
THE TECH TIMES

A Publication of the TTUHSC—School of Pharmacy Residency Programs



TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY
HEALTH SCIENCES CENTER™
School of Pharmacy

The Tech Times is published quarterly for graduates of Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center School of Pharmacy Residency Programs.

Editors

Maegan Patterson, Pharm.D.
Taryn Satterwhite, Pharm.D.

Faculty Advisor

Steve Pass, Pharm.D., FCCM,
FCCP, BCPS

TTUHSC – SOP Residency Program

<http://www.ttuhschool.edu/sop/residencies/>

In This Issue:

1. TTUHSC-SOP Residency Program
2. Residency Bios
3. Where Are They Now?
2013-2014 Residency Class
4. Interviews with past Residents
5. Residency Collage

Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center – School Of Pharmacy Residency Program

The Graduate Pharmacy Education (Residency) Program at TTUHSC – SOP was established in 1997 and promotes excellence in patient care by providing education, development, and advanced training to practitioners, educators, and scholars. Residents support the SOP mission by expanding faculty practice and scholarship activities; as Assistant Instructors, residents are also actively integrated into the education of Pharm.D. students, serving as clerkship preceptors and small-group facilitators. The Residency Program, under the direction of Dr. Steve Pass, offers diverse training opportunities through 15 unique Pharmacy Practice and Specialty Resident programs located in Abilene, Amarillo, Dallas-Fort Worth and Lubbock. Presently, 25 residents are enrolled in this program. Since its formation, more than 200 residents have successfully completed residency training. Residents participate in a variety of learning opportunities as part of their program such as a longitudinal Clinician-Educator Teaching Certificate Program. Faculty members present monthly topics to residents related to teaching. This year the Teaching Certificate Program has been revised to provide more hands-on lecturing to the residents. Every resident interested in a teaching certificate will present an optional lecture to an audience of residents and pharmacists, who will then evaluate the residents' performance during the lecture and give constructive feedback on improvement areas. The program has been evolving each year to enhance learning opportunities and encourage residents to pursue academic positions upon completion of the program.

Abilene Campus

Jessica Garza, Pharm.D. PGY-1 Pharmacotherapy Resident



Jessica Garza is a PGY-1 pharmacotherapy resident at the TTUHSC-SOP in Abilene, Texas. Dr. Garza is appointed as an Assistant Clinical Instructor at TTUHSC SOP. She received her Pharm.D. from TTUHSC-SOP in 2014. Dr. Garza received her Bachelor of Science in Biophysics from Centenary College of Louisiana in Shreveport, Louisiana. Her practice interests include critical care, infectious diseases, cardiology, and academia. Dr. Garza is currently a member of the American Society of Health-System Pharmacists and the American College of Clinical Pharmacy. During her free time, Dr. Garza enjoys playing golf, skiing, running, traveling, listening to live music, and spending time with friends and family.

Kathy Tang, Pharm.D. PGY-1 Pharmacy Practice Resident

Kathy Tang is the PGY-1 pharmacy practice resident at the TTUHSC and Hendrick Medical



Center. Dr. Tang received her Bachelor of Science in chemistry from the University of California, Los Angeles. She then received her Pharm.D. from the University of Illinois, Chicago. Dr. Tang is a member of APhA and ASHP. During her free time, she enjoys catching up on television shows, trying different food and restaurants, and trying new things.

Lilian May, Pharm.D. PGY-1 Pharmacy Practice Resident



Lilian is a PGY-1 pharmacy practice resident at the TTUHSC SOP and Hendrick Medical Center in Abilene, Texas. Dr. May received her Pharm.D. from TTUHSC-SOP. Her practice interests include ambulatory care, geriatrics, and oncology. Dr. May is currently a member of the American Society of Health System Pharmacists and Phi Delta Chi. During her free time, she likes to be a volunteer pianist, travel, outdoor sports, and spend time with family and friends.

