



College of Pharmacy

The University of Tennessee Health Science Center

Memphis • Knoxville

To serve as a model for pharmacy education, practice, research, and outreach in Tennessee and beyond

July 2011

Special Student Edition

TOP STORIES

Class of 2011 PharmD and PhD Students Graduate

On Friday, May 27, the UT Health Science Center graduated 615 students from the six colleges comprising the campus. Dean Dick Gourley of the College of Pharmacy presented diplomas to 198 Doctor of Pharmacy graduates. Vice Chancellor Cheryl Scheid, acting in her role as Dean of the College of Graduate Health Sciences, presented diplomas to the six College of Pharmacy PhD graduates. Steve J. Schwab, MD, Chancellor of the UT Health Science Center, presided over the ceremony held at the FedEx Forum in downtown Memphis. UT President Dr. Joe DiPietro, who assumed his leadership position at UT in January, conferred the degrees and gave the charge to the graduates.

PharmD Honors and Awards Convocation



Dr. Peter Chyka hoods Valeana Ruffin

UT College of Pharmacy PharmD graduates, faculty, family, and friends came together at First Baptist Church on Thursday, May 26 for the Honors and Awards Convocation. Jeff Bogue directed the faculty and student processional as the College Graduation Marshal. Reverend James M. Lane, father of Whitney Lane Holmes a class of 2011 graduate, gave the invocation.

Emily Barker, Class of 2011, sang the National Anthem and led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance. Dr. Jim Eoff then gave the faculty charge to the class. Rebecca Regen, class president for the Memphis Campus and Jessica Lee, class

UPCOMING EVENTS

PRECEPTOR DEVELOPMENT

August 9: Knoxville Campus
August 25: Memphis Campus

ROTATION/RESIDENCY DAY

August 10: Knoxville Campus
August 26: Memphis Campus

CLINICAL PHARMACY GRAND ROUNDS

August 18: Drs. Shaunta' Ray & Shambria Nolan

NEW MEMPHIS CAMPUS BUILDING DEDICATION & RIBBON CUTTING

August 25

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- PharmD Students Pages 8-14
- Graduate Students Pages 15-17
- 2010-2011 Student Awards, Publications, and Presentations Pages 18-20
- Student Spotlight Pages 21-22

MORE TOP STORIES

PharmD Honors and Awards Convocation – continued

president for the Knoxville Campus presented the student response. Graduates then took part in the hooding ceremony, in which Drs. Peter Chyka and Rob Nolly presented academic hoods to each graduate. After the hooding, Dr. Cathy Crill, Chair of the Honors and Awards Committee, described each award and revealed which student(s) received that award. Dean Gourley, assisted by other faculty and special guests, then presented awards to the students. (See page 4 for the full list of student awards.)



Stephanie Yokley (2nd from left) is presented the Excellence in Public Health Pharmacy Practice Award by Cmdr. William Meyers, Dr. Stephan Foster, and Dean Dick Gourley.



Dr. Jim Eoff and Dean Dick Gourley present James Wheeler (center) the Tom C. Sharp Leadership Award.

Dr. Jim Eoff's Convocation Charge to Graduates

For the first time in his long and distinguished career, Dr. James C. Eoff III, Executive Associate Dean and Professor of Clinical Pharmacy, was selected by the Class of 2011 to give the faculty charge at Convocation. Eoff gave several of his "Keys to Success" which are the "Cliffs Notes" version of his "Prescription for Success" lecture that he presents during the students' Introduction to Pharmacy Class in their P1 year. Some highlights of Eoff's Keys to Success:

#1 Pursue Your Dream: *Dream big dreams. Don't settle for mediocre. I believe some of you will become deans and department chairs, outstanding clinicians and research scientists, successful entrepreneurs and pharmacy owners, managers of large health system facilities and corporations, and many other specialties the profession of pharmacy offers. It all begins with a dream, so visualize great things for yourself. Too many people just settle for mediocre or what comes their way, rather than dreaming big dreams.*

#2 Plan With Specific Goals: *Set goals with high expectations of yourself, both professionally and personally. All the motivational speeches, self-help seminars and books agree on one thing: you should WRITE DOWN YOUR GOALS. There is something powerful in writing down your goals, articulating them in detail on paper will make them more achievable.*

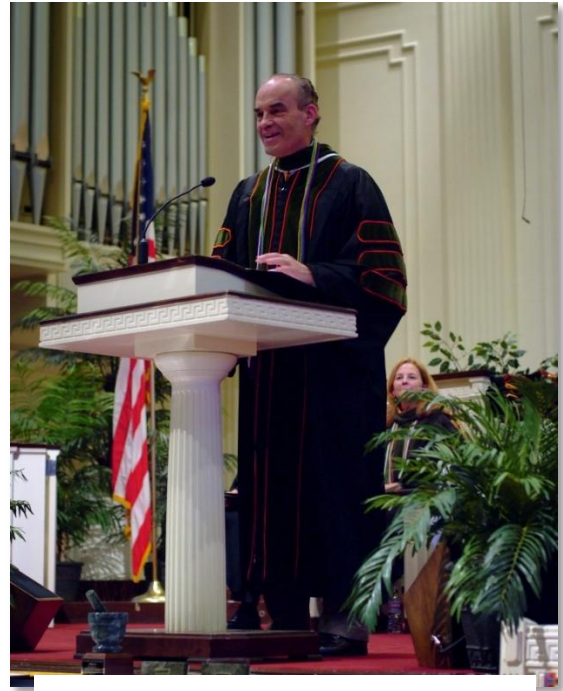
Dr. Jim Eoff's Convocation Address – continued

#3 Preparation: *Graduation is not the end of your learning, but represents a significant passage to a different level of independence and responsibility. The knowledge and skills you have today will not be enough in 5 or 10 years. If I depended on what I learned 40 years ago, I couldn't find more than 10 or 15 drugs on the top 200 list of prescribed medications. You must keep on learning to remain cutting edge. You can always learn new things. I didn't own or use a computer until I was 35 years old; I didn't learn to play the pipe organ until I was 40; I didn't learn to scuba dive until I was 45; I didn't learn to snow ski until I was 50. Make it a point to incorporate new skills as well as knowledge into your future goals and dreams.*

#4 Participation: *Please stay active and involved in your profession...The most successful pharmacists and other colleagues in other professions I know are those who have been involved and active in their professional organizations.*

#5 Passion: *Pursue your professional career with passion. I have been so blessed in my 41 year career to thoroughly enjoy my career path. I have passion for my profession; I have passion for the College of Pharmacy; I have passion for my University and my football team. You know I bleed orange. Passion energizes your knowledge and skills and allows you to excel.*

#6 Positive Attitude: *A good attitude will get you a lot further than good looks or brains. You don't choose many things that may happen to you, but you can choose your attitude and how you react to those things.*



Dr. James C. Eoff III

#7 Priorities: *Balance in life is essential for success; work hard in your professional career, but you must also invest in your personal life, your family, your friends, and your faith. Don't get so busy making a living that you forget to make a life. What we earn makes a living, but what we give makes a life...The most valuable things in this life are your relationships; relationships to your family and your closest friends should always take priority...Don't forget the importance of faith in your journey through life. Life throws trials and difficulties at each and every one of us and during those times of difficulty it pays to have a strong spiritual foundation.*

Eoff concluded, "One thing that continues to energize me is the great accomplishments of our graduates, and I know the Class of 2011 will represent the College and profession in an exemplary fashion. Thanks and best wishes in your pursuit of success and significance."

