



# RESEARCH NEWS



## NOTES FROM THE ADRGS



It is always a joy to see the end of Spring semester and all the students who have completed their degrees. We are so proud to be a part of the learning journey for our students and we are happy to have them as part of our distinguished alumni group. Congratulations to all the students - we wish you the best in your careers!

We continue to focus on student success through formal and informal training. Lunch and Learns and CIMER trainings are some of the initiatives and part of our programmatic pursuit of excellence.

This spring we announced the ADRGS Seed grants. These grants will be provided to faculty who have the basis of a good idea that needs preliminary data and have a high likelihood of further funding. The awardees will be announced this month.

There will be more information to come on the strategic initiatives for the ADRGS group. And if you have not already done so, please register for the 2024 Research Retreat. We are inviting everyone to "Return to the Rockies" as we make our annual gathering in celebration of research.

**Manisha Patel, PhD**  
Associate Dean of Research  
and Graduate Studies



**Karen Kimes, MBA**, Director  
of Research Administration



**Isabella Jaramillo**, Graduate  
Program Administrator

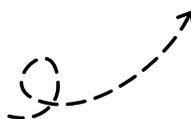
## RESEARCH HIGHLIGHTS

The AACP Funded Research Grant Data Report shows that last FY we received \$20,025,476. This is a 23.2% increase from the previous FY. In addition, our school was ranked #10 in NIH funding according to the Blue Ridge Institute of Medical Research.

The annual Research Retreat hosted by the Associate Dean of Research and Graduate Studies will take place on August 1-2, 2024 in Keystone at the beautiful Keystone Lodge and Spa. The conference will be two days of "celebrating research" with presentations on the research happening in and around our school and campus.

The Associate Dean of Research and Graduate Studies would like to extend an invite to all faculty, graduate students, and research staff with their supervisor's approval. Please register for the retreat by June 21, 2024.

Click Here to  
register



## **The Launch of the New Series: Lunch & Learn**

The series encourages students to take an active role in shaping the content of the series by suggesting topics and speakers they find most relevant. This ensures that the sessions remain dynamic and tailored to the evolving needs and interests of the all students in the graduate programs. Our hope is that this not only fosters a collaborative learning environment but also helps build a strong sense of community among participating students.

By participating in the Lunch & Learn Series, students will gain valuable insights and skills that complement their academic pursuits and prepare them for future challenges in their respective fields. Whether it's through lively discussions, hands-on workshops, or inspiring keynote presentations, the series aims to enrich the graduate journey and support students in achieving their full potential.

The first Lunch and Learn Series featured Senior Financial Aid Advisor, Joanna Cabrera-Rosas and the Associate Director of Finance and Accounting, Adam Jimenez. Joanna presented information about scholarships and financial aid for the upcoming school year 2024-2025. Adam's presentation covered how to submit an expense report from start to finish.

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## **Bystander Trainings**

Effective research mentoring relationships are critical to developing the next generation of researchers. The office of the Associate Dean of Research and Graduate Studies is making strides to improve these relationship through required trainings such as Bystander Training.

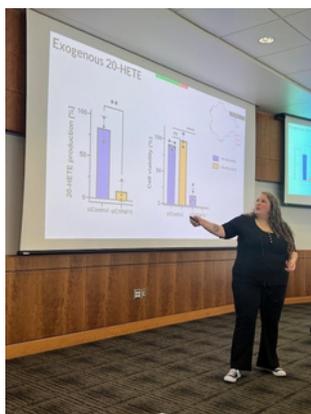
What is a bystander? A bystander is an individual who observes or becomes aware of a situation or behavior that may be harmful, unethical, or inappropriate.

Why is it important to go through bystander training? By becoming familiar with the framework of bystander intervention, this person is not merely a passive observer but is considered to have the potential to take active, responsible steps to prevent or address the situation.

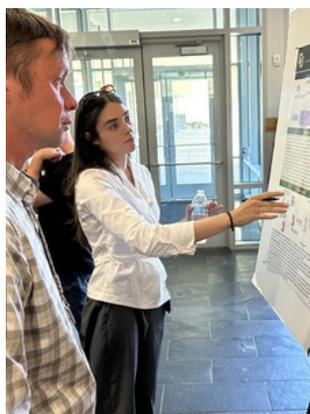
The first required Bystander Training took place on April 30, 2024. The training is required for all graduate students. By requiring the training we are helping to improve the culture of the school and our programs. We strive to have all trainees and their faculty mentors to complete this training. The next Bystander training will take place on June 18, 2024.

