

## CLASS OF 2022 CELEBRATED



On May 21, the TTUHSC Jerry H. Hodge School of Pharmacy Class of 2022 received their PharmD degrees. Of the 127 graduates who made up the class, 31 will go on to residency programs, four will go on to fellowship programs, and 20 received PharmD/MBA dual degrees.

Latesa Billings, PharmD, delivered the commencement address. Billings is president of the Texas Society of Health Systems Pharmacists (TSHP) and an alumna of TTUHSC's Post-Graduate Residency Program in Dallas.

The commencement ceremony marked the end of the tenure of the second dean of the school, Quentin Smith, PhD, who led the school for the last ten years, and welcomed our third dean, Grace Kuo, PharmD, PhD.

An award ceremony for 2022 graduates was held on Friday, May 20 and history was made when Madeline Scarbrough was the first student in TTUHSCSOP history to receive two prestigious honors. She was awarded Banner Bearer, as the graduate with the highest four-year grade point average, and the Bowl of Hygieia. Click the link in the title to see a full list of P4 award winners.



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# FACULTY HIGHLIGHTS



**Eric MacLaughlin, PharmD**, professor and chair for the Department of Pharmacy Practice in Amarillo, helped develop the American Heart Association's recent scientific statement regarding preventing and managing falls in adults with cardiovascular disease. Read the full statement [here](#).



**Debra Notturmo-Strong, RPh**, associate professor of pharmacy practice in Abilene, received the 2022 Harold Miller Most Influential Professor award, which recognizes a faculty member who has had a significant impact on the student body and exhibited superior leadership, dedicated service, and teaching excellence.

## RESEARCH DAYS HELD IN LUBBOCK



The 19th Annual Research Days event took place in June and consisted of poster competitions, keynote addresses, podium presentations, breakout sessions and a dinner. Congratulations to all of our poster presentation winners Kami Woodard, PharmD, PGY1 Resident; Karlyn Hood, PharmD, PGY2 Resident; Ashrafur Rahman, PhD, Post-Doctoral Research Associate; Md Sariful Islam Howlader, Junior Graduate Student; and Sabrina Rahman Archie, Senior Graduate Student.

## PROFESSOR CO-EDITS COLLECTIVE BOOK ON NEURAL REPAIR



Vardan Karamyan, TTUHSCSOP Tenured Full Professor and Vice Chair of Pharmaceutical Sciences, served as co-editor on a collective book, *Methods in Molecular Biology Book focusing on Neural Repair*, which is currently in press.

The book is a comprehensive technical synopsis of cutting-edge techniques to measure neural repair and functional recovery after stroke. Many of the techniques support stroke research currently funded by NINDS and NIDA. The book will represent at least 31 labs in nine countries on four continents who made a special effort to share their techniques and better our collective science.

# TEAM MEMBERS' SERVICE RECOGNIZED



School of Pharmacy team members were recognized for their years of service to TTUHSC during June and July. We are thankful for their dedication to making TTUHSCSOP a great place to work and learn.

**25 YEARS** - Sherry Luedtke, PharmD and Quentin Smith, PhD

**20 YEARS** - Jannette Marek and David Simmons, RPh

**15 Years** - Carlos Alvarez, PharmD; Lisa Bentley; Jill Frost, PharmD; Lisa Miller; Janie Robles, PharmD; Sandy De Los Santos; and Sanjay Srivastava, PhD

**10 YEARS** - Les Covington, PharmD; Carla Elizabeth Herren; Joyce Moore; Bhaumik Patel; Camille Stoddard; Debra Notturmo-Strong, PharmD; and Laurence Wood, PhD

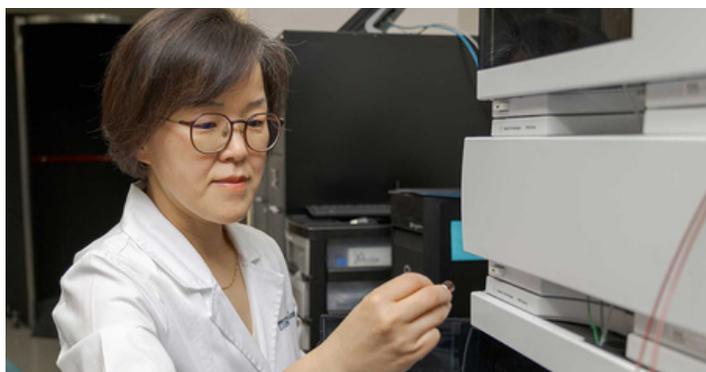
**5 YEARS** - Viswanath Arutla, PhD; Levi Campbell, PharmD; Catherine Cox; Hiranmoy Das, PhD; Ashleigh Hoover; Indhu Sankar Subramaniyan; and Hui Yang

## SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS TOP \$1M

For the 2021-2022 school year, TTUHSC Jerry H. Hodge School of Pharmacy awarded more than \$1 million in internal scholarships to 93% of our students who submitted a scholarship application. We are grateful to be able to reduce the financial burden on our students and proud of this accomplishment that is only achieved through the generosity of dedicated TTUHSCSOP supporters.