Han Li, Pharm.D. PGY-1 Pharmacy Practice Resident



Han Li is a PGY-1 pharmacy practice resident at TTUHSC-SOP and Hendrick Health System for the academic year of 2014-2015. For the last twelve years, Dr. Li lived in the cold desert of Wyoming and obtained his undergraduate and Pharm.D. degrees from the University of Wyoming School of Pharmacy. Prior to becoming a Wyominite, Dr. Li has also lived in Israel and China. His current professional interests are in Infectious Disease and Oncology. His hobbies include drawing, swimming, running, and reading. He looks forward to meeting everyone this year!

Amarillo Campus

Corrie Lowe Malphrus, Pharm.D. PGY-2 Pharmacotherapy Resident



Corrie Malphrus is a second-year pharmacotherapy specialty resident at Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center School of Pharmacy and Northwest Texas Hospital in Amarillo, Texas. Dr. Malphrus is

also appointed as an assistant clinical instructor at the School of Pharmacy and will be precepting student pharmacists during their 3rd and 4th professional years. Dr. Lowe received her Pharm.D. from Auburn University Harrison School of Pharmacy in May 2013.

Kayla Vecera, Pharm.D. PGY-2 Pediatrics Specialty Resident



Dr. Vecera is a PGY2 pediatric specialty resident at TTUHSC-SOP and Northwest Texas Children's Hospital in Amarillo. She is also an assistant clinical instructor at the School of Pharmacy and will be

precepting students during their third and fourth professional years. She received her Pharm.D. from St. Louis College of Pharmacy in May 2011 and subsequently completed her PGY1 Pharmacy Residency at NewYork-Presbyterian Hospital in New York, NY. Her professional interests include neonatology, endocrinology, and toxicology. She is a member of PPAG, ACCP and ASHP. During her free time, she enjoys the outdoors, traveling, cooking, and spending time with her family and friends.

Shirley Yu, Pharm.D. PGY-2 Pharmacotherapy Resident



Shirley is a second-year pharmacotherapy resident at TTUHSC-SOP. She received her Pharm.D. from the University of Illinois at Chicago and her Bachelor of Arts in neuroscience at the

University of Southern California. She is a member of ACCP, ASHP, and PSHP.

Jessica Degiacomo, Pharm.D. PGY-2 Pediatrics Specialty Resident

Dr. Degiacomo is a PGY2 pediatric specialty resident at TTUHSC School of Pharmacy and Northwest Texas Children's Hospital in Amarillo. She is also appointed as an assistant clinical instructor at the School of Pharmacy and will be precepting student pharmacists



during their 3rd and 4th professional years. She received her Bachelor of Science in biology and a minor in chemistry from the University of Rhode Island in Kingston. She then received her Pharm.D. from the University of Rhode Island in May 2013, and subsequently completed a PGY1 pharmacy practice residency at Lehigh Valley Health Network in Allentown, PA. Her professional interests include critical care, pulmonology, and endocrinology. She is a member of ACCP, ASHP, and PPAG. During her free time, she enjoys the outdoors, traveling, cooking, and spending time with her family and friends.

Maegan Patterson, Pharm.D.
PGY-1 Pharmacotherapy Resident



Maegan Patterson is a PGY-1 pharmacotherapy specialty resident at Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center School of Pharmacy. She is also appointed assistant clinical instructor at the School

of pharmacy and will be precepting student pharmacists during their third and fourth professional years. She received her Pharm.D. from TTUHSC School of Pharmacy in 2014. Her current practice interests include adult medicine, critical care, and academia. She is currently a member of ASHP, APhA, and ACCP. During her free time, she enjoys playing tennis, traveling, singing, and spending time with her friends and family.

Taryn Satterwhite, Pharm.D.
PGY-2 Pharmacotherapy Resident



Dr. Taryn Satterwhite is currently a pharmacotherapy specialty resident at Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center School of Pharmacy (TTUHSC SOP). She is originally from Amarillo, TX. Dr.

