



# TECH SCRIPT

TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY  HEALTH SCIENCES CENTER™

Jerry H. Hodge School of Pharmacy Annual Report | 2023-2024



# C O N T E N T S

**4** MESSAGE FROM THE DEAN

**5** ABOUT US

**10** FACULTY ACHIEVEMENTS

**18** FACULTY AND STAFF NEWS AND RECOGNITION

**25** STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS

**34** EVENTS AND COMMUNITY

**45** SERVICE

**51** ALUMNI

**57** FACILITIES

**59** TTUHSC

# THE YEAR IN NUMBERS



88

students in graduating class of 2024



2

students graduated with 3 degrees (Pharm.D./MBA/MPH) in 4 year



28

students matched with residency programs



1

student went on to a fellowship program



13

students graduated with Pharm.D./MBA dual degrees



3

students graduated with Pharm.D./MPH dual degrees



3

received honors in research designations



+1M

total scholarships awarded for the 2023-2024 school year



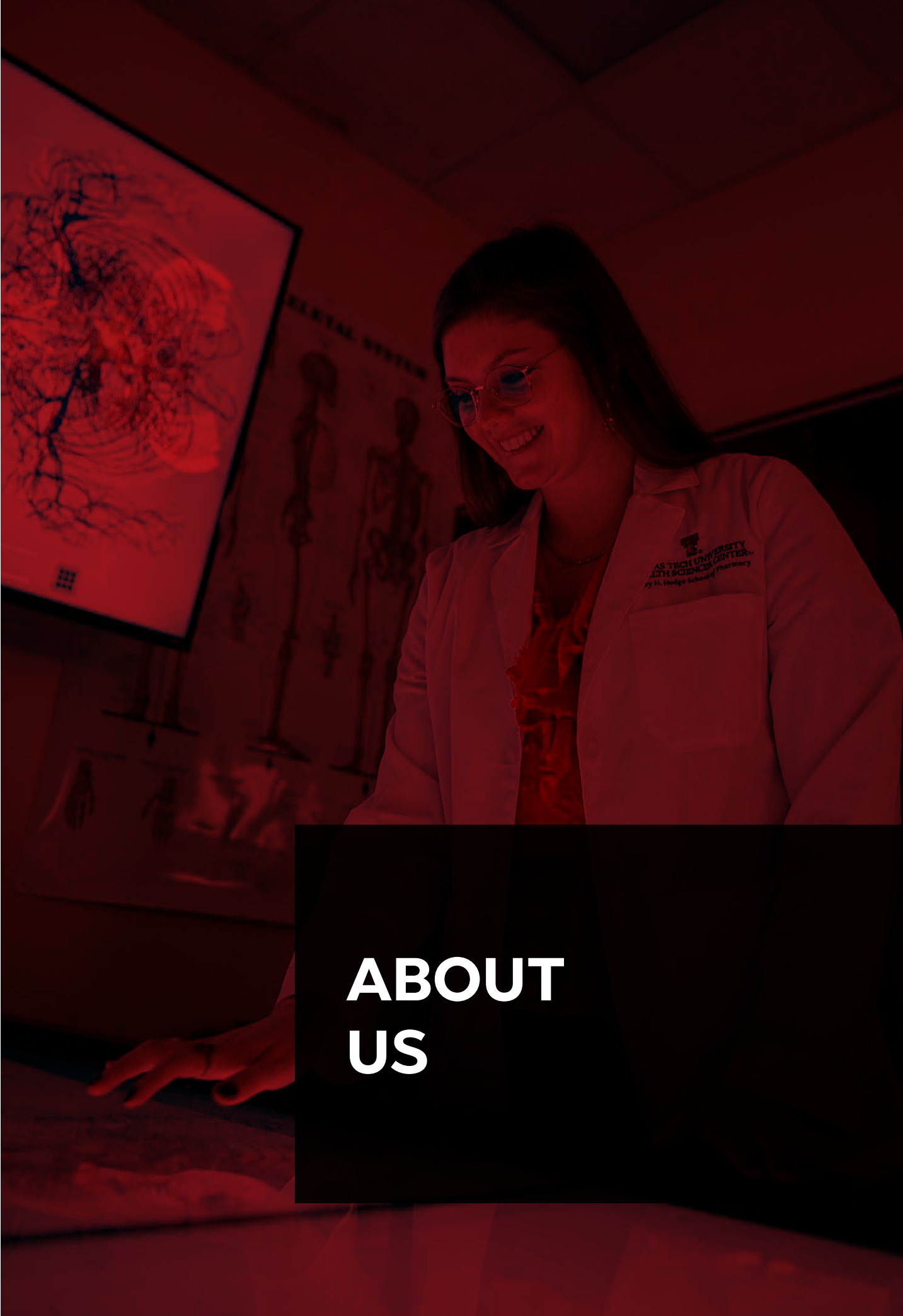
# MESSAGE FROM THE DEAN

Dear SOP Team Members, Alumni, and Friends,

Our students and team members have had a productive year, demonstrated from several recognitions won at the local, regional, and national levels. I'm very proud of all the accomplishments we've made. We had a wonderful celebration with the Class of 2024; the graduation ceremony was a blast! Hope everyone enjoys a relaxing summer and look forward to seeing you in the new academic year!

**Grace M. Kuo,**  
**Pharm.D., MPH, Ph.D.**  
*Dean and Professor*





# ABOUT US



## **MISSION:**

To enhance the lives of patients through innovation and excellence in pharmacy education, practice and research.

## **VISION:**

To transform health care and the lives of the patients we serve.

## **OUR COMMITMENT: AS A COMMUNITY OF LEARNERS, WE ARE COMMITTED TO:**

1. The creation of a student-centered, positive learning community in which each person is dedicated to the pharmacy profession and values excellence in education, practice and research.
2. Collaborative interpersonal relationships - defined as mutual learning, open communication and shared responsibility among faculty, administration and students.
3. Compassionate care for each patient and an unwavering dedication to meet each patient's pharmaceutical care needs.
4. Community involvement and serving the health care needs of the citizens of West Texas. This perspective will be reflected in our doctoral candidates who have a community perspective supported by a sound biological and behavioral understanding of health care.
5. Work characterized by its excellence and our willingness to change, be progressive, make timely and vigilant decisions and evaluate our performances against stated goals.
6. Academic and healthcare environments that encourage open debate and dialogue, the introduction of new ideas and practices, innovation through collaboration and an unwavering commitment to self-improvement, self-renewal and life-long learning.





# TTUHSC-SOP AWARDED AACP COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARD

In February, the American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy (AACP) named TTUHSC-Jerry H. Hodge School of Pharmacy the 2024 Lawrence C. Weaver Transformative Community Service Award winner. This award is given to institutions that demonstrate a major institutional commitment to addressing unmet community needs through education, practice and research.

The award highlights several TTUHSC-SOP programs that assist the community and have resulted in the following accomplishments:

- More than 83,000 pounds of medication and sharps collected from homes since its start of the Medication Cleanout program 15 years ago;
- Production of 457,723 vials of viral transport medium and the administration of life-saving vaccines the COVID-19 pandemic;
- The school provided pharmaceutical care to thousands of patients at its two outpatient pharmacies in Amarillo and Lubbock;
- The special population services provided to specialty care patients, underserved people, and incarcerated individuals in Texas; and
- The research collaboration and training taking place at campuses, schools and communities across the region.

“We accept this prestigious award with great honor and excitement,” TTUHSC Jerry H. Hodge School of Pharmacy Dean Grace M. Kuo, Pharm.D., Ph.D., said. “We are among elite company as we join other schools of pharmacy who have received this recognition. It is truly a testament to our team members and students’ dedication and passion to the communities we live in and serve.”



# PIONEERING A NEW PATHWAY

TTUHSC Jerry H. Hodge School of Pharmacy is positioning itself for the future with the announcement of its new Pioneer Pathway, an innovative educational pathway that will leverage hybrid learning strategies.

In the landscape of pharmacy education in the U.S., only 12 institutions in the nation offer distance pathways for online or hybrid learning. The School of Pharmacy will be the first public school in the country and the first in the state to allow students the flexibility to complete a majority of their Pharm.D. program from anywhere in the nation.

"Institutions adopting forward-thinking ways to train professionals beyond the classroom is becoming increasingly more common, even in the most distinguished fields," shared Grace Kuo, Pharm.D., MPH, Ph.D., Dean of the School of Pharmacy. "We recognize that the landscape of education is evolving, and as a leader in pharmacy education, it is our duty to adapt in order to improve the services we offer."

With a program consistently recognized for excellence in clinical education and science, the School of Pharmacy is no stranger to non-traditional educational strategies. It has used a distributed campus model, which blends traditional in-person instruction with interactive video conferencing — allowing students to learn and interact with faculty and their peers across four campuses located in Abilene, Amarillo, Dallas, and Lubbock, for more than 20 years.



“Our distributive campus model has provided our faculty with extensive experience in leveraging both in-person instruction and technology-based distance instruction,” said Rebecca Sleeper, Professor and Senior Associate Dean of Curriculum, Assessment, and Accreditation. “This well-developed foundational knowledge will serve us well as we build and apply new instructional techniques designed for distance learners, and maintain the robustness of curricular delivery for training areas that require in-person immersion.”

The new Pioneer Pathway will live within the existing ACPE accredited Pharm.D. program and maintain the quality and rigor of the School's on-campus pathways, where students consistently perform well on licensure exams, achieve exceptional employment rates and secure impressive residency match rates.

A taskforce made up of faculty and staff members within the School focused the design of the pathway on three fundamental principles:

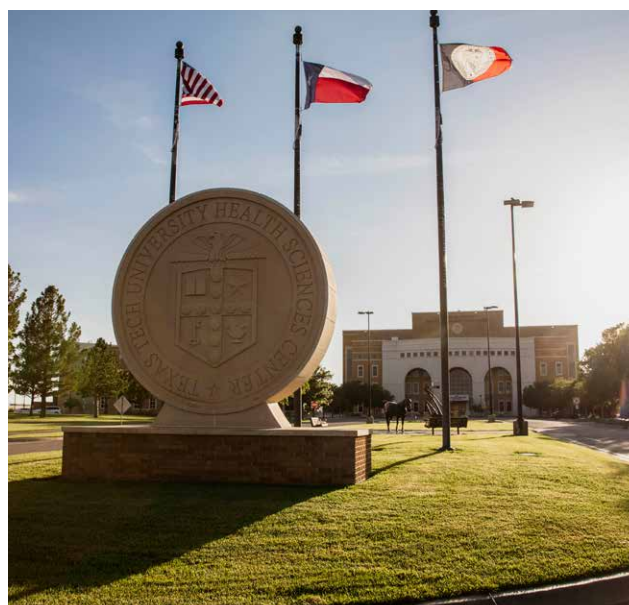
- Fusion of expert faculty instruction with cutting-edge digital learning technology, design, and support.
- Continuous and valuable student engagement and support complemented by hands-on immersions.
- Structured flexibility, providing students with the freedom to tailor their learning pace within predefined time constraints.