Special thanks to Stroud Photography (www.stroudphotography.com) for providing photos of convocation.

2011 PharmD Convocation Awards

Valedictorian Award – Melaina Perry
Salutatorian Award – Angela Loughery
2011 Outstanding Student Pharmacist Award – Rebecca Regen
Tom C. Sharp Leadership Award – James Wheeler
Clinical Pharmacy Award – Gillian Bell
Patient Care Award – Corry Taylor
Excellence in Scholarship and Research Award – Johanna Norman
Academia Award – Shimeka Edwards, James Wheeler
Memphis Area Pharmacists Society Leadership Award – Katrina Maggi
Health Systems Pharmacists Leadership Award – Jenna Faircloth
Mid-South College of Clinical Pharmacy Outstanding Achievement Award – Sampy Wright
TEVA Outstanding Student Award – Melaina Perry
John L. Butler Award – Phil Lee
Facts & Comparisons Award of Excellence in Clinical Communication – Alex Stephens
Pharmacy Communication Award – Jonathan Bain
Mylan Excellence in Pharmacy Award – Whitney Lane Holmes
Excellence in Community Pharmacy Practice – Chase Richardson
Community Pharmacy Leadership Award – Mitchell Lingerfelt
Excellence in Ambulatory Care Award – Laura Pruett
Natural Medicines Database Recognition Award – Rhett Barker
Merck Award – Jennifer Krauss, Jessica Lee, Deidra Easley, Daniel Marsh
Excellence in Public Health Pharmacy Practice – Stephanie Yokley
Student Affairs Service Award – James Wheeler
Martin E. Hamner Award – Lauren Dabbs, Ashlee Cardwell
ASHP Clinical Skills Competition Award – Sampy Wright, Corry Taylor
SNPhA Leadership Award – Valeana Ruffin
Rachel Welton Community Service Award – Sandra Weissmiller, Kay McDowell
APhA/ASP Community Service Award – J.R. Yates, Paul Moore, Lea Ann Coulson, Jill McKnight
APhA/ASP Chapter Award – Clay Cooper, Jaime Shockley
APhA/ASP National Award – Rebecca Regen
Cardinal Health Nuclear Pharmacy Certificates – Jenna Faircloth, John Mayes

Class of 2011 PharmD Graduates and Hometowns

Rachel Catherine Allen	Dickson
Jonathan David Allmon	Powell
Andrea Powell Alston	Atlanta, GA
Gary David Anderson	Dresden
Joshua Paul Apa	McEwen
Melissa Karen Aquino	Clarksville
John Casey Austin	Guys
Francisca Adaora Azogini	Memphis
Jeanne Nicole Bailey	Jonesboro, AR
Jonathan Aaron Bain	Mount Pleasant
Matthew Dane Baker	Oneida
Emily Claire Barker	Hixson
Jonathan Rhett Barker	Lexington
Jonathan Bailey Barnett	Harrison
Patricia Jan Bass	Murfreesboro
Gillian Casey Bell	Memphis
Samantha Lynn Berkley	Pinson
Andrew R. Bernard	Germantown
Crissy Seal Berry	Cordova
Nathan Winborne Blanchard	Seymour
Latrice R. Bragg	Chattanooga
Mendie Elise Brasseale	Arab, AL
Kimberly Lashun Brooks	Memphis
Mark Barrett Brooks	Martin
Stephanie Jeanne Bryant	Jackson
Taylor Bearden Burich	Clarksville
Melanie Ann Burnett	Jonesboro, AR
Jada Leigh Butler	Huntingdon
Ashlee Diane Cardwell	Knoxville
Carrie Ann Carlton	Murfreesboro
Katie Nicole Carter	Memphis
Sethai Thach Chea	Memphis
Allison Fay Chewing	Jackson
Carla Dionne Collins	Collierville
Clay Marlin Cooper	Henderson
Emily Thomas Corgan	Dickson
Lee Ann Scott Coulson	Nashville
Darren Neves Crowder	Martin
Sara Lauren Dabbs	Hernando, MS
Cisley Dianca Davidson	Manchester
Rachel Cecilia Day	Cross Plains
Daniel DeOrnellas	Columbia, MS
Grishma Desai	Memphis
David Joseph Dillinger	Clarksville
Katrina S. Dirkes	Paris
Heather Ann Doyle	Hornsby
John Alexander Drake	Gallatin
Jacob Lewis Duke	Darden

Deidra Nicole Easley	Cordova
Shimeka Edwards	Atlanta, GA
Miriam Jessica Ellegant	Cordova
Jenna Morgan Faircloth	Dyersburg
Scott Alan Faw	Cookeville
Jason Patrick Ferrell	Millington
Tiffany Dawn Flippin	Martin
Jennifer Jeu Foon	Memphis
Lauren Alicia Ford	College Park, GA
Adam David Garner	Memphis
Wesley Louis Geminn	Collierville
Matin Ghafari	Nashville
Julie Nicole Gibbons	Algood
Lane Dallas Gibson	Memphis
Mary N. Gichuru	Dallas, GA
Elisa Marie Giroux	New York, NY
Lauralee Catherine Gordon	Shelbyville
Lauren Kay Gouge	Knoxville
Jennifer Catherine Gray	Fayetteville
Kevin Kessler Greaves	Brentwood
Allison Leigh Green	Iuka, MS
Jason Lee Hailey	Murfreesboro
Houssam Saleh Hajj Houssein	Germantown
Brandon Michael Hale	Hopkinsville, KY
Jared Alan Hall	Nashville
Tiffany Leann Haney	Powell
Silva Hrant Hanissian	Memphis
Robert Address Haygood Jr.	Collierville
Landon Kyle Headrick	Crossville
Camille Ann Hemund	Jonesboro, AR
Oscar Rafael Herrera	Memphis
Katie Lynn Hickerson	Franklin
Anna Ruth Hollingsworth	Memphis
Whitney Lane Holmes	Jefferson City
Lindsay Brooks Honea	Germantown
Erin Nicole Hudgens	Collierville
Billy Ray Hurt III	Harrison
Angela Marie Inman	Bartlett
Nevonda Venice Jackson	Memphis
Clinton Carl Jacobson	Lakeland
Beryl Eliyahu Joffre	Memphis
Amethia Janeil Johnson	Murfreesboro
Joshua Crockett Johnson	Atoka
Aily Chang Jones	Crossville
Janet Danise Jones	Memphis
Jonathan Thomas Jones	Nashville
Jessica Eren Jordan	Memphis
Pratik Paresh Kapadia	Nashville

