

One who mixes ingredients, drugs or medications: a pharmacist

Kāwili Lā'au



The Daniel K. Inouye College of Pharmacy at the University of Hawai'i at Hilo

Winter 2017 • Volume 9, Issue 2



Farewell Representative Tsuji



Class of 2020
White Coat Ceremony
features special guests

– See page 4



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Dean's Message



osing another great statesman last year from the Big Island was a big blow not only to Hawai'i but, certainly, to our College of Pharmacy. Rep. Clift Tsuji was someone we could count on because he truly believed we contribute more than we take. On many visits to the college or when I would visit him in his capitol office, he would listen intently, break out in his famous grin and say the line I came to associate with him: "that's terrific!" I know his legacy lives on in the foundation of faith in our leaders that he left behind. I hope our story and photo essay shows just some of our affection and interaction with this warm, caring soul.

In keeping with the tradition of every White Coat Ceremony, we had an exemplary leader speak to the first-year student pharmacists. This year we invited a national luminary in the pharmacy world. Rear Admiral Scott Giberson, former deputy surgeon general in the Obama administration. In addition to his White Coat address to our students and families, he also brought his amazing stories of inspiration to our faculty and student leaders in a special leadership symposium.

But his aide was perhaps more significant to me and to many in the audience. Dr. Rovigel "Jill" Gelviro was one of the graduates of our inaugural Class of 2011. As my student advisee who I have had the privilege to mentor throughout the years, I remember her attending her own White Coat Ceremony, our first ever, 10 years ago. Now she is a lieutenant commander in the Commission Corps, working as a dynamic clinical pharmacist in delivering health care to rural Alaska. Her interaction with our current students shows them what they can aspire too. That's the kind of inspiration you can't put a price on.

Needless to say, RADM Giberson embodies inspiration. He told me a story about the time he was in Africa as the head of the U.S. Team there to help victims of the Ebola virus. Interrupted during a critical meeting, his cell phone flashed POTUS. "How do you not answer a call from the President of the United States?" he asked incredulously. President Obama was calling him to get an update on his progress and give him encouragement. The President later honored him with his Challenge Coin, one of the most honorable gifts one can receive especially from a high ranking military officer, in this case of course, the Commander in Chief. At the student leader gathering, RADM Giberson presented me with his Challenge Coin, certainly the highest military ranking coin I may ever receive. His gift affirms that I must continue to live up to the challenges of being a leader.

Every December marks our largest clinical meeting, the ASHP Clinical Midyear meeting. This year marked our largest gathering of alumni, faculty, students and 20 of our most recent graduates currently in residency. In this issue, we are able to show some personal stories about the incredible results of a DKICP education on future lives and careers.

Imua!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Carolyn Ma".

Carolyn Ma
Associate Professor and Dean





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Administration

Carolyn Ma

Dean

Supakit Wongwiwatthananukit

Interim Associate Dean
for Academic Affairs

Linda Connelly

Chair, Pharmaceutical Sciences

Roy Goo

Chair, Pharmacy Practice

Karen Pellegrin

Director, Strategic Planning and
Continuing Education

Daryl Masanda

Director, Student Services

Lara Gomez

Director, Clinical Education

Kāwili Lā'au Editor

Maggie Morris

Graphic Production

UH Hilo Graphics Services

Published by the

College of Pharmacy

University of Hawai'i at Hilo

200 W. Kāwili St. Hilo, Hawai'i

96720 Phone: 808-933-2909

Fax: 808-933-2974

<http://pharmacy.uhh.hawaii.edu>

Pharmacy@hawaii.edu

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On the cover: A DKICP tribute to Representative Clift Tsuji, who passed away unexpectedly. Insert: Leading health care official Admiral Scott Giberson spoke to students in the fall, accompanied by his aide, Lieutenant Commander Jill Gelviro, DKICP alumna from the Class of 2011.

Expressing appreciation, sorrow for passing of Rep. Clift Tsuji

Hawai'i Representative Clift Tsuji, 74, passed away at The Queen's Medical Center on Oahu Nov. 15. Tsuji, who was a valued DKICP supporter, represented House District 2 including Keaukaha, parts of Hilo, Pana'ewa and Wai'ākea.

Rep. Tsuji teamed with the late Senator Gil Kahele to provide evidence to the Hawai'i state legislature that DKICP was worthy of funding for a permanent building. He was a constant, smiling presence in many DKICP events, including Commencement, many White Coat Ceremonies, educational visits and more.

"Rep. Clift Tsuji played a major role in shaping us as a college in ways that many of us probably do not realize," stated Dean Carolyn Ma. "For many years, Rep. Tsuji was our champion on the House side of the state's legislature. His sudden passing reminds us to stop for a moment and give thanks for friends and supporters who grace us with their time and efforts."

Rep. Tsuji was first elected to District 3 of the House of Representatives in 2004 and was chairman of the Agriculture Committee. Among his many awards he was named the Hawaii Farm Bureau's Legislator of the Year Award in 2015.

He succeeded Jerry Chang, now UH Hilo director of university relations, to represent District 2 when the Big Island was redistricted in 2012. The pair had worked side by side for many years.



Dean Carolyn Ma with Clift Tsuji

"He worked tirelessly from getting the program approved by the Board of Regents to helping to acquire legislative funding for a new building." – Jerry Chang

"It was a pleasure working with my good friend and colleague, Representative Clift Tsuji, who was a staunch supporter of the UH Hilo College of Pharmacy," Chang said. "He worked tirelessly from getting the program approved by the Board of Regents to helping to acquire legislative funding for a new building."

Raised in Papaikou on the Big Island of Hawai'i, he was a 1959 graduate of Hilo High School. He completed his post-secondary degrees at the University of Hawai'i at Manoa and the University of Washington, Pacific Coast Banking School. Rep. Tsuji served in the U.S. Army Reserve, 442nd Infantry, Company B, Hilo, from 1959-1965. He was program director at KIPA Radio, and senior vice president of Central Pacific Bank for more than 30 years.

He was active with the Hilo Medical Center Foundation, Hawai'i Island Japanese Community Association, Pacific Tsunami Museum, Hiroshima Kenjin Kai, Hawai'i Island Chamber of Commerce, and the Kumamoto Kenjin Kai.

"As with Gil Kahele, I have been friends with Clift Tsuji for a lot of years and the Big Island feels a little less substantial without them. Behind that modest demeanor was a man who thought deeply and carefully about what was best for



Clift Tsuji with Jerry Chang

the people of Hawai'i, and the College of Pharmacy was among the top on his list of positive causes he chose to support. And with our stirring issues and pressing controversies, Hawai'i will miss his sensibility and his civic-minded concern for the well being of Hawai'i and, likewise, his approachableness and manner of civility. I will miss him greatly," said Gerald De Mello, former director of university relations for UH Hilo who is credited for helping to shape the College of Pharmacy from the ground up.





Class of 2020 receives inspiration from top pharmacist in the nation at White Coat Ceremony

Eighty student pharmacists were addressed by an influential pharmacist who has held top posts in the Obama administration at this year's the Daniel K. Inouye College of Pharmacy (DKICP) White Coat Ceremony on October 16 in the UH Hilo Performing Arts Center. The event took place from 2-4 p.m.

Rear Admiral (RADM) Scott Giberson was the keynote speaker at DKICP's 10th annual event. He is the U.S. Assistant Surgeon General and Former Acting Deputy Surgeon General, a position where he managed more than 1,150 government pharmacists. RADM Giberson is currently Deputy Director of the Office of Human Capital in the Office

of Human Capital within the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services.

As recipient of the 2013 American Society of Health-System Pharmacists Award of Excellence, he maintains dual

licensure as a pharmacist and clinician having earned a bachelor's degree in pharmacy from Temple University. RADM Giberson also has a master's degree in public health from the University of Massachusetts, and a graduate certificate in Health Emergencies in Large Populations. He received an Honorary Doctor of Science from Lake Erie College of Osteopathic Medicine for his body of work on improvement of patient and health-system outcomes through health professional collaboration.

RADM Giberson reflected on his work on the Ebola virus in Africa and about his own career to the audience of more than 200 (see speech excerpts below). His advice to the pharmacy students was to "be dynamic, have balance, and exemplify resilience."



RADM Scott Giberson with former President Barack Obama

Accompanying Admiral Giberson was his aide, Lieutenant Commander (LCDR) Jill Gelviro, DKICP alumna from the inaugural class of 2011. Gelviro became a commissioned officer with the U.S. Public Health Service after completing her residency at the Phoenix Indian Medical Center in Phoenix and began her career in Anchorage, Alaska, where she currently holds the position of integrated clinical pharmacist for South Central Foundation's Rural Anchorage Service Unit.

Chancellor Donald Straney welcomed the students, their family and friends to the ceremony, which signifies a rite of passage for individuals entering their first year in the professional program. Students recited the Oath of a Pharmacist after being cloaked with a short white coat symbolizing their student status and their commitment to uphold the values of the profession.

Dean Carolyn Ma, speaking for the first time to the group since being appointed dean of the College, told the group about her own experience as a pharmacy student when she had her sights set on becoming a clinical pharmacist.

"Honestly, I don't think I envisioned much more than that but I know that was on a speeding train into an exciting era where clinical training of pharmacists was starting to really take hold, and for the next 30 years, clinical pharmacy in the hospitals and in the ambulatory care settings reached that milestone," she said. "The train that you, the class of 2020 and the hundreds of our other graduates is on, is the next huge movement the pharmacy profession is on, and that is to gain provider status on a state and national level, which will allow us to even help further those in need."

Dr. Sheri Tokumaru introduced three new residents and presented them with long white coats that indicates

"The train that you, the class of 2020 and the hundreds of our other graduates is on, is the next huge movement the pharmacy profession is on, and that is to gain provider status on a state and national level, which will allow us to even help further those in need." – Dean Ma

their transition to medical practitioner. The pharmacy residents have earned their Doctor of Pharmacy degrees and are continuing their training with DKICP faculty on Kaua'i and O'ahu. Beginning first-year residencies are Bryce Fukunaga and Aryn You, both from DKICP Class of 2016 and starting a second-year residency is Nicole Young (DKICP Class of 2015), who completed her PGY1 residency last year at PeaceHealth St. Joseph Medical Center in Billingsman, Washington.

Dr. Ghee Tan, director of the Ph.D. program in Pharmaceutical Sciences, coated and recognized six students for beginning their journey in pharmacy research. They are Md Samiul Huq Atanu, John Jacob, Sasha Kovacs, Tapanee Maibunkaew, Md Afjalus Siraj and Kh Ahammad Uz Zaman.

Faculty who assisted in the coating were Supakit Wongwiwatthananutit, interim associate dean for academic affairs; Aaron Jacobs, from the Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences; Michelle Kim, Sheri Tokumaru, Patricia Juszczak and George Karvas, all from the Department of Pharmacy Practice.

Ka Haka 'Ula O Ke'elikōlani College of Hawaiian Language performed the mele ho'okipa, or welcoming chant, Ua Ao Hawai'i.

The annual event, once again sponsored by Walgreens, also featured speaker Hayley Park, who received her bachelors and PharmD degrees in Toronto, Canada and is now Walgreen's regional healthcare director.

(Photos by Robbyn Peck)



(From left) Chancellor Donald Straney, Dr. Rovigel "Jill" Gelviro, and Dean Carolyn Ma congratulate student pharmacists at White Coat Ceremony



RADM Scott Giberson tells first-year student pharmacists to 'Build Your Ship...'

(Excerpted speech to Class of 2020 White Coat Ceremony)

This ceremony signifies a rite of passage for individuals entering their first year in the professional program. Your dean entrusted me to provide initial remarks to you -- a group of health professional students who are beginning a new journey. A group that, when ready, can have so much future impact on communities and populations. I take this responsibility very seriously. To be honest, most students and graduates never remember who they had as a speaker during commencements or events like this White Coat ceremony. I'm certain if I asked your parents they wouldn't remember either. So, across the next 13 minutes, let's see if I can change that...and leave you with words that you will remember for years to come. Today, my responsibility is to inspire you.



As we are surrounded by the largest body of water in the world, there is an applicable quote you may have come across that says, "A ship is safest in the harbor, yet it is built for the Sea." As doctor of pharmacy students, you are now in the academic shipyard of this College. You will be "built" by this college with knowledge, forged with skills and experience that provide you with the capacity to have great impact. Realize, however, that the capacity to have impact doesn't mean you will have impact. In order to realize your potential and effectuate this change, you will have to leave the harbor and sail to open water.

Will there be challenges to navigate along the way? Certainly.

Just ask your professors, the dean, and yes, your family. In everyone's life, there are challenges or rough water.

Only two years ago, President Obama asked our Corps if we had the capability to deploy to Africa and provide direct medical care for healthcare workers sick with Ebola. This was certainly a high risk / high visibility mission fraught with unparalleled challenges -to the level of life and death. I had the privilege to serve as the mission's Commander across a seven-month period as they worked day in and day out in a hot zone with arguably the most deadly virus known in the world amidst the worst Ebola outbreak in documented history. We witnessed people of all ages succumb to the disease.

While there, President Obama called me on my cell phone and told our team it is 'pretty rare that we have the opportunity to save tens of thousands of lives.' This rather extreme example illuminates that although we were generally 'built' to respond, we would never have that level of impact unless we left our comfort zone, faced the challenges and 'set sail' on the mission. We conquered many challenges and learned that the way we were "built", our capacity and our approach to the mission was able to overcome the barriers. It resulted in a resoundingly successful mission getting the most affected countries to zero cases.