Satterwhite received her Pharm.D. from Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center in May 2014. Dr. Satterwhite is appointed as an assistant clinical instructor at TTUHSC SOP and precepts pharmacy students in their third and fourth professional year. She is currently a member of the American Society of Health-System Pharmacists (ASHP), American Pharmacists Association (APhA), Texas Pharmacy Association (TPA), and American College of Clinical Pharmacy (ACCP). Her professional interests include internal medicine, critical care, and academia. During her free time, she enjoys

reading books, cooking, and spending time with friends and family.

Dallas Campus

Courtney Jason Givens, Pharm.D.
PGY-2 Mental Health Pharmacy Specialty Resident



Courtney Jason Givens is a PGY-2 specializing in mental health at the VA North Texas Healthcare System and TTUHSC School of Pharmacy in Dallas. She is an assistant clinical instructor at the School of Pharmacy and will be precepting student

pharmacists during their third and fourth years. She received her Pharm.D. from Xavier University of Louisiana College of Pharmacy in May 2013. Her practice interests include mental health, geriatrics, substance abuse, and pain management. She is a member of the College of Psychiatric and Neurologic Pharmacists, ASHP, Rho Chi, and Phi Lambda Sigma. She enjoys cooking, crafting, shopping, and spending time with her family, friends, and puppies.

Belinda Hong, Pharm.D.
PGY-2 Geriatric Pharmacotherapy Resident



Belinda Hong is a PGY-2 geriatric pharmacotherapy resident at TTUHSC SOP and VA North Texas Healthcare System in Dallas. She received her Pharm.D. from Belmont University College of Pharmacy in 2013 and completed her PGY-1 pharmacy

practice residency at VANTHCS in 2014. She is an assistant clinical instructor at TTUHSC SOP and precepts pharmacy students in their third and fourth year. Her interests include geriatric psychiatry, patient safety, and ambulatory care.

She is a member of the ASCP, ACCP, and Kappa Psi. She enjoys singing, reading, traveling, trying new foods, spending time with friends and family.

**Joy E. Brodrick, Pharm.D.
PGY-2 Psychiatry Specialty Resident**



Joy E. Brodrick was born in Royse City, TX and received her Pharm.D. from the University of Texas, Austin College of Pharmacy. She completed a PGY-1 pharmacy practice residency with the

Michael E. DeBakey VA Medical Center in Houston, TX prior to accepting a PGY-2 psychiatric pharmacy resident position with Parkland Health & Hospital System in Dallas. Joy is an active member of ASHP, TSHP, and CPNP, and her professional interests include psychiatry, geriatrics, and academia.

**Elizabeth J. Lee, Pharm.D.
PGY-2 Critical Care Pharmacy Specialty Resident**



Elizabeth Lee is a critical care specialty resident at TTUHSC SOP and Veterans Affairs North Texas Health Care System in Dallas, Texas. She is appointed as assistant clinical instructor at TTUHSC and will be precepting

third and fourth professional year students. She received Pharm.D. from Chicago State University College of Pharmacy in 2013, and completed PGY1 at the Captain James A. Lovell Federal Health Care Center in North Chicago, Illinois. Her interests are in critical care, cardiology, and academia. She is a member of SCCM, AACP, ACCP, and ASHP. Upon completion of residency, she plans to become a clinical pharmacy specialist in critical care and

mentoring students. In her free time, she enjoys snowboarding, cooking, and taking road trips.

**Marcus Kouma, Pharm.D.
PGY-2 Infectious Diseases Pharmacy Specialty Resident**



Dr. Kouma received his Pharm.D. from the University of Hawaii at Hilo in 2013, after which he completed a PGY1 pharmacy practice residency at the Mann-

Grandstaff VA Medical Center in Spokane, WA. Prior to moving to Hawaii for pharmacy school, he lived in southern California and obtained a BS in cognitive neuroscience from the University of California, San Diego. His interests include mechanisms of resistance, antimicrobial stewardship, and academia. Upon completion of PGY-2 training, he hopes to enter a position at an academic medical center or a school or college of pharmacy.