“We are excited to add the new pathway because, in addition to driving innovation and enhancement of our existing pathways, it extends our reach to a broader audience, including those who may have previously had limited options for pharmacy education,” shared Krystal Haase, Pharm.D., SOP Amarillo Regional Dean and Chair of the Pioneer Pathway Taskforce. “We pride ourselves on the high quality of our program and graduates and, for that reason, this pathway will maintain the same curriculum and learning outcomes as existing on-campus pathways.”

[Read the full story here.](#)

## TTUHSC-SOP RANKS TOP 3 IN TEXAS

On April 9, U.S. News & World Report released the 2024 list of Best Pharmacy Schools. TTUHSC-SOP ranked as the #3 Best Pharmacy School in Texas!





# FACULTY ACHIEVEMENTS

## ABBRUSCATO RECEIVES GROVER E. MURRAY PROFESSORSHIP



In August, the Texas Tech University System Board of Regents approved the appointment of Thomas J. Abbruscato, Ph.D., SOP Chair of Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences and senior associate dean TTUHSC Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences, as Grover E. Murray Professors. The Grover E. Murray Professorship is intended for faculty members who have attained national and international distinction in their fields for outstanding research, excellence in scholarship and creative achievement.

## KLEIN FEATURED IN PHARMACY TIMES



In September 2023, Pharmacy Times put together an article series for the American Pharmacists Association (APhA) that highlighted vaccine confidence. The series shared stories of how pharmacists across the country impacted success rates for COVID-19 vaccinations in their communities. TTUHSC-SOP's Mary Klein, Pharm.D., associate professor at the Abilene campus, was among the pharmacists featured.

## AHMED NAMED EMERGING INVENTOR



In October, the Office of Research Commercialization announced Mahmoud Salama Ahmed, PhD, as TTUHSC's 2023 Emerging Inventor of the Year, an award that recognizes recent innovation contributions of faculty members within the institution.

Ahmed, an assistant professor in the Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences at the TTUHSC Amarillo campus, joined TTUHSC-SOP in 2022. Ahmed's research program at TTUHSC focuses on recruiting the drug discovery tools including structure-based drug design, organic synthesis, X-ray crystallography, and in vitro/in vivo biological evaluation to modulate different clinical diseases using small molecules.

Ahmed has published 26 manuscripts in prestigious peer reviewed journals including Nature, Nature metabolism, Nature cardiovascular, Proceedings of National Academy of Sciences, and European Journal of Medicinal Chemistry.





# SRIVASTAVA RECEIVES CHANCELLOR'S AWARD

In February, Texas Tech University System Chancellor Tedd L. Mitchell, M.D., and TTUHSC President Lori Rice-Spearman, Ph.D., presented the 2024 Chancellor's Council Distinguished Teaching & Research Awards. Recognizing academic excellence, the honors are the most prestigious awards granted to faculty throughout the TTU System.

Among the honorees was Sanjay K. Srivastava, Ph.D., a University Distinguished Professor, chair of the TTUHSC-SOP Department of Immunotherapeutics and Biotechnology, who was one of two Distinguished Research Award recipients.

## BOHN, AL-AHMAD RECEIVE EXCELLENCE IN TEACHING AWARDS



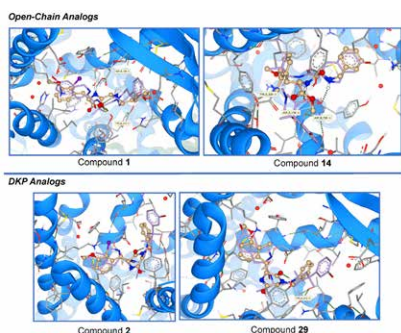
In February, Kaci Bohn, PhD, and Abraham Al-Ahmad, PhD, received teaching awards from the student senate. Bohn was selected for the Excellence in Teaching Award for the School of Pharmacy and Al-Ahmad was selected for the Excellence in Teaching Award for the Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences.

## ABURAHMA, BAILEY SELECTED AS OUTSTANDING FACULTY



In April, Amal Aburahma, PhD, and Trista Bailey, Pharm.D., were selected as Outstanding Faculty of the Year for the School of Pharmacy by the Pharmacy students for the 2023-2024 academic year. This award is sponsored by the TTUHSC Student Government Association.

## THREE FACULTY MEMBERS PUBLISHED IN EUROPEAN JOURNAL OF MEDICINAL CHEMISTRY



The collaboration of three faculty members, Nadia German, PhD; Thomas Abbruscato, PhD; and Lance McMahon, PhD, resulted in the investigation of novel kappa opioid receptor ligands to treat pain. The trio published their manuscript, titled “Studies on diketopiperazine and dipeptide analogs as opioid receptor ligands,” in the European Journal of Medicinal Chemistry.

# EIGHT PRECEPTORS OF THE YEAR NAMED

Each year students have the opportunity to nominate their favorite preceptor for the Preceptor of the Year Award. A faculty and adjunct faculty member are selected from each campus to receive the award. The 2024 preceptor of the year awardees are:



Trista Bailey, Pharm.D.,  
*Faculty, Abilene*



Emily Buatois, Pharm.D.,  
*Faculty, Amarillo*



Ashley Higbea, Pharm.D.,  
*Faculty, Dallas*



Staci Moss, Pharm.D.,  
*Faculty, Lubbock*

Charlene Merritt, R.Ph.,  
*Adjunct Faculty, Dallas*

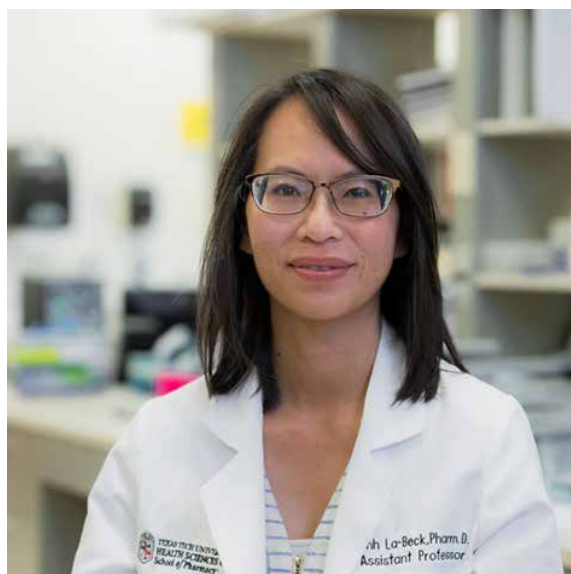
Rebecca Talley, Pharm.D.,  
*Adjunct Faculty, Lubbock*

Tiffany Dobbs, Pharm.D.,  
*Adjunct Faculty, Amarillo*

Ryan George, Pharm.D.,  
*Adjunct Faculty, Abilene*



## LA-BECK TO USE NIH GRANT TO STUDY CANCER DRUG DELIVERY VIA NANOPARTICLES



The National Cancer Institute awarded Irene La-Beck, Pharm.D., a \$2,370,000 R01 grant for her project titled “Cholesterol metabolism in the pharmacology of liposomal therapeutics.” La-Beck will collaborate with Dr. Qisheng Zhang from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill to identify novel mechanisms by which liposomes are metabolized within the body, determine metabolites that alter immune function, and develop new formulations of liposomal chemotherapies for the treatment of cancer that are expected to be both safer and more effective. The research team includes members of the La-Beck lab group; Jalpa Patel, Rakibul Islam, and Patricia Back; and TTUHSC collaborators; Dr. Trey Putnam and the North Texas Clinical Pharmacology Cancer Core, and Dr. Laurence Wood.

## HALL AWARDED MERCK INVESTIGATOR STUDIES PROGRAM GRANT



Ron Hall, Pharm.D., was recently awarded an investigator-initiated grant (Total Costs: \$172,800) from the Merck Investigator Studies Program entitled “A retrospective cohort study using Cerner Real-World Data to evaluate the use of ceftolozane/tazobactam in patients with bacteremia due to gram-negative pathogens”. The grant will support Dr. Hall and the team over one year (October 2023 to September 2024) to determine the impact of ceftolozane/tazobactam on 30-day failure rates of patients with bacteremia due to *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* compared to other standard-of-care antibiotics. They will also conduct a similar analysis for gram-negative pathogens other than *P. aeruginosa* and evaluate the use of ceftolozane/tazobactam in patients with gram-negative bacteremia over a seven-year period. The study will be conducted using a national cohort from Cerner Real-World Data, which consists of more

than 100 million patients. The analysis will be conducted in collaboration with Chip Shaw, PhD, who is the Executive Director of the TTUHSC Central Data Warehouse, and Carlos Alvarez, Pharm.D., MSc, MSCS, who is the Director of the Center of Excellence in Real-World Evidence at the TTUHSC-SOP.

## WILKERSON TO INVESTIGATE LINKS BETWEEN PAIN AND BASAL SEX HORMONE LEVELS



Jenny Wilkerson, PhD, the principal investigator of a \$1.9M R35 grant from the NIH / National Institute of General Medical Sciences (NIGMS), plans to complete the project at the Amarillo campus over the next five years. The project will examine sex hormone alteration on post-operative pain development and treatment. The critical work will help to enhance understanding of sex hormone alterations within vulnerable patient populations, the role of sex hormones on healing after surgery, and clarify analgesic treatment options.

## SELBY AWARDED TTUHSC HEALTH DISPARITIES GRANT



Ashley Selby, Pharm.D., assistant professor of pharmacy practice, was recently awarded a health disparities grant from TTUHSC for a project entitled “Evolution of Potential Disparities in the Treatment of Candidemia in Obese Patients.” The grant will support Selby and the team over a one year period to determine the impact of obesity on in-hospital mortality in patients treated for candidemia from 2013-2022 in three hospitals located in Amarillo, Fort Worth, and Lubbock. The analysis will be conducted in collaboration with Chip Shaw, PhD, executive director of the TTUHSC Central Data Warehouse and TTUHSC-SOP team members.

## HALL PRESENTS POSTER AT INNOVATIONS IN CANCER PREVENTION AND RESEARCH CONFERENCE



Ron Hall, Pharm.D., presented a research poster entitled “Impact of Class II/ III Obesity on Doxorubicin Pharmacokinetics in Women with Breast Cancer” at the Innovations in Cancer Prevention and Research Conference in early October. The conference highlighted exceptional progress across cancer research, prevention, and product development at medical and academic research centers, in communities, and at companies around Texas. Hall’s study was funded by the TTUHSC Laura W. Bush Women’s Health Research Institute and his SOP co-authors on the project included Drs. Trey Putnam and Raja Reddy.