So, as you meet and overcome the challenges of your academic career, you learn more about who you are as a person; your resolve, your discipline, and your resilience. These challenges help steady your ship as you gain the confidence needed to succeed. I guarantee if you continue to accept and overcome challenges, when others may feel turbulence in the waters, you will be prepared and calm.

Let me ask you this... Is it appropriate that 600K middle school students still smoke? How about the fact that Americans consume more calories on average per day than anyone else in the world. More specifically to the communities where you live – Hawai'i's health indicators note the challenges you must overcome in terms of chronic disease, alcoholism, substance use and access to care. They also note cultural and language barriers that inhibit effective intervention. These are just some examples, where, as a Doctor of pharmacy student you can tool yourself for success, build your ship effectively and make an impact. Whether you are a champion across geographical boundaries or one that reaches across diverse cultures, make the choice to have impact. Do not be satisfied with the status quo.

While researching this College of Pharmacy, I found your vision and mission. They spoke of "driving" improvement of health care (in Hawai'i and the Pacific Rim), focusing on its unique culture and environment. They also spoke about you serving as a catalyst for innovations and discoveries – embracing opportunities – and the College's commitment to lifelong learning. The vision and mission suggest you will not be content with the status quo; that you will innovate and lead.

Since I have been privileged to serve in uniform, I have been afforded opportunities that I never take for granted. Among these experiences my ship continued to be built – in essence the lifelong learning that is supported here. With these, I want to share three ideals with you that have helped me overcome challenges throughout my career and life.

The first of these ideals is to be Dynamic. To be dynamic is to be characterized by an energy that can elicit optimism and action. It affords you the ability to engage in many areas and across diverse topic areas and populations. Being dynamic allows you to quickly draw from a portfolio of experience to build coalitions that drive progress and resolve problems. A dynamic person seizes opportunity, which can mean the difference between being average and being great. A dynamic person can harness their passion and use it to inspire others.

The second ideal is to have Balance. Think of riding a bicycle as symbolic of the balance needed in life -- you must literally keep moving to maintain balance and avoid obstacles. Be diverse. Get involved in the community, travel, spend time with your family. Can you reject society's ignorant notion that those who work the longest hours or that have the most money will be the most successful or content? I hope you can...because some of the most exceptional leaders that I have ever known have tremendous balance in their lives.

Finally, exemplify resilience. There are many ways to define resilience. One example is simple to define...when you fall off that bicycle I just mentioned, get back on. Resilience is the ability to absorb disturbances, reorganize through change, and yet retain the same identity. In today's world, change is inevitable. It is frequent, it is fast and it is often unforgiving. Resilience suggests we can adapt and yet maintain who we are as individuals.

So, be dynamic, have balance, and exemplify resilience.

To the families and friends of these graduates, be proud of these young men and women. You are appreciated more than you know, but your work is not over. You are their most valuable asset and your support is needed as they embark upon this new journey.

I hope these remarks resonate with students that will take action, students that want to make a difference, to lead and have impact. When I look at you, I see enthusiasm and energy. Our Nation needs to embrace you and craft the future through you. You will help shape our nation's health. You will inspire me.

Learn from you mentors, listen to the faculty, innovate and inspire others. Believe that you are the difference-maker. So with that in mind, build your ship accordingly.

Congratulations on obtaining your White Coat – As we say in the Sea Services to those men and women that are about to set sail on their journey, I wish you "Fair Winds and Following Seas."

Distinguished individuals in pharmacy share their leadership philosophy

By Matt Chen (Class of 2018)



On the morning of October 15, 2016, student pharmacists and faculty of the University of Hawaii's Daniel K. Inouye College of Pharmacy (DKICP) were presented with the opportunity of a lifetime. Rear Admiral (RADM) Scott F. Giberson and Lieutenant Commander (LCDR) Rovigel "Jill" Gelviro, two distinguished leaders in the field of pharmacy, took time out of their busy schedules to speak with the student body. During this Pharmacy Leadership Society event, they shared with us knowledge not only about the different facets of pharmacy practice within the Uniformed Services but also about their leadership journey.

LCDR Gelviro's began her presentation with a photo from her white coat ceremony. She then explained the United States Public Health Service, the Commissioned Corps and the various opportunities they have for student pharmacists. As a DKICP alumna, LCDR Gelviro was able to draw on the experiences she had as a student pharmacist at our College and talk about how the opportunities she engaged in at DKICP got her where she is today. One of

the stories she mentioned involved the local American Pharmacists Association - Academy of Student Pharmacists (APhA-ASP) Chapter. As a member of this organization and a prior enlisted Air Force Veteran, LCDR Gelviro established the first health fair at the Yukio Okutsu State Veterans Home. The purpose of holding an event inside this facility was to provide healthcare services to community members who cannot make it out to screening events as readily as others can. Student pharmacists who volunteer at this event were not only able to provide a service to the veterans who fought to protect this nation but were also able to gain valuable interpersonal skills vital in interacting with a population that is going to make up a large portion of their future patients. Her legacy in that organization is still felt to this day because the Chapter currently continues this long-standing tradition. From her involvement at DKICP, LCDR Gelviro was able to find her passion in helping those with limited access to care. This experience played a role in her decision to join the Southcentral Foundation's Rural Anchorage Service Unit to provide pharmaceutical care to remote Alaskan Villages. It was inspiring for the students and faculty in attendance to see a successful leader in our field who had started their leadership journey at our College.

RADM Giberson's presentation revolved around the theme of resilience as the mainstay in leadership. Pharmacy school prepares us to become leaders in the healthcare field, and as the next generation of pharmacists, it is important that we take the initiative to advance patient care at every given opportunity. Amidst the challenges that present-day healthcare presents, we must remain resilient and show that the value a pharmacist brings to the healthcare team is indispensable. When we took the oath to join the pharmacy profession, we vowed to engage ourselves in a lifelong pursuit of knowledge and to apply the wisdom we accumulated to ensure optimal outcomes for our patients. One of the main points RADM Giberson emphasized is the need for accessible healthcare in the United States. Current legislation has made coverage more affordable for patients but not necessarily more available. With over



270 million pharmacy visits throughout the nation every week, pharmacists are one of the most accessible medical professionals in the field of healthcare. We have been equipped with knowledge and wisdom that we are eager to share with our patients, but it is up to us to make it known.

As we move forward into the healthcare field, we should aim to dispel the notion that pharmacists are mere pill pushers and demonstrate that our job as patient-oriented healthcare practitioners benefit individuals by ensuring that drugs dispensed are safe, affordable, effective, and tailored to their specific needs. Through this, we can aspire to become the change we hope to see.

We would like to thank RADM Giberson and LCDR Gelviro for meeting and taking the time to provide us with an extraordinary talk about leadership in the world of pharmacy. The wisdom they have instilled in us will keep our resilience burning late into our career as we continue to advance pharmacy as a science and as a profession. Their continuous support and dedication to our school, our profession, and our nation is highly regarded and greatly appreciated.



From left: RADM Scott Giberson, Kelly Goo, Matt Chen and LCDR Jill Gelviro.

Guests treated to tour of Kalapana Lava Flow

By Jeffrey Tang (Class of 2018)

In October, I was given the opportunity to explore the Kalapana Lava Flow with two amazing leaders in pharmacy, Rear Admiral (RADM) Scott Giberson and Lieutenant Commander (LCDR) Rovigel "Jill" Gelviro from DKICP's Class of 2011. RADM Giberson and LCDR Gelviro were both very warm and welcoming individuals. During our hike, they treated me and the other student pharmacists like family. The beginning of the hike started with an adventure. While driving down to Kalapana, we took a wrong turn and ended up on an unexpected thirty-minute detour. RADM Giberson and LCDR Gelviro were very understanding. On the bright side, it gave us more time to get to know each other.

Once we arrived at the beginning of the hike, everyone's faces filled with excitement. We decided to rent bicycles to make the trek faster and spend more time viewing the lava. During the hike, I spoke with RADM Giberson and learned that he really enjoys being in the outdoors and going on new adventures.

Along the way to the lava flow, RADM Giberson and LCDR Gelviro were very open to talking about their life experiences and offering advice. The experiences and wisdom that they shared were inspiring. Listening to LCDR Gelviro's accomplishments and knowing that she was once a student at our College filled me with motivation. I felt encouraged that I too could accomplish a lot in my career as a pharmacist. After the hike, they invited us for dinner at a local restaurant in Hilo. I am so appreciative to have experienced this rewarding opportunity to spend time with such accomplished individuals.

(Photos by Jeffrey Tang)



Pharmacists can save millions by reducing medication-related mishaps among elderly

When pharmacists are part of a patient's transition from hospital to home, research in Hawai'i shows medication-related emergencies decrease among those age 65 and older, saving millions more than the cost of the pharmacists annually.



Dr. Karen Pellegrin

“CDC researchers have previously estimated that across the US adverse drug events cause nearly 100,000 emergency hospitalizations annually among patients who are 65 and older,” said Karen L. Pellegrin, director of continuing education/strategic planning for the Daniel K. Inouye College of Pharmacy. “We designed and implemented a pharmacist intervention to change those numbers here in Hawai'i and the results are in. The medication-related hospitalization rate among older adults decreased by more a third and the estimated annual cost of avoided admissions was over \$6 million compared to the cost of the pharmacists, which was less than \$2 million.”

Pellegrin is the principal investigator for the Pharm2Pharm program, a \$14.3 million federally funded health care innovation designed to give pharmacists a more integrated and proactive role in overseeing high-risk patients' medication routines. Researchers evaluated the association between the Pharm2Pharm intervention and the costs of medication-related hospitalization among older adults over a period of two years.

Findings are detailed in a research paper published Oct. 7 in the *Journal of the American Geriatrics Society*, a peer-reviewed source for health care professionals in geriatric medicine

and gerontology. The title of the paper is “Reductions in Medication-Related Hospitalizations in Older Adults with Medication Management by Hospital and Community Pharmacists: A Quasi-Experimental Study.” It can be viewed at: <http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/jgs.14518/full>.

The study examined the pharmacist intervention at six nonfederal, general, acute care hospitals with 50 or more beds in 2013 and 2014, including the four largest hospitals in Hawai'i's three rural counties (Maui, Kauai, Hawai'i) and two hospitals in urban Honolulu County. The other five hospitals on Oahu were tracked as a comparison group. Hawai'i Health Information Corporation (HHIC), the private nonprofit corporation that maintains the only all-payer hospital database in the state, provided the medication-related admission rate per 1,000 admissions of individuals aged 65 and older by quarter for each hospital from 2010 through 2014.

During the two-year implementation period, more than two thousand high-risk inpatients were enrolled in Pharm2Pharm at the intervention hospitals. Of those enrolled, 62 percent were aged 65 and older. Based on a statistical model, the rate of medication-related hospitalizations in individuals aged 65 and older was 36% lower in the intervention hospitals by the last quarter of 2014 than in the nonintervention hospitals.

This research is important in part, she said, because community pharmacists who dispense prescription medications typically have little access to clinical information

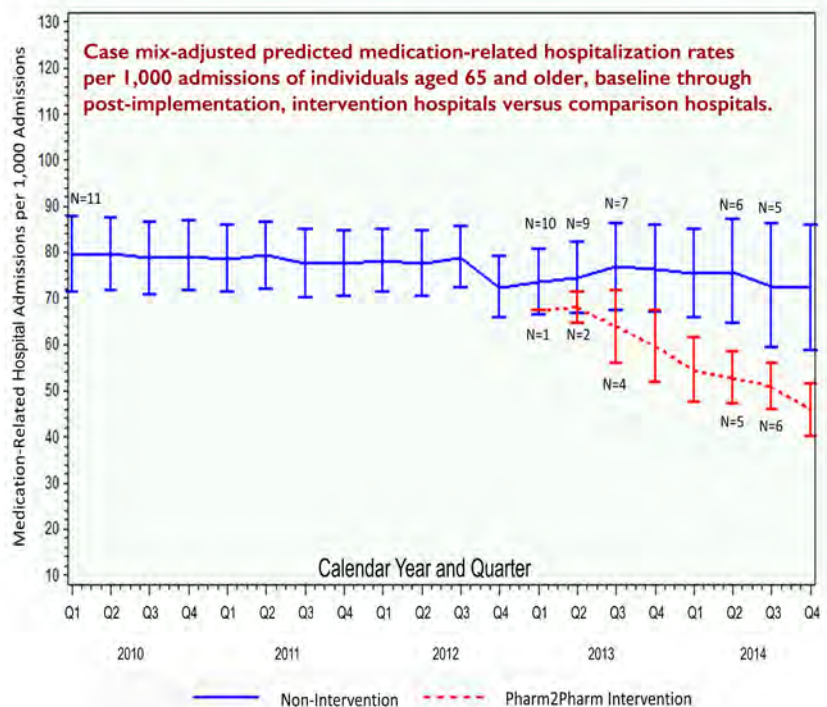


Figure presented online in the *Journal of the American Geriatrics Society* at: <http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/jgs.14518/full> with PDF version at <http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/jgs.14518/epdf>

about the patients, limiting their ability to identify and resolve drug therapy problems. During the Pharm2Pharm model roll out, Hawai'i Health Information Exchange (HHIE) implemented technology that allowed the pharmacists to get lab results and other clinical information electronically to support medication management, which is particularly important where there are shortages of primary care physicians.