**Norman Mang, Pharm.D.
PGY-2 Infectious Diseases Pharmacy Specialty Resident**



Norman moved from Nashville to Dallas in 2013 where he completed his PGY-1 pharmacy practice residency at Methodist Dallas Medical Center. In his free time Norman enjoys reading,

building computers, and spending time with his fiancée Belinda.

Rene Mani, Pharm.D.
PGY-2 Hematology/Oncology Specialty Resident



Rene Mani is a PGY-2 hematology/oncology specialty resident at TTUHSC School of Pharmacy and UT Southwestern Medical Center in Dallas. He received

his Bachelor of Science in Molecular Biology from the University of Texas at Dallas in December 2008 and his Pharm.D. from TTUHSC School of Pharmacy in May 2013; additionally, he completed an ASHP-accredited PGY1 pharmacy practice residency with Hendrick Medical Center and TTUHSC School of Pharmacy in Abilene from July 2013 to June 2014. He is appointed as an assistant clinical instructor at the School of Pharmacy and will be precepting pharmacy students in their third professional year. He is a member of the APhA, ASHP, TSHP, and Rho Chi Honor Society. In his free time, Dr. Mani enjoys running, reading, re-learning the piano, and spending time with family and friends.

Lauren Adams, Pharm.D.
PGY-1 Pharmacy Practice Resident



Lauren Adams is currently a PGY-1 pharmacy practice resident at the VA North Texas Healthcare System in Dallas Texas. Originally from Olden, TX, Dr. Adams received her Bachelor

of Science degree in cellular biology from the University of Kansas in 2010 and her Pharm.D. from Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center School of Pharmacy in 2014. Her practice interests include infectious disease, internal medicine, and critical care. Dr. Adams is currently a member of the American Pharmacists Association, ASHP and TSHP. In

her free time, she enjoys reading, watching sports (especially the Kansas Jayhawks), and spending time with family and friends.

Katherine Kelly, Pharm.D.
PGY-1 Pharmacy Practice Resident



Katherine Kelly is a PGY-1 pharmacy practice resident at the VA North Texas Health Care System. Katherine graduated magna cum laude in December 2009 with her Bachelor of Arts degree in chemistry

from Texas A&M University. She graduated with high honors with her Pharm.D. from the University of Texas At Austin and the University of Texas At Austin Health Science Center at San Antonio in May of 2014. She was a member of the Rho Chi Honor Society and held leadership positions in various professional organizations and group projects. Her practice interests include ambulatory care, oncology, and infectious disease. She is a member of APhA, ASHP. In her free time, she enjoys spending time with her husband, family, and friends, exercising, and watching Aggie football.

Kiya Harrison, Pharm.D.
PGY-1 Pharmacy Practice Resident



Kiya Harrison is a PGY1 pharmacy practice resident at the VA North Texas Healthcare System in Dallas, Texas. Dr. Harrison received her Pharm.D. from the University of Oklahoma in June

2014. Her main areas of interest include infectious diseases, adult medicine, and ambulatory care. Dr. Harrison is a member of the American Society of Health-System Pharmacists, Phi Lambda Sigma, and Rho Chi. In her spare time, she enjoys volunteering,

travelling, trying new foods and spending time with her family and friends.

Joshua A. Koontz, Pharm.D.
PGY-1 Pharmacy Practice Resident



Dr. Koontz is PGY-1 pharmacy practice resident at VA North Texas Health Care System and Texas Tech Health Sciences Center School of Pharmacy in Dallas. He is originally from Orem, UT. He received his

Pharm.D. in May 2014 from the University of Utah College of Pharmacy. He is currently a member of the ASHP, APhA, Rho Chi Society. His professional interests include mental health, pain management, and ambulatory care, with special interest in substance abuse and addiction. He enjoys backpacking, fishing, hiking, shooting sports, and disc golf. He also loves spending time with his wife Sarah and their two sons Dice and Samuel. Following completion of the pharmacy practice residency, he plans to pursue a PGY-2 specialty residency in either mental health or ambulatory care.