## FACULTY MEMBER GRADUATES FROM AACP ACADEMY

Alaina Van Dyke, Pharm.D., assistant professor in the pharmacy practice department, graduated from the American College of Clinical Pharmacy (ACCP) Teaching and Learning Academy. The Academy is an educational program that helps clinical educators develop the skills necessary to guide and inspire the clinical pharmacy profession through the completion of 16 hours of core modules and 4 hours of elective programming.

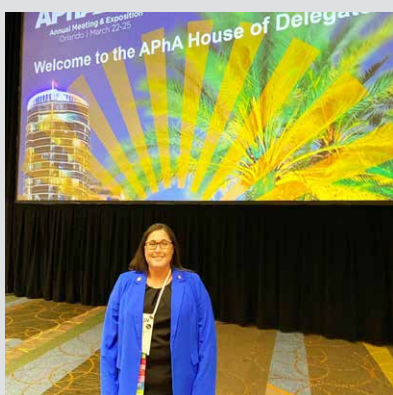


## HIGBEA INDUCTED AS DISTINGUISHED FELLOW



The Texas IPE Consortium Board of Directors unanimously voted to induct Ashley Higbea, Pharm.D., Associate Professor and Director of Interprofessional Education, into their 2024 Class of Distinguished Fellows. The award honors outstanding individuals with significant service and leadership within the consortium who have made exceptional contributions to the field of IPE across the State of Texas and beyond. Higbea was formally honored at the Annual Meeting in April.

## KLEIN BECOMES APhA SPEAKER-ELECT



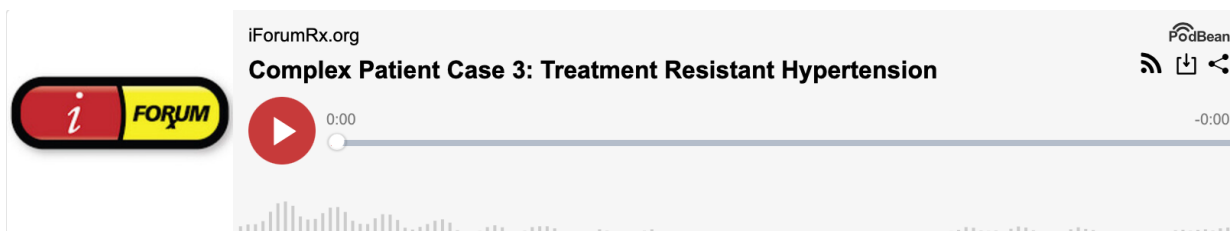
In March, the American Pharmacists Association (APhA) announced that Mary Klein, Pharm.D., was elected the 2024–2025 speaker-elect of the APhA House of Delegates. As speaker-elect, Klein will serve a one-year term before serving as speaker of the house and trustee for two years (2025–2027). Klein is an associate professor of pharmacy practice and director of practice labs and simulation

## KUO NAMED TO AAF BOARD OF DIRECTORS



In January, TTUHSC-SOP Dean Grace Kuo, Pharm.D., MPH, Ph.D., was named to the Amarillo Area Foundation Board of Directors. She was recognized, along with other incoming board members, at the annual meeting. The Amarillo Area Foundation (AAF) serves the northernmost 26 counties in Texas and provides grants and services to strengthen nonprofit organizations and the services they deliver.

## MACLAUGHLIN TAKES PART IN PODCAST



In December, Eric MacLaughlin, Pharm.D., Professor and Chair of the pharmacy practice department, took part in a panel discussion on “Treatment Resistant Hypertension” for an iForumRx podcast. The podcast presents a complex patient case and the panel members act as consultants who talk through options for treatment.



# FACULTY AND STAFF NEWS AND RECOGNITION





# LUBBOCK CAMPUS NAMES NEW REGIONAL DEAN

In May, Craig Cox, Pharm.D., was named regional dean of the TTUHSC Jerry H. Hodge School of Pharmacy Lubbock campus.

Regional deans serve as administrative officers responsible for comprehensive programmatic delivery and the day-to-day operations of the regional campus. In addition to working with students, faculty and staff; regional deans also work with the Dean on recruitment, collaborating with other schools and building community partnerships.

Cox has been with TTUHSC for 24 years, during which time he has served as vice chair for the experiential education division for 19 years, as well as division head of adult medicine during 2 of those years. He started his new role on July 1, 2024.



# FACULTY AND STAFF AT HONORED EVENTS



In May, all four TTUHSC Jerry H. Hodge School of Pharmacy campuses participated in the annual Celebration of Achievement. The event recognized professional organizations, government accomplishments, students, faculty and staff.

Four staff members, Amanda Hines (Dallas), Gabby Robledo (Lubbock), Camille Stoddard (Amarillo) and Vicki Whiteaker (Abilene) received the Staff Mentor Award for their campus, while Sandy De Los Santos (Amarillo) and Trina Brown (Dallas) received the Excellence in Staff Services Award.



For Faculty, Teachers and Teaching Teams of the Year were recognized for each of the P1–P3 classes. The awardees for each class are as follows:

The P1 class named Sami Nazzal, Ph.D. as Teacher of the Year and the Pharmacy Science and Calculations team, made up of Amal Abruahma, Ph.D., Alejandra Fernandez, Ph.D., Siva Koganti, Ph.D., and Sami Nazzal, Ph.D., as the Teaching Team of the Year.

The P2 Class named Drew Ramirez, Pharm.D. as Teacher of the Year and IMER: Integrated Therapeutics and Practice III team, made up of Amal Abruahma, Ph.D., Trista Bailey, Pharm.D., Kaci Bohn, Ph.D., Shawn Jones, Ph.D., Magdalena Karbowiczek, Ph.D., Thomas Parker, Pharm.D., Russell Snyder, Ph.D. and Brian Terrell, Pharm.D., as the Teaching Team of the Year.



The P3 class named Chris Selby, Pharm.D. as Teacher of the Year and the Neurology/Psychiatry Pharmacotherapy team, made up of Amal Abruahma, Ph.D., Amie Blaszczyk, Pharm.D., Alejandra Fernandez, Ph.D., Monica Mathys, Pharm.D., Quentin Smith, Ph.D., James Stoll, Ph.D., and Jenny Wilkerson, Ph.D., as the P3 Teaching Team of the Year.

The P4 class, selected Mary Klein, Pharm.D. as the Most Influential Professor. She received her award, which recognizes the faculty member who has had a significant impact on the student body and exhibited superior leadership, dedicated service and teaching excellence, at the Class of 2024 Graduation Ceremony.

# TWO SOP MEMBERS HONORED WITH STAFF AWARDS

TTUHSC-SOP had two staff members who were honored at the 2023 Distinguished Staff Awards.



Talia Jaryszak, business manager for the Department of Immunotherapeutics and Biotechnology at the Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center at Abilene campus was awarded the “President’s Award of Excellence.” The award recognizes those who promote integrity in the workplace by committing to honesty, ethical choices and transparency in their actions and purpose. The success they have achieved through their essential contributions demonstrates their commitment to achieving short- and long-term goals that influence the success of TTUHSC.



Kristin Mauldin, assistant director of professional continuing education within in the Office of Experiential Programs, was awarded the “Quality Staff Award.” The award is presented to team members who continually demonstrate the TTUHSC value of Beyond Service by creating and delivering positive defining moments, anticipating the needs of others, and going the extra mile.



## AMARILLO PHARMACEUTICAL CARE CENTER VOTED BEST PHARMACY

The Amarillo Pharmaceutical Care Center (APCC) was named Best Pharmacy in the 2024 News Channel10 Viewers Choice Awards. Operated by TTUHSC Jerry H. Hodge School of Pharmacy professors, residents and students, the APCC provides the area's best prices and service for pharmaceutical care and is easily accessible from Texas Tech Physicians clinics.

## O'PRY SELECTED AS EMERGING LEADER



Lindsay O'Pry, assistant director in the Office of Student Affairs and Admissions at the Lubbock campus, was selected for the TTUHSC Emerging Leader Program. The program provides new supervisors with the opportunity to develop and gain awareness of essential skills for effective leadership and building teams.



# TWO LONG-TIME FACULTY MEMBERS RETIRE

**James Stoll, Ph.D.**, retired on December 31, 2023 after 27.5 years of service to the School of Pharmacy.

Stoll, a tenured associate professor, joined the TTUHSC-SOP Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences in 1996 and was a founding faculty member of the School of Pharmacy.

Stoll received his Bachelor of Science in Chemistry (with honors) from New Mexico State University and his Doctor of Philosophy in Biochemistry from Johns Hopkins in 1987. He completed additional scientific training at the NIH National Institute of Alcoholism and Alcohol Abuse and National Institute on Aging for nine years. Stoll's research expertise is in biochemistry, molecular biology and membrane transport. He is the world's expert on high affinity choline transport at the blood-brain barrier and its role in a variety of neurodegenerative disorders.

Stoll's research program in the Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences was funded by the National Institute of Aging, National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke and National Institute of General Medical Sciences. His research work was highly focused on the influence of sex on high affinity choline uptake and epilepsy. His research was also supported by the Laura W. Bush Institute for Women's Health for a number of years. Dr. Stoll trained numerous pharmacy and graduate students in the lab, two of which are current faculty (Dr. Alejandra Fernandez and Dr. Katie Bennett).

Dr. Stoll's teaching in fundamental science courses has remained crucial to set a high bar for the School of Pharmacy. Over the years he received multiple individual and team teaching awards from the School of Pharmacy and Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences. In 2005, he was recognized for his teaching acumen by receiving the President's Award in Teaching.





**Charles Seifert, Pharm.D.**, retired on June 28, 2024 after 26 years of service to the School of Pharmacy.

Seifert, a tenured professor, joined the TTUHSC-SOP Department of Pharmacy Practice in 1998 and was the founding regional dean of the Lubbock campus. He has also served as senior executive associate dean and associate dean of strategic initiatives.

Seifert received his Bachelor of Science in Pharmacy from North Dakota State University in 1982 and his Doctor of Pharmacy from The University of Texas at Austin and The University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio in 1984. He completed an ASHP accredited Clinical Pharmacy Residency with Truman Medical Center and The University of Missouri at Kansas City in 1985.

In 1991, Seifert was one of the first 141 Board Certified Pharmacotherapy Specialists in the nation and is a Fellow of the American College of Clinical Pharmacy. He has more than 145 published journal articles, book chapters, abstracts, and newspaper and magazine articles; and more than 360 invited, continuing education, and research presentations.