"Karen put together a program that confirms that pharmacist are underused and under appreciated in our current healthcare system. I applaud her research, management and development skills that helped to show positive outcomes when pharmacists work directly with patients and their doctors outside of the dispensing functions," said Les Krenk, co-author of the publication, founding officer of the Hawai'i Community Pharmacist Association, and owner of the first community pharmacy to participate in the Pharm2Pharm model.

Further research is needed in larger, more-urban hospitals, to determine whether similar results would be achieved.

The paper was authored by Pellegrin; Krenk; Sheena Jolson Oakes, community consulting pharmacist, Maui Clinic Pharmacy; Anita Ciarleglio, assistant specialist, DKICP; Dr. Joanne Lynn, director of the Center for Elder Care and Advanced Illness at Altarum Institute; Dr. Terry McInnis, president and founder, Blue Thorn Inc.; Dr. Alistair W. Bairos, general surgeon, Kona Community Hospital, Hawai'i Health Systems Corporation; Lara Gomez, director of clinical education, DKICP; Captain Mercedes Benitez McCrary, United States Public Health Service at the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Innovation; Alexandra L. Hanlon, research professor of biostatistics, School of Nursing, University of Pennsylvania; and Jill Miyamura, vice president and COO, Hawai'i Health Information Corporation.

The project described is supported by Funding Opportunity CMS-1C1-12-0001 from CMS Center for Medicare and Medicaid Innovation. Its contents are solely the responsibility of the authors and do not necessarily represent the official views of the Department of Health and Human Services or any of its agencies.

DKICP health fair hosts NED drug take-back and health screenings

By Matt Chen (Class of 2018)

Previous attempts to organize a drug take-back event have been an arduous and unfruitful process. However, with the persistent vigilance of the 8th Annual DKICP Health Fair Committee, this project was brought to fruition. The purpose of this take-back booth is to provide the Hilo community with an opportunity to turn in unused or expired medications for safe and proper disposal. Every year, there are countless medical emergencies associated with accidental ingestion or overdose of prescription drugs. Unused medications left in unsafe places can pose unnecessary risks for seniors, children, or pets living in the household. Moreover, improper disposal may lead to unintended consequences to the environment. Drug take-back programs provide a convenient and cost-effective means to securely dispose of unwanted medications. Thanks to the help of Special Agent Lani Ladao and Brian Kamimura, we were able to collect and properly dispose of more than 15 pounds of prescription and non-prescription drugs. In addition to this new booth, this year's DKICP Health



Fair also included improved health screenings. Rather than having the students each perform a single test on every individual, each student pharmacist carried out the entire screening process for every patient from start to finish. The idea came from how The ALOHA Project conducts their health screenings. By following the patient throughout the comprehensive screening process, student pharmacists were able to build a genuine rapport with the community member. The screening services that were offered included blood pressure measurements, blood glucose checks, asthma and COPD control assessments, smoking cessation counseling, and ASCVD risk score evaluations. Overall, our students provided a total of 288 different screenings to members of the community. It is our hope that we continue to enhance our screening process and look for opportunities to further improve the health and quality of life in the Big Island.

College of Pharmacy embraces community spirit at 8th annual health fair

The University of Hawai'i at Hilo Daniel K. Inouye College of Pharmacy presented its 8th Annual Health Fair on Saturday, October 22, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Prince Kuhio Plaza in Hilo.

More than 150 student pharmacists hosted 19 education booths and provided more than 280 health screenings. There were also live demonstrations, entertainment, giveaways, and a keiki poster contest for elementary school students.

Longs Drugs at Prince Kuhio Plaza offered a CVS Flu Clinic staffed by DKICP Student Pharmacists that provided 56 vaccinations including flu, hepatitis A and pneumonia. DKICP students also registered 22 people for the Hawai'i Bone Marrow Donor Registry. Other participating organizations included A Dream Come True Foundation, Aloha Care, Arc of Hilo, Blue Zones, Center for the Study of Active Volcanoes, Hawai'i County Civil Defense, Hawai'i County Department of Health, Hawai'i Family Dental, Hawai'i Food Basket, Hawai'i Health Connector, Hawai'i Island Diabetes Coalition, Hawaiian Islands AIDS and HIV Foundation, HMSA, Hui Malama Hawai'i, Medical Reserve Corps, NAMI - National Alliance of Mental Illness - Big Island, Partners in Developments, Project Vision Hawai'i, Senior Medicare Patrol, and United Healthcare.

Following is a reflection of the event by Chair Kelli Goo (Class of 2018):

The Daniel K. Inouye College of Pharmacy's (DKICP) Annual Health Fair is the largest community outreach event that our College holds each year. With each passing year, our students and faculty are able to positively impact the health of more members of the community. At the Health Fair, community members are able to enjoy local entertainment and win prizes to assist them on their paths to lead healthy and active lifestyles.



For this year's 8th Annual DKICP Health Fair, Spencer's Health and Fitness Center and Penn Training and Fitness Center generously donated a total of seven one-month gym memberships to give away as grand prizes. Other companies, such as Starbucks, Jamba Juice, and Safeway, also donated prizes for the event. Chromagraphx, an Oahu-based company, provided a beautiful banner to advertise the Health Fair and display above the stage.

The Health Fair was a day filled with fun, learning, health screenings, and immunizations. Student pharmacists, pre-pharmacy student volunteers, and attendees started the morning with Zumba, led by Carissa Pajo. The entertainment line-up included Waiakea Intermediate School's Ukulele Band, Hula Hālau Nā Pua `O Uluhaimālama, Puna Taiko, and the University of Hawai'i at Hilo's Filipino Club. There were also educational and interactive activities for children to enjoy, such as ice cream and silly putty compounding, and learning how to make healthy choices while eating. Children who visited all of the Keiki Stations at the Health Fair were eligible to receive a balloon animal, made by third-year pharmacy student, Ronald Susa.



At the Health Fair, submissions for the Keiki Poster Contest were on display for everyone to view. This year's contest theme was "Healthy Eating in Hawai'i." Students from kindergarten through sixth grade submitted original artwork relating to the theme. This year, seven schools from around the island participated in the contest. Our College received a total of 191 submissions. All of the submissions were very impressive and the amount of creativity and thoughtfulness exhibited by the students was admirable. Each student's submission entered their class a chance to win a pizza party. This year's pizza party winner was Gayle Bruce's fifth grade class at Pahoa Elementary School. In addition, at least three students from each grade level received gift cards of varying amounts for first, second, and third place winners. The prizes were generously donated by DKICP student organizations and class councils.

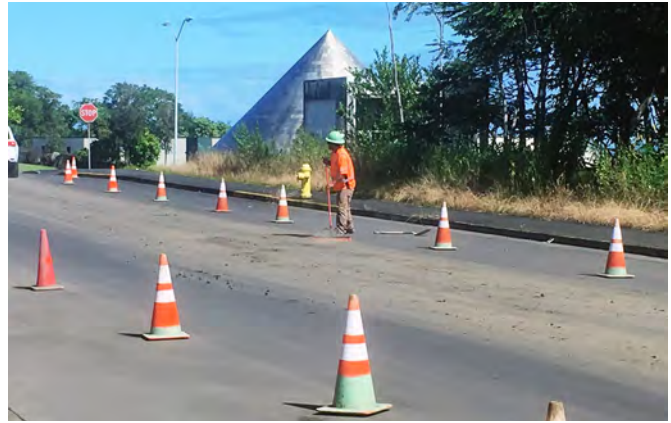
The DKICP Health Fair is one of the first community outreach opportunities that first-year student pharmacists are able to become involved in. By choosing to participate, students build relationships with peers from different classes and gain mentors and friends. Looking back, it seems like just yesterday that I signed up to volunteer at the Generation Rx educational board during my first year at DKICP. During my second year, I served as co-chair of the health screenings portion of the event. This year, I was given the opportunity to serve as Chair for the 8th Annual DKICP Health Fair. Being

involved with the Health Fair for the past three years has been very fulfilling. The Health Fair provided me and my peers with the perfect venue to give back to the Hawai'i community and help people to play an active role in their health and wellbeing. Under the guidance of our dedicated faculty, students are able to utilize what they have learned in their didactic coursework to make a difference and grow as leaders and professionals. When a group of like-minded individuals come together to achieve a common goal, it is amazing how much can be accomplished. At the end of the day, many members of the community were truly grateful for our efforts. *(Photos by Tracey Niimi)*



Clearing continues in anticipation of building

The rock excavation and chipping continues at the site for DKICP's permanent building on the corner of Nowelo and South A'ohuku Streets on UH Hilo campus. The 20-month project, which was awarded to Hilo's Isemoto and Co., began clearing the land in September. According to Dean Ma: "We remain on schedule and we should have something to show our ACPE accreditation surveyors by the March 7 survey visit." This page contains a sample of the progress being made. Please see the photo gallery at <http://pharmacy.uhh.hawaii.edu/galleries/BreakingGround/index.php> for more photos provided by the Hawai'i Department of Accounting and General Services as well as from Tracey Niimi.



New Ph.D. grad hits ground running in new postdoc position

Kehau Hagiwara earned the right to add Ph.D. after her name after successfully defending her dissertation on Sept. 8. Her defense was held in the conference room at the USDA Forest Service Institute of Pacific Islands Forestry on UH Hilo campus.

Her research is entitled “Marine Organisms and Terrestrial Lichens of Hawai’i as Sources of Bioactive Compounds.” Investigations were directed toward the discovery of biologically active secondary metabolites from marine organisms. Lichens collected around Hawai’i led to the identification of six compounds.

The chair of her dissertation committee was Ghee Tan, associate professor and director of Ph.D. in Pharmaceutical Sciences Program. Members include Shugeng Cao, Dr. Russell Molyneux, Dr. Jonathan Awaya (Outside Member), and Dr. Jason Adolf (External Examiner).

Born and raised in Hilo, Hagiwara has a bachelor’s degree in marine science with a minor in chemistry from UH Hilo. She was awarded a postdoctoral fellowship under a new collaborative effort between the Institute of Marine and Environmental Technology (IMET) under the School of Medicine at University of Maryland-Baltimore and the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST). In this position, which is based in Charleston, SC, she says she experiences both academic and federal research laboratories.



“My specific project looks at extremophilic archaea and bacteria and their ability to produce small molecules that show potential for applications in increasing reproductive cell and embryo viability and stability during cryopreservation,” she explains. “I am currently looking into metabolomics of mainly marine extremophilic bacteria and archaea for quantitative assessments of stress inducible small molecules using high-field NMR. The desirable outcome of the project is to discover and isolate novel small molecules that can be used to promote reproductive cell and embryo viability and stability during cryopreservation.”

She credits her years at DKICP for giving her the background to succeed in her new position.

“The faculty at DKICP was extremely supportive and

helpful in ensuring I had a meaningful learning experience during my PhD program,” she reflects. “I feel that the ability to spend time on the instruments afforded me additional learning opportunities that I would not have gotten at a lot of other programs.”



Pioneering work on Rat Lungworm Disease continues in the Jarvi labs at DKICP

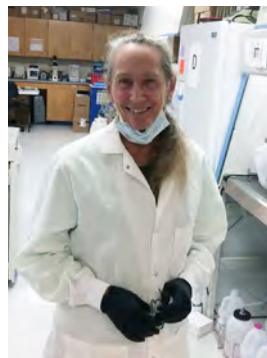


Dr. Susan Jarvi

Dr. Susan Jarvi has been actively involved in a quest to stop rat lungworm disease (RLWD) in Hawai'i and beyond for more than six years. The deadly disease that affects the brain and spinal cord is contracted through ingestion of the nematode *Angiostrongylus cantonensis*, spread when rats eat slugs or snails that have been infected with the parasite. Humans can become infected if they eat unwashed produce where snails have spread their slime.

In her labs at the Daniel K. Inouye College of Pharmacy, Dr. Jarvi formed the Hawai'i Island Rat Lungworm Working Group to find ways to combat the little-known disease. While most of their workers are volunteers, many DKICP students gain experience in the lab, which has been supported by numerous grants including from the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), the United States Fish and Wildlife Service as well as Hawai'i Community Foundation, which last year distributed more than \$45 million to the community of Hawai'i.

One of her most ardent colleagues working by her side is Kay Howe, whose son was in a coma after contracting RLWD. Howe defended her master's degree thesis in November entitled "Addressing angiostrongyliasis on Hawai'i Island with research education



Kay Howe

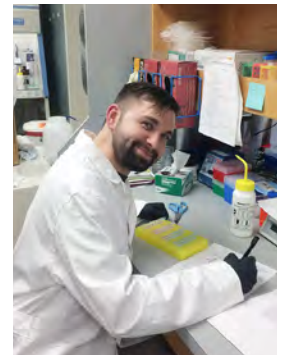
outreach and host control," culminating in a master's degree in Tropical Conservation Biology and Environmental program at UH Hilo. She plans to continue the fight as the researchers look for better, more precise ways to diagnose and come up with cures for the disease.

Here's a brief primer and update on what's going on in her lab today.

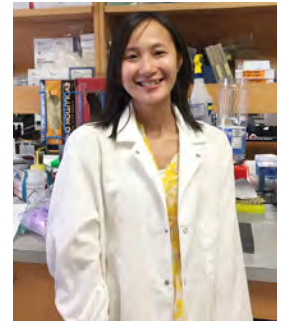
Please explain your lab, who works there and the kind of equipment you use to study RLW.