Mary Liu, Pharm.D.
PGY-1 Pharmacy Practice Resident



Mary Liu is a PGY-1 pharmacy practice resident at Texas Health Presbyterian Hospital Dallas, in affiliation with Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center

School of Pharmacy. She is an assistant clinical instructor at the School of Pharmacy and will be precepting pharmacy students in their third professional year. She received her Doctor of Pharmacy from TTUHSC School of Pharmacy in May 2014. Her practice interests include internal medicine, critical care,

emergency medicine, and infectious diseases. She is a member of the APhA, ASHP, ACCP, Phi Delta Chi and Rho Chi. In her spare time, Dr. Liu enjoys live music, eating great food, catching up on TV shows, reading, and spending time with family and friends.

Wesley Welchel, Pharm.D.
PGY-1 Pharmacy Practice Resident



Wesley Welchel is currently a PGY-1 pharmacy practice resident at Texas Health Presbyterian Hospital Dallas, in affiliation with TTUHSC School of Pharmacy. He is appointed as an

assistant clinical instructor at the School of Pharmacy and will be precepting pharmacy students in their third professional year. He received his Pharm.D. from the Medical University of South Carolina in May 2014. His practice interests include ambulatory care, critical care, and psychiatry. He is a member of the APhA, ASHP, and Rho Chi. In his spare time, he enjoys fishing, exercising and going to the beach.

Sarah Woodard, Pharm.D.
PGY-1 Pharmacy Practice Resident



Sarah Woodard is currently a PGY-1 pharmacy practice resident at Texas Health Presbyterian Hospital Dallas, in affiliation with TTUHSC-SOP. Dr. Woodard is also appointed as an

assistant clinical instructor at the SOP and will be precepting pharmacy students in their third professional year. Dr. Woodard received her Pharm.D. from TTUHSC-SOP in May 2014. Her practice interests include internal medicine, critical care, and ambulatory care. Dr. Liu is currently a member of the American

Society of Health-System Pharmacists, and Rho Chi. In her spare time, Dr. Woodard enjoys music, running, watching movies, and spending time with friends and church family.

**Brian Spence, Pharm.D.
PGY-1 Pharmacy Practice Resident**



Dr. Brian Spence is currently a pharmacy practice resident at Veterans Affairs North Texas Health Care System & TTUHSC-SOP. He is originally from Salt Lake City, UT. Dr. Spence received his

Pharm.D. from the University of Utah, College of Pharmacy in Salt Lake City, UT in May 2014. Dr. Spence is appointed as an assistant clinical instructor at TTUHSC-SOP and precepts pharmacy students in their third professional year. He is currently a member of the ACCP, ASHP, and CPNP. His professional interests include mental health, post-traumatic stress disorder, internal medicine, and academia. During his spare time, he loves to explore the wilderness, study history, and is an avid fan of the University of Utah's football team.

Lubbock Campus

**Leslie Monye, Pharm.D.
PGY-2 Pharmacotherapy Resident**



Leslie Monye is a PGY-2 pharmacotherapy specialty resident at TTUHSC School of Pharmacy and University Medical Center in Lubbock. He is originally from Houston, TX and received a bachelor's

degree in Biology from the University of Houston. He then received his Pharm.D. from Howard University College of Pharmacy in May 2013. Dr. Monye is also appointed as an assistant clinical instructor at the School of Pharmacy and will be precepting student pharmacists during their third and fourth professional years. His practice interests include internal medicine, critical care, and academia. Dr. Monye is currently a member of ACCP, Kappa Epsilon, and Phi Lambda Sigma. During his free time, Dr. Monye enjoys watching movies, sporting events, and spending time with family and friends.