## TTUHSC RECEIVES CARNEGIE CLASSIFICATION



In May, the Carnegie Classification® of Institutions of Higher Education designated Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center as a Special Focus Four-Year Research Institution. This distinguished classification places TTUHSC among 22 elite four-year special focus research universities nationwide that have curriculum with a focus in health care and medicine, research and other specialized fields.

# STUDENT HELPING DEVELOP IMMUNIZATION GUIDES FOR CVS



Minsu Kim, P3 on the Amarillo campus, has spent his summer working as a pharmacist intern for CVS with TTUHSCSOP Alumna, Robin Blasingame, PharmD. During the internship, Kim was presented with the opportunity to help create and write a new immunization information guide and he decided to take it on.

Together with an intern from Perdue University, Kim is working to create two different immunization guide documents that will be used in all CVS pharmacies, one for the public and one for pharmacy employees.

The public guide will be a QR code the public can scan to access common things for patients to know about and watch out for related to immunizations. The code will be posted in several spots, including on band aids. The pharmacy employee guide will take the form of a quick reference conversation guide that includes clinical pearls regarding immunizations that both technicians and pharmacists can use.

At this time, they have created a generalized guide for customers and a more complex guide for pharmacists with talking points for the Shingrix and Pneumonia vaccines and are working with CVS marketing to review and edit. The team meets with corporate every week to brainstorm what immunizations to cover next and specific patient groups to focus on.

## TTUHSCSOP ALUMNI BOARD UPDATE

Jo Ann Leal, PharmD, is the newest member of the TTUHSCSOP Alumni Board. Jo Ann is a member of the class of 2021 and is currently a PGY2 HSPAL Pharmacy Resident at the Mayo Clinic Hospital. As a resident, Jo Ann enjoys being part of a multidisciplinary team and creating therapy plans that suit the needs of her patients and is part of a leadership team that helps identify global problems and investigate changes that could benefit our healthcare system.



Jo Ann's fellow Alumni Board members include Martin Bishop, Jennifer Bulin, James Lee, Shelby Needham, Hayden Stewart and Lyndsi White.

# FACULTY RECOGNIZED AT BANQUET



Multiple faculty members were recognized during the Faculty Awards and Recognition Banquet held in Amarillo during the faculty retreat. In addition to the awards listed below, faculty promotion and tenure for 2020-2022 were also recognized.

**P1** - Teacher: Dr. Sami Nazzal / Team: Pharmacy Formulation and Compounding – Drs. Anna Karamyan, Siva Koganti, and Sami Nazzal

**P2** - Teacher: Dr. Maciej Markiewski / Team: Cardiology - Drs. Eric MacLaughlin, Lisa Chastain, Shawn Jones, Vardan Karamyan, Krystal Haase, and Maciej Markiewski

**P3** -Teacher: Dr. Chris Selby / Team: Integrated Therapy & Practice VII – Oncology – Drs. Chris Selby, Tiffany Coomer, Hiranmoy Das, Nakia Duncan, Devin Lowe, Kalkunte Srivenugopal, Ming-Hai Wang, and Laurence Wood

## TTUHSCSOP GETS LINKEDIN



The TTUHSC Jerry H. Hodge School of Pharmacy now has an official LinkedIn page. This page will be used to highlight achievements of our team members, alumni and students, post job openings, promote networking and more. We invite you to follow the page and add it to your experience section by following the steps below.

### How to Add TTUHSCSOP to the Experience Section of your LinkedIn profile:

1. Go to your personal LinkedIn profile and scroll down to the Experience Section
3. Click the pencil icon  in the upper right side of the Experience section
4. Click the pencil icon  for the position(s) you hold at TTUHSCSOP

In the Company Name box, type TTUHSC Jerry H. Hodge School of Pharmacy until our page pops up.

### How to Follow TTUHSCSOP

1. Visit the [TTUHSCSOP LinkedIn page](#)
2. Click on the follow button

# RETREATS BUILD STRATEGIC VISION



The Office of Student Affairs and Admissions personnel from each campus met in Abilene in June. During their time together, they participated in training, team building, and strategic planning for the year ahead.



The Office of Experiential Programs personnel from each campus met in Dallas for their annual retreat in June to brainstorm innovative ideas to help achieve their strategic initiatives over the next academic year.



Faculty members from all four TTUHSCOP campuses met in Amarillo in May for our annual faculty retreat. The three day retreat included team building, development, training sessions, an awards and recognition banquet, and some casino night fun.

## GRADUATE STUDENT TO BE FEATURED IN SYSTEMS USER SPOTLIGHT

Shreyas Gaikwad, Pharmaceutical Sciences PhD candidate working in the lab of Sanjay Srivastava, PhD, on the Abilene campus, will be presenting a webinar as part of an Allevi/3D Systems user spotlight on Tuesday, August 30th. This webinar will focus on the production and characterization of bioprinted pancreatic tumor models using an Allevi 3D bioprinter. Learn more about the Live Webinar [HERE](#).