Caroline Myers Kitchens	Memphis
Jennifer Leigh Kolwyck	Huron
Jennifer Lauren Krauss	Newbern
Maria Lane	Memphis
Suong Mai Le	Memphis
Jessica Nevill Lee	Knoxville
Jonathan Cheuk Fung Lee	Memphis
Phillip Henry Lee	Knoxville
Mark Mitchell Lingerfelt	Memphis
Alexandra Polly Lopes	Memphis
Jesse Russell Lott	Savannah
Angela Pollock Loughery	Palmyra
Zhen Lu	Bronx, NY
Erica Shea Lykins	Readyville
Jennifer Joseph Maffei	Knoxville
Katrina Louise Maggi	Knoxville
Bradley Van Maness	Lexington
Brittany Nicole Marsh	Johnson City
Daniel Ray Marsh	Ooltewah
John Earl Mayes III	Hixson
Armond Miguel Mayo	Washington, DC
Rosalyn Harris McCormick	Douglasville, GA
Courtney Kay McDowell	Collierville
Jill Cheree McKnight	Hendersonville
Angela Renee Melton	Knoxville
Mitzi Arniece Milligan	Memphis
Melanie Marie Mims	Eads
Christopher Michael Moore	Kingsport
William Paul Moore	Nashville
Heather Deen Morgan	Germantown
Erin King Morrison	Franklin
William Joel Morrison II	Waynesboro
Johnathan Edward Morrow	Georgetown
Elizabeth Craven Moss	Union City
Amber Jean Mynakha	Springville
Christa Renee Nance	Jackson
Alan Dalton Newton Jr.	Bartlett
Zachary James Newton	Mt. Juliet
Phung Kim Ngo	Memphis
Yen Kim Ngo	Madison
Rufus William Nicks	Starkville, MS
Kathryn Gayle Nicoll	Germantown
Johanna Lynn Norman	Memphis
Jennifer Anne Oros	Germantown
Courtney Dianne Ozment	Mt. Juliet
Samuel Dunbar Pace II	Lexington
Priya Umesh Patel	Memphis
Melaina Kaysie Perry	Pulaski
April Linnett Peterson	Memphis
Laura Ellen Pruett	Pleasant View
Rebecca Burns Regen	Atoka
Gregory Chase Richardson	Linden

Kendra Nicole Roller	Erwin
Valeana Dawn Ruffin	Smyrna, GA
Lauren Theresa Rusie	Franklin
Andrew Nashaat Sabet	Antioch
Sami Sakaan	Cordova
Jamie Falana Salter	Murfreesboro
David Rambo Sands	Columbia
Melissa Anne Saum	Laporte, IN
Adam Joshua Sawyer	Powell
Gizachew Asefa Seyoum	Nashville
Jaime Lynn Shockley	Knoxville
Carlesia Dyonna Smith	Collierville
Carmen Blair Smith	Anderson
Courtney Elizabeth Smith	Cordova
Kevin Michael Smith	Germantown
Murry Lee Alexander Smith	Memphis
Virginia Renee Steff	Smithville
Alex Keith Stephens	Hermitage
Emily Jones Stephens	Maryville
Joy Andreaana Strickland	Chattanooga
Edward Clinton Sturgeon	Trenton
Kelley Lee Tate	Harrisburg, IL
Corry Elizabeth Taylor	Palatka, FL
Kimberly Suzanne Taylor	Camden
Jessy Young Thielemier	Jonesboro, AR
Leon Thomas Jr.	Natchez, MS
Lindsey Marie Thompson	Nashville
Stephanie Michelle Turner	Clarksville
Christiana Ngozi Udoji	Brentwood
Andrew Van Acker	Memphis
Christina Rene Waggoner	Jackson
Erica Lynn Wagner	Bartlett
Courtney Erickson Walker	Yazoo City, MS
Kelly Brooke Walls	Collierville
Sharita Washington	Clarksville
Nicholas Adair Watson	Baton Rouge, LA
Neil Shaun Webb	Columbia
Virginia Beth Webb	Bristol
Sandra Jane Weissmiller	San Mateo, CA
James Sheldon Wheeler	Chattanooga
Susan Charlene Wheelis	Memphis
Adam Michael Wilcox	Murfreesboro
Elizabeth Ashley Willis	Bolivar
Cynthia Ying-Ping Wong	Knoxville
Leah Ann Wood	Bartlett
Jeffery Ryan Wooden	Collierville
Megan Lane Woods	Rives
Sampaguita S. Wright	Antioch
Danielle Marie Yates	Portland
John Robert Yates	Kingsport
Stephanie Gail Yokley	Franklin

2011 PhD Graduates

The following are our 2011 PhD graduates, along with their research area and advisor:

Sonia Bedi

A Novel Shear Thinning and Thixotropic PLGA Micro Particulate Suspension System for Controlled Drug Delivery

Advisor: James J. Johnson, PhD

Lawrence T. Brown

The Multilevel, Multicultural, and Multi-Temporal Ecosocial Framework of Population Health: How Neighborhoods, Culture, and History Impact Health Outcomes and Produce Health Disparities

Advisor: Shelley I. White-Means, PhD

Jianjun Chen

Discovery of Small Molecules as Novel Anticancer Agents

Advisor: Wei Li, PhD

Cheryl A. DeWood

The Influence of Patient-Reported Provider Availability Factors on Nonurgent Emergency Department Use

Advisor: Lawrence M. Brown, PharmD, PhD

Crescent E. Rowell, PharmD

The Development of Psychometric Testing of a Hypertension Knowledge Instrument in a Vulnerable Population

Advisor: Dick R. Gourley, PharmD

Pavan Kuman Vaddady

Pharmacokinetic and Pharmacodynamic Studies of a Novel Spectinamide Series of Antituberculosis Agents

Advisor: Bernd Meibohm, PhD



Congratulations Class of 2011 PharmD & PhD Graduates!

PHARM.D. STUDENTS

Class of 2011 PharmD Graduates' Career Plans

The Class of 2011 is taking the next step in their professional lives. For the Class of 2011, 50% will be working in chain community pharmacy; 38% will be taking part in residency training; 6% have positions in institutional pharmacy; and 3% will join an independent community pharmacy. This year's graduates' salaries range from \$41,436 to \$114,714. The following chart details individual students' specific plans:

Name	Practice	Position	Location
Melissa Aquino	York Hospital	Post Graduate Year 1 Resident	York, PA
Jonathan Bain	Moses Cone Health System	Post Graduate Year 1 Resident	Greensboro, NC
Gillian Bell	VA Medical Center	Post Graduate Year 1 Resident	Memphis
Samantha Berkley	Walgreens	Staff Pharmacist	Jackson
Mendie Brasseale	DCH Regional Medical Center	Post Graduate Year 1 Resident	Tuscaloosa, AL
Mark Barrett Brooks	Kroger	Staff Pharmacist	Jackson
Melanie Burnett	St. Bernards Hospital	Staff Pharmacist	Jonesboro, AR
Taylor Burich	Cookeville Regional Medical Center	Post Graduate Year 1 Resident	Cookeville
Ashlee Cardwell	Walgreens	Staff Pharmacist	Knoxville
Emily Corgan	Multicare Healthcare	Post Graduate Year 1 Resident	Tacoma, WA
LeeAnn Coulson	Carolinas Medical Center	Post Graduate Year 1 Resident	Charlotte, NC
Daniel A DeOrnellas	GV Montgomery VA Medical Center	Post Graduate Year 1 Resident	Jackson, MS
David Dillinger	Central AR Veterans Healthcare System	Post Graduate Year 1 Resident	Little Rock, AR
Heather Doyle	Sacred Heart Health System	Post Graduate Year 1 Resident	Pensacola, FL
John Drake	Maxor Correctional Pharm Services	Post Graduate Year 1 Resident	Franklin
Deidra Easley	Le Bonheur Children's Hospital	Post Graduate Year 1 Resident	Memphis
Shimeka Edwards	The Methodist Hospital	Post Graduate Year 1 Resident	Houston, TX
Jenna Faircloth	Vanderbilt University Medical Center	Post Graduate Year 1 Resident	Nashville
Scott Faw	Fort Sanders Regional Medical Center	Post Graduate Year 1 Resident	Knoxville
Jason Ferrell	Riverside Regional Medical	Post Graduate Year 1 Resident	Newport News, VA
Tiffany Flippin	Fort Sanders Regional Medical Center	Post Graduate Year 1 Resident	Knoxville
Jennifer Foon	Baptist Memorial Hospital	Clinical Staff Pharmacist	Memphis
Adam Garner	Rite Aid	Staff Pharmacist	Chattanooga
Wesley Geminn	TN Department of Mental Health	Post Graduate Year 1 Resident	Nashville
Julie Gibbons	Walmart	Staff Pharmacist	Algood
Lauralee Gordon	VA TN Valley Healthcare System	Post Graduate Year 1 Resident	Nashville
Lauren Gouge	Mercy Hospital	Staff Pharmacist	Knoxville
Kevin Greaves	CVS	Staff Pharmacist	Virginia Beach, VA
Allison Green	Baptist Hospital	Post Graduate Year 1 Resident	Memphis
Jason Hailey	HCA/UT College of Pharmacy	Post Graduate Year 1 Resident	Nashville
Brandon Hale	Kroger	Staff Pharmacist	Murray, KY
Tiffany Haney	Walmart	Staff Pharmacist	Madisonville
Houssam Hajj Houssein	Kroger	Staff Pharmacist	Jackson, MS
Camille Hemund	Walgreens	Staff Pharmacist	West Memphis, AR
Whitney Holmes	The Regional Medical Center	Post Graduate Year 1 Resident	Memphis
Lindsay Honea	Baylor University Medical Center	Post Graduate Year 1 Resident	Dallas, TX
Erin Hudgens	US Army Medical Service Corps	Captain/Pharmacist	Wherever Duty Calls
Angela Inman	Schnucks Pharmacies	Floater Pharmacist	Memphis
Aily Jones	Walgreens	Staff Pharmacist	Chattanooga
Pratik Kapadia	Publix	Staff Pharmacist	Nashville
Caroline Kitchens	Kroger	Staff Pharmacist	Memphis
Maria Lane	Baptist Memorial Hospital	Post Graduate Year 1 Resident	Memphis
Jessica Lee	Blount Memorial Hospital	Post Graduate Year 1 Resident	Maryville
Phil Lee	University of Tennessee Medical Center	Post Graduate Year 1 Resident	Knoxville

Class of 2011 PharmD Graduate Career Plans – continued

Name	Practice	Position	Location
Jennifer Maffei	Target Pharmacy	Floater Pharmacist	Knoxville
Katrina Maggi	CVS	Staff Pharmacist	Nashville
Bradley Maness	Saint Thomas Hospital	Post Graduate Year 1 Resident	Nashville
Danny Marsh	Memorial Hospital	Post Graduate Year 1 Resident	Chattanooga
Rosalyn McCormick	VA Medical Center	Post Graduate Year 1 Resident	Memphis
Courtney McDowell	CVS	Staff Pharmacist	Memphis
Jill McKnight	CVS	Staff Pharmacist	TBA
Angie Melton	CVS	Staff Pharmacist	Knoxville
Melanie Mims	CVS	Staff Pharmacist	Memphis
Paul Moore	Vanderbilt University Medical Center	Post Graduate Year 1 Resident	Nashville
Heather Morgan	University of Cincinnati Health	Staff Pharmacist	Cincinnati, OH
Erin Morrison	Blount Memorial Hospital	Post Graduate Year 1 Resident	Maryville
Joel Morrison	Fort Sanders Regional Medical Center	Post Graduate Year 1 Resident	Knoxville
Jonathan Morrow	CVS	Staff Pharmacist	Jefferson City
Elizabeth Moss	St. Jude Children's Research Hospital	Staff Pharmacist	Memphis
Amber Mynakha	DCH Regional Medical Center	Post Graduate Year 1 Resident	Tuscaloosa, AL
Katie Nicoll	The Regional Medical Center	Post Graduate Year 1 Resident	Memphis
Johanna Norman	Le Bonheur Children's Hospital	Post Graduate Year 1 Resident	Memphis
Courtney Ozment	Walgreens	Staff Pharmacist	Nashville
Priya Patel	Walgreens	Staff Pharmacist	Memphis
Melaina Perry	VA TN Valley Healthcare System	Post Graduate Year 1 Resident	Nashville
Laura Pruett	Atlanta VA Medical Center	Post Graduate Year 1 Resident	Atlanta, GA
Rebecca Regen	Children's Medical Center	Post Graduate Year 1 Resident	Dallas, TX
Chase Richardson	Walgreens	Pharmacy Management	Nashville
Valeana Ruffin	Target Pharmacy	Staff Pharmacist	Knoxville
Lauren Rusie	Saint Thomas Hospital	Post Graduate Year 1 Resident	Nashville
Sami Sakaan	Methodist University Hospital	Post Graduate Year 1 Resident	Memphis
Jamie Salter	Target Pharmacy	Staff Pharmacist	Knoxville
Adam Sawyer	Huntsville Hospital	Post Graduate Year 1 Resident	Huntsville, AL
Jaime Shockley	Walgreens	Staff Pharmacist	Atlanta, GA
Carlesia Smith	Children's Hospital Central California	Post Graduate Year 1 Resident	Madera, CA
Carmen B. Smith	Methodist University Hospital	Post Graduate Year 1 Resident	Memphis
Courtney Smith	Tennessee Pharmacists Association	Post Graduate Year 1 Resident	Nashville
Kevin Smith	The Regional Medical Center	Post Graduate Year 1 Resident	Memphis
Renee Steff	Walmart	Staff Pharmacist	Middle Tennessee
Alex Stephens	VA TN Valley Healthcare System	Post Graduate Year 1 Resident	Nashville
Emily Stephens	Vanderbilt University Medical Center	Staff Pharmacist	Nashville
Clint Sturgeon	Eddie's Pharmacy	Staff Pharmacist	Trenton
Corry Taylor	VA Medical Center	Post Graduate Year 1 Resident	Memphis
Kimberly Taylor	Baptist Memorial Hospital	Post Graduate Year 1 Resident	Memphis
Christiana Udoji	Atlanta VA Medical Center	Post Graduate Year 1 Resident	Atlanta, GA
Christy Waggoner	Madison General Hospital	Post Graduate Year 1 Resident	Jackson
Kelly Walls	Le Bonheur Children's Hospital	Post Graduate Year 1 Resident	Memphis
Courtney Walker	Walgreens	Staff Pharmacist	Greenwood, MS
Sharita Washington	Walmart	Staff Pharmacist	Nashville
Nick Watson	LSU Health Science Center	Post Graduate Year 1 Resident	Shreveport, LA
Virginia Webb	Walgreens	Staff Pharmacist	Knoxville
James Wheeler	University of Tennessee Medical Center	Post Graduate Year 1 Resident	Knoxville
Susan Wheelis	Methodist University Hospital	Post Graduate Year 1 Resident	Memphis
Adam Wilcox	Centennial Medical Center	Post Graduate Year 1 Resident	Nashville
Ryan Wooden	Baptist Memorial Hospital	Post Graduate Year 1 Resident	Memphis
Megan Woods	CVS	Staff Pharmacist	West Tennessee
Sampy Wright	VA Medical Center	Post Graduate Year 1 Resident	Memphis
Danielle Yates	Blount Memorial	Post Graduate Year 1 Resident	Maryville
JR Yates	University of Tennessee Medical Center	Post Graduate Year 1 Resident	Knoxville
Stephanie Yokley	Publix	Staff Pharmacist	Nashville