Linda C. Nwachukwu, Pharm.D., MPH
PGY-1 Pharmacotherapy Resident



Dr. Linda Nwachukwu is a first year pharmacotherapy specialty resident at TTUHSC School of Pharmacy and University Medical Center in Lubbock. She is also appointed as an

assistant clinical instructor at the School of Pharmacy and will be precepting student pharmacist during their third and fourth professional years. She holds a Pharm.D. from Howard University College of Pharmacy, and a Master of Public Health with a Biostatistics and Epidemiology concentration from Drexel University School of Public Health. Her practice interests are multifaceted including internal medicine, academia, critical care, cardiology, and infectious diseases. She is a member of ASHP, ACCP, Kappa Epsilon, and Phi Lamda Sigma. During her free time, she enjoys skiing/snowboarding, watching movies, and spending time with loved ones

Nephy G. Samuel, Pharm.D.
PGY-1 Pharmacotherapy Resident



Dr. Samuel is a first year pharmacotherapy specialty resident at Texas Tech University Health Science Center School of Pharmacy and University

Medical Center in Lubbock, Texas. Dr. Samuel is also appointed assistant clinical instructor at the School of Pharmacy and will be precepting student pharmacists during their third and fourth professional years. Dr. Samuel received her Pharm.D. from Texas A&M Rangel College of Pharmacy. Her

current practice interests include academia, internal medicine and ambulatory care. Dr. Samuel is currently a member of the American Society of Health System Pharmacists and Texas Pharmacy Association. During her free time, Dr. Samuel enjoys watching movies, reading, and spending time with her family and friends.

Where Are They Now?

The 2013-2014 Residency Class

Saagar Akundi, Pharm.D., BCPS

Clinical Pharmacist – Adventist Health System, Metroplex Hospital – Austin, TX

Jessica Bradley, Pharm.D.

Clinical Pharmacy Specialist, Anticoagulation – VA North Texas Health Care System – Dallas, TX

Sherry Chiu, Pharm.D.

Emergency Department Pharmacist – Texas Health Presbyterian Hospital – Dallas, TX

Les Covington, Pharm.D., BCPS

Assistant Professor of Pharmacy Practice, Geriatrics Division – TTUHSC School of Pharmacy – Amarillo, TX

Jaela Dahl, Pharm.D., BCPS

Clinical Pharmacist, Antimicrobial Stewardship - James A. Haley Veterans Hospital – Tampa, FL

Katherine Dillinger, Pharm.D.

General Pediatrics Clinical Specialist – The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia – Philadelphia, PA

Megan Flinchum, Pharm.D.

Clinical Pharmacist – UC Health Linder Center of Hope – Cincinnati, OH

Courtney Jason Givens, PharmD

PGY-2 Pharmacy Specialty Resident, Mental Health – VA North Texas Health Care System/TTUHSC School of Pharmacy – Dallas, TX

Belinda Hong, Pharm.D.

PGY-2 Geriatric Pharmacotherapy Resident – VA North Texas Health Care System/TTUHSC School of Pharmacy – Dallas, TX

Minh Hong, Pharm.D.

Internal Medicine Clinical Specialist – Medical Center Hospital – Odessa, TX

Rebecca Mahan, Pharm.D.

Assistant Professor of Pharmacy Practice, Geriatrics Division – TTUHSC School of Pharmacy – Abilene, TX

Corrie Lowe Malphrus, Pharm.D.

PGY-2 Pharmacotherapy Specialty Resident – Northwest Texas Hospital/TTUHSC School of Pharmacy –
Amarillo, TX

Rene Mani, Pharm.D.

PGY-2 Hematology/Oncology Specialty Resident – UT Southwestern Medical Center/TTUHSC School of
Pharmacy – Dallas, TX

Leslie Monye, Pharm.D.

PGY-2 Pharmacotherapy Resident – University Medical Center/TTUHSC School of Pharmacy – Lubbock,
TX

Christyn Mullen, Pharm.D.

Clinical Pharmacy Specialist – John Peter Smith Hospital – Fort Worth, TX

Juan Oliva, Pharm.D.