# PRECEPTOR APPRECIATION EVENT HELD



In June, the Office of Experiential Programs held a preceptor appreciation event at Texas Rangers Globe Life Field in Dallas. The event included a meal, networking, and a continuing education presentation by Craig Cox, PharmD to help strengthen precepting skills.

## CAMP NEW DAY A WIN-WIN FOR CAMPERS AND SOP STUDENTS

Over two weeks in June, TTUHSCSOP faculty and students volunteered their time at Camp New Day, a non-profit summer camp for children with diabetes. During the camps, our students were able to serve in the role of medical staff/cabin counselor.

“I always say camp is a win-win situation. Being future medical providers, our counselors get an early immersion into independent medical practice, they get to see the effects of the medical changes that are made and to experience what their patients go through day in and day out in managing diseases. All of this helps to make them more aware, competent, and engaged medical providers in the future,” said Thomas Parker, PharmD, TTUHSCSOP professor and Regional Director of Student Affairs and Admissions.



## P3'S EARN MBA DEGREES



Twenty-nine TTUHSC Jerry H. Hodge School of Pharmacy P3 students earned their Masters of Business Administration degrees from the Rawls College of Business at Texas Tech University this May as part of the PharmD/MBA dual degree program. They will complete their PharmD degrees in May of 2023.

# RESEARCHERS RECEIVE PATENT



Sanjay K. Srivastava, PhD, TTUHSCSOP Distinguished Professor, Chairman and Associate Dean of the Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences, and Sharavan Ramachandran, PhD, a former TTUHSC graduate student and research scientist, were recently awarded a U.S. patent entitled: “Compositions and Methods for Treating Cancer.”

This innovation, developed out of the TTUHSC School of Pharmacy Abilene campus, covers the development of Pimavanserin, a promising new drug candidate for treatment of pancreatic and brain cancers.

This novel technology has potential application as an oncology therapeutic with an expedited path to market as a repurposed drug. This compound has exhibited significant tumor growth suppression (e.g., up to 77%) via inhibition of Akt/Gli1 signaling and induction of autophagy mediated apoptosis with proof of concept achieved in vivo for pancreatic and brain cancers.

## DO YOU KNOW: How to Disclose Your Invention?

The Office of Research Commercialization (ORC) serves the Texas Tech University System (TTUS) by helping to move research discoveries from the university laboratory to the marketplace. This includes helping researchers and industry partners translate innovations developed out of the SOP into commercial applications and successfully bring them to market.



**When should you disclose?** When you believe you have discovered something new that has possible commercial value, or when the terms of a sponsored research project require disclosure of any invention.

**What if you're not sure if something is new or has commercial value?** Disclosing to the ORC can help determine next steps. All disclosures received by the ORC are assessed for intellectual property and commercial potential. You can also contact the ORC to discuss your idea before disclosing.

**How to disclose?** Our online form makes it easy to confidentially report your innovation to the ORC in advance of any public disclosure or publication, which can impact future patentability.

For more information on the ORC, visit <http://www.orc.ttu.edu> or contact the School of Pharmacy's ORC Licensing Associate, Jennifer Souter at [jesouter@ttu.edu](mailto:jesouter@ttu.edu). To view the TTUS Regents' Rules and learn how you can benefit from them, visit <https://www.texastech.edu/board-of-regents/regents-rules.php> and see Chapter 10.

# UPCOMING EVENTS



White Coat Ceremonies for the TTUHSC Jerry H. Hodge School of Pharmacy Class of 2026 will be held by each campus during the month of August. Receiving the white coat is a reminder of the commitment incoming students are making to an honorable and trusted profession.

August 6: Dallas, The Black Academy of Arts and Letters

August 13: Amarillo, Harrington Auditorium, Amarillo Campus

August 14: Abilene, Paramount Theatre

## AUGUST:

- 8-12: P1 Orientation Week, Abilene, Amarillo and Dallas
- 15: First day of PharmD Classes
- 18-19: P1 IPE Event/Dinner, Lubbock
- 19-21: Student Leadership Retreat, Dallas
- 24-26: New Faculty Orientation, Amarillo
- 28-30: NABP/ACCP District 6, 7, 8 Meeting, Oklahoma City

## SEPTEMBER:

- 9: Research Symposium, Abilene
- 14: P1 IPE Day
- 20: P2 IPE Day
- 23: P4 BTC Mock Interviews

## OCTOBER:

- 13-14: Career Fair, Dallas
- 19: P1 IPE Day
- TBD: Medication Cleanout Events



# Fun Around Campus



Retiree Recognition



Faculty Retreat Events



Food Truck Extravaganza



Have something or someone you'd like to see featured in the SOP Newsletter? Send a photo and a brief description of what you would like to see featured to [amber.bustos@ttuhsc.edu](mailto:amber.bustos@ttuhsc.edu)