Over the years, he has received numerous awards for his teaching, practice, service, and research; most recently he was honored as the 2023 TTUHSC President's Excellence in Team Teaching Award, 2021 TTUHSC President's Excellence in Interprofessional Teamwork Award, 2019 TTUHSC President's Excellence in Interprofessional Teamwork Award, 2016 SOP P3 Teacher of the Year by the Class of 2017, 2016 TTUHSC Student Government Association Outstanding Pharmacy Didactic Teacher, and the 2015 TTUHSC School of Pharmacy P3 Teacher of the Year by the Class of 2016.

A photograph of a female student in a white lab coat working in a laboratory. She is wearing glasses and is focused on a task, possibly using a pipette or a similar instrument. The background shows other students and laboratory equipment, all under a strong red light. A dark red semi-transparent box is overlaid on the bottom right of the image, containing the text 'STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS' in white, bold, uppercase letters.

# STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS





# STUDENTS LEARN RESIDENCY MATCH ASSIGNMENTS

24 pharmacy students interested in completing a residency after they graduate learned where they would spend the next stage of their training during Phase I of Pharmacy Residency Match Day. An additional 4 students found out during the Phase II. The post-match scramble and one outside match brought our totals to 28 students matching with PGY-1 programs. Students who matched with residency programs include:

### **PGY-1 Pharmacy**

- John Ike Achonye- VA Boston Healthcare System
- Raktima Bhattacharya- BSA Hospital
- Jenna Do- West Texas Veterans Affairs Medical Center
- Mya Doan- Midland Memorial Hospital
- Vivian Ho- Cook Children's Medical Center
- Bryan Hoang- Harris Health System
- Lindsay Johnson- Medical City Plano
- Parker Lenheiser- Froedtert Hospital and Medical College of Wisconsin
- Kyujin Lin – BSA Hospital
- Robert Martinez – BSA Hospital
- Brandon McCormick- Texas Health Presbyterian Dallas
- Traylor Moses- Covenant Health System
- Alysha Patel- Ochsner LSU Health Shreveport
- April Peterson- Medical City Arlington
- Cheyanna Petty- Cook Children's Medical Center
- Vivian Pham- CHI St. Luke's Health/Baylor St. Luke's Med Center
- Danh Phan- Texas Health Harris Methodist Hospital
- Kathryn Phelan- West Texas Veterans Affairs Medical Center
- Jacob Sanchez- Texas Health Presbyterian Dallas
- Haya Shakarchi – United Regional Health Care System
- Andy Shi – Freeman Health System
- Hiep Trinh- BSA Hospital/Thomas Tran, BSA Health System
- Faith Windham- Midland Memorial Hospital

### **PGY-1 Community**

- Ramsha Akhtar- Baylor Health Enterprises
- Gracie Daniels- Baylor Health Enterprises

### **PGY-1/2 Health System Pharmacy Administration and Leadership with Master's**

- Megan Bareis- Texas Children's Hospital
- Kristin Etuk- Houston Methodist Hospital
- Elaina Spriggs- Phoenix Indian Medical Center

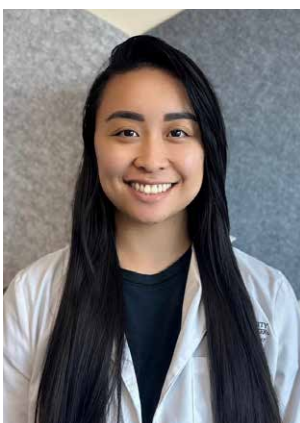
Additionally, 23 TTUHSC Jerry H. Hodge School of Pharmacy alumni (100%) successfully matched with PGY-1 and PGY-2 programs after Phase I and Phase II.

## DOAN SECURES NCODA FELLOWSHIP



Daisy Doan, P4 at the Dallas campus, accepted a National Community Oncology Dispensing Association (NCODA) Oncology | Advocacy | Health Policy and Equity Fellowship sponsored by Bristol Myers Squibb. During the year-long fellowship, Doan will play a key role in creating educational resources that will enhance the medically integrated oncology practice.

## TWO STUDENTS SELECTED FOR ACA SCHOLARSHIPS



In December, The American College of Apothecaries (ACA) Research and Education Foundation announced that TTUHSCSOP students Rachel Blanchard, P2 at the Dallas campus, and Alexandria Arnett, P3 at the Dallas campus, were selected as two of four recipients of the Pharmacists Mutual | ACA Foundation Community Pharmacy Scholarship. These scholarships are awarded to student pharmacists who have demonstrated academic excellence and a commitment to advancing the future of community pharmacy in the United States.





# STUDENTS EARN MBA AND MPH DEGREES

On April 27, three fourth-year School of Pharmacy students received their Master of Public Health (MPH) degrees at the TTUHSC Julia Jones Matthews School of Population and Public Health commencement ceremony. On May 11, 12 third-year School of Pharmacy students received their MBA degrees at the Texas Tech Rawls College of Business commencement ceremony. Each of these students is part of one of our dual degree programs that allow students to earn their MBA and/or MPH, along with their Pharm.D. degree in just four years.

# LEADERSHIP AND HONORS



## MUSHAROF RECOGNIZED BY US PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE

Afsana Musharof, P3 at the Dallas campus, received the Excellence in Public Health Pharmacy Award from the U.S. Public Health Service. The award recognizes pharmacy students that make significant contributions to public health. She was one of 91 nominees recognized from across the nation.



## SCHUBERT RECOGNIZED BY ASHP

Travis Schubert, P2 at the Dallas campus, was recognized by ASHP in their member spotlight gallery. "ASHP has already provided me so many amazing opportunities and I am excited to see what the future holds as I continue my endeavors with them," shared Travis.

## P3S HAVE PAPER PUBLISHED



In February, Chandler Batson and David Mara, P3's at the Amarillo campus, had a paper titled "The Pharmacy Students' Guide to Artificial Intelligence – AI" published in *The Journal of Pediatric Pharmacology and Therapeutics*. The paper can be viewed [here](#).

## HOANG, SANCHEZ PRESENT AT AACP GRAND ROUNDS



Two TTUHSC-SOP P4 students from the Amarillo campus presented at the American College of Clinical Pharmacy - ACCP Adult Medicine Practice and Research Network (PRN) Student Grand Rounds, a national platform, on February 28. Bryan Hoang presented on "The Use of Dexamethasone in COVID-19 Pneumonia" and Jacob Sanchez presented on "Digoxin in Atrial Fibrillation and HFrEF."

# STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS HONORED



On Wednesday, May 8, all four of our campuses participated in the annual Celebration of Achievement. During the event the hard work and accomplishments of professional organizations, government, students, faculty and staff were acknowledged. Student award recipients included:

Faith Windham, P4 at Abilene; Dillyn King, P4 at Amarillo; and Danh Phan, P4 at Dallas; received the Outstanding Clinician award.

Traylor Moses, P4 at Abilene; Katie Phelan, P4 at Amarillo; Michael Tierney, P1 at Dallas; and Joshua San Juan, P4 at Lubbock; received the Student Role Model Award.



Derek Fostel, P4 at Abilene; Alexia Bobah, P4 at Amarillo; and Georgia Inman, P3 at Dallas; received the Outstanding Patient Advocate Award.

Klarissa Sanchez, P3 at Abilene; Lauren Covey, P3 at Amarillo; and Alexandria Arnett, P3 at Dallas; received the Outstanding Service Award.

Asia Fernandez, Abilene; Justin Hierholzer, Amarillo; and Mackenzie Gunn, Dallas; received the P1 Go Getter Award.

Jake Hall, Abilene; Darian Higgins, Amarillo; and Taylor Boyd, Dallas; received the P2 Rising Clinician Award.



Afsana Musharof, P3 at Dallas, received the Excellence in Public Health Award

Megan Baris, P4 at Dallas, received the Excellence in Interprofessional Education Award

Vivian Pham, P4 at Dallas, received the Excellence in Ambulatory Care Award

Destinee Wells, P4 at Abilene, received the Excellence in Community Practice Award

Bryan Hoang, P4 at Amarillo, received the Excellence in Correctional Managed Healthcare Award



Laura Schenck, P4 at Amarillo, received the Excellence in Geriatrics Award

Brandon McCormick, P4 at Dallas, received the Excellence in Inpatient Clinical Practice Award

Cheyanna Petty, P4 at Lubbock, received the Dr. Janie Robles Excellence in Pediatrics Award



# SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS

TTUHSC Jerry H. Hodge School of Pharmacy students were awarded the following scholarships for the 2023-2024 school year.

**Abilene General Scholarship:** Jonathan Chacko, Traylor Moses

**Adcox:** Cole Jackson, Hiep Trinh

**Albertsons:** Think Nguyen

**Amarillo Area Foundation:** Adalee Alvarez, Chandler Batson, Ariana Borunda, Chandler Boyd, Addison Burrier, M'Kenzi Campbell, Jonathan Chavez, Colby Coiner, Blake Connell, Lauren Covey, Duke Cullins, Katlyn Dence, Suha Garasia, Emily Garcia, Aide Gonzales, Cidnie Goodson, Jennifer Hale, Taylor Henderson, Justin Hierholzer, Roberto Jimenez Delgado, Brayden Key, Rumana Khan, Hima Koruthu, Whitlee LaRue, Taylor Le, Titus Lie, Camerino Lopez, Seng Mai, David Mara, Robert Martinez, Genesis Nieves-Sanchez, Alyssa Oakes, Grace Onaiwu, Elizah Perez, Michaela Reynolds, Kamryn Rogers, Jacob Sanchez, Laura Schenk, Kamren Shelton, Logan Springer, Reng Thanga, Alexander Thompson, Thanh Trinh, Madelynn Villanueva, Jayci Westphal, Huiyan Yang

**Bexar County Pharmaceutical Association:** Margie Arebalo

**Byrd Family:** Tyler Mullin

**C.H. Foundation:** Brayden Key

**CAB Bond:** Raktima Bhattacharya

**Carnes-Hollingsworth:** Kyujin Lim

**Collins:** Hong Tran

**Cox:** Duke Cullins

**CVS:** Nusaiba Hamsho, Minsu Kim, Juhi Rana

**Davidson:** Elaina Spriggs

**Dean's Leadership:** Megan Bareis, Bryan Hoang, Afsana Musharof, Jacob Sanchez, Faith Windham

**Dozier:** Rebecca Moore

**Eckerd:** Raktima Bhattacharya, Chirag Goswami, Heba Mustafa

**Gerald Holman:** Hannah Gorczyca

**HEB:** Emmanuel Reynoso

**Hollingsworth:** Mognessoh Kouadio

**Johnson:** Taylor Boyd

**Kent Hance:** Bryan Acuna

**Kritser:** Chandler Batson, Raktima Bhattacharya, Ariana Borunda, Addison Burrier, M'Kenzi Campbell, Kassidy Cockrell, Lauren Covey, Duke Cullins, Katlyn Dence, Suha Garasia, Emily Garcia, Jennifer Hale, Darian Higgins, Bryan Hoang, Minsu Kim, Mary-Suong Le, Kyujin Lim, David Mara, Alyssa Oakes, Kathryn Phelan, Michaela Reynolds, Jacob Sanchez, Laura Schenk, Thanh Trinh, Huiyan Yang