I currently have three DKICP students working in the Lab -- Robert McHugh and Joann Phan from the Class of 2018, and Deniz Bicakci, from the Class of 2019. Another DKICP Student, Matt Chen, from the Class of 2018, has previously worked with us for two years. Stefano Quarta and Kay Howe will be working on the new grant. Kirsten Snook and Steven Jacquier are volunteers. We also have two high school students working with us this year -- Ina Klasen from Hilo High and Naneaikalaula Thomas from Kamehameha Schools). We have two UHH undergraduate students working with us in the INBRE SRE Program: Crystal Dasalla (pre-med) and Noelle Lovesy (pre-pharmacy). Through the IDeA Networks of Biomedical Research Excellence -- Student Research Experiences (INBRE-SRE) program we are working with HCC Hawai'i Community College Instructor Lisa Kaluna and her two SRE students Jon Botticelli and Bruce Torres Fischer. Because so many are concerned about rat lungworm disease and want to help, we have had many volunteers. Several DKICP

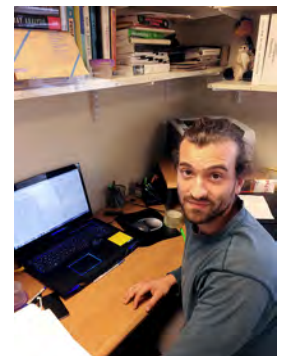
students who have graduated have helped with education and outreach, including LaTasha Riddick, Akio Yanigasawa, Jill Villarosa, Ann Txakeeyang, Jenny Ueno. UH Hilo undergraduate students have volunteered to help, such as Kuilei Kramer, Krystal Yamamoto and McKayla Meyers as well



Robert McHugh



Joann Maithy Phan



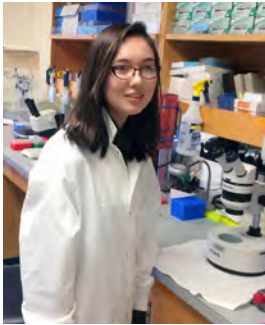
Stefano Quarta



Kirsten Snook

as many community members, including Patricia Macomber, Shawzy Cann, Jeremiah Cann, Patrick Edwards, Smiley Burrows and Ann Kobsa.

We use multiple techniques and pieces of equipment to study RLW from fairly simple to fairly complicated. To isolate larvae from slugs and snails we either drown them in water and collect larvae as they escape into the water, or use a HCl-pepsin digest to digest the slug tissue, then filter out the larvae that survive in this acid solution. We can then conduct various studies. For detection and quantification of RLW larvae in slugs, snails, water, or other, we extract the DNA and run a quantitative Polymerase



Ina Klassner

Chain Reaction (qPCR). This involves using gene-specific primers to amplify RLW-specific genes from the sample.

Tell me about your current study, including how long will it take.

We are currently finishing up a study funded by the Hawai'i Community Foundation evaluating the prevalence of exposure to RLW using two antibody-based tests. Collaborating with Puna Community Medical Center and Clinical Labs of Hawai'i, blood samples were collected from 435 volunteers. We tested the serum from those samples for the presence or absence of RLW antibodies. The first test used proteins isolated from whole adult worms (crude antigen) from Hawai'i-isolate RLW to screen for reactivity. Then, collaborating with Dr. Praphathip Eamsobhana, Faculty of Medicine Siriraj Hospital, Mahidol University, Bangkok, Thailand, we tested all of those positive or questionably positive (and others) using a test more specific for RLW, which is based on isolating 31 kDa proteins from adult RLW. This test is more definitive, and is the standard test being used in Thailand.

However, there may be differences between the RLW from Thailand, and RLW from Hawai'i. We recently were awarded funding, again, from the Hawaii Community Foundation, to isolate the 31 kDa proteins from Hawai'i's RLW and rerun these same samples for comparison. If people were exposed to RLW in Hawai'i, the antibodies they produce should be more specific for antigens isolated from Hawai'i's RLW. This study is anticipated to take 12-18 months to complete. We first have to isolate several grams of adult worms from rats. Dr. Sukwan Handali, a colleague at the CDC Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) in Atlanta, Georgia, has offered to assist with the protein isolation in his lab. The plan is for me to bring the worms to his lab, and

work with them to isolate the 31 kDa proteins, bring the prep back to our lab and rerun the tests.

Is the CDC helping to fund or just providing lab work?

CDC is assisting with the protein isolation, by doing that they are providing some funding support.

Who else is funding?

This project is funded by HCF-Medical Research, and in part by DKICP (through my salary).

What do you expect to find?

I am hoping to see better specificity. Using Hawai'i's proteins as antigen should allow for better antibody binding resulting in cleaner results.

Why is it important?

This is important because Hawai'i doesn't currently have a reliable antibody-based diagnostic for RLW. The test we are trying to develop is based on the test used routinely in Thailand for diagnosing RLW disease. The alternative is collecting cerebral spinal fluid (a spinal tap) and running qPCR for the detection of RLW DNA in the CSF. This is very invasive and there are risks. A blood-based diagnostic is preferable to most.

What's next?

If this study successful, the next step is to make this diagnostic tool available to the public. How that would be accomplished is still yet to be determined.



Trip to Japan highlights international collaborations

Last October, DKICP Dean Carolyn Ma and Chancellor Donald Straney toured two pharmacy schools and met with administrators and faculty at universities in Japan to look at ways to expand research collaborations and clinical education exchanges. The Universities were Nihon University in Narashinodai, Funabashi-shi, Chiba, Tokyo and Yokohama University of Pharmacy in Kanagawa-ken.

“Our students in Hawai‘i have access to unique educational experiences unlike anywhere else because of the vibrant relationships between Japanese and American institutions of higher learning, so we wanted to recognize and develop that affiliation,” said Dean Ma, who signed the agreement with Yokohama University in 2015. “We are hoping to establish some new research collaborations as well as expand on our existing programs with Yokohama University.”

Last September, two pharmacy students and two faculty representatives from Yokohama University of Pharmacy came to Hilo and participated in a 10 day visit that included visits to laboratories, participation in several pharmacy practice didactic lectures and workshops as well as visits to the various cultural sites on East Hawai‘i. The success of this first visit has spurred continued interest from Yokohama to make this an annual visit. Our visit to Yokohama and Nihon Pharmacy schools opens up definite possibilities for educational exchanges with DKICP. Discussion now focuses around organizing a possible advanced pharmacy practice rotation for our fourth year students at Yokohama.

“The pharmacy schools in Japan are researching traditional medicines, which dovetails nicely with the research being done on natural products at our pharmacy college,” Chancellor Straney said in his blog about the trip.

During the trip, University of Hawai‘i President Lassner and Chancellor Straney also signed a formal agreement that will continue a 35-year relationship between the University of Hawai‘i System and the Tsuzuki Education Group. Yokohama University of Pharmacy is part of the Tsuzuki Education Group, a consortium of more than 300 universities and colleges in Japan, including three colleges of pharmacy.



Dean Carolyn Ma and Chancellor Donald Straney tour a pharmaceuticals lab in Japan



Yokohama University School of Pharmacy: Front row from right: Chancellor Straney; Dean Ma. Second row from right: Associate Professor Mikio Murata; Professor Nobumitsu Hanioka, Director of Student Division; Professor Kiyomi Sadamoto, M.D. Chairperson of International Communication Committee; Dean Atsushi Ishige; Masaki Aso (JUE); Professor Koji Chiba, Director of Welfare Division, Professor Nagahiko Yumita; Professor Yoshiaki Omata; Professor Takashi Takahashi; Professor Yasuo Watanabe



Nihon University: Front row from right: Munetetsu Tei (President); Chancellor Straney; Dean Ma; Minoru Tsuzuki (Vice-president). Second row from right: Kazunori Anzai (Vice-dean); Kazuo Negishi (Dean); Professor Yoshikazu Matsuda; Professor Fumihide Takano; Professor Yoko Kubota; Nanae Itokazu (Lecturer)

“Our students in Hawai‘i have access to unique educational experiences unlike anywhere else because of the vibrant relationships between Japanese and American institutions of higher learning, so we wanted to recognize and develop that affiliation.” – Dean Ma



Pharmacy students to gain insights on rural health with new certificate program

In accordance with a new initiative at the Daniel K. Inouye College of Pharmacy to offer certificate programs to PharmD students, a “Rural Health” certificate program has been approved at UH Hilo. This program includes two 2-credit courses in Rural Health Science plus 18 credits of advanced experiential rotations in rural settings. These credits can be completed within the existing PharmD curriculum at no additional cost or time.

The mission of this certificate program is to produce PharmD graduates who are equipped with the knowledge and experience needed to thrive as a pharmacist working in rural settings.

At the completion of this certificate program, the student should be able to:

- Describe basic concepts in rural health science, including measurement, methods, and testing solutions to rural health problems.
- Analyze rural health issues and make evidence-based recommendations for improvement.
- Demonstrate knowledge of rural health issues in rural pharmacy practice settings.
- Apply the knowledge of rural health science to real-world healthcare and community settings.
- Integrate the knowledge from courses in the certificate program and apply this knowledge to enhance patient care in advanced experiential rotations.
- Identify and demonstrate ability to implement solutions to rural health problems.

Students in the PharmD program and certificate program must have completed their first year in the PharmD program with a GPA of 3.0 or better and not be on probation. This is the third value-added certificate program now available to DKICP PharmD students. The other two approved certificate programs are in healthcare leadership and in health science research.



Career Fair and Interview Day pairs students with potential futures

DKICP held its annual Career Fair on the UH Hilo campus Oct. 28 and Interview Day on O’ahu Oct. 29.

Prior to the Career Fair, student ambassadors Mathew Eng, San Ly, Vicky Nguyen and Kevin Phu ensured the company representatives from CVS, Fred Meyer-Kroger, Hilo Medical Center, Safeway, Walgreens, and Walmart received a warm welcome upon their arrival.

Dean Carolyn Ma was the host at a full breakfast buffet and provided the representatives with an overview of the college, which included student demographics and building updates. Faculty members Drs. Forrest Batz, Linda Connelly, Lara Gomez, Aaron Jacobs, and Mr. George Karvas were also available to address questions about the program. For the next few hours, the representatives discussed internship and future employment opportunities with current students, including five fourth-year students. In addition, nine first- and second-year students were interviewed for intern positions.

The following day, the fourth-year students buttoned up into their professional attire for DKICP’s Interview Day, which is co-sponsored by the UH Alumni Association CoP Chapter. The event took place at Kapiolani Community College in Honolulu. Eighteen company representatives from 5-Minute Pharmacy, CVS, Fred Meyer-Kroger, Kmart, Safeway, Walgreens, and Walmart conducted a total of 141 interviews with 39 fourth-year student pharmacists. *(Photos by Tracey Niimi)*



DKICP grads prove competitive in nationwide residency placements

A record 15 graduates from DKICP's Class of 2016 were awarded competitive residencies after graduation in June. Residency training, which builds upon the Pharm.D. education, is divided into two postgraduate years: year one (PGY-1) offers more generalized training,

while year two (PGY-2) emphasizes a specific area of interest and helps lead to specialization in that field. Our graduates compete against thousands of pharmacists from all over the country to obtain these positions.

Residents from the Class of 2016 are: Alex Guimaraes, Aetna Residency in Managed Care Program, Phoenix, AZ; Anissa Marzuki, Safeway, Inc. Community Pharmacy Program, Phoenix, AZ; Arnold Sano, VA (Veterans Affairs) Southern Nevada Healthcare System, Northern Las Vegas, NV; Aryn Meguro, Hawai'i Pacific Health; Bert Matsuo, Loma Linda University Medical Center, California; Blake Johnson, VA (Veterans Affairs) New Mexico Health Care System, Albuquerque, NM; Brandon Tuzon, Lennox Hill Hospital, New York, NY; Bryce Fukunaga, Hawai'i

Pacific Health; Eric Sanders, The Queens Medical Center, Honolulu; Eric Tsuji, Kaiser Permanente, Honolulu; Jairus Mahoe, University of California-San Diego Community Residency Program; Katrina Spinola, Tripler Army Medical Center; Leilani Isozaki, Loma Linda University Medical Center, California; Micah Kim Han, University Medical Center of Southern Nevada; Walter Domingo, Stanford Health Care, California.

Graduates from the Class of 2015 who were awarded residencies last fall were: LaTasha Riddick, Maine Medical Center, Portland, Maine; Kristina Lo, UC Davis Medical Center, California; Nicole Young, PGY2 in Critical Care, The Queens Medical Center, Honolulu.

Congressional visit to UH Hilo includes tour of DKICP

Hawai'i Representative Tulsi Gabbord's staff paid a visit to UH Hilo on Nov. 2 and toured DKICP to learn about challenges and dreams, explore potential federal actions, and interact with faculty and students and hear of their aspirations. From left: Kelvin Sewake, community representative from Friends of Pharmacy; Susan Jarvi, professor, Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences; Emily Emmons, Rep. Gabbord's Hawai'i Island field representative; Roy Goo, chair, Department of Pharmacy Practice; Linda Connelly, chair, Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences; Dave Chun, legislative

assistant from Rep. Gabbord's Washington D.C. office; Gerald De Mello, DKICP outreach director; Jerry Chang, director of University Relations; Supakit Wongwiwatthanakut, interim associate dean for academic affairs, and students Matt Chen (Class of 2018) and Athena Borhauer (Class of 2019).

(Photo by Tracey Niimi)



DKICP researcher travels to Brazil for collaboration

In search of innovative methods for improved wound repair, Dr. Tamara Kondratyuk, DKICP laboratory manager and associate specialist, was able to continue a collaboration with a university in Brazil during a trip there last summer.

