunities while in high school or college. We also greatly appreciate alumni guiding students to choose SWOSU as one of the best and affordable programs for both pre-pharmacy and professional pharmacy education.

Pharmacy is a wonderful profession with many ways to serve and care for others! Let us call on our spirit of service to spark a renewed interest in pharmacy as a dynamic and rewarding career.

With kindest regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Les Ramos".

Les Ramos, Ph.D., R.Ph.  
Interim Dean



**Shortly prior to the printing of this edition, Dr. Ramos was named Dean of the College of Pharmacy.**

# COLLEGE OF PHARMACY

## PROGRAM NEWS



### Accreditation Update

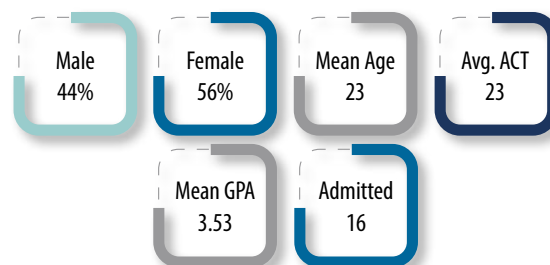
In March 2022, the SWOSU College of Pharmacy (COP) underwent accreditation. The Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education (ACPE) team performed a comprehensive review of the SWOSU COP program. We are pleased to announce that ACPE found our program in compliance with each accreditation standard. The SWOSU COP was granted the maximum eight-year full accreditation status by ACPE!

### 2022 Admissions

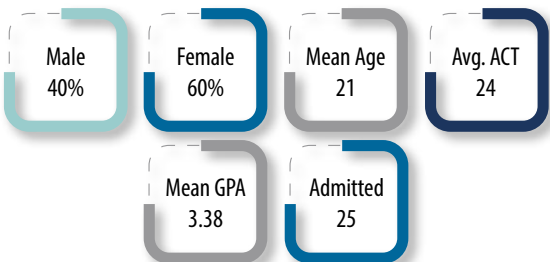
The SWOSU COP admitted forty-one students in 2022.



#### Spring Class 2022



#### Fall Class 2022



# FACULTY & STAFF NEWS



The American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy (AACP) Teachers of the Year for 2022 were Dr. Debra Stevens from Pharmacy Practice and Dr. Stephen Drinnon from Pharmaceutical Sciences.



The Dr. H.F. Timmons Award was presented to Dr. Krista Brooks at the SWOSU COP Homecoming in October. The award recognizes a SWOSU COP faculty, staff, or administration member who has demonstrated extraordinary dedication and service to SWOSU, the COP, the Pharmacy Alumni Association, and/or the Community.



The SWOSU Bernhardt Academic Excellence Award for 2022 was awarded to Dr. Brooke Gildon. She has also been selected to serve as Region VI Councilor for the National Rho Chi Executive Council.



Dr. Jeremy Johnson received two awards at the Oklahoma Society of Health-System Pharmacists (OSHP) Annual Meeting in April – the OSHP Continuing Excellence Award and the OSHP Health-System Pharmacist of the Year Award.







Dr. Randy Curry was selected to serve on the Oklahoma State Board of Pharmacy (OSBP) with a start date in July 2022. He was sworn in at the September 2022 board meeting in Oklahoma City. He will serve a five-year term.

The following faculty members received Faculty Service Awards in August 2022:

- 10 years – Dr. Randy Curry, Dr. Meri Hix, and Dr. Leanne Showman
- 15 years – Dr. Tami Moser
- 20 years – Dr. Lisa Appeddu and Dr. Elizabeth Poorman

Dr. Les Ramos has been selected to serve as Interim Dean of the COP. He will serve as Interim Dean while the university conducts a search for a new dean. Dr. Ramos received a BA in Biology from St. Mary's College of Maryland, and a BS in Pharmacy and Ph.D. in Pharmacology from the University of Maryland. He completed a postdoctoral fellowship in vascular biology at the University of Virginia Health Sciences Center. Dr. Ramos came to SWOSU in 1998 as an Assistant Professor teaching the physiology, pathophysiology, and pharmacology sequence. He was promoted to Associate Professor and Professor in 2003 and 2008, respectively. He previously served as Chair of the Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences and has served as Associate Dean since 2016. He served in the Faculty Senate for thirteen years, including a term as Faculty Senate President. He has served on many university and college committees, including the University General Education Committee, Faculty University Promotion and Tenure Review Committee, COP Admissions Committee, and COP Accreditation Self-Study Committees. He currently serves as one of the COP's Strategic Planning Coordinators.



Dr. Wael Eldahshan joined the Pharmaceutical Sciences faculty in July 2022 as an Assistant Professor of Pharmacology and Pathophysiology. He was a Postdoctoral Research Fellow at the Medical College of Georgia at Augusta University prior to moving to SWOSU. Dr. Eldahshan received his PhD in Clinical and Experimental Therapeutics from The University of Georgia.

Dr. Sarah Yount joined the Pharmaceutical Sciences faculty in the fall of 2022 as an Assistant Professor teaching Jurisprudence and Health Issues. She has been a member of the COP family since 2015 serving as a Clinical Pharmacist for the Rural Health Center.



Cable Jacobsen joined the SWOSU COP Alumni & Development Office in January 2022 as an administrative assistant.