**Kuo-Christy:** Linh Hoang

**Make-A-Difference:** Mackenzie Gunn, Mognessoh Kouadio, Dejene Mideksa, Emmanuel Reynoso, Huiyan Yang

**MedcoHealth Solutions:** Megan Bareis, Jacob Sanchez, Faith Windham

**Michael Patry Memorial:** Janelle Agolue, Cheyanna Petty

**Nelson:** Sarah Tran

**Presidential:** Samantha Alvarado, Andrea Artalejo, Hayat Beshar, Belixs Blandon, Kadin Booker, Blake Connell, Andrew Cooley, Sheridan Crenshaw, Alexis Crouch, Kelsey Cummings, Donna Danyali, Vanessa Earle, Asia

Fernandez, Kinley Field, Sarina George, Allyson Gill, Cidnie Goodson, Emily Gorzell, Nettie Hetzel, Justin Hierholzer, Abigail Higginbotham, Amber Jones, Ekon Juarez, Hima Koruthu, My Linh La, Ha Le, Savannah Lee, Titus Lie, Carmen Lopez, Mya Martin, Javaughn Martinez, Abel Mathew, Madelyn Mullinax, William Ngo, Jennifer Nguyen, Thi Thao Ly Nguyen, Uyen Nguyen, Asha Oommen, Stephen Ozomah, Caylee Parker, Michael Powell, Leila Reynolds, David Rodriguez, Mahsa Rostamnezhadcherati, Ariana Rowan, Brandon Saenz, Cassandra Soledad, Tierra Street, Kristin Sullivan, Michael Tierney, Dereje Tuli, Keira Turner

**Purdue Pharma:** Nettie Hetzel

**Roberta High:** Taylor Le, Jacy Sconce, Rhea Zaib

**Rural Health:** Naomi Alvarez, Mikaela Avila, Reagan Bills, Ariana Borunda, Felicia Chavez, Blake Connell, Amy Cox, Devin Damron, Gracie Daniels, Suha Garasia, Aide Gonzales, Cidnie Goodson, Irina Gradinaru, Caleb Gray, Payman Haghiri, Nettie Hetzel, Ekon Juarez, Ashley Kelly, Whitlee LaRue, Titus Lie, Dejene Mideksa, Jordan Miller, Rebecca Moore, Traylor Moses, Caylee Parker, Elizah Perez, Leila Reynolds, Michaela Reynolds, Joshua San Juan, Laura Schenk, Jacy Sconce, Kourtney Seaton, Kamren Shelton, Michelle Shisabilo, Taylor Stark, Michael Tierney, Jayci Westphal

**Safeway:** Krishlene Fabia, Zainab Hamid, Nirav Patel

**SOP Abilene:** Brycen Drenon

**SOP Academic Excellence:** Oluwabusayo Adedeji, Lauren Covey, Darian Higgins, Kamren Shelton

**SOP Alumni Pioneers:** Duke Cullins

**Stanley M. Reinhaus Family Foundation:** Stephen Ozomah, Gabriel Lopez, Janelle Agolue, Haya Shakarchi

**Sybil B. Harrington:** Adalee Alvarez, Chandler Batson, Reagan Bills, Blayne Boyd, Colby Coiner, Duke Cullins, Justin Hierholzer, Darian Higgins, Bryan Hoang, Whitlee LaRue, Taylor Le, Titus Lie, Robert Martinez, Kylie Miller, Alyssa Oakes, Michaela Reynolds, Kamryn Rogers, Joshua San Juan, Jacob Sanchez, Kamren Shelton, Hiep Trinh, Audrey Warner

**Tarrant County Pharmaceutical Association:** Lianne Hoang

**Turner:** Kourtney Seaton

**United Supermarkets:** Amy Cox, Harmony Mognessoh Kouadio, Shakiba Shahabi, Thanhthanh Thai

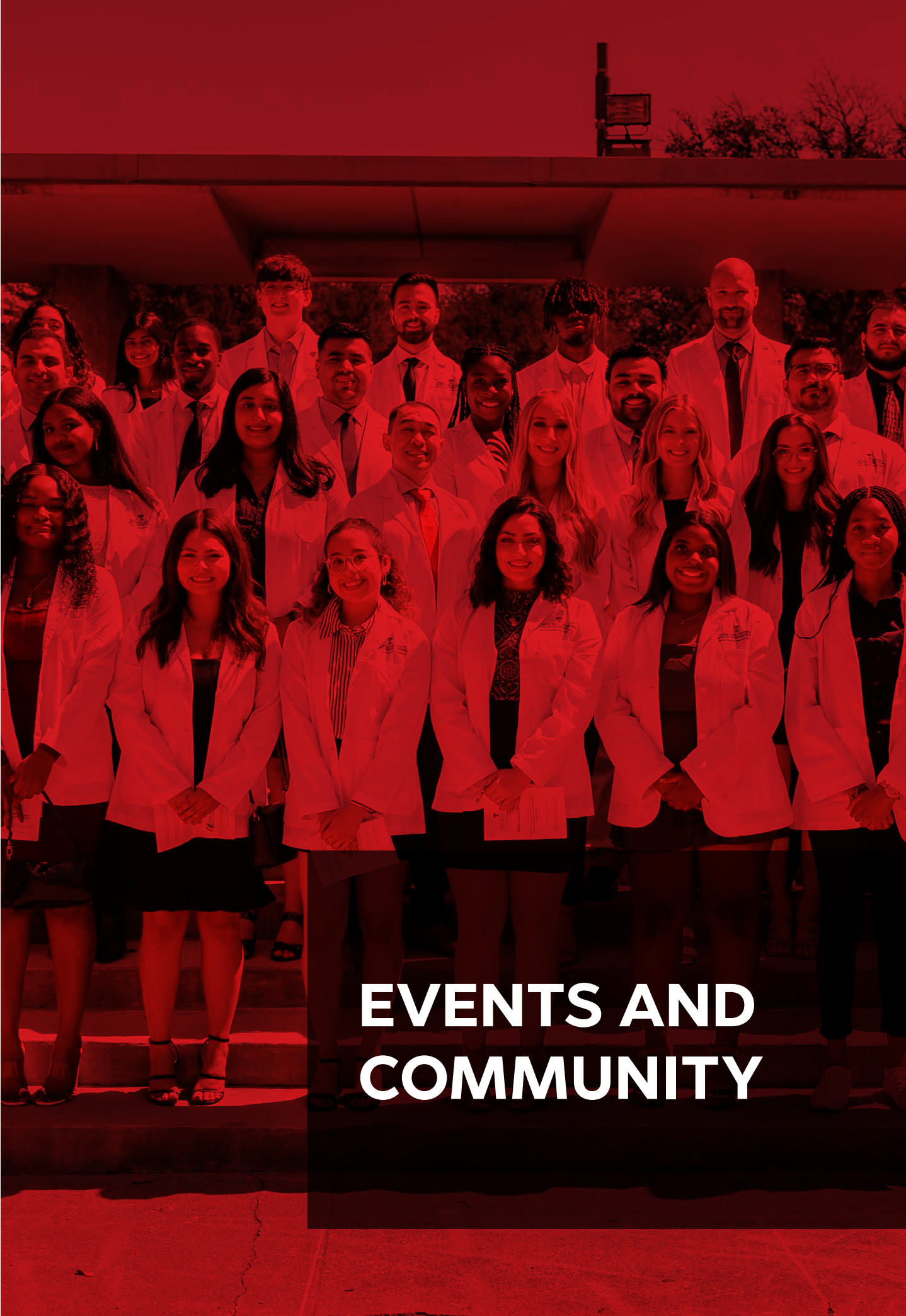
**Verne Cooper Foundation Scholarship:** Megan St. Amour

**Walgreens:** Yasmeen Al Karimi, Hiep Trinh

**Wehner:** Megan Bareis

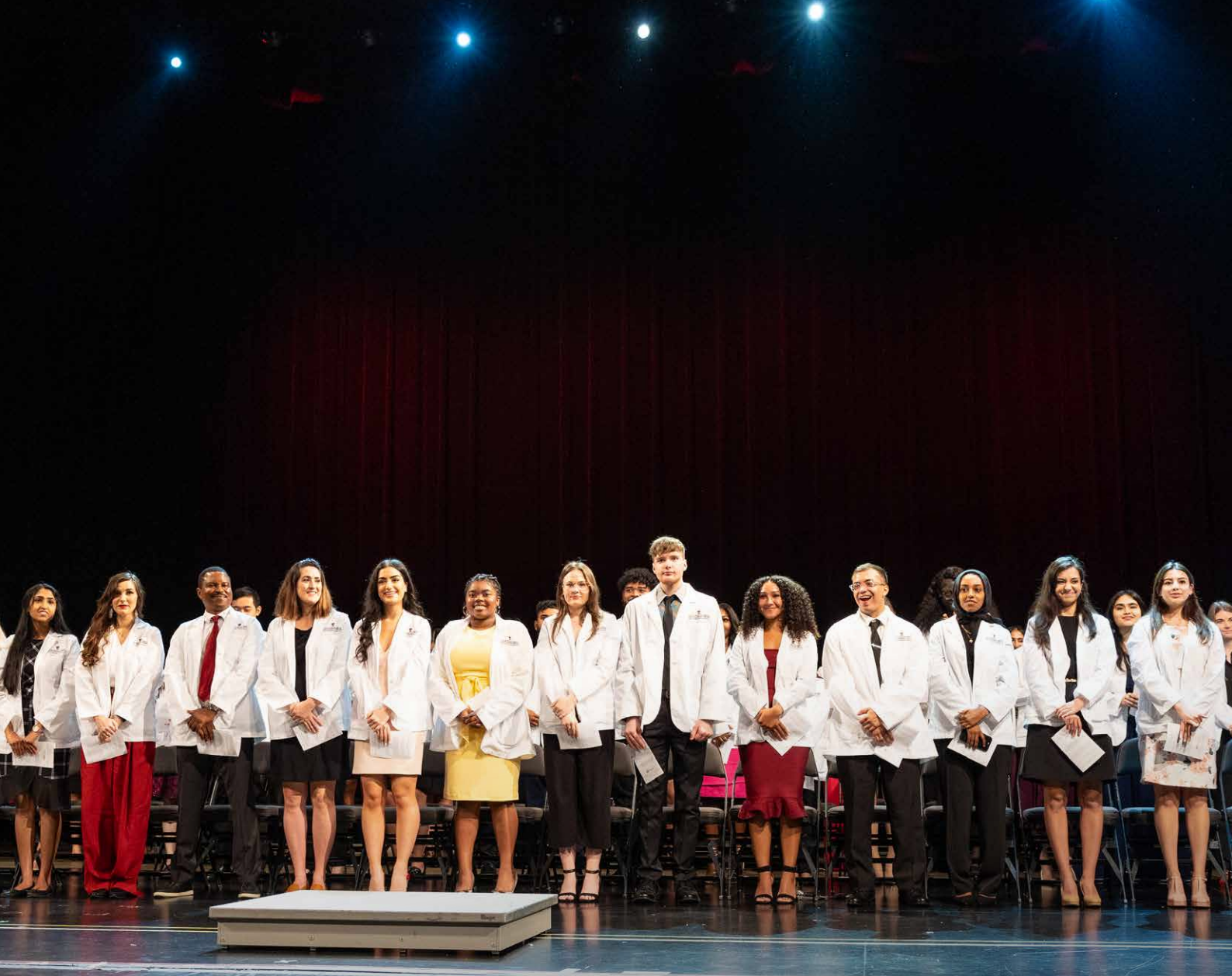
**West Texas Pharmacy Association:** Gracie Daniels, Elaina Spriggs, Traylor Moses, Duke Cullins, Hiep Trinh, Faith Windham, Mary-suong Le, Lauren Covey, Laura Schenk, Shiva Azar Goshasb, Katie Phelan, Mackenize Gunn, Reagan Bills, Jacy Sconce-Bien, Jordan Miller, Hong Tran, Rebecca Moore