While in Brazil, Dr. Kondratyuk met with Professor Denise Endringer, director of postgraduation and research at the University of Vila Velha, which is close to Vitoria, capital of Espirito Santo. They examined extracts of the sea weed *Padina gymnospora* that were collected at a bethonic area in order to look at anti-inflammatory, anti-bacterial effects as well as improving wound healing in vitro.

Results demonstrated improved wound repair in vitro and a possible connection to this effect with fatty acid composition of the sea weed. In addition, its antimicrobial effect and antiinflammatory activity contributes to a new approach of *P. gymnospora* as a promising natural product for the treatment of cutaneous wounds.

Dr. Kondratyuk was appointed a special visiting researcher fellowship by the National Council of Scientific and Technological Development on behalf of the Brazilian Government. In her lab at DKICP, she evaluates cancer chemoprevention potential of the secondary metabolites such as phenolic extracts obtained from mango samples using the induction of quinone reductase activity.

Future research collaboration is planned for graduate

students from Brazil who are interested in learning some experimental approaches in NFkB pathway regulation. Some of the projects are already published in international, peer-reviewed journals, others are submitted or in the final phase of preparation. Dr. Kondratyuk says she hopes that common projects with the postgraduate program in pharmaceutical sciences at the University of Vila Velha will continue to develop.



(From left): Drs. Tamara Kondratyuk, Elisangela Flavia Pimentel, and Denise Coutinho Endringer

Pharmacist/DKICP supporter meets Dean Ma on O'ahu

In October, Dean Carolyn Ma had the opportunity to meet with long-time DKICP supporter Walter Kam (left) during a visit in Honolulu with Mariko Miho, executive director of development for the University of Hawai'i Foundation. A graduate of Roosevelt High School on Oahu, Mr. Kam graduated with a degree in pharmacy from Washington University. After a few years on the mainland, he returned to Hawai'i when he landed a job as pharmacist at Kaiser Permanente where he stayed after working his way to director of pharmacy for 30 years. Over the years, Mr. Kam has generously donated to the College's enrichment fund because he says he wants to see the College do well.



Student Organizations

ALOHA Project

Together, we can improve patient care

By Gina Yoon (Class of 2019)

The Fall Semester presented many challenges for organizations that provided health screenings to the Hilo community. However, with the unwavering tenacity of The ALOHA Project Executive Board and the membership body, we were able to persevere.

At the beginning of Fall Semester, The ALOHA Project merged with the American Pharmacists Association – Academy of Student of Pharmacists (APhA-ASP). The ALOHA Project has been one of the outstanding organizations on campus and has served the community for the past four years so many have wondered why we had merged with APhA-ASP. One of the reasons is that the organizations on campus, especially those that conduct health screenings, needed more coordination and collaboration. The lack of organization often times resulted in multiple health screening projects on the same day at the same time, ultimately thinning out the manpower at many events. In addition, there was little return on the amount of time invested into each project. Although the number of events was numerous, the number of patients screened at each event were modest.

To solve this problem, the practical solution was to merge. Collaboration between APhA-ASP and The ALOHA Project would be easiest if the two combined because of their shared interested and goals. In addition, because the screening protocol has changed this semester with such a short notice, it would be beneficial for groups to come together in order to save screening expenses, as well as to give the opportunity to grow a structurally stable organization for student pharmacists to positively influence the community as a whole. By merging, we also are streamlining the way our college conducts community health screenings. The greatest benefit that comes from the incorporation of these two groups is the benefit it has on our patients. We will now be able to pull supplies, manpower, and community connections from both organizations to coordinate events

that further enhance the health of our community. By working together, we can improve patient care.

Fall Semester started with our first project at the Life Care Center of Hilo in September. We were offered a booth at their Health Fair where we performed various health screenings such as blood pressure, blood glucose, and lipid panels for the patients who qualify. In the same month, we had an additional community outreach event at KTA Puainako. Many of the health screenings were offered again for the community members and it was a successful event. In October, five ALOHA Project members were able to dedicate their time to drive to KTA Waimea to provide health services to the community. At every project that we have, patients are given the opportunity to follow-up at one of our campus events so that we can assess their progress in their lifestyle goals. There were quite a few patients at the first campus event. As a second year pharmacy student, it was my very first time participating in these health screenings. It was a very rewarding experience for myself and I believe other second year students felt the same way.

The events held were all successful thanks to our members. Fall Semester flew by faster than we would have imagined but it is great to see our organization running strong again after all the changes. Now that everything is solid, we are looking forward to many more memorable events to come.



Student Organizations

APhA-ASP

APhA-ASP hosts counseling workshop to improve professional skills

By Matt Chen (Class of 2018)

The American Pharmacists Association – Academy of Student of Pharmacists (APhA-ASP) continually seeks to provide an environment conducive to personal and professional development. One of the ways we do this is by hosting the local National Patient Counseling Competition (NPCC) during the Spring Semester. This event provides student pharmacists with the opportunity to practice their communication skills so that they may further cultivate their counseling abilities. In preparation for this event, a counseling workshop was held for individuals wishing to practice for the upcoming competition and for those wanting a refresher on how to counsel patients effectively. Participants were given a run-down on how the NPCC event is ran and several tips on how to use open-ended questions to extract specific information that will allow the educator to tailor their counseling points to the needs of the patient. Student pharmacists were then able to practice these skills in a breakout session. Members of the APhA-ASP Executive



Board and their advisor, Dr. Jarred Prudencio, were at the workshop to provide helpful feedback to the individuals participating.

A pharmacist's knowledge is his or her greatest asset. Our academic responsibility as students is crucial because when we enter into the healthcare field, what we know and do not know ultimately determines the outcome of our patients. Furthermore, by delivering pertinent information in a simple, easily digestible fashion that facilitates understanding and learning, pharmacists are able to empower patients to make decisions that best fits their needs. Workshops like these help student pharmacists at the Hawai'i APhA-ASP Chapter develop and refine lifelong skills that will serve them well into their professional career.



APhA-ASP

Student pharmacists host 2nd annual ADA food sampler event

By Matt Chen (Class of 2018)

Operation Diabetes is one of four committees under the American Pharmacists Association – Academy of Student Pharmacists (APhA-ASP). Their purpose is to increase diabetes awareness and the role our profession plays in the management of this chronic disease. One of the various events held by the co-chairs of Operation

Diabetes is the Healthy Food Sampler Night. A month prior to the event, members of the DKICP APhA-ASP Chapter and various other campus organizations volunteered to create a dish they found on the American Diabetes Association (ADA) website. Recipes were submitted to the co-chairs of the event who then turned them into physical recipe cards. On the day of the event, various healthy dishes endorsed by the ADA were prepared for student pharmacists to sample. Chefs were stationed all around LPLH 2 and event attendees were given the opportunity to walk around the area to learn about the different foods that each chair made. While stopping to grab a sample at a table, student pharmacists would be given a general breakdown on how the dishes were created and educated on how delicious food does not always have to come with a high price tag or low nutritional value. If the attendees thoroughly enjoyed the dish, the chefs would give them a recipe card that they could take home.

Student pharmacists who attended this event left with much more than a full stomach. In addition to learning about the importance of a healthy diet in diabetes prevention, they departed with specific knowledge that could not only be used to make their own heartier meals but to also pass on to community members during screening events to ultimately improve patient care.

Student Organizations

APhA-ASP

APhA-ASP national president visits student pharmacists

By Matt Chen (Class of 2018) and Kara Paulachak (Class of 2019)

Every year, members of the American Pharmacists Association – Academy of Student Pharmacists (APhA-ASP) National Executive Committee and APhA Student Development Staff visit APhA-ASP Chapters across the nation to not only assess the strengths of each Chapter but to also assist Chapter leadership in planning for a successful year. This Fall Semester, Kelsea Gallegos, APhA-ASP National President, paid a visit to the Hawai'i APhA-ASP Chapter. During her visit, she met with the Hawai'i APhA-

ASP Executive Board, Chapter Advisors Dr. Jarred Prudencio and Dr. Paula Zeszotarski, Interim Associate Dean Supakit Wongwiwatthananut, and members of the Office of Student Services to discuss the development of our local Chapter.

After her visit with the various College faculty and staff, Kelsea gave a presentation about leadership, what APhA is, and the many opportunities the organization had to offer. APhA-ASP members and prospective members in attendance found the talk to be engaging and inspiring. Kelsea shared with us her story on how she got involved with APhA-ASP. From how she started off with Generation Rx, to running for Midyear Regional Coordinator, and to running for APhA-ASP National President-Elect, Kelsea's encouraging leadership journey moved us all. Thanks to her, members were imbued with energy and motivation to help our local Chapter reach new heights in patient care, education, and pharmacy advocacy.



APhA-ASP

Students continue to make strides in pharmacy policy and advocacy

By Matt Chen (Class of 2018) and Irene Kao (Class of 2018)

Vaccines are considered as one of the most efficient and cost-effective measures to protect people against various infectious diseases. It was not too long ago that only nine out of the fifty states allowed pharmacists to immunize. Today, that number has gone up to include every state in the nation, and this was made possible only through advocating for our profession. Through legislation, pharmacists can expand their role on the healthcare team.

With pharmacy policy and advocacy being a growing topic in our profession, student pharmacists at the DKICP American Pharmacists Association – Academy of Student Pharmacists (APhA-ASP) Chapter took it upon themselves to take early action in advancing the pharmacy field. The plan to advocate for our cause started last summer when two student pharmacists took the journey to Washington, D.C. At the nation's capital, they met with the Health Legislative Assistants of Representative Mark Takai, Senator Brian Schatz, and Senator Mazie Hirono to not only educate them about the pharmacy profession but also to thank them for cosponsoring The Pharmacy and Medically Underserved Areas Enhancement Act. This bill grants patients in medically underserved areas access to pharmacist-provided services under Medicare Part B. The roles our Congressional Offices play is critical in reflecting the voices of pharmacists on key issues involving healthcare, especially when the nation is

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moving towards a more integrated healthcare delivery system.

The pharmacy policy and advocacy journey continued on to Anaheim, California, where the APhA-ASP Midyear Regional Meeting was held. This meeting provided an opportunity for APhA-ASP Chapters across our region to share with one another various proposals on how we can advance the profession of pharmacy. Our Chapter suggested the following resolution:

“APhA-ASP recommends that all pharmacy students be granted a pharmacy intern license at the beginning of their first year of school, contingent upon verified active enrollment in a pharmacy school.”

The idea behind our proposal stems from a monumental event that occurred two years ago where student pharmacists from our College were able to successfully lobby Hawai'i state legislators to allow pharmacy students to receive their intern license at the beginning of their first year of school. Prior to this, the Hawai'i Board of Pharmacy dictated that student pharmacists could only receive their intern licenses upon completion of their first year. Members of the local APhA-ASP Chapter felt that the lack of an intern license hindered their professional development. In hopes of changing current legislation, they decided to initiate a project to gather information regarding pharmacy intern laws across all fifty states. This data was compiled together and presented to the Hawai'i Board of Pharmacy. It was discovered that Hawai'i was one of nine states that granted pharmacy intern licenses after the completion of the first year of pharmacy school. This, unfortunately, puts our student pharmacists at a disadvantage. However, thanks to the support of the school and the student body, the College was able to successfully convince the Board of Pharmacy to amend the pharmacy intern statute.

Our proposal at the conference met with support from other Colleges of Pharmacy and was able to gain the momentum it needed to pass the regional level. Many Chapters felt that our proposition upheld APhA-ASP's mission to “provide opportunities for professional growth” because, if adopted, our resolution will allow pharmacy students nationwide to engage in enriching learning experiences earlier on. The next step in the APhA-ASP Policy Process is for our proposal to be presented at an open hearing during APhA Annual for APhA-ASP Chapters throughout the nation to discuss.

Not long after their success in Anaheim, the DKICP APhA-ASP Chapter participated in a week-long Legislative



Week event in celebration of American Pharmacists Month. This project was in collaboration with eleven other pharmacy schools on the West Coast. Throughout this week, Chapter members hosted various sessions to demonstrate the importance of legislative affairs and highlight the impact that each student pharmacist can have on our profession. The event kicked off when the efforts of a group of student pharmacists were able to get the Governor of the State of Hawai'i, David Ige, to issue a proclamation recognizing October as American Pharmacists Month. American Pharmacists Month is an annual celebration that serves to promote pharmacists as medication experts that

are an integral part of the healthcare team and are directly involved in patient care. The days following included several gatherings to discuss current pharmacy legislation. Topics included the role of the pharmacist in physician-assisted suicide, medical marijuana dispensing, and pharmaceutical price gouging.

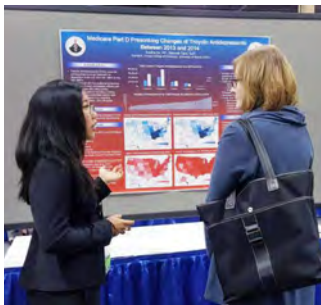
One of the most important subjects Chapter members touched upon is the Comprehensive Addiction and Recovery Act (CARA). CARA is a bill that had recently passed and focuses on addressing the opioid epidemic that is plaguing the nation. One of the goals of this policy is the formation of a committee that identifies discrepancies between pain management practices and opioid prescribing guidelines. This task force will include a pharmacist. The CARA bill is a step in the right direction for pharmacists because it acknowledges the value we provide to the healthcare system. Another topic the DKICP APhA-ASP Chapter went over is provider status and what it means to our profession. Student pharmacists who attended this session were able to learn about national and local efforts being made to push this bill through legislation. Dr. Wesley Sumida provided an update on the ongoing local efforts regarding the development of the Hawai'i Provider Status Bill. He discussed the challenges he sees with the presentation of this policy, what it means to pharmacists practicing in the state of Hawai'i, and what student pharmacists can do to get involved with the legislative process. If our profession was given the provider status recognition, then patients will be granted greater access to healthcare and improved medical outcomes. Student pharmacists who attended any of the sessions throughout Legislative Week were able to learn about the overall impact politics have on their careers, ultimately helping them develop a sense of interest and pride for the future of the pharmacy profession.