## SSPPS Graduate Programs Student Spring Symposium

Each year, our student leaders organize a Spring Graduate Student Symposium highlighting their research. This year's program, held on Thursday, April 11, 2024 was a huge success. The students invited Dr. Simone Brixius-Anderko (Assistant Professor in University of Pittsburgh School of Pharmacy's Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences) as the keynote speaker. Dr. Brixius-Anderko talked about her academic journey and exciting research on P450-mediated fatty acid metabolism in lung cancer progression to find new treatment approaches. Several students from the Toxicology, Pharmaceutical Sciences and Pharmaceutical Outcomes PhD programs Pharmaceutical Sciences Master's programs presented outstanding platform talks on their research followed by an interactive poster session and awards presentation. This year's awardee for the Platform Talk was Sydney Broyles. The awardees for the Poster Presentations were Shilpa George, Alexandra Lucas, Shannon Twardy, Lexi Ward, Monica Bianchini, and Mouna Dardouri. A big thank you and congratulations to our incredible graduate students for this successful event.



Simone Brixius-Anderko, PhD



Thomas DeLong, Dr. rer. nat and Sarah Asby



SSPPS Graduate students and faculty



Jared Brown, PhD, Sydney Broyles (MS Pharm Sci), Lexi Ward (Tox), Shannon Twardy (Tox), Monica Bianchini (Pharm Outcomes), Mouna Dardouri (Pharm Outcomes), Alexandra Lucas (Pharm Sci) and Laura Saba, PhD

## Graduate Programs Student Activities

The graduate students requested community-building activities to unite students within their respective programs. Student representatives from each program surveyed their peers to gather ideas for activities. Collaborating with the Associate Dean for Research and Graduate Studies, Program Directors, and Program Administrator, the student representatives worked together to bring these suggestions to life.

Despite the pressures and challenges of their rigorous programs, we hope that each of the the activities spent together were a reminder of the camaraderie and support that bounds them together. These activities were put together to celebrate not just their academic achievements but also foster the friendships and memories they had created along the way. We hope to hold many more of these types of events each semester.

## Pharmaceutical Sciences PhD Program

The graduate students of the Pharmaceutical Sciences PhD Program gathered on March 28, 2024 at the Mission Escape Room. They now hold the record for fastest escape time at 29 minutes! They extend a friendly challenge to any other graduate program to beat their record time and become the new champs! They celebrated this triumph with dinner at North County!



Before: Anqi Li, Brianna Hunt, Jason Groegler, Daniel Breiner, Hannah Work, Ali Dunbar, David Nerguizian, and Emily Gracey



29 Minutes After: Anqi Li, Brianna Hunt, Jason Groegler, Daniel Breiner, Hannah Work, Ali Dunbar, David Nerguizian, and Emily Gracey

## Toxicology PhD Program

The graduate students of the Toxicology PhD Program gathered on May 4, 2024 at the Dynamic Paintball and Airsoft field for a unique team bonding experience. They reflected on strategy and refueled together at Lulu's Inn with some hardy delicious food!



Carly Chesterman, Victoria Wei, Chanapa Mann, Paola Gonzalez, Sophia Clune, Lexi Ward, Emily Ruggiano, Stephanie Bersie, Emily Mitchem and Michaela Hvizdak

## Pharmaceutical Science Masters Program

The graduate students of the Pharmaceutical Sciences Masters Program gathered on April 19, 2024 at the Stanley Marketplace for a delicious dinner at Comida. The restaurant was a perfect setting for the students to unwind and celebrate their achievements. Laughter and lively conversations filled the table as they shared stories about their time in the program, research projects, and future aspirations.



Thanh Nguyen, Archi Shah, Akanksha Pawar, Emma Carpenter, Fabiola Estrada, Elnaz Navid, Praveen Ramaswamy, Kathryn Lanier, Abdulgader Obaidalla, Sierra Coots.