**Willie I., Wanda and W.F. Martin:** Amalia Akwar, Denise Anderson, Benjamin Baker, Jonathan Chacko, Cecily Elliott, Krishlene Fabia, Asia Fernandez, Daniel Flores, Joselyne Fraire, Danny Gil, Caleb Gray, Jake Hall, Abigail Higginbotham, Jessica Honey, Ashley Kelly, Conner Massenburg, Hannah Mays, Jordan Miller, Maxwell Moore, Oluwanbo Olanrewaju, Ifeoluwa Otukoya, Caylee Parker, Nirav Patel, Ryan Patman, Leila Reynolds, Jacy Sconce, Michelle Shisabilo, Taylor Stark, Abraham Stone, Andrea Strohl



# EVENTS AND COMMUNITY





# CLASS OF 2027 WELCOMED

In August 2023, we welcomed the Class of 2027 with white coat ceremonies at the Dallas, Amarillo, and Abilene campuses. The annual events invited family members and friends to watch as the school's incoming students received their traditional white pharmacy coats, signed the Pharmacist Code of Conduct and recited the Oath of a Pharmacist for the first time. For incoming students, receiving the white coat is a reminder of the commitment they are making to an honorable and trusted profession.



# ANNUAL LEADERSHIP RETREAT BRINGS STUDENTS TOGETHER

Students from all four TTUHSC-SOP campuses attended the annual student leadership retreat at the Abilene campus in August 2023. The Harry Potter themed retreat explored “The Magical World of Leadership” and taught students the basics of leadership and how to apply skills to professional interactions and activities. The two-day event included a service project at CarePack for Kids, multiple sessions covering leadership topics, a keynote address from Professor and Dean Emeritus Arthur Nelson, and networking activities. During the service project, students and TTUHSC-SOP team members packed 1,500 food packs for children who may otherwise go without food on the weekends.



## ABILENE HOLDS ANNUAL RESEARCH SYMPOSIUM



On October 27, the sixth annual Abilene Interdisciplinary Symposium on Cancer and Biomedical Research was held at the Abilene campus. Keynote speakers included Manish Aghi, MD, PhD, professor of neurological surgery at the University of California's Weill Institute for Neurosciences School of Medicine and Michael C. Wiener, PhD, professor and department chair for the department of cell physiology & molecular biophysics at TTUHSC School of Medicine. The event, which invites students and researchers from far and wide to come together, also included distinguished speakers from TTUHSC, Abilene Christian University and Hendrick Medical Center, and student poster presentations.

## CVS JOINS IN LUNCH AND LEARN



In September, students, faculty, and staff members from all of our campuses had the opportunity to attend a virtual lunch and learn titled "A New Day In Community Pharmacy" with representatives from CVS Health. The event provided attendees the opportunity to network, learn, and grow their knowledge about the pharmacy profession.

## PFIZER WORKSHOP EDUCATES ON PHARMACEUTICAL INDUSTRY



In March, 42 TTUHSC-SOP students participated in the Pfizer "3D Drug Discovery and Development Workshop." Three Pfizer representatives and several SOP faculty members helped students learn more about the pharmaceutical industry and explore potential careers. Students were assigned to teams, given individual roles, and tasked with making decisions to help bring their "company's" molecule to the market.

## AMARILLO, LUBBOCK PREPARE WITH DISASTER DAY EVENTS



In March, School of Pharmacy students on the Amarillo and Lubbock campuses joined students from other TTUHSC schools, Red Cross staff and volunteers, and local first responders for Disaster Day events and inter-professional emergency response simulations. These events allow student teams to work together to diagnose, treat and care for volunteers role-playing as patients and populations affected by a natural disaster. The teams practice the basics of mass casualty triage and apply assessment, reasoning and decision-making skills during an emergency to facilitate and optimize collaboration through teamwork, communication, ethics and understanding of roles and responsibilities.





# STUDENTS PRESENT AT ASHP MIDYEAR

TTUHSC-SOP was well represented at the American Society of Health-System Pharmacists (ASHP) Midyear 2023 Clinical Meeting & Exhibition in Anaheim, California, with students presenting 14 posters over various topics.



# SOP WELL REPRESENTED AT ACCP ANNUAL MEETING

In November, TTUHSC-SOP was well represented at the ACCP annual meeting held in Dallas, Texas. More than 40 students, faculty, and residents were in attendance with several giving poster presentations.

## FACULTY, STUDENTS PRESENT AT ASCP ANNUAL MEETING

In November, the American Society of Consultant Pharmacists (ASCP) held its Annual Meeting in Kissimmee, Florida. Faith Collum, P3 at the Dallas campus and Ghislain Nyami, P4 at the Abilene campus, received travel scholarships from the ASCP Texas chapter to attend. During the meeting, TTUHSC-SOP faculty and students gave three poster presentations and an Express Talk.

- Faith Collum and Becky Mahan, Pharm.D., presented an Express Talk over medication adherence resources
- Kalin Clifford, Pharm.D., presented a presentation over HIV updates in older adults
- Trista Bailey, Pharm.D., presented a presentation over updates in osteoporosis
- Faith Collum, president of the Texas Tech ASCP student chapter, presented a poster over the chapter's activities over the past year and was selected as a Regional Student Ambassador for ASCP





# HISTORY | 1949-2024



## STUDENTS/FACULTY ATTEND TSHP

In April, our Double T members, officers and faculty attended the Texas Society of Health-System Pharmacists (TSHP) annual seminar, the largest educational and networking meeting of pharmacists, new practitioners, students, technicians, and industry professionals in Texas. While there, students participated in the Clinical Skills Competition, attended the SSEC town hall meeting and made connections with pharmacists from across Texas.



## DALLAS CAMPUS HOSTS HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS



On February 15, SOP joined the School of Nursing to host 50 Dallas Independent School District juniors from the NAF Academy on the Dallas campus. The students learned about both pharmacy and nursing through hands on activities, including learning how to scrub in/garb up for a sterile environment, preparing an IV piggyback, practicing health assessments, learning about blood draws, and giving medications through gastric tubes. The day ended with a panel discussion with SOP/SON students and faculty.

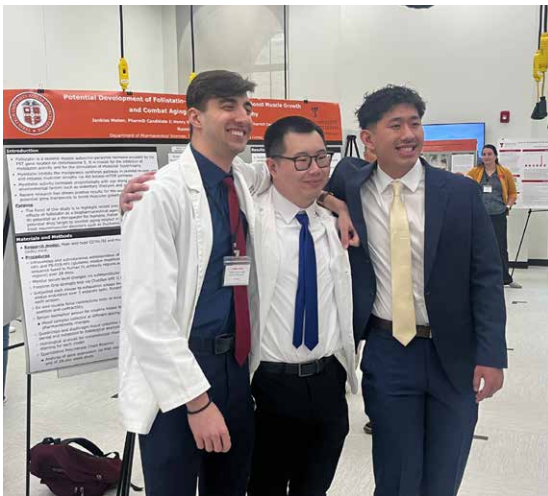
## FACULTY TAKE PART IN TECHX



On March 27, TTUHSC's Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences and Graduate Student Association in Amarillo presented TechX. An event that featured four speakers and was open to all TTUHSC and TTU School of Veterinary Medicine students, faculty and staff. The speakers for the event included:

- Thomas Abbruscato, Ph.D. - "The Quantum Clock: Mastering Time in the Modern Era"
- Brian Weis, M.D. - "Silent Struggles: Navigating Mental Wellness in Healthcare"
- Eric MacLaughlin, Pharm.D. - "Networking: The Art of Making Meaningful Connections"
- Heidi Villalba, Ph.D. - "Healthy Work-Life Balance: Stress Management"

## AMARILLO HOSTS RESEARCH SYMPOSIUM



More than 100 student and trainee researchers from TTUHSC and the Texas Tech University School of Veterinary Medicine presented research findings at the 2024 Student Research Day on April 19. This is the first time both universities have come together to recognize research taking place in Amarillo. The symposium highlighted the research accomplishments of students, residents and faculty in their respective fields of study with 81 posters and 34 oral presentations. Trainees showcased their research scholarship and projects, and awards were given out to outstanding presenters.

## ABILENE, AMARILLO HOST SUMMER CAMPS



In June the Abilene and Amarillo campuses hosted Rx Summer Camps for rising 9th-12th grade students interested in learning more about the pharmacy profession. The immersive camps served as STEM-driven college prep experiences with hands-on projects, laboratory activities, simulations, field trips and engaging presentations.

## FACULTY RETREAT



In May, faculty members from all four campuses gathered at the Amarillo campus for a three-day retreat that was planned by the Faculty Development Committee. During the retreat, faculty took part in team building, development and training sessions, and finished the week with graduation ceremonies for the Class of 2024.