# DR. RALPH

## RETIREMENT



Dr. David Ralph retired in July 2022 and leaves an astounding legacy behind. He received his BS in Pharmacy and MBA from SWOSU and his Ph.D. from the University of Oklahoma. He began his career at SWOSU in 1975 as an instructor in Pharmacy Administration and Director of Continuing Education. He served in many leadership roles within the COP over the following forty-seven years - Assistant Dean for Student and Alumni Affairs from 1985 to 2000; Associate Dean from 2000 to 2016; and Dean from 2016 until his retirement in July 2022. Dr. Ralph is the first SWOSU pharmacy graduate to become the college's dean.

Under Dean Ralph's guidance, the COP met state and regional workforce needs for pharmacists while also providing critical research and services. He was instrumental in the creation and expansion of the Center for Rural Health within the COP. He served in leadership positions in AACP, the Southwestern Pharmacy Alumni Foundation, the Southwestern Pharmacy Alumni Association, and the Oklahoma Pharmacists Association (OPhA).

"It has been such a rewarding career - working with outstanding faculty and staff who are dedicated to educating future pharmacists; witnessing thousands of students develop into mature, outstanding professionals; and developing relationships with alumni who exemplify the highest standards of pharmaceutical care. I am proud to have had the opportunity to contribute to the legacy that is SWOSU College of Pharmacy. One of my roles was as caretaker of the program so many

before me had developed. However, maintaining excellence also meant being creative and adjusting to the ever-changing practice of pharmacy. I leave a program that has a strong base (proven by the most recent accreditation report) and has the team in place to continue positively into the future. Adding in my student years, two-thirds of my life has been at SWOSU. Retirement was not a simple decision, but I step aside with no regrets. This has been a wonderful adventure and I look forward to additional family time and supporting the College of Pharmacy from the outside." Dr. David Ralph



# DR. VAN DUSEN

## RETIREMENT



Dr. Virgil Van Dusen retired in July 2022 after nearly thirty-five years of dedicated service to SWOSU, the COP, the state of Oklahoma, and the Weatherford community.

Dr. Van Dusen earned his BS in Pharmacy degree from SWOSU in 1978 and his Juris Doctor degree from the University of Tulsa in 1982. He began his career with SWOSU in 1989 as an Assistant Professor of Pharmacy Practice at his practice site at Saint Francis Hospital in Tulsa. He joined the Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences in 1994 and taught a variety of courses, including Jurisprudence and Ethics, Health Issues I, Pharmaceutics IV, Current Topics in Pharmacy Administration, and in all Pharmaceutical Care Labs.

Dr. Van Dusen received many honors and awards during his career. In 2006, he was the recipient of the Bernhardt Academic Excellence Award at SWOSU. He was named the 2017 National Student Chapter Advisor of the Year for Christian Pharmacists Fellowship International. In both 1997 and 2015, he was selected by senior pharmacy students as the AACP Teacher of the Year for Pharmaceutical Sciences.

Dr. Van Dusen served on numerous University and College committees. He was an advisor for several different student organizations, including National Community Pharmacists Association (NCPA), Fellowship of Christian Pharmacists (FCP), American Association of Health-System Pharmacists (ASHP), and Kappa Epsilon fraternity (KE). He also served

the Weatherford community through his work at the Agape Clinic, his local church, and as a member and President of the Weatherford Board of Education. He gave numerous presentations all over the nation and taught countless continuing education seminars.

"It has been a pleasure and honor for me to work with great staff, faculty, and administrators and teach such excellent students over the past thirty plus years. I wish only the best for the College of Pharmacy in the future." Dr. Virgil Van Dusen





# FACULTY/STUDENT RESEARCH, PUBLICATIONS, AND PRESENTATIONS



(**Faculty names are bolded**, \* denotes mentored student; ^ denotes mentored resident)

**Stockton S.** Stoklosa & Ansel's Pharmaceutical Calculations, 16th ed. Philadelphia, PA: Wolters Kluwer Inc., 2022.

**Stockton S.** Calculations. International Journal of Pharmaceutical Compounding, 2022; 26 (1, 2, 3).

Santa-Pinter L\*, Thomas N\*, Bell C\*, **Drinnon S, Drinnon S, Appeddu L.** Measures of wellness in student pharmacists after conducting mindfulness activities. (abstract) JAPhA. 2022;62(4):1034-1035.

**Brooks KG, Callen ED.** Outpatient treatment options for acute COVID-19. US Pharmacist, 2022;47(4):18-21.

Matli MC\*, Wilson AB\*, Rappsilber LM^, Sheffield F\*, Farlow M\*, **Johnson JL.** The first interchangeable biosimilar insulin: Insulin glargine-yfgn. Journal of Diabetes Science and Technology. Published Online Ahead of Print December 31, 2021. <https://doi.org/10.1177/19322968211067511>.

Barrett A\*, Pitts MA\*, Myers EM\*, **Johnson JL.** Probable dapagliflozin-associated acute pancreatitis. Diabetes Spectrum 2022;35(2):232–238. Accepted September 29, 2021. Published Online Ahead of Print December 2021.

Patel D^, **Williams NT, Appeddu LA.** Analyzing Oklahoma pharmacist perceptions on CLIA-waived rapid diagnostic testing programs for select respiratory infections. (abstract) Journal of the American Pharmacists Association 2022;62(4):1056.

Han Y, Iyamu I, Clutter M, Mishra R, Lyman K, Zhou C, Michailidis I, Xia M, **Sharma H**, Luan C-H, Schiltz G, Chetkovich D. Discovery of a small-molecule inhibitor of the TRIP8b–HCN interaction with efficacy in neurons. Journal of Biological Chemistry, 2022; 298 (7).