Class of 2014 White Coat Ceremony



The White Coat Ceremony for the Class of 2014 was held May 10, 2011 at First Baptist Church in Memphis. Dr. Christa George, Associate Professor and recipient of the 2011 SGAEC Excellence in Teaching Award, delivered the charge to the class. In her charge, Dr. George discussed the very first person who embodied professionalism for her: her dad. A graduate of UT College of Pharmacy, Dr. Danny Ray George worked in McMinnville, Tennessee, for 38 years as a loved and well-respected community pharmacist. In her charge, Christa George said, *“My idea of what it means to be a professional is very simple: It’s my Dad, in his white lab coat*

and a tie (both of which he insisted on wearing everyday) simply trying to do the right thing for his patients in the kindest way possible. Doing the right thing isn’t always easy. In fact, my Mom always told me that ‘doing the right thing usually means doing the hardest thing’. Don’t misunderstand me; exhibiting professionalism isn’t about being perfect. It’s about striving for excellence while acknowledging your failings as a human being. Professionalism means asking yourselves the simple question ‘What’s the right thing to do for my patient/colleague/family member/friend in this situation?’”

For the past 4 years, each P1 class has written their own unique oath of professionalism. Once completed, each student pharmacist signs the oath. This oath was taken during the White Coat Ceremony and will be taken again during their P3 Pinning Ceremony.

Oath of Professionalism



At this time, I vow to devote my professional life to the service of all humankind through the profession of pharmacy.

I will acknowledge the responsibilities and obligations that come with my role as a pharmacist, realizing I am a direct reflection on the profession and my colleagues; and will proudly represent a contingency that is bigger than myself.

I will hold myself and others to the utmost standards of the profession by striving for excellence in all areas of my practice; always offering an unbiased, empathetic, and confidential service to my patients.

I will be a patient advocate; using my insight, education, and skills to obtain the best healthcare outcome, ensuring the values of the profession remain focused on the patient’s welfare.

I will work within my scope of practice and maintain an active and collaborative dialogue with other healthcare professionals in order to provide the best cooperative care for my patients.

I will maintain myself as a proactive member of the profession, continuing my pursuit of knowledge, participating in professional organizations, and advocating for sound contemporary practice.

I will provide counseling, recommendations and advice focusing on safety, efficacy, and adherence; ensuring that patients receive medication therapy that promotes sound therapeutic outcomes, improving their overall quality of life.

I take these vows voluntarily with the full realization of the responsibility with which I am entrusted by the public.



Class of 2014

Student Pharmacist Leadership Retreat

On May 11-13, thirty-five College of Pharmacy student leaders took part in the 4th Annual Student Leadership Retreat. Dr. Stephanie Phelps introduced student pharmacists to Tom Rath’s *Strengths Finder 2.0*. Phelps discussed the book, highlighting the idea that it is important for people to determine their strengths and then utilize those talents. Student pharmacists learned about theirs and others’ strengths and discovered how individuals can work together on projects utilizing their talents. The focus is on utilizing strengths, rather than focusing on areas of weakness.

On the second day of the retreat, student pharmacists took part in a ropes course challenge, which was coordinated by Dr. David Belote, Assistant Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs at UT Martin. During the ropes course, student pharmacists were able to push themselves individually, and as a team, to achieve success. Another highlight was Dean Gourley’s discussion of “Thomas Kilman: Conflict Mode Instrument”. Student

Student Leadership Retreat – continued

pharmacists took the assessment to determine how they typically approach conflict: through competing, collaborating, compromising, avoiding, and/or accommodating. Every style is useful in a given situation.

On the last day, student pharmacists took part in break-out sessions, covering the following topics: Setting Priorities and Time Management, How to Facilitate a Meeting, Conflict Resolution: Student Cases, and Accountability.

P2 student Nathan Cope describes his experience at the retreat, “As class president last year, I soon realized that dealing with differences of opinions and unexpected challenges was a large part of the job. This year’s Student Leadership Retreat helped me understand not only myself, my limitations and strengths, but also how and why other leadership styles and approaches were different than mine. It will be invaluable information to take forward in future leadership roles, as well as daily interactions with future colleagues. It was a great opportunity for self-reflection and personal development.”

2011-2012 Student Leaders

	Memphis		Knoxville	
PSGA		President Lindsey Wells		
Class of 2012		P4 President Lola Afolbi		P4 President Kelly Monteen
Class of 2013		P3 President Justin Griner		P3 President Grayson Peek
Class of 2014		P2 President Phillip Wilkins		P2 President Chase Stooksbury
TSSP		Member-at-Large Binoy Shah		Member-at-Large Leslie Smith
APhA-ASP		President Whitney Elliott		Executive Vice President Hamilton Borden

2011-2012 Student Leaders – continued

Memphis		Knoxville		
SNPhA		President Alftan Dyson		Vice President Zachary Germann
Phi Lambda Sigma		President Drew Armstrong		Vice President Brandon Sipe
Rho Chi		President Andy Nishimoto		Vice President Julie Phillips
Kappa Psi		Regent Keaton Smetana		Associate Regent Josh Deweese
Phi Delta Chi		Worthy Chief Counselor Cindy Brasher		Worthy Vice Counselor Brian Winbigler

International Rotations 2010-2011

Thirty-two UT COP student pharmacists had the opportunity to take part in an international rotation this year, traveling to countries across the globe. Student pharmacists learned about pharmacy practice, culture, and people of Liverpool, Manchester and London, England; Chiang Mai, Khon Kaen and Mahasarkham, Thailand; France, Hungary, Japan, New Zealand, Spain, Sweden, Thailand and Turkey. The international rotation program has been in place for over 20 years and is one of Dean Gourley’s legacies to the UT College of Pharmacy.



“My international rotation was one of the best experiences I’ve ever had. It was amazing to explore New Zealand’s culture, diversity, and scenic landscape. Learning about the profession of pharmacy in another country is a great motivator to find ways to improve pharmacy practice here. The international rotation experience is a highlight of the UT curriculum and something I will never forget.” Clay Cooper

International Rotations 2010-2011 – continued



"Truly a memorable experience that we would LOVE to have again!" Courtney McDowell, on leading elephant with Rufus Nicks, followed by Phil Lee and Adam Sawyer, in Thailand.