On May 18, the TTUHSC-SOP Class of 2024 received their Pharm.D. degrees at the Amarillo Civic Center Auditorium in front of a crowd of proud family and friends.

Of the 88 graduates who made up the class of 2024, 28 committed to residency programs, 1 was accepted into a fellowship program, 13 received Pharm.D./MBA dual degrees, 3 received Pharm.D./MPH dual degrees, 2 received Pharm.D./MBA/MPH degrees, and 3 received honors in research designations.

TTUHSC-SOP Professor of Pharmacy Practice and AACP President, Craig Cox, Pharm.D., delivered an inspiring commencement address and several awards were given during the ceremony including:

- **Banner Bearer**, the graduate with the highest four-year grade point average: Sarah Tran
- **Bowl of Hygieia**, presented to the graduating class member who is deemed to best exemplify the qualities most desirable in a pharmacist: leadership, high ethical standards, dedication and promotion of the pharmacy profession: Gracie Daniels
- **Wolters Kluwer Excellence in Clinical Communication Award**: Jenna Do
- **Superior Patient Care Award**: Jacob Sanchez
- **Community Outreach Award of Excellence**: Daniel Tran
- **Viatrix Excellence in Pharmacy Award**: Vivian Pham
- **Hannah L. Thompson Perseverance Award**: Rebecca Jean Moore
- **Harold Miller Most Influential Professor**: Mary Klein, Pharm.D.





# SERVICE



# MEDICATION CLEANOUTS BENEFIT TTUHSC COMMUNITIES AND STUDENTS

During the 2023-2024 school year, the Texas Panhandle Poison Center (TPPC), managed by the TTUHSC-SOP, hosted six Medication Cleanout™ events in Abilene, Amarillo and Lubbock. The biannual collections provide residents a free way to safely dispose of unwanted and unused medications in an environmentally conscious manner.

The six collections yielded impressive results for the year, with thousands of cars showing up to dispose of more than 6,120 pounds of medications and nearly 1,040 pounds of sharps.

The program helps the TPPC take a proactive approach to safeguarding communities by providing a convenient and legal way for people to dispose of medications, as well as providing disposal services for syringes and sharps.

TPPC conducts these events with the help of TTUHSC students and other volunteers who help with critical services like collecting medications, deidentifying bottles, sorting and identifying medications and more. The events serve as a great opportunity for pharmacy students to collaborate with students from other TTUHSC schools and see first-hand the issues with non-adherence to medications.





# DALLAS STUDENTS HELP WITH MEDICATION TAKE BACK DAYS

In October and April, our Dallas campus students partnered with the Irving and Arlington police departments to help with the DEA National Medication Take Back Day at multiple sites. The events aimed to make communities safer and healthier by removing unneeded medications from the community that could contribute to overdose deaths.



# HEALTH FAIRS AND COMMUNITY CLINICS



On October 14, the Student College of Clinical Pharmacy helped organize a health fair booth at the Plano International Festival. Our Dallas students provided blood pressure and blood glucose screenings to 74 patients.



In November, students at the Amarillo campus joined the Texas Tech University School of Veterinary Medicine as they hosted the OneHealth Clinic at Guyon Saunders Resource Center. The event benefited individuals experiencing homelessness and their pets. Under the supervision of faculty, pharmacy students provided flu vaccines, and blood pressure and blood glucose checks, while veterinary medicine students provided physical exams and annual vaccinations for pets, including rabies vaccinations.



On Dec. 19, several TTUHSC-SOP students at the TTUHSC Abilene campus served as Santa's elves and helped make Christmas bright for children from disadvantaged communities. A total of 48 children shopped 'til they dropped at the event, which brought big smiles to Big Country.



The TTUHSC-SOP Student National Pharmaceutical Association (SNPhA) joined Parkland ACCESS clinic, Dallas County, the North Texas Food Bank, and other vendors to provide free services to underserved people in the Dallas community. Our students provided blood glucose and blood pressure screenings with hypertension and diabetes education to nearly 100 people during the event.



Our Student College of Clinical Pharmacy (SCCP) and the Student National Pharmaceutical Association (SNAPhA) helped organize a health fair booth at the Women's Health Fair in Dallas. Student volunteers were able to perform blood pressure and blood sugar screenings for those attending the event.



In April, our students joined others from a variety of health professions to provide education and screenings to community members at the Carrollton Health and Safety Fair, the Dallas Community United to Serve Health Fair and the Canaval de Salud Health Fair.



## AMARILLO STUDENT COUNCIL HELPS ALLEVIATE FOOD INSECURITY



In April, the Amarillo Student Council partnered with the High Plains Food Bank for their spring community service event. Students volunteered in the warehouse where much of the food is organized on pallets prior to distribution. In addition to helping alleviate food insecurity in the Amarillo area, this organization has provided food to many victims of the recent wildfires in the Panhandle area.

## TRADITION CONTINUES AT CAMP NEW DAY

Each year, School of Pharmacy faculty and students volunteer two weeks of their summer at Camp New Day, a non-profit summer camp for children with diabetes affiliated with the Diabetes Foundation of the High Plains.

Thomas Parker, Pharm.D., Assistant Professor of Pharmacy Practice in the Pediatrics Division, took over as co-director of the camp when it was going to be ended in 2009. With the help of Sue Rankin, NP, and many others, he was able to continue to provide a safe place for area children with diabetes to have a summer camp experience.

During camp, each of the 40-60 volunteers serves in the role of medical staff/cabin counselor. They are with their campers 24/7, perform counselor duties like participating in activities with the campers, and assist them with their medical needs like glucose testing, insulin injections and medications, helping with carbohydrate counting and dose calculations at meal time, overnight monitoring and reinforcing proper diabetes management techniques







# ALUMNI

# THREE SOP ALUMNI HONORED AT DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI AWARDS

In October, the TTUHSC Alumni Association held the 2022-2023 Distinguished Alumni Awards dinner in Lubbock. Three School of Pharmacy alumni were honored at the event, which recognizes alumni who have achieved a high level of success in their chosen fields or whose efforts have made a positive impact on community or humanity, bringing distinction to themselves and to TTUHSC.



**Jordan Burdine, Pharm.D., MBA, BCPPS**, received the Excellence in Practice Award. Burdine earned her Doctor of Pharmacy in 2015. Upon graduation, she completed a PGY1 residency at West Virginia University Medicine in 2016, followed by a PGY2 pediatrics residency at TTUHSC-SOP in 2017. Burdine is currently a pharmacy clinical practice specialist in pediatrics and neonatology at UTMB Health in Galveston, TX. Since starting at UTMB in 2017, Burdine has worked as part of the neonatal interdisciplinary team where she rounds and provides direct patient care in the NICU. In her role as a clinical practice specialist, she precepts pharmacy students and residents, as well as provides informal and didactic education to physicians, advance practice providers and nurses. Additionally, Burdine leads many initiatives in the development of institutional guidelines and protocols to standardize and optimize pediatric and neonatal drug therapy and patient care, as well as works collaboratively on many interdisciplinary and multisite research projects within the UTMB Department of Pediatrics and Department of Pharmacy.



**Minh Hong, Pharm.D., MBA-HA**, received the Pharmacy Leadership Award. Hong, earned his Doctor of Pharmacy in 2012 and completed a two-year ASHP/ACCP-accredited residency in pharmacotherapy practice at the TTUHSC-SOP in 2014. From 2014-2018 he practiced as a clinical pharmacy specialist in internal medicine at the Medical Center Hospital in Odessa, TX. During this time, he also served as the PGY1 pharmacy practice residency director. Hong was promoted to pharmacy clinical coordinator in 2018 and to director of pharmacy in 2019. In August 2022, he started his own pharmacy consultant business. His current career goal is to create a system of pharmacy residency programs in which hospitals can collaborate and share cutting-edge practices.





**James Lee, Pharm.D.**, received the Pharmacy Research Award. Lee earned his Doctor of Pharmacy in 2010 and completed his pharmacy practice and ambulatory care specialty residency training at the University of Iowa Hospitals & Clinics. He is currently a clinical associate professor of pharmacy practice at the University of Illinois Chicago College of Pharmacy, where he also serves as the program director for the University of Illinois Chicago NorthShore University Health System PGY2 Clinical Pharmacogenomics residency program, the nation's first dual-site clinical pharmacogenomics residency program. Lee also serves as curriculum leader for professional development in which he oversees the College of Pharmacy's college-wide advising and mentoring program, involving over 700 pharmacy students and faculty. At the University of Illinois Hospital & Clinics, Lee serves as director of the precision medicine program that coordinates institution-wide pharmacogenetic testing, implementation and counseling to patients in all settings. His outcomes-based research has focused on pharmacogenomics, anticoagulation and clinical pharmacy outcomes, and he has received funding from federal, foundation and intramural sources. He has authored over 40 peer-reviewed articles and book chapters and over 20 abstracts. Lee has also received several institution and conference abstract awards and has been invited to present on pharmacogenomics implementation and utilization nationally and internationally.



# THE 2023-2024 TTUHSC SCHOOL OF PHARMACY ALUMNI BOARD

The Alumni Board is the official representative for the larger School of Pharmacy alumni group. Their primary goal is to connect past graduates with the TTUHSC School of Pharmacy to promote collaborative efforts across current students and past graduates. Member of the 2023-2024 School of Pharmacy Alumni Board include:



**Jacob Rogers**  
*Chair*

Class of 2020, Abilene



**Daniel Capps**  
*Secretary*

Class of 2020, Amarillo



**Athena Cannon**  
*Communications Officer*

Class of 2020, Abilene



**Jo Ann Leal**  
*Past Chair*

Class of 2021, Amarillo



**Amber Elliott**  
*Member*

Class of 2009, Amarillo  
(Pharmacotherapy  
Residency 2011)



**Mikala Conatser**  
*Member*

Class of 2011, Amarillo



**Ike Oguejiofor**  
*Member*

Class of 2018, Amarillo  
(PGY1 Pharmacy Resident  
2019)

# THE WALK ON: ATHENA CANNON '20

Before pharmacy school, Athena Cannon, Pharm.D., ('20) started her sports pharmacy journey by watching community pharmacists compound medications for athletic teams. The experience lingered in her mind.

During her first year at TTUHSC, a discussion on geriatric and pediatric patients sparked a question. Learning about different body compositions and drug dosing, she wondered: Are athletes a unique population?

Cannon shadowed at a sports medicine clinic in Abilene, Texas, the sports medicine team at Texas Tech University, a back and knee surgeon for the Dallas Cowboys and at the International Olympic Training Center in Colorado.

“I started to collect nuggets that did point to the fact that athletes were a unique population and pharmacists could, in fact, help with navigating their medication needs.”