Sa Han Y, Iyamu ID, Clutter MR, Mishra RK, Lyman KA, Zhou C, Michailidis I, Xia MY, **Sharma H**, Luan CH, Schiltz GE, Chetkovich DM. Discovery of a small-molecule inhibitor of the TRIP8b-HCN interaction with efficacy in neurons. J Biol Chem. 2022 Jul;298(7):102069. doi: 10.1016/j.jbc.2022.102069. Epub 2022 May 24. PMID: 35623388; PMCID: PMC9243175.

Fanshier AV\*, Crews BK\*, Garret MC\*, **Johnson JL.** Tirzepatide: A Novel GIP/GLP-1 Receptor Agonist for the Treatment of Type 2 Diabetes – the First Twincretin. Clinical Diabetes. In Press (accepted 11/29/22).

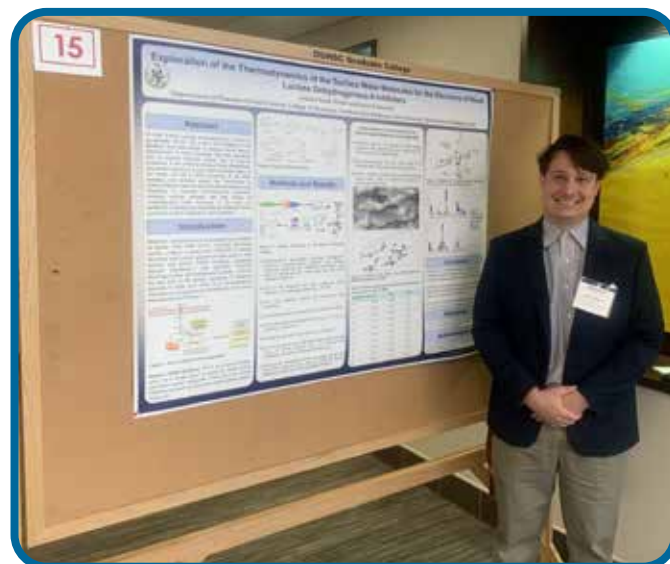
Rappsilber LM^, **Johnson JL**, Murray TL, Martin EE, Wilkett DM. Evaluating Medication Optimization in Heart Failure: A Pharmacist's Perspective. Submitted to Oklahoma State Medical Proceedings (OSMP) 6/28/22. Accepted by OSMP 8-29-22. In Press.

Fanshier A\*, Willyard D. New PBM Fees putting the "GER" in DanGER for Specialty Pharmacies. Evidence-Based Oncology (EBO). In Press (11/29/2022).

**Sharma, H.**; Mondal, S.; Nguyen, A.\*; Bartlett, S.\*; Chastain, R. L.; Sharma, P.; Ihnat, A.M. Identification of Novel Potent Lactate Dehydrogenase-A Inhibitors Targeting Cancer Metabolism. Poster presentation at the Cancer and Metabolism Symposium, University of Kentucky, July 2022.

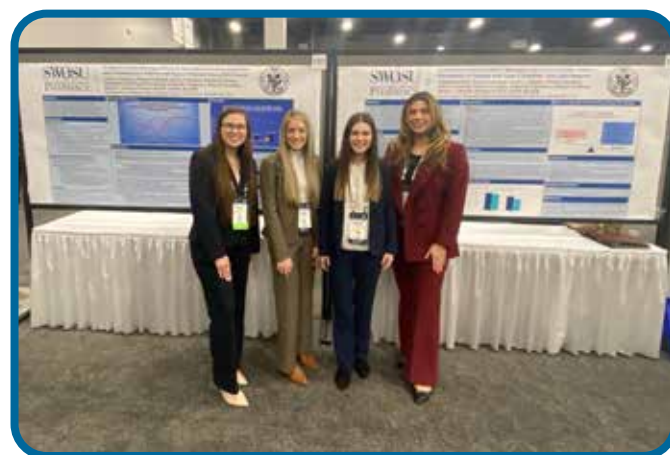


Santa-Pinter, L.\*; **Sharma, H.** Exploration of the Thermodynamics of the Surface Water Molecules for the Discovery of Novel Lactate Dehydrogenase-A Inhibitors. Poster presentation at the 2022 END2Cancer: Emerging Nanotechnology and Drug Delivery Applications for Cancer Conference, Oklahoma City, Dec 2022. (student pictured in top right photo).



Boecker B\*, Fanshier A\*, Parli G\*, **Johnson JL.** Controversy Over Possible GLP-1 Receptor Agonist-Associated Diabetic Retinopathy. Poster presented at 2022 ASHP Midyear Clinical Meeting. Las Vegas, NV. December 2022.

Chastain L\*, Fanshier A\*, Parli G\*, Thibodeaux A\*, **Johnson JL.** Evidence for the Somogyi Effect: A Case Demonstrating Diagnosis and Treatment in a Patient with Type 2 Diabetes Using NPH Insulin. Poster presented at 2022 ASHP Midyear Clinical Meeting. Las Vegas, NV. December 2022.



Parli G\*, Chastain L\*, Fanshier A\*, Thibodeaux A\*, **Johnson JL.** Tolerable Conversions from one GLP-1 Receptor Agonist to Another without Re-titration in Patients with Type 2 Diabetes: Two Case Reports. Poster presented at 2022 ASHP Midyear Clinical Meeting (students pictured bottom right photo) Las Vegas, NV. December 2022.