# CONGRATULATIONS 2024 GRADUATES

Manisha Patel, PhD, Associate Dean of Research and Graduate Studies; along with Program Directors, Laura Saba, PhD, Jared Brown, PhD, Kelly Anderson, PhD, David Kroll, PhD, and Program Administrator, Isabella Jaramillo offer their sincere congratulations to the spring 2024 class of graduates.

## Pharmaceutical Sciences PhD Program

Lauren Thompson, PhD  
Hannah Work, PhD



Lauren Thompson, PhD and Melanie Joy, PharmD, PhD

## Pharmaceutical Outcomes Research PhD Program

Vanessa Patterson, PhD



Vanessa Patterson, PhD and Kelly Anderson, PhD

## Toxicology PhD Program

Paige Anton, PhD



Rebecca McCullough, PhD and Paige Anton, PhD

## Pharmaceutical Sciences Masters Program

Sydney Broyles, MS  
Orielle Edwards, MS  
Kathryn (Kat) Lanier, MS  
Jazmin Oliver, MS  
Laura Roon, MS  
Archi Shah, MS



Mahesh Miayani, Nick Mendola, Vanessa Patterson and Sue Kwon



Kristina Brooks, PharmD and Laura Roon, MS



Graduation Celebration cake

# ADRGs ADVISORY COUNCIL: UPDATE

The ADRGS Advisory Council held the latest meeting on May 31, 2024, led by Manisha Patel, PhD, Associate Dean of Research and Graduate Studies. The council consists of members from both SSPPS departments and includes Jacci Bainbridge, David Bain, David Kroll, Heather Anderson, Jared Brown, Isabella Jaramillo, and Karen Kimes. The Council is finalizing the Mission, Vision, and Values as part Strategic Planning for Research and Graduate Studies with the assistance of Assistant Vice Chancellor for Learning and Development, Debra Lammers. We will be working with the entire faculty to develop strategic initiatives over the coming months.

## NOTEWORTHY

- We restarted the **Research in Progress** seminar this Spring. Special thanks to Kelly Anderson, PhD MPP who presented on “The Effect of Pharmacy Closures on Medication Adherence” and Nichole Reisdorph, PhD who spoke on her work on “Microbiome-mediated effects of natural products on neurotransmitter-related molecular networks and the metabolome”



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## GRADUATE STUDENT ORIENTATION

The new incoming students of the Pharmaceutical Sciences, Toxicology, Pharmaceutical Outcomes Research PhD programs and Pharmaceutical Sciences Master’s programs will be joining us for orientation beginning Thursday August 15, 2024. All Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences and Department of Clinical Sciences faculty are invited to attend lunch and mingle with the new students. Lunch will be held in the Skaggs School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences Lobby. Be on the look out for the official calendar invitation.



## COMING SOON

### Annual Research Retreat

The annual Research Retreat will take place on August 1-2, 2024 in Keystone at the beautiful Keystone Lodge and Spa. Register before June 21, 2024!

### 2024 Colorado Protein Stability Conference 30th Anniversary

The Colorado Protein Stability Conference is August 5-8, 2024 at Beaver Run Resort & Conference Center. Hosting the conference are Professor Krishna Mallela, PhD, and John Carpenter, PhD and Professor Emeritus. Attendance is limited to the first 200 who register!

### Innovation Forum hosted by CU Innovations

The Innovation Forum is taking place June 10-12, 2024. The CU Innovations, Startup Tool Box and Academia Industry Alliance (AIA) will be hosting the 3-day event highlighting the achievements and challenges faced by out innovators and demystifying the innovation pathway through presentations and panel discussions.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### HIRs Recruitment Scholarship

Congratulations to incoming fall 2024 students Ashlynn Barnes (Pharmaceutical Sciences) and Zaria Jackson (Toxicology)! The HIRs Recruitment Scholarship is made possible by University of Colorado Foundation and donator C. Werner and Kitty Hir's and is administered through the Graduate School. One incoming accepted applicant for one of the Pharmaceutical Sciences, Toxicology and (or) Pharmaceutical Outcomes Research PhD Programs will be awarded annually. Each recipient will receive \$5,000.00.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

Lunch & Learn-June 13th  
Bystander Training-June 18th  
SSPPS Annual Research Retreat- August 1-2  
Graduate Student Orientation- August 15th