Cannon founded the U.S. Sports Pharmacy Group in 2022 to bring awareness to the field and provide pharmacy education that advocates for athlete health. The nonprofit brings together pharmacists from across the nation to network over a shared passion and curiosity – sports pharmacy.

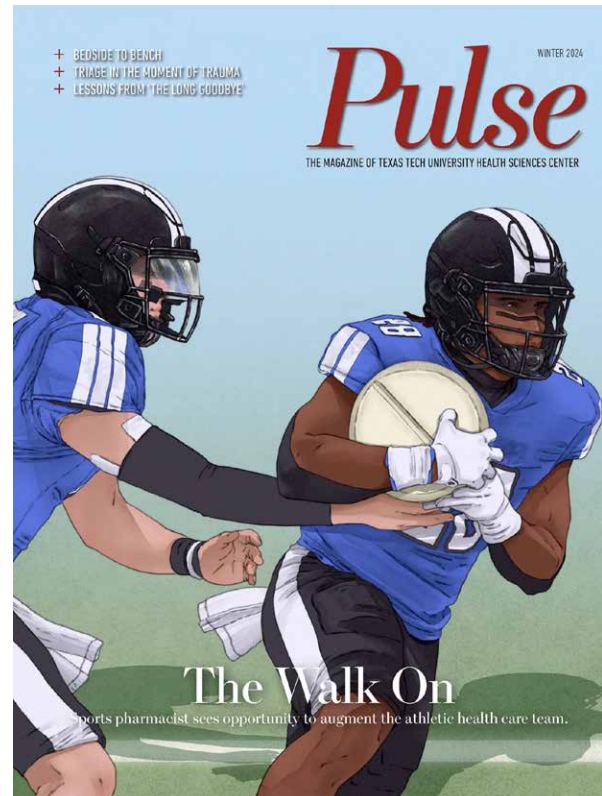
Whether they are intentionally doping or not, most athletes are not experts in medicine for enhancement or to address health issues. However, they must navigate complex and ever-changing lists of prohibited substances, which can vary depending on the sport, the governing body and more. These lists are regularly updated and become an integral part of an athletes' responsibility.

An athlete, by definition, is a person proficient in sports and other forms of physical exercise. Their specialty is the sport they play. As for the medical part, there's a team for that. But is that team fully comprehensive?

To Cannon there's one perspective missing. With a passion for the emerging field of sports pharmacy, the response she often hears is, “Athletes are healthy; they don't take medications, therefore (pharmacists) don't have a role in their care.”

“When we have myths that truly disregard athletes taking dietary supplements or athletes that are just like everybody else that (have) other chronic conditions (such as) paralympic athletes, we're really excluding them from the interprofessional resources that we could be providing them,” Cannon says. [Read the full story here.](#)

Cover of *Pulse Magazine*





## MOVING ON UP: BONNIE DUGIE '00

An avid hiker, Bonnie Dugie, Pharm.D., MBA, FTSHP, has an impressive summit list that includes the two tallest peaks in Colorado and parts of the Andes Mountain range in Peru.

She's climbed to great heights in her career, too. What began as a job in retail and mail-order pharmacy has led to a senior leadership position with Maxor National Pharmacy Services. In her role, Dugie uses her expertise from behind the counter to open new pharmacies across the country. "The company has grown, and I've grown with it," Dugie said. "I try to help others to grow, too. I think that's the beauty of it."

Dugie partners with health systems to create pharmacies that serve the specific needs of a community, whether it is an urban program focused on treatment and prevention of HIV or a rural program that increases overall access to health care.

"What I love about my job is each pharmacy has its own flavor," she said. "I love developing people and programs and helping everybody be their best. That's kind of what makes me tick."





# FACILITIES



# RIBBON CUTTING SIGNIFIES COMPLETION OF MAJOR RENOVATIONS TO DALLAS CAMPUS

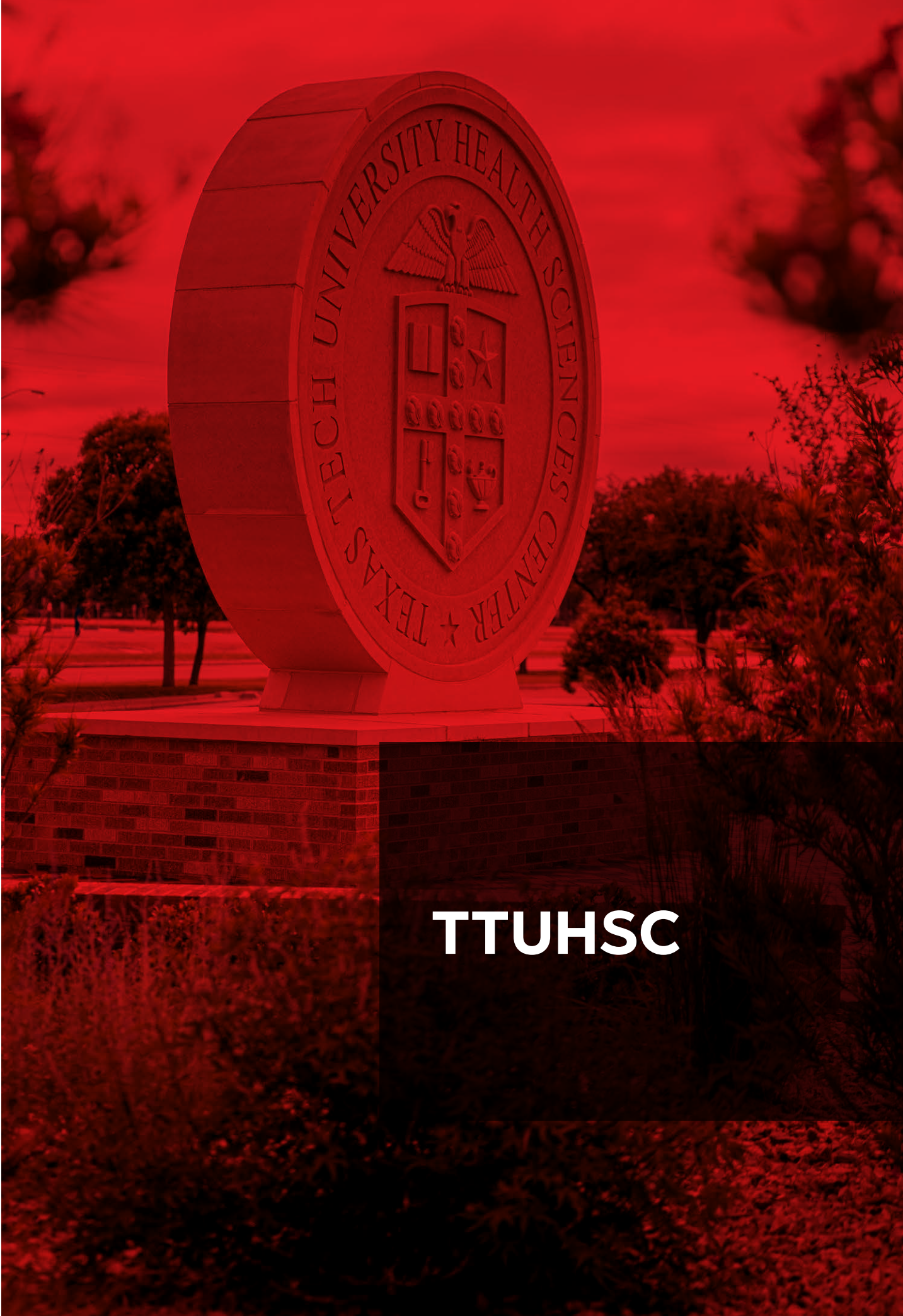
In March, TTUHSC hosted a Ribbon Cutting and Celebration for the Dallas campus, which is home to the School of Pharmacy, the Laura W. Bush Institute for Women’s Health and provides resources for multiple programs within the School of Nursing.

TTUHSC President Lori Rice-Spearman, Ph.D. said the university’s presence in the Metroplex comes as a response to students who value a degree from TTUHSC’s prestigious programs. By offering degrees here, students can receive the best in the nation’s health care education without leaving the Dallas–Fort Worth area.

“Our goal for our Metroplex location is to make our nationally-recognized academic instruction accessible in order to help address the shortage of health care professionals,” Rice-Spearman said. “We want to continue building our community partnerships and seek to build new ones where we can work together to identify innovative solutions to meet health care needs.”

TTUHSC officially purchased the 64,148 square foot Southwest Professional Building located in the Parkland Memorial Hospital District in Dallas, Texas in 2019 and significant renovations began soon after. Among those renovations were three 60-seat classrooms, one 80-seat classroom, three student lounges, private group study areas, a 10-seat conference room, three case study rooms, a 9,000 square foot Sim Center, a compounding lab, a sterile products lab, two multipurpose rooms, and an anatomy lab with two anatomage tables.





**TTUHSC**





# TTUHSC WINS GREAT COLLEGES HONORS

According to the Great Colleges to Work For® program, TTUHSC is one of the best colleges in the nation to work for with special designation as an “Honor Roll” institution! This marks the fourth time the university has been recognized. TTUHSC won honors in eight categories:

- Job Satisfaction and Support
- Compensation and Benefits
- Professional Development
- Mission and Pride
- Confidence in Senior Leadership
- Faculty and Staff Well-Being
- Shared Governance
- Faculty Experience



## NAI RANKS TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY SYSTEM AMONG TOP 100 IN PATENTS

In a list published in September by the National Academy of Inventors (NAI), the Texas Tech University System, including TTUHSC, ranked 75th among the Top 100 U.S. Universities Granted Utility Patents in 2022.



## TTUHSC ARPA-H MEMBERSHIP WILL SPUR INNOVATION, IMPROVE ACCESS

The Advanced Research Projects Agency for Health (ARPA-H) seeks to take biomedical and health breakthroughs from the drawing board to the patient, and TTUHSC will be part of the effort. ARPA-H membership will connect the rural communities of West Texas and Eastern New Mexico to world-class research and development in health care.



## TTUHSC RECEIVES VETERANS EDUCATION EXCELLENCE RECOGNITION AWARD

For the first time, TTUHSC received a Veterans Education Excellence Recognition Award (VEERA) from the Texas Veterans Commission. The VEERA program recognizes public colleges' and universities' excellence in providing education and related services to veterans and the military-connected community.



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## **TTUHSC REVEALS NEW BRANDING**

In September, TTUHSC revealed a new look with the launch of its refreshed brand. The complete overhaul aligns with the mission, culture and values of the university with the look and feel of everything from advertising to business cards. To celebrate the milestone, brand launch events boasting the new future of health look were held at each campus.





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