*Please Share...*

Information about the SWOSU College of Pharmacy, including the Admission process and dates for *Spring and Fall*, Cost (see Out-of-State Tuition Waiver), and More:

**[www.swosu.edu/pharmacy](http://www.swosu.edu/pharmacy)**



# GRANTS AWARDED TO SWOSU COLLEGE OF PHARMACY AND RURAL HEALTH CENTER



- Grant Awarding Agency: United States Department of Agriculture
- Grant Amount: \$983,566
- Purpose: Provide telehealth equipment to public school districts in LeFlore county in Eastern Oklahoma and Beckham, Caddo, Custer, Dewey, Ellis, Roger Mills, and Washita counties in Western Oklahoma over a three-year period
- Faculty: Dr. Randy Curry and Dr. Kalie Kerth

SWOSU Rural  
Health Center  
Telemedicine  
Program

- Grant Awarding Agency: OSDH, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and Department of Health and Human Services
- Grant Amount: \$227,000 for 2022
- Purpose: Education of healthcare professionals and students on the role of pharmacists in team-based care, offer education and resources to pharmacists on the prevention and management of diabetes and cardiovascular disease. Provide technical assistance to rural pharmacies, hospitals, and clinics on diabetes self-management education and support and diabetes prevention programs. The counties prioritized in this grant are Caddo, Delaware, Hughes, Lincoln, McIntosh, Muskogee, Pittsburg, Seminole, and other counties as identified by OSDH
- Faculty: Dr. Aimee Henderson

Improving the Health of  
Americans through the  
Prevention &  
Management of  
Diabetes, Heart Disease  
and Stroke

- Grant Awarding Agencies: Becton Dickinson, Heart to Heart International, National Association of Free & Charitable Clinics
- Grant Amount: Equipment and supplies grant equaling approx. \$25,000 for 12 months
- Purpose: Provide diagnostic point-of-care testing (POCT) to evaluate patients on site at Agape Free Medical Clinic. Train pharmacy and nursing students to collect samples and operate equipment
- POCT equipment used: BD Veritor for flu A, B, Strep, and RSV, Hemocue for hemoglobin, Cholestech for lipid panels, Clinitek for urinalysis and microalbumin, Siemens Vantage Analyzer for hemoglobin A1c, CoagChek for PT/INR, Oraquick for HIV, and hepatitis C
- Faculty: Dr. Aimee Henderson

Point of Care  
Enhancing Clinical  
Effectiveness

- Grant Awarding Agency: Women's Foundation of Oklahoma
- Grant Name: Advancing Educational Opportunities for Single Mother Students
- Grant Amount: \$10,000 campus grant
- Purpose: Create new and/or support existing programs or events that advance learning or occupational goals and foster community and group support. Provide tangible goods for mothers and their children including childcare scholarships, backpacks, books, supplies, and gift cards
- Faculty: Dr. Kalie Kerth

Advancing  
Educational  
Opportunities for  
Single Mother  
Students



- Grant Awarding Agency: Oklahoma State University Center for Rural Health
- Grant Amount: Varies each year; totaling \$177,290 since 2015
- Purpose: Provide funds to assist critical access hospitals with daily remote medication order review and antimicrobial stewardship program implementation
- Faculty: Dr. Kalie Kerth

Medicare Rural Hospital  
Flexibility Grant (HRSA's  
Federal Office of Rural  
Health Policy to State  
Offices of Rural Health)

### Extramural Grants Funded:

- Grant Awarding Agency: OK-INBRE Research project Investigator Award (NIH IDeA sub-award)
- Total cost approved for funding: \$341,440.
- Period: 11/2021-04/2024 (Funding approved)
- Purpose: Improve the potency of LDH inhibitor compounds against pancreatic cancer, to determine if they possess drug-like properties, and to assess lead LDH inhibitors in vivo
- Faculty: Dr. Horrick Sharma (Principal Investigator)

Development of a Novel  
Class of LDH Inhibitors  
Against Pancreatic  
Cancer

**SWOSU**<sup>TM</sup>  
Southwestern Oklahoma State University  
COLLEGE OF PHARMACY



# EVENTS



## Preceptor Conference

SWOSU COP excels in its mission to produce highly qualified graduates. We rely on the dedication of preceptors to make our program successful. The Preceptor Conference was held on August 3, 2022, and the following preceptors were recognized:

- Distinguished Clinical Preceptor - Jonathan Willett, Pharm.D.
- Distinguished Selective Preceptor - Jenny Mathew, Pharm.D.
- Distinguished Early Experience Preceptor - Tara DeLonais, Pharm.D.
- Distinguished Institutional Preceptor – Heather Farley, Pharm.D.
- Distinguished Community Preceptor – Jeff McDown, Pharm.D.

It is notable that Drs. Willett, Mathew and DeLonais are SWOSU alumni.

## Annual Professionalism Banquet

The Professionalism Banquet is held annually and serves to provide incoming students with an introduction to the standards of professionalism and ethics that are expected from pharmacists. Due to an increase in community COVID-19 cases, the 12th annual banquet was held virtually on January 18, 2022. Approximately one hundred students, faculty, and dignitaries attended. The event was emceed by P3.2 student Abigail Willbanks (Gosa). After opening comments, Dean Ralph addressed the attendees followed by Dr. Shannon Griggs, the invited guest speaker. Dr. Griggs graduated from SWOSU COP in 1994. She has spent most of her career working for Walmart Pharmacies. She has served as a pharmacy manager, pharmacy district manager, and the Market Health and Wellness Director for the Tulsa Metropolitan Area for over twenty-six years. She is highly active with different school sponsored and community events and is a member of OPhA. She captivated the audience with her energy and excitement concerning leadership and the numerous opportunities available in pharmacy.