"I had such an amazing experience - it was a once in a lifetime opportunity." LeeAnn Coulson (right), traveling with (left-right) Katrina Maggi, Jill McKnight, and Carmen Smith in Cinque Terra, Italy



"The opportunity to participate in the practice of pharmacy in Australia was a fun and very rewarding experience. Not only was I able to form friendships with pharmacists on the other side of the world, but also observe the many similarities and differences between pharmacy practice in Australia and the United States. Snorkeling the Great Barrier Reef was pretty good also." Paul Moore



"My international rotation was an experience I will never forget. I learned about healthcare, pharmacy, and Liverpool culture while having a blast!" Melaina Perry



"My rotation in Liverpool, UK was probably the most rewarding experience I've had in my life. I met so many wonderful people and saw so many picturesque places that trying to describe my feelings about it would take eons. I'm so grateful to UT, for not only giving us the opportunity to see pharmacy and healthcare in a different setting and culture, but allowing us to be an active participant in our educational experience by giving us spectacular preceptors and pharmacists from which to learn. I will always look back on this rotation experience as the best decision I made in pharmacy school." Mendie Brasseale

International Rotations 2010-2011 – continued



"Thailand was such an interesting, culturally diverse experience. Thai people are some of the kindest people that I have ever met. They also have some of the most beautiful beaches in the world. I'm very grateful to have had this experience." Whitney Holmes with Lauralee Gordon, back row 3rd and 4th from left.



"My favorite part of my rotation in London was the time I spent in a community pharmacy. The pharmacists showed me how they provide smoking cessation and emergency contraception services to patients." Jaime Shockley (right) with Megan McCullough



Christina York Wins Cardinal Health Nuclear Pharmacy Grant



Dr. Vivian Loveless presented Christina York with a Cardinal Health grant in the amount of \$3000. This award supports student scholarship activities in nuclear pharmacy. York successfully completed Loveless' nuclear pharmacy series, taking courses from May 2010 through February 2011. York describes her experience: "Dr. Loveless models impressive dedication to her field of Nuclear Medicine. She sets high expectations for both herself and her students, and I appreciate the diligence she put into my three semesters of coursework."

GRADUATE STUDENTS

UT College of Pharmacy Hosts PharmForum 2011



The American Association of Pharmaceutical Scientists (AAPS) UT Student Chapter in cooperation with The AAPS Southern Regional Discussion Group (SRDG) and The University of Tennessee College of Pharmacy hosted the 10th Annual PharmForum on May 16 and 17, 2011 at the UTHSC campus. The Planning Committee leadership includes: AAPS UT Student Chapter Officers

[Mr. Jin Xu (Chair), Ms. Elizabeth Diana Barker (Chair-Elect), Mrs. Zaifang Huang (Vice-Chair), Mrs. Fan Zhang (Secretary/treasurer), Dr. Bernd Meibohm (Faculty advisor)] and AAPS-SRDG 2011 Officers [Dr. Hassan Almoazen (Chair), Dr. Bill J. Gurley (Chair-Elect), Dr. Tao Lowe (Secretary) and Dr. Charles R. Yates (Treasurer)].

This meeting was an excellent platform for students and postdoctoral fellows in the pharmaceutical sciences to present their latest research work in the form of poster and podium presentations. PharmForum 2011 showcased 25 posters and 13 podium presentations in the fields of Drug Delivery, Formulation and Pharmaceutical Technology, Analysis and Pharmaceutical Quality, and Pharmacokinetics Pharmacodynamics and Drug Metabolism.

In addition, the PharmForum Committee invited three distinguished guest speakers who provided great insights into the current and future trends in the Pharmaceutical Sciences and gave the graduate students, postdoctoral fellows and the faculty the opportunity to interact with these outstanding scientists.

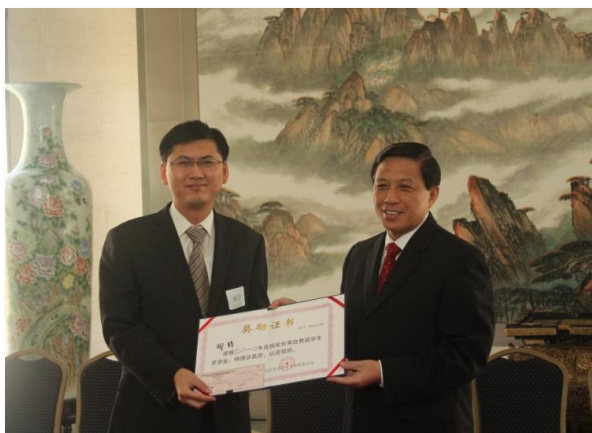
The three invited speakers and titles of their presentations were:

- "The journey of the cocrystal: from molecules to solids to pharmaceutical properties" by Dr. Nair Rodríguez-Hornedo (University of Michigan)
- "CNS Drug Penetration in a Murine Glioma Model: Getting Past the Barriers" by Dr. Clinton F. Stewart (St. Jude Children's Research Hospital)
- "Biology + Delivery + Pharmacodynamics + Computation = Greater success in cancer drug development" by Dr. Jesse Au (Ohio State University)

Sponsors included AAPS, the pharmaceutical industry, as well as the participating academic institutions.

PhD Students Drs. Feng Li and Lei Diao Receive Chinese Government Award

Drs. Feng Li and Lei Diao have both been honored with the 2010 “Chinese Government Award for Outstanding Self-financed Chinese Students Study Abroad” by the China Scholarship Council (CSC). This is a merit-based, peer-reviewed award founded by the Chinese government in 2003 with the purpose of rewarding the academic excellence of self-financed Chinese students studying overseas. Only those with outstanding performance in their PhD studies are considered by the award selection panel and \$5000 is granted to each person to support their study and research.



Dr. Feng Li (left) and Ambassador Zhang Yesui

Dr. Feng Li recently graduated from the Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences under the guidance of Professor Ram I. Mahato. After receiving his Bachelor in Pharmaceutics from Zhejiang University, Hangzhou, China, Dr. Li joined the National University of Singapore to study for his Masters in Biological Sciences. He joined Dr. Mahato’s group in 2006 as a PhD student. Owing to his broad knowledge and diverse research experiences in pharmaceutics, biotechnology, biomaterials, and pharmacokinetics, Dr. Li was a productive and independent researcher. He worked on multiple challenging research projects and made very good progress. He published 9 papers during his PhD study, either as a first author or a co-author. He also regularly reviewed journal manuscripts and assisted with grant writing. Data generated by him were very useful in the lab’s effort to secure federal funding.

Apart from doing research, Dr. Li took an active role in teaching and guiding first and second year graduate students with research techniques and experimental design. He was actively involved in PharmD courses such as pharmaceutics lab and parenteral medications as a teaching assistant for around five years. He was also invited as a guest lecturer to teach in the course of “Delivery and Biocompatibility of Protein and Nucleic Drugs” for PhD students.

Dr. Dr. Lei Diao is currently a postdoctoral trainee in Professor Bernd Meibohm’s Laboratory in the Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences. After receiving his Bachelor’s degree in Biological Sciences from University of Science and Technology of China, Dr. Diao came to the United States and got his Master’s degree in Biomedical Sciences from the University of Virginia, followed by his PhD in Pharmaceutical Sciences from the Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences, University of Maryland School of Pharmacy in May 2011, under the guidance of Dr. James Polli. His PhD dissertation research in Maryland focused on the investigation of the role of organic cation transporters in drug disposition and prodrug targeting.