Student Organizations

ASHP

DKICP was well represented at ASHP midyear clinical meeting

By Patricia Juszak and Louis Lteif
Faculty members from the Department of Pharmacy Practice



Ever wondered about the odds of gathering 25,500 pharmacy professionals from 40 countries around the globe under the same roof as a Super Bowl MVP? There would no better place to do so than Las Vegas, Nevada, which hosted the

51st American Society of Health-System Pharmacists (ASHP) Midyear Clinical Meeting (MCM) and Exhibition 2016 from December 4-8. Regarded by many as the largest pharmacists gathering in the world, the 2016 ASHP MCM allowed for yet another year for pharmacists, pharmacy technicians, fellows, residents, students and others to gather, network and share the most recent advancements in the pharmacy field. This year through the efforts of the Hawai'i Student Society of Health-System Pharmacy (HSSHP) and the Daniel K. Inouye College of Pharmacy, 37 students were provided the opportunity to attend and experience this event in addition to many faculty members, residents and alumni.

The immense diversity of activities and experiences offered at the MCM allow each participant to tailor their stay in order to maximize benefit and learning experiences. Third Professional Year students were grasping a general sense of the structure of the meeting in preparation for next year's attendance while Jane Choi and Macie Kim were presenting the poster developed by HSSHP at the Student Society Showcase. This later session allows students from different geographical areas to bounce off ideas and present innovative methods utilized at their local chapters; our chapter showcased the different case studies utilized to prepare our students for clinical practice and integrate classroom knowledge into practical patient-specific approaches. Dressed to impress, CVs and business cards in hands Fourth Year Professional students were going "all in" to leave a good impression with employers in the hope of an on-site interview invitation whether for residency, fellowship or pharmacist job. Three residency showcase sessions were available for residency seeking candidates whereby different programs set up booths, which allow prospective candidates to interact with key personnel from each program. Students were more familiar with the structure of each program and

could grasp a feel about the "chemistry" or thereby lack of with their potential future employers. More formal interviews were conducted at the Personal Placement Service (PPS) whereby students were offered initial screening interviews for either residency or pharmacist positions. Additionally, several DKICP faculty members were on hand at PPS to talk with and recruit potential new faculty. Students interested in pursuing careers in the industrial field interviewed all day long with various pharmaceutical companies and networked at their receptions at night.

The MCM allowed DKICP attendees to network with peers and colleagues, seek prospective jobs, attend educational sessions to further pharmaceutical knowledge and education but also provided an opportunity to represent DKICP on a national and international level. Christopher Diaz and Kelsea Mizusawa, both fourth-year students and winners of the local Clinical Skills Competition, proudly represented our college at the national level and competed with other schools in assessing a practice patient case (see related story below). Several students presented research posters in the Mandalay Poster session on Wednesday, Dec. 7.

Whether through conducting extensive interviews, attending educational sessions, meeting former NFL football player Payton Manning or chit-chatting over tapas and drinks at the DKICP gathering, all attendees agreed on the exceptional experiences and benefits gained at the MCM with memories to share years from now.



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ASHP Perspectives of a third- year student pharmacist from Midyear

By Niko Pogorevcnik (Class of 2018)

The ASHP Midyear Conference, usually shortened to “Midyear,” rotates among the cities of Orlando, Anaheim, New Orleans, and Las Vegas. At this year’s Midyear Clinical Meeting, there was record-breaking attendance and I was lucky enough to be a part of the chaos.

Some of the things I learned while attending the talk, “Fundamental Strategies to Secure a Residency: Getting a Head Start as a P1-P3:”

- Grades DO matter.
- Your participation in student organizations also matters.
- Work experience is a plus.
- Consider publishing and presenting more; one idea is to present a poster at Midyear (it doesn’t have to

- be rigorously science-based).
- Enroll in challenging APPEs.
- Work hard to seek out good letters of recommendation.
- Have other people critique your letter of intent.
- Focus on what makes you a unique applicant.
- Send out your thank you’s throughout the process.
- Most importantly: know there is no sure-fire equation for success (different programs seek out different applicants).
- If you don’t match the first year, reapply the next year. Persistence is always seen in a positive light.

The environment at the Residency Showcase was intense to say the least. You could feel the nerves, and also the confidence, radiating from applicants as they prepped for interviews, talked strategy with their colleagues, and straightened their ties in front of bathroom mirrors. These future pharmacists strived for a memorable first impression when interacting with their well-researched residency program directors and current residents.

A theme of professionalism permeated throughout the venue. The idea that many of these student pharmacists were about to embark on the pivotal transition from student to pharmacist in the upcoming months, took precedence in their actions. Many realized the diverging path that lay ahead—being matched with a residency program, or not.

ASHP Reflections of a competition

By Christopher Diaz (Class of 2017)
(who represented DKICP along with Kelsea Mizusawa)



The clinical skills competition is an event at the American Society of Health-System Pharmacists (ASHP) Midyear Clinical Meeting where a pair of students from each pharmacy program in the nation compete against each other. In order

to qualify for the national competition, students vie for the national spot against each other at their local pharmacy programs. Unlike our curriculum, where we learn to present ambulatory, acute, and community topics separately, the clinical skills competition is a combination of all 3. The top 10 pharmacy programs move onto the final round for an oral presentation. The goal is to prioritize all problems related to a clinical case and make an assessment and plan.

This year, the clinical case for my partner, Kelsea Mizusawa and myself, was a patient presenting with spontaneous bacterial peritonitis along with other issues including alcoholic cirrhosis, uncontrolled asthma, chronic heart failure, and several other items that needed to be addressed. We were given two hours to create a treatment plan and prepare ourselves for the potential of moving on to the final round of oral presentations. Unfortunately, we didn’t place in the top 10, but there are several important concepts this competition taught us.

The point of the competition is to practice our clinical skills -- not to place in the top 10. Placing in the top 10 is an added bonus, but the experience we had is similar to what we will experience in practice as future pharmacists.

Time restriction: we were given two hours to work up a comprehensive treatment plan. In practice, more than likely

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we will have many patients to manage and create treatment plans for and probably within time constraints. This was an introduction to the expectation we have as future healthcare professionals, and the time management aspect is crucial to master for effectively managing our patients.

Drug Information: we were given access to drug information resources to supplement our clinical knowledge. The fact of the matter is that we will never know everything about every disease state to effectively treat our patients. What does matter is having a baseline knowledge of common disease states AND knowing where to find information to create an evidence-based plan. With time, we will all broaden our clinical knowledge. However, our resources are indispensable to fill in the gaps or refresh our memory.

Practice: at this current point in our curriculum, we're very close to graduation; however, that doesn't mean that we are experts in this field. Our college has done its best to

prepare us to take on challenges we will face in the future, and any extra clinical exposure will help us become more comfortable. The controlled setting of this competition gave us structure, guidelines we should follow, and emulated what is expected of a practicing pharmacist. This experience isn't commonly available to all pharmacy students, and it's great that there are learning opportunities for future healthcare professionals to seek out.

Relax: despite this being a competition, at the end of the day it's only a clinical case and not a real patient. This was a safe environment to make mistakes, to receive constructive criticism, and to learn from others. This was an opportunity to utilize the skills we've been taught in didactics and APPE rotations without the worry of it affecting a grade.

Rest assured, this was an excellent experience. We competed with pride for our college and tremendous support from our faculty, which is a victory in our books!

Kappa Psi

Student pharmacists blend community with fraternity

By Shannon Trinh and Gina Yoon (Both from Class of 2019)

The Fall semester flew by faster than we could see at times, but there are few greater feelings than ending the semester strong and proudly looking back on all our efforts so far.

In November, Community Service Committee Co-chairs Gurinder Kaur and Carrie Yeung organized a "Get Healthy through Exercise" presentation at the local Waiakea Elementary School that allowed brothers to teach second grade students about healthy eating and exercise, culminating in a fun dance routine to help get the students out of their seats and moving. It's always a memorable experience when we get the chance to represent Kappa Psi while trying to make a positive impact on our local community. In rhythm with the holiday season, a Toys for Tots drive was also organized, encouraging all members on our DKICP campus to donate new, unwrapped toys which go towards children from less fortunate families.

Kappa Psi's Fall 2016 Pacific West Province Conclave was held in Las Vegas, Nevada from November 11-13 and several brothers from our chapter were in attendance. Brother Athena Borhauer states, "[province] was a packed weekend, balancing both social bonding activities on the Strip among Brothers and insightful fraternity-related business. The Province supervisors presented helpful and interactive information to Collegiate Brothers regarding updates to our national risk management policies. We also elected Brothers who will represent us at our national conference." Our chapter was lucky enough to be awarded the Professionalism award based on our brothers' actions

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Epsilon Psi brothers at Waiakea Elementary, Hilo for their "Get Healthy Through Exercise" presentation. Pictured (from left): Ashley Uehara, Lauren Skorheim, Kimberly Wu, Amber Uto, Natalie Chan, Kayla Uehara, Kris Yoo, Les Domingo, Marlisa Corpuz, Janet Vu, Mahina Sato, Lauren Simpson, Kaylee Hoang, Vivian Tran, Lam Le. Picture credit: Waiakea Elementary Staff

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during province and the Community Service Award for our “Get Healthy through Exercise” presentation. All in all, it was viewed as a very rewarding experience for the brothers who were able to attend.

During the second week of October, a number of Kappa Psi brothers were in attendance when the Phi Lamda Sigma (PLS) Delta Lambda chapter hosted a “Leaders in Pharmacy” event that showcased two guest speakers, Acting Deputy Surgeon General, Rear Admiral (RADM) Scott F. Giberson

and Lieutenant Commander (LCDR) Rovigel “Jill” Gelviro. RADM Giberson, a Kappa Psi brother himself, talked about what public health and commissioned corps pharmacy has to offer. It was great to see many of our brothers taking advantage of this opportunity to learn about the field and what it takes to be a good leader.

The upcoming Spring semester holds some exciting plans, including the Spring 2017 Pacific West Province, which our chapter, Epsilon Psi, has the pleasure of hosting in Honolulu on March 3-5. Until then, we wish everyone a fresh start in the New Year!

NCPA

Food drive, Teen Health Camp ties students with community

As reported by Lam Le, NCPA President (Class of 2018)

As a tradition for the past several years, the National Community Pharmacists Association (NCPA) Hawai'i Student Chapter at the Daniel K. Inouye College of Pharmacy put on a Thanksgiving Food Drive providing donations to our very own Hilo Community's Salvation Army.

To keep things exciting and interesting, NCPA turned the food drive into a friendly class competition, with the winning class receiving prized snacks and drinks the week prior to finals. This serves not only as a motivational factor, but makes it fun and exciting, while serving its purpose of giving back to the local community.

It is astounding how much food is donated each year. This year's NCPA Thanksgiving Food Drive was from November 4-18. After two weeks of competition, the end counts were 184, 21, and 238, with the Class of 2018 placing first and the class of 2020 as the runner-up. Overall, a total of 443 non-perishable food items were donated to the Hilo Salvation Army to help those in need during this Thanksgiving holiday.

NCPA would like to give a big mahalo to everyone that participated. The Salvation Army was thrilled and very thankful for the generous contributions and efforts in giving back to the Hilo community. The NCPA Student Chapter at the Daniel K. Inouye College of Pharmacy prides itself in the development and participation in community service events, which serves as one of its main focus as an organization. NCPA continues to connect with the Hawai'i community through their multiple community service events, with the Thanksgiving food drive being one of them. NCPA cannot



From left: Lam Le, Andrew Rector, Tiffany Alberg, and Westley Ragasa

wait to do this again next year.

Also this semester, according to Community Service Co-Chairs Lauren Skorheim and Tiffany Alberg, between 50-100 students attended the Teen Health Camp November 12 at Kealakehe High School in Kailua-Kona. NCPA presented an interactive educational event on rat lungworm disease where the students were able to recreate the rat lungworm lifecycle and learn more about the disease progression. The NCPA students led a discussion on the prevention of rat lungworm in order to spread the word regarding the seriousness of this illness. Students expressed they did not know much about the disease and they learned a lot from our interactive presentation. Per Lauren and Tiffany: “NCPA is definitely planning to do this type of event again because we feel it increased awareness of rat lungworm disease.”

Student Organizations

Phi Delta Chi

Fall 2016 events keep students active with community

Children's booth teaches benefits of compounding

As reported by Cami Kanahale

PDC participated in the Chiefess Kapiolani Elementary School's Blue Zones Wellness Fair on August 27. We interacted with the community through the power of compounding silly putty. Our booth demonstrated what compounding was, how it could be beneficial to a patient, and how fun it could be. There were about 50 children who came to make silly putty and about 10 of them who came back to make more. The parents were also pleasantly surprised on how easy and simple it was to make and wanted to learn to be able to compound it themselves at home.