## Rural Health Center

The Rural Health Center conducted three continuing education classes in November: American Pharmacists Association's (APhA) *Pharmacy-Based Immunization Delivery* and *The Pharmacist and Patient Centered Diabetes Care*, and *Pharmacy-based Point-of-Care Test & Treat National Certificate Program* from National Alliance of State Pharmacy Associations (NASPA).

Together with the Oklahoma Foundation for Medical Quality, provision of disease prevention and management services in rural Oklahoma was continued. Health screenings in three counties at schools and hospitals, three Lifestyle Coach Trainings for numerous healthcare workers, and solicitation of health and disease experts to speak to clinicians in Oklahoma were conducted. As a result of this partnership, the SWOSU Diabetes Prevention Program expanded its reach to Beckham County.

Partnerships are planned with the intent to allow for new reimbursable structures for pharmacist services: one with the OSDH in establishing a care structure to meet the needs of underserved and uninsured individuals in rural areas through Medication Therapy Management services and one in collaboration with HealthChoice and the University of Oklahoma College of Pharmacy in serving the insured pre-Medicare population by providing a targeted medication review that addresses one to two primary problems that can be resolved through patient and/or provider interventions.

Another highlight includes achieving Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Full Plus Recognition of the Rural Health National Diabetes Prevention Program.

Dr. Kalie Kerth served as the SWOSU Single Parent Network (SPN) Faculty Advisor. She also obtained funding for the SPN. The SPN provides support, education, and community for single parent households attending SWOSU. Most single parent students on campus qualify for OKDHS subsidized childcare assistance.



Remote Area Medical (RAM) 2022 was held July 16 & 17 at the Pioneer Cellular Event Center on the SWOSU campus. Free dental, vision, and medical services were provided to people in need of healthcare. The service was organized by the Rural Health Center. Volunteers from county health departments, medical professionals, healthcare students, and general volunteers were enlisted to provide an array of services.



## Innovation Week

SWOSU COP was invited to participate in the first annual Innovation Week, sponsored by OKC Innovation District Partners. The event was held September 13th-15th at the Oklahoma City Innovation District. The purpose of the event was to generate interest and inspire students to consider STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) field careers. Leading OKC innovation organizations and OK higher education partners volunteered to help host the event. Over 900 OKC junior high school students engaged in simulated and immersive STEM activities.

COP faculty and students introduced these students to pharmacy careers by discussing what pharmacists do and how they can help patients. Management of chronic disease states was taught through discussion about diabetes. Students had the opportunity to count carbohydrates in a meal and simulate blood sugar testing.



## SAGE-STEAM Camp

The Southwest Alliance for Girls' Enrichment in Science, Technology, Engineering, the Arts/Humanities, and Mathematics (SAGE STEAM) Camp is held on the SWOSU campus every summer. The mission of SAGE STEAM is to support and supplement STEAM education for students who may not have the opportunity to experience STEAM-related endeavors otherwise.

Campers work with pharmacy faculty and students to figure patient treatment options, fill prescriptions, practice health skills on a manikin, and compound medications.

"We are excited to be gearing up for the 5th year of SAGE STEAM. It is rewarding to see campers and their counselors grow and bond over the week of camp. Even better, we have had campers return to become SWOSU students and camp counselors. I look forward to seeing how SAGE STEAM evolves in the future." Dr. Lisa Appeddu (Camp Director and COP Associate Professor)



## PharmCORP

PharmCORP was held on October 8th at the COP. This annual event is a day filled with information and hands-on activities for high school students who are interested in a career in pharmacy. There were seven workshops with exercises in pharmacy skills. The event was attended by 28 students representing 24 Oklahoma schools and one Texas school. The guest speakers during lunch were Ashlee Barrett and Shanna Hamilton from Advanced Vital Care Home Infusion Services in Amarillo, TX. PharmCORP is sponsored by KE.



# STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT



## Residency Match

Many SWOSU students/recent graduates continued their pharmacy education in residency programs throughout the U.S. in 2022. Seventeen matched to a Postgraduate Year 1 (PGY1) program and one to a Postgraduate Year 2 (PGY2) program.

The SWOSU PGY1 match rate of 77% was consistent with the national match rate.

Graduates pursuing PGY1 training:

- o Natasha Akinwande - Wadley Regional Medical Center in Texarkana, TX
- o Benjamin Anderson - Oklahoma City VA Health Care System in Oklahoma City, OK
- o Darby Bryce - UH Meds in Parma, OH
- o Rachel Cook - Mercy Hospital Springfield in Springfield, MO
- o Cole Eichelberger - Oklahoma State University Medical Center in Tulsa, OK
- o Madison Garrett - Hillcrest Medical Center in Tulsa, OK
- o Kena McCord - Salina Regional Health Center in Salina, KS
- o Hannah Mitchell - Cherokee Nation W.W. Hastings Hospital in Tahlequah, OK
- o Trang Nguyen - Lawton Indian Hospital – IHS in Lawton, OK
- o Alina Pavlishinets - Hillcrest Medical Center in Tulsa, OK
- o Trevor Sanders - Norman Regional Health System in Norman, OK
- o Farron Sheffield - Claremore Indian Hospital– IHS in Claremore, OK
- o Jenna Record (Thomason) - Oklahoma State University Medical Center in Tulsa, OK
- o Carley Welch - Norman Regional Health System in Norman, OK
- o Nicholas Wheeler - Hillcrest Hospital South in Tulsa, OK

- o Andrea Wilson - Oklahoma City VA Health Care System in Oklahoma City, OK
- o Andrea Zearley - St. John Medical Center in Tulsa, OK

Graduates pursuing PGY2 training:

- o Isaac Nichols - Oklahoma State University Medical Center-SWOSU in Tulsa, OK

The SWOSU-Walgreen Co. PGY1 Community-Based Pharmacy Residency program matched with Dr. Erick Alvarado, graduate of the University of Texas, El Paso School of Pharmacy. He withdrew from the program in August 2022 for personal reasons.