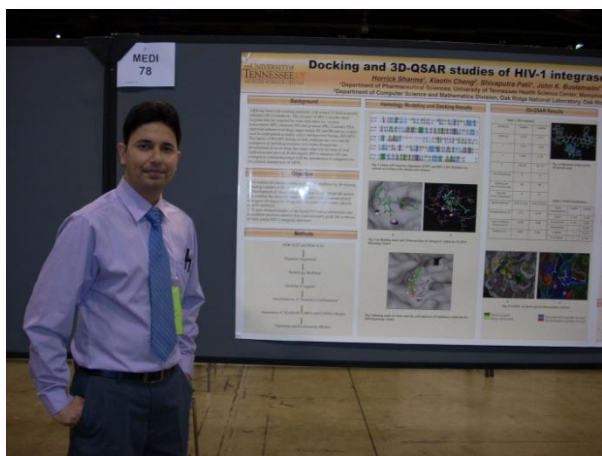


Dr. Lei Diao (left) and Ambassador Zhang Yesui

Li and Diao Receive Chinese Government Award – continued

He published 6 first author papers and 3 second author papers during his PhD study. In recognition of excellence in graduate research, Dr. Diao was selected as a speaker in the American Association of Pharmaceutical Scientists (AAPS) Graduate Student Symposium in Pharmacokinetics, Pharmacodynamics and Drug Metabolism and Clinical Pharmacology and Translational Research in 2010. Dr. Diao joined Dr. Bernd Meibohm's team at UT right after his PhD defense to pursue his interest in pharmacokinetics and pharmacodynamics (PK and PD). His current project involves population PK/PD modeling and simulation of orphan protein drug clinical data.

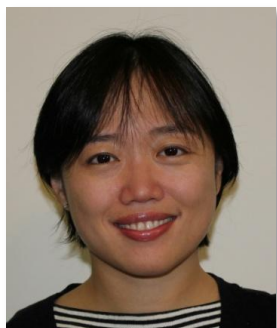
Horrick Sharma wins Tom Lemke Award for Best Poster at MALTO Meeting



Twelve UT College of Pharmacy graduate students and faculty attended the 38th Annual MALTO Medicinal Chemistry-Pharmacognosy Meeting-in-Miniature in Houston Texas on May 22-24, 2011. Graduate student Horrick Sharma won the Tom Lemke Award for the best poster at the MALTO meeting. Sharma's poster was about the synthesis and docking studies of phenanthrene beta-diketoacids as novel HIV-1 Integrase inhibitors.

The MALTO research conference is a forum where graduate and postdoctoral fellows can present the results of their research in a collegial atmosphere. The organization includes faculty and students from medicinal chemistry and pharmacognosy programs in colleges and schools of pharmacy from Mississippi, Arkansas, Louisiana, Texas, Tennessee and Oklahoma. The objectives are to exchange scientific knowledge, to report new discoveries and research progress in medicinal chemistry and other related areas, to aid the scientific education of college and university students in medicinal chemistry and related areas, and to develop new and better therapeutic drugs.

Yi Zhang Wins Travel Award



Yi Zhang will present "Population pharmacokinetics of caffeine in premature infants" at the American Association of Pharmaceutical Scientists Annual Meeting. The meeting will take place in Washington, DC on October 23-27. She has been awarded funding for travel by the UT College of Graduate Health Sciences. Zhang is a graduate student in Pharmaceutical Sciences, working closely with Professor Bernd Meibohm, Associate Dean for Research and Graduate Programs.

2010-2011 AWARDS, PUBLICATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

UT College of Pharmacy PharmD students, graduate students, residents and fellows are well-recognized for their accomplishments. The following summary highlights awards received by organizations and individuals during the 2010-2011 academic year. See COP News at <http://uthsc.edu/pharmacy/news/cop-newsletters.php> for additional details on these prestigious awards.

2010-2011 PharmD Organization and Student Awards

Organizations	
APhA/ASP	Chapter Achievement in Division A
	Regional Immunization Award
	Five Star Rating for consistent years of outstanding service
	Governor's Environmental Stewardship Award
Rho Chi	Region III Chapter Achievement Award, March 2011
	2010 Summer Chapter Proposal Award
SNPhA	2010 National Convention Registration Award
	Top 3 Chapter in Chauncey I
Phi Delta Chi	Award for achieving 100% in the Achievement Awards Program
	2 nd place in scholarship
	3 rd place in chapter publication
	5 th chapter nationally (out of 60)
Students	
Titilola Afolabi and Alda Shepard	1 st place at SNPhA Regions I & II Patient Counseling Competition, March 2011
Sloan Regen and Danesha Williams	2 nd place at SNPhA Regions I & II Patient Counseling Competition, March 2011
Christina York	2010 AfterCollege Pharmacy Student Scholarship Fund
Taylor Bearden Burich, Jennifer Krauss and Christiana N. Udoji	Represented COP at Meharry/Vanderbilt Interdisciplinary Case Competition
Kendra Young	Holland Book Award; serves on the National Executive SNPhA Committee as an appointed Chair to both Chronic Kidney Disease and Diabetes Mellitus areas; placed 2 nd in SNPhA National Clinical Skills competition (with Christa Nance)
Christa Nance	Placed 2 nd in SNPhA National Clinical Skills Competition
Danesha Williams and Sandra Weissmiller	Placed 3 rd in SNPhA National Clinical Skills competition
Valeana Ruffin	Power to End Stroke Chair of SNPhA and an officer on SNPhA National Executive Committee
Alda Shepherd	Rite Aid Scholarship

2010-2011 PharmD Organization and Student Awards – continued

Zachary Germann	National Pharmaceutical Association Endowed Scholarship
Morgan Rainey	“Future Pharmacists Future Leaders” Scholarship Pharmacy Award
April Joyner, Emma Gant, Stephanie Bryant, Leslie Smith (Titlola Afolabi and Jana Sterling, alternates)	National Alliance for State Pharmacy Associations and Nonprescription Medicine Academy (NASPA/NMA) 1 st Annual Student Pharmacist Self Care Championship
Johanna Norman	Best Student Poster at the American College of Clinical Pharmacy 2010 Annual Meeting on October 18, 2010 in Austin, Texas.
Margaret Thompson	PharmD/PhD student; awarded the Pfizer Pre-Doctoral Fellowship for Pharmaceutical Sciences by the American Foundation for Pharmaceutical Education for the third consecutive year
Ashley Dick	Inaugural George Roentsch Scholarship

2010-2011 Graduate Student, Resident and Fellows Awards

Emma Tillman	ASPEN Pharmacy Practice Section New Practitioner Recognition; Harry M. Vars Research Award, February 2011; \$2000 Neonatal Pharmacy Resident/Fellow Research Grant, Pediatric Pharmacy Advocacy Group; \$77,000 K12 Scholar Program. The University of Tennessee Clinical and Translational Science Institute; American Society for Parenteral and Enteral Nutrition (ASPEN), 2010 Scientific Abstract of Distinction
Pavan K. Vaddady	AAPS Graduate Student Symposium Award in Pharmacokinetics, Pharmacodynamics and Drug Metabolism & Clinical Pharmacology
Stephanie Grimes and Alan Knauth	APhA-APRS Best Postgraduate Paper Award at the APhA Meeting in Seattle, WA; Residents at Blount Memorial Hospital

2010-2011 PharmD & Graduate Student, Resident and Fellow Presentations

During the 2010-2011 academic year, UT College of Pharmacy PharmD students, residents, graduate students and fellows presented at numerous state and national conferences. There were eight PharmD student presentations at TSHP, ACCP, ASHP, and AACP, and TPA. During TSHP, APhA and ASHP, there were 37 UT College of Pharmacy resident presentations. At least one graduate student presented during the American College of Clinical Pharmacology Conference and at least one fellow presented at ASPEN’s Clinical Nutrition Week.