Special Olympics motivates community involvement

As reported by Cami Kanahale

The Brave Throwdown was a fitness competition as well as a fundraiser, held on October 15, for the Special Olympics. The fitness competition consisted of six drills, 15 different exercises, and seven teams



with three people per team. The goal for each team was to do as many reps as they could in order to score the most points. Our duties for this event was to help the athletes stay motivated to accomplish their goal by cheering them on and by doing whatever we could to help make it a little easier for them. Smaller tasks such as wiping up sweat, handing out water, and cheering for them made all the difference. We also assisted those who were counting the reps by writing down the number each team completed. This event was a collaboration with Circle K International, a community service and leadership development organization at the University of Hawai'i at Hilo. We are very grateful that they allowed us to join their team to help raise money for such a great organization.

Second- and third-year student pharmacists mentor newbies

As reported by Rene Scott Chavez

Phi Delta Chi Gamma Theta annually hosts review sessions for the entire first-year class in order to help them transition from undergraduate school to our pharmacy school curriculum. Upperclassmen (second- and third-year) volunteered their time to put together a review presentation that covers important key concepts from class lectures. The Scholastic



Committee first contacted and received permission from the class instructor in order to hold this review session. We then divided the work by assigning a different chapter to each participating Brother. The content of our presentation answered most of the exam study guide questions. We also encouraged active learning by including iClicker questions. The first-year class really appreciates these review sessions as the attendance over two biochemistry and two immunology review sessions were a grand total of 208 students. This averages well over 60 percent of the entire first-year class attending each review session.

Collaboration extends DKICP reach at Maku'u Farmer's Market Health Fair

As reported by Caroline Rhee

We were very happy the Brothers of Phi Delta Chi had the opportunity to return to Maku'u Farmer's Market on November 6 to serve the community. This particular event was in collaboration with The Department of Health, Hui Malama, and the School of Nursing. The main purpose of this event was to provide the rural community with free health screenings and health education. We were able to screen and educate 59 community members on their blood sugar and blood pressure and encouraged several of them to register with Hui Malama for future health resources.



Student Organizations

Group adopts new project: Adopt A Highway

As reported by Krishelle Kamakeeaina-Mendoza

Adopt A Highway is a new project for the fraternity that I hope will continue in the following years. This is an opportunity for us to lend a helping hand in the community. As future healthcare professionals, caring for the community and the people therein should be our number one priority. A total of 10 Active Brothers along with 10 Pledges took about two hours on a beautiful Saturday, November 19, to clean up along a two-mile stretch on a main highway. The event promoted Brotherhood along with the importance of respecting a community.



Boxes of presents help spread cheer in Operation Christmas Child

As reported by Kevin Lei

Operation Christmas Child is part of a Christian organization called Samaritan's Purse. Every year they collect shoeboxes filled with gifts for children in need around the world. More than 40 active Brothers including alumni along with 36 Pledges participated this year on November 20. Together we made over a 100 boxes! The Church coordinator of the event mentioned this was the most we've given since starting this event. We also assisted the Operation Christmas Child collection center at Hilo Missionary Church in collecting boxes. It was a busy day as we helped carry, tape, and package over 400 gift boxes. Hopefully

these gifts will put a smile on children's faces all over the world!

Volunteers deliver Thanksgiving meals

As reported by Miles Roberts

Each year the Hilo Salvation Army prepares Thanksgiving feasts for members of the community who are unable to provide the meal for themselves. They held their feast at Auntie Sally's Luau Hale on November 24. They also prepare food "to-go" for individuals in the community who are unable to get out of their homes or who are working as public service agents (police and fire departments). Our role in this event was to volunteer to deliver the "to-go" meals to the individuals who had signed up to receive them. We showed up and the coordinator gave us the addresses of the individuals we were delivering to. We loaded our trunks full of "to-go" containers filled with Thanksgiving food including turkey, mashed potatoes, stuffing, corn, green beans, pumpkin pie, and rainbow bread then headed out to the locations to deliver them. Our group of eight Brothers split up into three groups and delivered over 180 meals.



Members show compassion in helping to feed the homeless

As reported by Kate Malasig

Nine Brothers volunteered their time to assist Hilo Missionary Church in delivering a warm meal

to the homeless people in Hilo on December 7. We drove to various places delivering food, water, blankets, and other supplies. It was a unique experience for our members. The goal was not only to deliver meals, but to show love and compassion to those who are having hardships. It gave us a chance to reflect on how much we take for granted and to be more appreciative of what we have. Hearing their gratitude and seeing their smiles warmed our hearts. We were able to deliver food to around 30 people, and while that may not seem like many, I am sure that it made an impact on those individuals.



Faculty, staff treated to scrumptious breakfast in appreciation for support

As reported by Rene Scott Chavez

Phi Delta Chi Gamma Theta holds our semi-annual Faculty and Staff Appreciation Breakfast at the end of every semester. We have a different theme each time for which we decorate the classroom to make it more welcoming. Last semester's theme for the breakfast, which was held on December 9, was Indiana Jones where we had jungle decorations and boulders hanging from the ceiling. This semester we decided to go with the popular Disney movie Frozen. We hold this breakfast to show our appreciation for all the time, commitment, and hard work that the faculty and staff dedicate to our College of Pharmacy. These individuals not only give us academic advice, but also inspire us to become better leaders. Our school offers many leadership opportunities;

Student Organizations

this would not be possible without the support that our many student organizations receive from them. Every student organization has at least one advisor who overlooks all of its plans or activities. These advisors have been selected due to the many leadership qualities that they possess. The staff members of our school also play a vital role in leadership development. They do important things such as organizing and planning career fairs, handling organizational funds, and making sure that all school equipment

is available for use during many of our events. Both the faculty and staff are always willing to provide students with advice, be it pertaining to academics, applications for jobs/residencies, or even life in general. Our Faculty and Staff Appreciation Breakfast is just a small token of our appreciation for all of these acts of service. The faculty and staff help our Brothers work towards becoming one of the many things that it means to be Phi Delta Chi, and that is, Leaders in Pharmacy.



PLS

Fall Leadership Seminar fosters professional growth

By Vivian Tran, Class of 2018

Phi Lambda Sigma (PLS) Delta Lambda Chapter continued their effort to promote the development of leadership qualities amongst student pharmacists on November 20 with an annual Fall Leadership Seminar. The goal of this event was to provide the necessary tools to further enhance and strengthen leadership and professional skills.

This year's seminar included workshops focusing on curriculum vitae, letters of intent, and Robert's Rules of Order, a book by Henry Martyn Robert that is intended to be a guide for conducting meetings and making decisions as a group. In addition, PLS collaborated with our College's American Pharmacists Association - Academy of Student Pharmacists Generation Rx Co-Chair, Nicholas Tsoi, to create an interactive workshop to develop presentation skills.

Despite holding the seminar on a Sunday morning, there was still a great turnout. Many students provided positive feedback on the event. Kaylee Hoang, a second-year student pharmacist, said, "I enjoyed the interactive



Student pharmacists practice holding effective meetings using Robert's Rules of Order.

workshops where I was able to learn the different techniques for improving my presentation skills. I also enjoyed learning about Robert's Rules of Order so that I can conduct future meetings effectively."

With each leadership seminar that has been hosted, student pharmacists have shown dedication to the advancement of the pharmacy profession as well as developing their skills to be future leaders in pharmacy. The members of PLS hope to inspire their peers to continue to foster leadership development and commitment on campus and in the community.

Student Organizations

PLS

Phi Lambda Sigma honors student leaders with Leader of the Month recognition

By Matt Chen (Class of 2018)

At the end of every month, Phi Lambda Sigma, the Pharmacy Leadership Society, accepts nominations for the Leader of the Month recognition. This award allows us to honor students who have displayed exemplary leadership on and off campus. Our organization understands that leadership is more about action, rather than a title. It is a multifaceted activity requiring sharp focus, clear communication skills, and a keen ability to manage diverse relationships. The numerous amount of student-led initiatives encouraged and supported throughout the school provides ample amounts of opportunity for those who want to get involved. This ensures that the pharmacists produced by the College are well-rounded individuals who can contribute to the profession as a whole.

The Leader of the Month recognition provides the perfect opportunity for us to acknowledge the actions and efforts of student leaders whose work often goes unnoticed but whose impact is felt every day. These are individuals who have gone above and beyond the call of duty to contribute to the school, the community, or the profession. For this Fall Semester, we would like to recognize Lauren Skorheim and Irene Kao! Please read their nominations below:

"Policy has always been a tough topic to get students



Irene Kao

excited about, but Irene has made huge advancements in bringing an important aspect of our field to the student pharmacists at DKICP. Thanks to her leadership, our College was able to collaborate with 12 other pharmacy schools on the West Coast. This

partnership allowed us to participate in a week-long event dedicated to educating students about various issues that affect our profession. With pharmacy changing dramatically in recent years, it has become ever more apparent that pharmacists are at the forefront when it comes to promoting new skills and services to patients. Throughout her legislative sessions, Irene has made it clear that it is through policy that we are able to evolve our role on the healthcare team. If we are not the ones making the rules that govern our profession, someone else will. Thank you for your continuing dedication and support to the students at DKICP, Irene! You are truly an inspiration!" – Anonymous

"A true leader is one that is capable of looking beyond themselves and encourages others to strive for excellence. Lauren Skorheim definitely demonstrates this quality and exemplifies what it means to be a true leader. Despite the demanding workload of a third-year pharmacy student, Lauren is still able to find the time to help others develop as future pharmacists. Lauren, a member of the Rho Chi Society, has definitely stepped up to the challenge and has helped put on countless events for the organization. Lauren is currently Journal Club chair and Quiz Bowl co-chair. On Sept. 21st, 2016, Lauren not only hosted Journal Club on behalf of the Rho Chi Society, she participated herself and delivered a presentation alongside one of her classmates. Lauren also helped co-host a Quiz Bowl to help the Class of 2020 review for their Self Care course. On top of all this, Lauren always finds the time to be available for one on one tutoring



Lauren Skorheim

for students. Lauren is dedicated to helping this campus grow. The hard work that she puts into this school should not go unnoticed and I would definitely recommend Lauren for Leader of the Month. Lauren goes above and beyond and fully commits to any event she plans. It is a great pleasure to be able to work alongside her."

– Paolo Troung

Campus recognizes newcomers, people receiving promotions

Participating in the UH Hilo Fall Welcome event on UH Hilo campus September 28 for newcomers and recent recipients of tenure and promotion were from DKICP (from left) Pat Juszczak, associate specialist; Jared Prudencio, assistant professor; Dana-Lynn Koomoa-Lange, associate professor; Carolyn Ma, dean; Supakit Wongwiwatthananut, interim associate dean for academic affairs and professor; and Louis Lteif, assistant professor, Department of Pharmacy Practice. Other new DKICP staff from last fall included Jeryd Teramoto, IT Specialist.

(Photo by Juliann Morris, University Relations)



FACULTY SEMINAR SERIES

Dr. Russell Molyneux

Dr. Russell Molyneux, DKICP affiliate faculty member, presented a seminar entitled “Hepatotoxic Pyrrolizidine Alkaloids: The ‘Gift’ That Keeps On Giving (or: Should I Drink Tea With My Toast and Honey?)” on campus October 20. Dr. Molyneux worked at the Western Regional Research Center (Agricultural Research Service/U.S.



Department of Agriculture) in Albany until 2010, and has been an associate editor of the Journal of Agricultural and Food Chemistry since 1999.

Dr. Yuk-Ching Tse-Dinh

Dr. Yuk-Ching Tse-Dinh, professor with the Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry and founding director of the Biomolecular Sciences Institute at Florida International University in Miami, Florida presented a seminar entitled “Bacterial Topoisomerase I as Target to Counter Antibiotic Drug Resistance” on DKICP campus December 1.

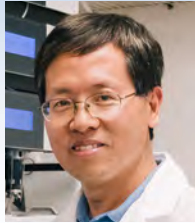


Drs. Susan and Terry Matsunaga

Dr. Terry Matsunaga, professor with the Department of Medical Imaging at the University of Arizona in Tucson, Arizona presented a research seminar entitled “Microbubbles for Imaging and Therapy: From Bubble Baths and Whipping Cream to Point-of-Care and Imaging Cancer Cells” on November 28 on the DKICP modular campus. Afterwards, together with Dr. Susan Matsunaga, he also presented a career opportunities seminar called “Academia vs. Industry How do we choose? Careers in Pharmacy and Research.” Their host at DKICP was Dr. Ghee Tan (left), director of the Ph.D. program in Pharmaceutical Sciences and associate professor.



Faculty Briefs



Shugeng Cao, associate professor in the Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences, was the lead author in the following: 1) "Diabetic Wound Healing and Activation of Nrf2 by Herbal Medicine" *J. Nat. Sci.* 2016. His co-author was Donald R. Senger; 2) "Anti-inflammatory activity of *Barleria lupulina*: Identification of active compounds that activate the Nrf2 cell defense pathway, organize cortical actin, reduce stress fibers, and improve cell junctions in microvascular endothelial cells" in *J. Ethnopharmacology* 2016. Co-authors were Donald R. Senger, Mien V. Hoang, Ki Hyun Kim and Chunshun Li.

3) "Monofunctional platinum(II) dithiocarbamate complexes: synthesis, characterization and anticancer activity." In *RSC Adv.* with co-authors Amir, K. M., ur-Rehman, Z., Hayat, F., Khan, S.Z., Hogarth, G., Kondratyuk, T., Pezzuto, J.M. and Tahir, M.N.

Leng Chee Chang, associate professor in the Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences, was an author in an article entitled "Poha Berry with Potential Anti-inflammatory and Cancer Prevention Activities" published in November's *Hawai'i Journal of Medicine and Public Health*. Co-authors were Mayuramas Sang-ngern and John M. Pezzuto. Also, Dr. Chang received a Research Enhancement Award from Research Centers in Minority Institutions (RCMI) Translational Research Network (RTRN) for the funding year 2016-2017. The purpose of the award is to provide travel funds for enhancing competitiveness and grant success of RCMI faculty.