Clinical Pharmacist – Baylor Scott and White Health – Carrollton, TX

Natasha Patel, Pharm.D.

Clinical Pharmacist – Aventura Hospital and Medical Center – Miami, FL

Pearl Rajan Pharm.D.

Staff Pharmacist – Texas Health Presbyterian Hospital – Dallas, TX

Meenakshi Ramanathan, Pharm.D.

Assistant Professor of Pharmacotherapy – UNTHSC SCP – Fort Worth, TX

Brian Terrell, Pharm.D.

Assistant Professor of Pharmacy Practice, Ambulatory Care Division – TTUHSC School of Pharmacy –
Abilene, TX

Shawn Turner, Pharm.D.

Assistant Professor of Pharmacy Practice – Harding University – Searcy, AK

Ruben Villaneuva, Pharm.D., BCPS

Trauma ICU Specialist – Oklahoma University Medical Center – Oklahoma City, OK

Neha Vora, Pharm.D.

PGY-2 Resident – Portland, OR

Barakha Yadav, Pharm.D.

PGY-2 Ambulatory Care Specialty Resident – VA North Texas Health Care System/TTUHSC School of
Pharmacy – Dallas, TX

Aaron York, Pharm.D., BCPS

Attending Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine – Philadelphia, PA

Shirley Yu, Pharm.D.

PGY-2 Pharmacotherapy Resident – Northwest Texas Hospital/TTUHSC School of Pharmacy –
Amarillo, TX

Interview with Brittany M. Johansen, PharmD, BCPS

1. **Q: Where did you complete your residency training?**

A: VA North Texas Health Care System

2. **Q: What were the top 3 factors you considered when deciding to pursue residency training?**

A: I felt like I wanted more experience before ‘getting out in the real world.’ I wanted to have a career with a clinical focus, as I very much enjoyed my clinical rotations and it’s unlikely to secure a clinical position without first having done a residency. I knew taking time off to start a family would be more flexible with a clinical position vs. retail. What made me pick a particular program—location, program set-up, and SOP affiliation.

3. **Q: What was the most rewarding/unique experience you had as a resident?**

A: Bonding with co-residents.

4. **Q: What advice would you give to a current pharmacy student who is unsure if they should pursue residency training?**

A: More training and experience is always a good idea. It’s easier to continue in the ‘student/learning’ mind-set than go out into the workforce and come back. If you do change your mind, it’s not impossible, though.

5. **Q: How do you feel that residency training has impacted your career path thus far?**

A: Significant impact! Residency training helped me with time management, team/colleague/patient rapport, improved my presentation content, style and confidence; most significantly, residency gave me an extra year with a ‘safety net,’ in the form of rotation preceptors to practice and gain confidence in my knowledge and skills.

Bio: Dr. Johansen is an Advanced Practice Geriatric Clinical Pharmacist with the Home Based Primary Care program at the Dallas VA Medical Center and also the Pharmacy PGY1 Residency Coordinator for VA North Texas Health Care System. She is originally from Austin, but graduated from the Texas Tech Health Sciences Center School of Pharmacy as a Doctor of Pharmacy in 2006. She then completed an ASHP accredited Pharmacy PGY1 Residency at the Dallas VA Medical Center & Texas Tech Health Sciences Center School of Pharmacy in 2007. Her practice interests include Geriatrics, Ambulatory Care and Mental Health. Dr. Johansen is appointed as an Adjunct Assistant Professor at the Texas Tech Health Sciences Center School of Pharmacy and precepts pharmacy students in their 4th professional year, as well as precepting the PGY1 residents and PGY2 Geriatric specialty residents.

Interview with Sherry Chiu, PharmD

1. **Q: Where did you complete your residency training?**

A: Texas Health Presbyterian Hospital Dallas

2. **Q: What were the top 3 factors you considered when deciding to pursue residency training?**

A: Goals of residency: become an integral and trusted component of the healthcare team by making confident, evidence-based recommendations, sharpen my public speaking skills through participation in committee meetings and presentations, and build a strong network with other pharmacists through regional and national events.