2010-2011 PharmD & Graduate Student, Resident and Fellow Publications

Vo KH*, Waddell JA, Suda KJ. Rapid development of infusion-related severe hypotension during rituximab therapy. *Ann Pharmacotherapy*. May 2011;45:DOI 10.1345/aph.1P733 (published online 19 April 2011).

Baker JW, Leidy KL, Smith KM*, Okeke US. Argyria associated with the use of systemic colloidal silver. *Federal Practitioner*. Jan 2011;28(1):39-42.

Eppert HD, Goddard KB*, King CL*. Successful treatment with drotrecogin alfa (activated) in a pregnant patient with severe sepsis. *Pharmacotherapy* 2011;31(3):333.

Gray-Winnett MD*, Davis CS*, Yokley SG*, Franks AS. From dispensing to disposal: The role of student pharmacists in medication disposal and the implementation of a takeback program. *J Am Pharm Assoc* 2010;50:613-618.

Goddard KB*, Eppert HD, Underwood LL*, McLean KM*, Finks SW, Rogers KC. Basic Life Support and Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation Training for Pharmacy Students and the Community by a Pharmacy Student Committee. *Am J Pharm Edu* 2010;74:100.

Foster SL, Moore WP*. High-dose influenza vaccination in the elderly. *JAPhA* 2010;50:547-547.

Helms RA, Tillman EM*, Patel AJ, Kerner JA. Protein digestion, absorption and metabolism. In: *The A.S.P.E.N. Pediatric Nutrition Support Core Curriculum*. Silver Spring, MD: American Society for Parenteral and Enteral Nutrition, 2010:31-44.

Tillman EM*, Helms RA, Black DD. Eicosapentaenoic acid and docosahexaenoic acid synergistically attenuate bile acid-induced hepatocellular apoptosis. *Pharmacotherapy* 2010;30:436e.

Tillman EM*, Norman, JL, Helms RA. Comparison of the incidence of parenteral nutrition-associated liver disease in infants with congenital heart disease and infants with necrotizing enterocolitis. *Pharmacotherapy* 2010;30:442e.

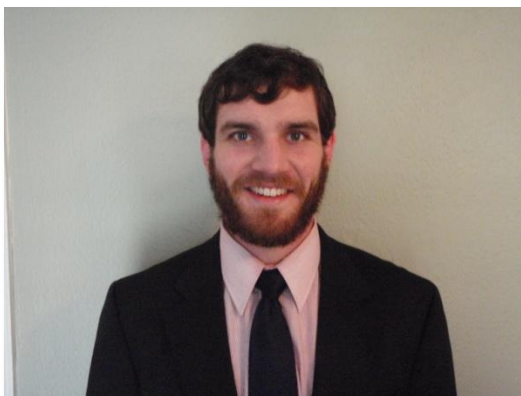
Tillman EM*, Black DD, Norman JL, Helms, RA. High incidence of parenteral nutrition-associated liver disease in infants with necrotizing enterocolitis independent of bowel resection. *Hepatology* 2010;52:1038A.

Tillman EM, Neudeck BL, Helms RA, Black DD. Eicosapentaenoic acid attenuates bile acid-induced apoptosis via the FAS and TRAIL-R2 death receptors in HepG2 cells. *Hepatology* 2009;50:370A.

STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

PharmD Student Jake Smith

Hometown: McKenzie; Undergraduate **Institution:** Austin Peay State University



How would you describe your experience at UT COP? Amazing. I came to UT because of its reputation for introducing students to a wide variety of academic and career opportunities. After my 3+ years here, the college has exceeded its reputation. I have been exposed to clinical, research, and leadership opportunities that I know no other school in this area can provide. I believe my time at UTCOP has and will continue to better prepare me for the next steps in my career.

You just finished your year as PSGA president. What were the greatest challenges and rewards of your position? **Challenges:** This position is one of the most involved leadership roles you can take at the COP. As PSGA president, a lot is expected of you and as such time management is obviously a great challenge. But the greatest challenge for me was learning to ask for help when I needed it. I was lucky to have an enthusiastic executive council that was always willing to lend a hand. Once I learned to utilize their energetic leadership styles, I was able to reduce my personal stress level and stay focused on class and exams ... which it turns out you still have to take.

Rewards: This position offers networking and leadership development opportunities I would never have gotten had I not taken the role. I was able to attend committee meetings on the college and campus levels and be involved in decisions that were made by college and university faculty and administrators, as well as the chancellor. Being student body president helped me to grow in my interpersonal communication and decision-making skills and afforded me the opportunity to get to know those that make UTHSC and the College of Pharmacy tick. Serving as the student representative for the UT College of Pharmacy was an enormous honor for me. I felt lucky when I was accepted into the class of 2012 and did not want to take the opportunity for granted. I take a lot of pride in knowing I was able to represent such an outstanding institution and my fellow students.

We have a new class of students beginning in August. What advice would you give them as they embark on this program? *Hit the ground running.* The first couple of weeks of pharmacy school are as exciting as when you first began undergrad. You are meeting new people and exploring a new city and every night there is going to be someone wanting you to do something else. You just want to make sure you stay focused on the reason you are here. Your class will have exams before any student that has ever come before you. If you allow yourself to get too caught up in the excitement of the P1 year, you may find yourself in trouble. Just stay focused ... and have fun.

PharmD Student Jake Smith – continued

What do you like to do for fun? Watch baseball, play with my dog (Ted), eat, sit down, see the city, go to concerts, watch TV, listen to the radio/music, play softball, hike, travel, etc., etc., etc. Once I began my clinical rotations, I learned to appreciate any available downtime. When I find some, I take full advantage.

You are now a P4, with only a year left. Do you know what you want to do after graduation? I hope to match with a residency program that provides both clinical and administrative aspects. Ideally, I would like to match with a program offering a supplemental degree in healthcare administration.

Graduate Student Hilaire Playa

Hometown: Memphis; **Undergraduate Institution:** Christian Brothers University

What is your area of research? Medicinal Chemistry. Specifically, we are looking at designing novel inhibitors of nucleoside transporters both as research tools and possible drug candidates.

How would you describe your experience as a graduate student? I've learned a lot and come to a point where I see how much is out there that we still know little to nothing about. It's taught me to always ask questions and that working in tandem with others is an important aspect of achieving results.

What has been the greatest challenge and the greatest reward of this program? The greatest challenge is really the fact that I'm not a traditional student. I'm a divorced mom with three kids. The financial stress and time limitations have been interesting hurdles. The greatest reward has been learning that I'm up to the challenge and I never run out of questions to pursue in my research.

What would you like to do once you graduate? I'm still exploring my options, but I'm leaning towards a lab director type position as it would allow me to utilize my skills without the time demand of a faculty position.

When you're not studying or conducting research, what do you like to do for fun? I spend time with my kids, bike, garden, practice karate, and write fiction.



Acknowledgements

Special thanks to Stephanie Weathers and Melissa Smith for their contributions to this edition of the newsletter.



Happy Independence Day!

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The University of Tennessee College of Pharmacy

Please submit news items to dbyrd4@uthsc.edu or jbogue@uthsc.edu



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