Linda Connelly, associate professor and chair, Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences, presented research entitled "Obesity and breast cancer: the adipocyte-macrophage interaction as a mediator of metastasis" at the San Antonio Breast Cancer Symposium in San Antonio, Texas Dec. 6-10. Stephanie Tsang Mui Chung, a post-doctoral associate in the Connelly lab, presented research there entitled "Osteoprotegerin mediates tumor-promoting effects of Interleukin-1 beta in breast cancer cells."

Tamara Kondratyuk, laboratory manager and associate specialist, has been an author in the following articles: 1) "New heteroleptic palladium(II) dithiocarbamates: synthesis, characterization, packing and anticancer activity against five different cancer cell lines." In *Appl. Organomet. Chem.* with co-authors are Khan, S.Z., Amir, K.M., Aamir, A., Pezzuto, J.M., Ali, A., Khan, S., and



ur-Rehman, Z.; 2) "Brown seaweed padina gymnospora is a prominent natural wound-care product." In *Braz. J. Pharmacol* with co-authors Baliano, A.P., Pimentel, E.F., Buzin, A.R., Vieira, T.Z., Tose, L.V., Lenz, D., Andrade, T.U., Fronza, M., Endringer, D.C.; 3) "Monofunctional platinum(II) dithiocarbamate complexes: synthesis, characterization and anticancer activity." In *RSC Adv.* with co-authors Amir, K. M., ur-Rehman, Z., Hayat, F., Khan, S.Z., Hogarth, G., Kondratyuk, T., Pezzuto, J.M. and Tahir, M.N.

Camlyn Masuda, assistant professor in the Department of Pharmacy Practice, was a co-author on a poster presentation entitled "Utilizing pharmacy students to reduce polypharmacy and improve medication reconciliation in a Family Medicine clinic" at the STFM Conference on Practice Improvement December 1-4 in Newport Beach, California. Co-authors were Lovedhi Aggarwal, Monica Cheung Katz, Nicholas Rovang, Alexander Galicinao, Christopher Thai, Andy Takahata, Brandon Tuzon, Tony Huynh, Sean Abreu, Nicole Chin, Lauryn Mow, Terri Corpuz, Lillian Tran, Brenda Yuen, Olivia Kaponon, Delores Lee, and Richard Shinn. Dr. Masuda also was named "Pharmacist of the Year 2016" by the Hawaii Pharmacists Association (HPHA) on Oct. 28.



Wesley Sumida, associate specialist, Department of Pharmacy Practice, presented research at the Pacific Region Indigenous Doctors Congress (PRIDoC) 2016 Conference in Auckland New Zealand on November 27- December 1. Together with Dr. DeAnn Carpenter, a board-certified internist in Honolulu who works with Dr. Sumida at the Lau Ola clinic, and medical student Nina Beckwith, their presentation was entitled "Teaching Culture in an Ambulatory Setting to Pharmacy Students."

Elizabeth Ackerman, former assistant professor in the Department of Pharmacy Practice from 2014-2016, was given the "Distinguished Young Pharmacist Award" at the 2016 Hawaii Pharmacists Association General Membership Meeting in October. In early 2017, Dr. Ackerman began a new position at Swedish Medical Center in Seattle, Washington.

Rotation Report:

Alaska Native Medical Center Ambulatory Care

By Hannah Shin (Class of 2017)



From August through September 2016, I completed a six-week ambulatory care Advanced Pharmacy Practice Experience (APPE) rotation at Alaska Native Medical Center in Anchorage, Alaska. As a resident of California and a student pharmacist at the Daniel K. Inouye College of Pharmacy at the University of

Hawai'i at Hilo, I was intrigued at the prospect of doing a rotation in Alaska. I chose this rotation in particular because of the reputation of the Indian Health Service. Upon completion, I am very grateful that I did.

The tribally managed facility serves the Alaska Native people and boasts a unique system that provides a novel experience for any pharmacy student. My rotation was divided up into a variety of settings including the Internal Medicine Pharmacy, where I counseled patients on new medications, the Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium Diabetes Clinic, and the Southcentral Foundation Primary Care Clinic. I also spent a couple days at the Rural Anchorage Service Unit, which provides pharmacy services for remote Alaskan villages, and Mediset Pharmacy, which creates and delivers bubble-packed medications for patients who require the extra tool. The multiple settings and interactions with each preceptor allowed me to further explore different pharmacist roles.

My week at the Diabetes Clinic was under the guidance of the Diabetes Program Director, CDR Judith Thompson. My role as a student pharmacist was to perform medication reconciliations, obtain a succinct and comprehensive history of any pertinent current events, follow up with the team regarding necessary changes, and counsel on new or changed medications. I developed my ability to communicate with patients effectively and efficiently. Not only did I expand my knowledge base about diabetes treatment, I also learned about the native foods and culture from the patient interviews!

Under the preceptorship of integrated pharmacist LCDR Sara Low in the Primary Care Clinic, I answered drug information questions posed by physicians and nurses, counseled on new medications such as inhalers and injectables, and provided patient consultation on any

medication-related topic. In one instance, I answered a physician questioning the need for a statin in a young adult, and in a separate instance, I responded to the concern of a woman questioning the true evidence behind a popular weight loss supplement. During my time in the clinic, I was exposed to a wide variety of conditions in primary care and experienced first-hand the high-impact role of the pharmacist within an interdisciplinary team.

Drug information and efficient evidence and guideline analysis proved to be key in all settings. I worked on building on my skills in evidence-based medicine at the Alaska Native Medical Center Pharmacy Journal Club, a weekly meeting led by the Alaska Native Medical Center pharmacy residents. Student pharmacists and pharmacy residents took turns choosing and presenting on current journal articles. We critically evaluated each article to ultimately make our own decisions of how the evidence should be applied to pharmacy practice. To conclude my rotation, I gave a formal presentation on Drug-Induced QT Prolongation at the monthly Southcentral Foundation Pharmacist Meeting. Pharmacists expressed appreciation for a relevant presentation which included tools and information they could utilize to reduce the risks associated with QT interval-prolonging medications.

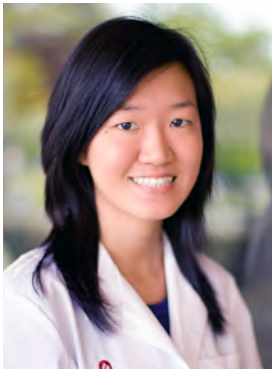
As a visitor to Alaska, I took full advantage of my free time. My weekends consisted of hikes and sightseeing. The most memorable hike was to the foot of Portage Glacier where I walked up to a glistening lake created by the melted glacier. Nothing, however, beat witnessing the mystical Northern Lights, which I luckily caught on a clear September night — A check off my bucket list! Needless to say, my time at Alaska Native Medical Center reaped many experiences and was an invaluable opportunity to learn, grow, and explore. Thank you to all the preceptors and members of the Alaska Native Medical Center team for making this experience possible!



Alumni update:

Dr. Marina Yeh

(Class of 2012)



Eight years ago I started my journey at Daniel K. Inouye College of

Pharmacy where I gained the knowledge and professional skills I needed to get to where I am today. I am currently a pharmacy manager at Walgreen's in Hawai'i Kai on Oahu and have worked at this store for the past three years. Working as a retail pharmacist in this community has been rewarding because I am also an alumnus of Kaiser High School in Hawai'i Kai. In a sense I feel it is my way of giving back to where my education started.

What I enjoy most about my job as a retail pharmacist are the relationships I build with some of my patients. Being able to meet different people and have personal conversations about their kids, life, travel experiences, etc. is what allows them to trust my team in caring for them. When the opportunity arises, I also enjoy the teaching aspect of my job. Whether it's training a new technician or being a preceptor to a pharmacy student, it's always a pleasure to share my knowledge and experiences with students in hopes that it will help them in their future careers.

What I've learned in the short amount of time I've been a pharmacist is that our profession is never constant – new drugs come out on the market and policies, laws, and guidelines are always changing. In addition to that, I am also faced with different experiences and challenges everyday, but perhaps that's what makes my job exciting!

DKICP Fall 2016 Dean's List



The following students from the Daniel K. Inouye College of Pharmacy at the University of Hawai'i at Hilo have been named to the Dean's List for the 2016 fall semester. Students from the Class of 2017 are on experiential rotations for their final year.

Class of 2020

Joshua Dillon, Amelia Furlan, Mary Lui, Stacey Nguyen, Felix Rasgo, Robyn Rector, Shaina Saiki, Reid Shimada, Thi Hong Vo, Brandi Chun, Jensine Melody Domingo, Jhoana Paula Gonzales, Jared Toba, Jarin Miyamoto, Tony Moua, Su Hyon Kwon, Courtney Elam, Tracy Lopez, Johnny Tran, Brooke Zarriello, Brent Ocker, Thuy-Mi Tran, Joseph Tanchevski, David Cao, Anna Claire Masuda, Kamala Lizama, Stacie Waiamau, Taumie Richie, Kelsey Trujillo, Andrew Nguyen, Taylor Hori, Logan Abney, Tyler Peterson, Charles Slusher, Wilson Datario

Class of 2019

Tyler Millar, Rachel Randall, Ashley Uehara, Nancy Wong, Carrie Yeung, David Pham, Preston Ho, Kara Paulachak, Gam Phan, Rene-Scott Chavez, Tyler Hirokawa, Kate Malasig, Nicholas Tsoi, Vance Hill, Jennifer Nguyen, Veronica Wong, Deniz Bicakci, Samantha Gonzalez, Kevin Lei, Athena Borhauer, Torrence Ching, Katrina Downey, Veronica Morales Colon, Shannon Trinh, Clement Tran Tang, Leigh Heffner

Class of 2018

Cierra Gauvin, Kerri Nakatsu, Carli Owan, Lauren Skorheim, Quan Truong, Goody Cacal, Sara Evanko, Kelli Goo, Macie Kim, Vicky Nguyen, Lauren Sato, Paolo Vinh Tuan Truong, Tram Le, John James Taman, Ciara Butts, Robby-Sean Cayetano, Karen Christian, Jui-Yu Kao, Andrew Skorheim, Caroline Rhee, XuanLam Le, Joann Phan, Seungyeun Yoo, Ha Tran, Krystle Kiyuna, Niaz Nafisi, Mari Takushi, Candace Woo, Chelsea Aipoalani, Mathew Eng, Niko Pogorevcnik, Katherine Post, Jennifer Fujio, Jonathan Kataoka, Jessica Penaranda, Erik Ferreira, Katrina Kutter, Miyuki Miller, Zebedee Walpert, Phuong Nguyen, Tiffany Alberg, Nicolette Lew, Marina Ortiz, Christopher Nakagawa, Jessica Lee, Tran Pham, Joshua Belcher, Jane Choi, Megan Olaguer, Cindy Khamphanh

Champions Corner:

Dr. Joy Matsuyama



Dr. Joy Matsuyama has been named a Champion of Pharmacy for Winter 2017. When the initiative began to build a college of pharmacy at the University of Hawai'i at Hilo, Dr. Matsuyama joined Drs. Ron Taniguchi and Jerry Johnson in the inaugural pharmacist advisory group of three in 2002. According to Dr. Taniguchi, she contributed in a key and unique way during the period leading up to Board of Regents approval prior to 2005, and has served on the pharmacists' advisory council to the Dean since its inception. Dr. Matsuyama continues to support DKICP APPE & IPPE rotations as the Director of Pharmacy at Straub Medical Center in Honolulu.

"When I was working with Jerry Johnson, Ron Taniguchi and others to help develop the ground work for the college of pharmacy, I assumed it was something that would happen no matter what. Unfortunately, the Hawai'i College of Pharmacy debacle put up major road blocks for us, but we persevered and with the help of Daniel K. Inouye, Pat Deleon, Big Island Community supporters and others, the UH-Hilo DKICP became a reality," Dr. Matsuyama recalled.

Dr. Matsuyama grew up in Honolulu from the age of 7 when her parents moved there from Los Angeles. She received her bachelor's degree in pharmacy and later went on to earn her doctor of pharmacy degree from the University of Washington School of Pharmacy in Seattle. After completing residencies at Harborview Medical Center in Seattle and Veteran's Affairs Medical Center in Boise, Idaho, she became an assistant professor at St. Alphonsus Regional Medical Center in Boise, Idaho. She moved to Honolulu in 1996 to work first at The Queen's Medical Center, then at Hawai'i Pacific Health, and is now director of Pharmacy, Respiratory, Point of Care Testing, Lung Center and Laboratory Liaison with Straub.

"I am a strong advocate for continuous learning and quality improvement in health care with a specific focus on pharmacy practice, though I now cover respiratory services, lung center and laboratory services at Straub as well," she noted. "As a pharmacy director, one of my goals is to increase patient access to pharmacists by providing and expanding quality pharmacy services in various settings at HPH."

With this award, we recognize her unwavering support and guidance throughout our early years, and are grateful for her continued affiliation.

"I am a strong advocate for continuous learning and quality improvement in health care with a specific focus on pharmacy practice, though I now cover respiratory services, lung center and laboratory services at Straub as well," she noted. "As a pharmacy director, one of my goals is to increase patient access to pharmacists by providing and expanding quality pharmacy services in various settings at HPH."

- Dr. Joy Matsuyama



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