3. **Q: What was the most rewarding/unique experience you had as a resident?**

A: Way too many.

4. **Q: What advice would you give to a current pharmacy student who is unsure if they should pursue residency training?**

A: I was one of those folks who was unsure if I wanted to do a residency until the last minute, and I'm so glad I did! I learned so much and had a blast during residency year. You get to practice as a licensed pharmacist yet have preceptors who will help guide you along the way.

5. **Q: How do you feel that residency training has impacted your career path thus far?**

A: It refined my clinical judgment skills and helped me become more confident in making pharmacotherapy recommendations.

Highlights of an emergency department pharmacist's activities:

- Work closely with the ED staff to ensure accurate prescribing and prompt delivery of medications to patients
- Perform medication reconciliation for admitted patients
- Counsel patients on discharge prescriptions
- Provide drug information and pharmacotherapy recommendations for ED staff
- Participate in stroke, trauma codes, and code blues
- Develop procedures and protocols for ED pharmacist workflow
- Assist with vancomycin and warfarin consults
- Precept pharmacy students
- FUN, FUN, more FUN!

Bio: I currently work as an ED pharmacist at Texas Health Presbyterian Hospital Dallas, and I love it! The work environment is very dynamic, and I learn something new every day. I was also able to utilize the knowledge and experiences I gained during residency and apply them to my current work setting. What I love the most about my job is the culture, and I am very blessed to be a member of this amazing team!

Interview with Anjali Patel, Pharm.D., BCPS

1. **Q: Where did you complete your residency training?**

A: VA North Texas Healthcare System and Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center - PGY1 Pharmacy Practice Residency and PGY2 Ambulatory Care Residency.

2. **Q: What were the top 3 factors you considered when deciding to pursue residency training?**

A: Desire to complete additional clinical training at a teaching facility, patient care involvement, and diversity of experiences in difference fields (i.e. critical care, pediatrics, ambulatory care, ID, etc.)

3. **Q: What was the most rewarding/unique experience you had as a resident?**

A: I think the most rewarding experience during my residency was being able to present my research project (as a poster) at a major HIV conference. My title was "Safety and Efficacy of Rosuvastatin in HIV patients on NNRTI based HAART regimens." It was definitely a great accomplishment, and I am very proud of it.

4. **Q: What advice would you give to a current pharmacy student who is unsure if they should pursue residency training?**

A: My advice would be to pursue a residency if you are interested in clinical practice. Practice residencies give you an array of experiences that allow you to see where you fit in and most importantly it allows you to grow personally and professionally. Not only does a residency help you build on the knowledge and skills you learned in pharmacy school, but it also gives you the opportunity to develop leadership skills, time management skills, networking skills, and professionalism.

5. **Q: How do you feel that residency training has impacted your career path thus far?**

A: I feel that residency training better prepared me clinically and professionally to become the practitioner I am today. It allowed me to take advantage of difference opportunities in the pharmacy realm to help build my knowledge and skillset. I have always been interested in outpatient care, but I took advantage of the opportunities for inpatient training during residency so that I could be a well-rounded practitioner.

Bio: After completing my ambulatory care residency training in 2011, I got married and moved to Springfield, MO where I had the opportunity to work in an independent pharmacy and develop different programs for patient education and specialty drugs. I worked at that institution for about 1 year and then moved back to Texas, where I was offered the position for HIV/Hepatitis C Clinical Pharmacy Specialist at the VA North Texas Healthcare System. I have been in this position since July 2012, and it has definitely been a wonderful experience thus far. Currently, as the clinical pharmacy specialist for both the HIV and Liver clinics, I primarily provide medication therapy management and serve as a drug information resource. I complete comprehensive patient chart reviews, provide primary care management for HIV patients, and participate in patient education classes. I have also played a vital role in cost management for HIV and Hepatitis C medications without compromising patient care.

Resident Collage