Brianne Crews (Kirchgessner), a May 2022 graduate, was selected as a Fellow in the 2022-2023 class of the Avant Institute Population Health and Practice Development Fellowship Program.

## Notable Student Achievements

Jackson Beach completed a 10-week summer internship at the NCPA headquarters in Alexandria, VA. He currently serves as Secretary of the NCPA Student Leadership Council, which consists of 16 members nationally.

Jackson Beach also presented “The Impact of Temperature on Mail Order Drug Products” at the NABP District Meeting in OKC.

Dr. Randy Curry and Jackson Beach presented research done by the SWOSU NCPA chapter on the “Effect of Temperature on Mail Order Prescriptions” to the OSBP and the National Association of Boards of Pharmacy (NABP).

Elizabeth Brown received the Doyle and Bettie High Endowed Scholarship from the West Texas Pharmacy Association.

Kaylen Luginbill Schier was one of 20 pharmacy students nationally to be awarded the Pharmacists Mutual Community Pharmacy Scholarship.



## Competitions

1. The local APhA-ASP Patient Counseling Competition was held in February 2022. Student pharmacists engage in a role-playing scenario with a volunteer patient. The participants utilize their knowledge and skills to effectively guide therapeutic decisions. The winner was Abigail Thibodeaux (P3.2). She received a most-expenses paid trip to San Antonio, TX, to compete in the National Patient Counseling Competition held during the APhA Annual meeting in March. Second place was awarded to Chaney Freese (P3.1).
2. The local American College of Clinical Pharmacy (ACCP) Clinical Research Challenge was held in March 2022. This is a team-based competition geared towards students in their first two years of pharmacy school. This competition has teams participate in an online journal club and submit a letter of intent with a clinical research proposal. Five students participated in the challenge. The local winners were Julianne Henry, Su Xhian Lim, and Boma Legg-Jack (all P2.2).
3. The local ASHP Clinical Skills Competition was held virtually over two days in October 2022. A total of eight teams competed. The first round of the competition consisted of a two-hour period to create a written Pharmacist's Care Plan for the case provided. Teams that scored in the top 50% then advanced to the 2nd round, which was the oral presentation portion of the competition, in which students had two minutes to present their care plans, followed by eight minutes for Q&A. The winning team was Gabrielle Parli and Abigail Thibodeaux (both P4.1). The 2nd place team was Le Nguyen and Julian Nguyen (both P4.2), and the 3rd place team was Lauren Chastain and Alexis Fanshier (both P4.2). The winning team was awarded a most-expenses paid trip to Las Vegas, NV, to compete on the national level at the ASHP

Midyear Clinical Meeting in December. The 2nd and 3rd place teams were awarded monetary prizes in varying amounts.

## White Coat Ceremony

The annual White Coat Ceremony was held on April 1st, 2022. Fifty-eight third-year students received their white coats and were led in reciting the Oath of a Pharmacist by Dr. Ramos. The event was well attended by family, friends, and fellow students. A live stream of the ceremony was also provided for friends and family who wanted to attend virtually. The ceremony was sponsored by Walgreens, Pharmacists Mutual, and the local APhA-ASP chapter.



## Scholarships

Over 100 awards and scholarships, totaling more than \$184,000, were awarded in 2022. These funds come from alumni and friends who give back to this program. The criteria for the COP scholarships and awards are determined at the time of establishment. Most of these awards and scholarships are based on academic performance. Financial need, professionalism, and service activities are also considered as components of the criteria for some awards and scholarships.



# STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT (CONT.)/ORGANIZATION NEWS



## Hodge Pharmacy Scholarship Challenge Update

In September 2021, SWOSU launched the Jerry and Margaret Hodge Pharmacy Scholarship Challenge to match \$500,000 to increase endowed financial assistance to SWOSU College of Pharmacy students. This goal was not only met but exceeded. Thank you to the numerous donors for your support of SWOSU, the College of Pharmacy, and its students!

## Graduation

On May 6th, 2022, seventy-one COP students walked in the Commencement and Graduate Recognition Ceremony held in the SWOSU Pioneer Cellular Event Center (41 May graduates and 30 December graduates). Five students received dual PharmD and MBA degrees, and four students in the Nelson Sims Pharmacy Leadership, Innovation, and Quality Outcomes degree specialization program were recognized as Sims Scholars.



## American Pharmacists Association Academy of Student Pharmacists (APhA-ASP)

During this past year, the SWOSU APhA-ASP chapter hosted many projects and events to provide education, enhance patient care, and volunteer services.

In March, APhA-ASP members gathered with other pharmacists at the State Capitol to discuss with state legislators the importance of pharmacy in Oklahoma. Students discussed the impact that bills have in pharmacy practice and the effect they have on patients.

The local Girl Scout chapter participated in demonstrations involving the following patient care projects:

1. Operation Diabetes discussion about healthy meals and portion sizes
2. Operation Heart discussion over staying healthy
3. Operation Substance Use Disorders discussion focusing on saying "no" to drugs, but "yes" to hobbies or things that bring joy
4. Operation OTC discussion knowing the difference between medicines and candy

Both pre-pharmacy and current pharmacy students were invited to the Welcome Back Cookout on September 6th, sponsored by Walgreens and the SWOSU Pharmacy Alumni Foundation. Many of the student organizations hosted informational booths and games.

To celebrate American Pharmacists Month in October, APhA-ASP hosted a week of fun activities, including Anything but a Backpack Day, Professional Dress Day, and White Coat Wednesday. The week also included an evening social where students enjoyed Frito chili pies, cookies, music, and pumpkin painting in the COP courtyard. Operation OTC hosted a booth at the community STEM night for students of all ages at Weatherford High School. They educated attendees about the importance of medicine safety with a scavenger hunt and a game. Operation Immunization hosted the COP flu vaccine clinics around this time as well. Also in October, members traveled to Dallas, TX, to attend the Region 6 APhA-ASP Midyear Regional Meeting. Brianna Pritchard, a 3rd year member, served as the 2021-2022 Regional Member-at-large. Proposals for resolutions were presented during the conference,



and the local chapter's resolution on mental health awareness passed and was sent to nationals. Operation Substance Use Disorders partnered with Red Rock Behavioral Health Services and local law enforcement for National Drug Take Back Day, collecting 203 lbs. of unused medications to dispose of safely.



## Kappa Psi

At the beginning of both semesters, Kappa Psi held recruitment events at Mountain Man's Axe Throwing and Grub in Elk City, where prospective new members were able to talk with current members and faculty sponsor Dr. Scott Graham Long. After axe throwing, they enjoyed a hearty meal of endless catfish at Simon's

Catch. In October, Kappa Psi cohosted the Hygeia Bowl with KE, where the two organizations played a flag football game versus Phi Delta Chi to raise money for breast cancer awareness.



## Phi Delta Chi (PDC)

PDC hosted over 40 meetings, events, service projects, and fundraisers to benefit St. Jude Children's Hospital. Traditional events occurred each semester – the Potluck Smoker, game night, and paint Slip 'n Slide. Alpha Omega A's occurs each month where each member receiving an "A" grade on an exam is entered into a drawing to win a prize.

In spring, a bingo night and auction were held that raised \$451. Candidates also raised \$165 through a snack fundraiser. The Brotherhood Committee hosted a movie night in pajamas in January, a Valentine's party in February, and an egg hunt in April, as well as a game night. In April, the PDC banquet was held at Weatherford's Prairie West Golf Course, bringing all brothers and advisors together for a formal-dress celebration where awards and scholarships were distributed. Seven candidates were initiated and became Brothers of the Alpha Omega chapter.

In fall, the "Pie-in-the-Face" game at the Welcome Back Cookout raised \$1,019. In October, the brothers competed in the Hygeia Bowl against Kappa Psi and KE. In November, the Service Committee volunteered at the 32nd Annual Stew Dinner that benefits the Pioneer Center, a community center in Weatherford that serves many senior citizens. On November 18th, sixteen candidates were initiated into the fraternity as brothers.

# ORGANIZATION NEWS (CONT.)



## Kappa Epsilon (KE)

In spring, the Alpha Beta Chapter participated in the Custer County Relay for Life. They held their annual month-long fundraiser, "flocking." Each school night, the KE sisters place lawn flamingos, along with an informational sheet, in the COP faculty and community members' yards. Community members can choose to donate to the cause and request another house to be "flocked" the next night. This highly anticipated fundraiser sparks interest and involvement across the community. The chapter also set up a booth that sold snacks and drinks to relay participants and raised funds running an oversized bowling game that awarded popping fidget toys as prizes. All monies raised were donated to the American Cancer Society.

The annual chili cook-off was also hosted in spring. This event brought together all the COP student organizations to raise money for Harley's House, a charity that provides emergency childcare and supplies to families across western OK. Each organization presents its best chili recipe in hopes of being declared the winner. Students and faculty select their favorite chili, and a panel of faculty judges decide on the winner. KE also hosted drives for donations of diapers and other supplies for Harley's House. These supply drives were a part of the chapter's rush events to get the prospective new members involved in service projects that are such a big part of KE.

In the fall, the sisters held their annual PharmCORP event. The day included a panel discussion with current pharmacy students answering questions about pharmacy school and continuing their education. PharmCORP is very dear to the chapter because it is a unique opportunity to invest time in high school students and encourage them on their journey into the profession. The chapter also joined together with sOSHP to provide all the groceries necessary for two families in need to have a full Thanksgiving meal.

KE also hosted the first Hygeia Bowl since the Covid-19 pandemic. In this flag football game, KE joined forces with Kappa Psi on one team and PDC on the other team. This year's winners were the KE/Kappa Psi team!

## National Community Pharmacists Association (NCPA)

At the beginning of the year, the chapter conducted a mail order pharmacy research project. This project consisted of recording temperatures of various medications that would be mailed to a patient through a mail order pharmacy. They recorded temperatures of refrigerated and non-refrigerated medications prior to being mailed and when they arrived in the mail to the designated destination. NCPA members wanted to find out if the medications experienced drastic temperature changes while in the mailing process. Their research led to the OSBP proposing the nation's first detailed rules to control medication temperatures during shipping.

In October, several chapter members attended the NCPA National Convention in Kansas City, MO. One focus was to provide information for new pharmacists on starting a career. Also in October, the chapter (in collaboration with sOSHP and APhA) hosted Dr. Megan Myers, Director of Internal Medicine, Field Medical Cardiology & Metabolism with Pfizer, on a discussion of drug discovery and development. In November, the chapter hosted a presentation by Dr. Kacee Blackwell, a Clinical Pharmacist with AlignRx, about how the Community Pharmacy Enhanced Services Network (CPESN) is transforming the practice of community pharmacy.

## Rho Chi

The organization held several fundraisers throughout the year. One of these was a t-shirt/sweatshirt fundraiser in spring to raise money for the Agape Clinic. Throughout both semesters, members provided tutoring sessions to all pharmacy students. The Initiation and Officer Installation banquet was held on November 4th with 12 students being initiated.







## Student Chapter of the Oklahoma Society of Health-System Pharmacists (sOSHP)

The chapter hosted a variety of guest speakers, with some visiting campus and others speaking via Zoom. In February, Dr. Erica Filby explained her experiences working as a pharmacist within the Veterans Affairs system. In March, Dr. Christina Phillips spoke about her unconventional path to clinical pharmacy and her daily activities at a smaller hospital. In April, sOSHP hosted their annual residency panel via Zoom. Sixteen pharmacy residents from across Oklahoma (both PGY1 and PGY2) discussed their path to residency and residency experiences with current pharmacy students.

In spring, sOSHP organized a Workplace Well-Being and Resilience project, encouraged by ASHP's national initiative. Between March 28th and April 8th, students documented their daily activities that improved their physical and/or mental health on a shared document to improve accountability. All participants were placed into a random drawing to win gift baskets.

In September, Dr. Mark Gales provided information, explained the competition process, and offered ways to ensure success for the annual Clinical Skills Competition. In October, current OSHP President Dr. Alice Kirkpatrick spoke about the Practice Advancement Initiative and how to utilize aspects of it to promote better patient care. In November, Dr. Laura Holliday discussed her role as an ambulatory care pharmacist.

## Phi Lambda Sigma (PLS)

In March, five PLS members attended the APhA Annual Convention in San Antonio, TX. Members networked with other PLS members from across the nation while being heavily involved in legislation and innovative educational workshops together. In June, all three attendees representing SWOSU at the APhA Institute on Substance Use Disorders in Salt Lake City, UT, were PLS members. This meeting provided insight and innovative education on substance abuse.

Volunteer events that PLS members contributed to included SWOSU SAGE STEAM Camp, IHS Drug Take Back Day, Agape Clinic, SWOSU Vaccine Clinics, special needs children's camp, and more.

PLS held successful ongoing fundraisers – pharmacy Afghan blankets and drink coasters (stamped with our pharmacy seal per request by many in the COP family) continue to be ordered.

The Leader of the Month award proves to be a COP favorite, rewarding and recognizing well-deserved leadership in the COP. Winners for the year are Brianna Chanthalangsy (January), Paige Ward (February), Makenna Rose (March), Michaela Lombardi (September), Garrett Collier (October), and Jennifer Staggs (November).

The annual PLS Initiation banquet was held in November. PLS hosted its 7th Annual Substance Use Disorder Seminar with the generous sponsorship of Oklahoma Pharmacists Helping Pharmacists. The speaker for the evening was Dr. Jake Nichols, a nationally recognized expert and pharmacist in recovery from substance abuse, who specializes in addiction medicine. He shared his personal experience with addiction and answered questions from the audience.



## Fellowship of Christian Pharmacists (FCP)

FCP exists to unite pharmacy students at SWOSU who desire to grow closer to Christ, as well as each other and the local community. Members gather once a week for a devotional led by a pharmacy student volunteer. In both the spring and fall semesters, FCP organizes a panel of COP faculty and alumni for a Q&A session about what it looks like for them to live out their faith in their specific career and community.

In November, the members gathered Christmas gifts to fill up a total of seven boxes for Operation Christmas Child. Operation Christmas Child is a program started by Samaritan's Purse, which provides "spiritual and physical aid to hurting people around the world." This program partners with churches and Christian organizations, such as FCP, to spread the gospel around the world through Christmas gift boxes for children in need. The members also purchased groceries for Thanksgiving dinner for three families in need in the community.





## Jerry and Margaret Hodge Pharmacy & Rural Health Center Update

Since the groundbreaking ceremony for the Jerry & Margaret Hodge Pharmacy & Rural Health Center was held on June 17th, a team of architects have been working to finalize the plans for the new building to be constructed on the SWOSU Weatherford campus at the corner of North Davis and Caddo. The Jerry & Margaret Hodge Pharmacy & Rural Health Center will serve as a home for the College of Pharmacy, the Rural Health Network, community health services, and potentially other healthcare professional entities and programs. A committee composed of university and community representatives, including SWOSU President Dr. Diana Lovell, are evaluating the needs of the various entities and services planned for the building and allocating space for the approximately 60,000 sq. ft structure. In September, the architects toured the existing College of Pharmacy buildings and visited with faculty to help determine specific needs. The SWOSU Administration is currently exploring potential contractors for the building with the hope that the new Jerry & Margaret Hodge Pharmacy & Rural Health Center will be completed within the next two years. (A rendering of the building is shown on the front cover.)