eScripts is a monthly newsletter highlighting faculty, staff, students and alumni of the CU Skaggs School of Pharmacy.

Students Step Up for Vaccination Effort

With the start of 2021, all eyes are on the COVID-19 vaccine, and CU Pharmacy is playing a crucial role.

In an effort to organize an already-motivated group of pharmacy student vaccinators, Dana Hammer, PhD, Senior Instructor and Faculty Lead of Student Professional Development, along with eager students and others from her office, created the “Step Up to Stamp Out COVID-19 Campaign and Competition.”

Keep reading

As Vaccines Arrive, Pharmacists Play a Crucial Role
“Each vaccine is like gold. It’s so valuable and has to be handled with care,” explains Ty Kiser, clinical pharmacy professor and critical care pharmacists at UC Health. “You have to take the vaccine out of a -80 freezer and reconstitute it before delivering to the clinics. There’s no room for error.”

The availability and proximity of community pharmacies has them poised to play a key role in making sure that all Americans have vaccination access, especially those in rural areas.
Melanie Joy, PhD, PharmD, faculty head for the Clinical Pharmacokinetics and Pharmacodynamics program has secured an Academic Center of Excellence in Model-informed Drug Development designation from Certara, a global leader in biosimulation. This recognition makes SSPPS one of only five schools of pharmacy with such a designation and one of only 11 institutions worldwide.

**Kroll Contributes to CBD Story**

David Kroll, PhD, DOPS, contributed to Health Central’s presentation on “10 Surprising Facts About CBD.” With an increasing number of states legalizing cannabis, products made from cannabidiol (CBD) are becoming more and more mainstream, and with that, a heightened interest in better understanding the substance. See the presentation here.

**Beverly Brunson Diversity Scholarship**
Beverly Brunson retired this month as Director of Student Services after nearly 30 years of service and mentorships to CU Pharmacy students. In recognition of her distinguished career, a diversity scholarship in Brunson's name will be established at CU Pharmacy in 2021. Help start the growth of the new scholarship by giving today.

Scholarship giving page

Welcome Paul Murray

Skaggs School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Studies is pleased to welcome Paul Murray as the new Recruitment Manager for the ELPD program. Paul joins us from Tuscaloosa, Alabama, where he served as Assistant Director of
Recruitment for the University of Alabama.

Adjoint faculty publishes

Gary Krieger, MD, toxicologist, human health specialist and SSPPS adjoint faculty member, recently published an article in the high-impact journal Nature.com. His research developed a mathematical model that quantifies the probability of post-quarantine transmission incorporating testing into travel quarantine, quarantine of traced contacts with an unknown time of infection, and quarantine of cases with a known time of exposure.

Pharm Sci Grad Student Winter Symposium and Awards
The Pharmaceutical Sciences Department hosted their 2021 Grad Student Winter Symposium on Jan. 21. The event’s keynote speaker was Kimberly Hassett, PhD, associate director at Moderna Therapeutics. Hassett discussed the optimization of lipid nanoparticles in the Moderna COVID-19 vaccine. In addition to rapid fire talks and student poster presentations, the symposium concluded with two outstanding graduate students being honored with the Haim Award. Mustafa Ibrahim from the Pharmaceutical Sciences graduate program, and Colin Anderson from the Toxicology graduate program won the annual Harold C. Heim Award for Excellence in Research and Graduate Education. The distinction is accompanied by a $2000 cash award and was presented by Warren Heim, son of former Dean Harold Heim.

Clinical Pharmacy Student Research Awards

Two of our PharmD students garnered recognition at the Anschutz Medical Center 35th Annual Student Research Forum held on Jan. 11. Out of the 104 presenters from all schools on campus, pharmacy students Crystal Kim and Stefanie Schwab received research awards for their poster presentations that were accompanied with a
$320 cash award. Professor Sarah Billups, PharmD, assisted with the campus-wide research event.

Alumni Central’s Happy & Healthy Hour

Wednesday, Feb. 10
5:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. MST

Promoting a Healthy 2021! Vaccines and Integrative Health strategies against COVID-19.

Wesley Nuffer, PharmD, BCPS, CDE
Assistant Director of Experiential Programs

Monika Nuffer, PharmD
Academic and Experiential Program Coordinator, iPharmD® Program Coordinator of the Integrative Health and Medicine Graduate Certificate Program

Register here

International Fellowship Opportunity

Interested in global health and emergency medicine? This yearlong research fellowship in Rwanda may be for you. Full details are available here. Application deadline is Feb. 19.
Alumni Spotlight: Dr. Corey Craig

Corey Craig, PharmD, ’18, doesn’t miss a beat when it comes to balancing his pharmacy career with his love of music. During a recent interview, Corey shared his thoughts on pursuing a career in pharmacy and provided insight on managing the time as a nuclear pharmacist and a professional DJ.

Read more

Lifelong Learning from CE@CU

Two of our own will be headlining this month’s Virtual Health & Happy Hour.

Wesley Nuffer and Monica Nuffer, both PharmDs, with the School will be discussing vaccines and integrative health strategies against COVID-19.

Wednesday, Feb. 10
5:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. MST

Zoom link provided upon registration.

Register here
P4 Eric Hartsfield is working as an intern at the VA Hospital at CUAnschutz, where a Novavax COVID-19 vaccine trial is taking place. Eric recently administered a shot to CBS4 Health Specialist Kathy Walsh who chronicled her experience at https://cbsloc.al/38ZBeL4

CU Pharmacy Thought Leaders

From discussing the price of medication to sharing insight about the COVID-19 vaccine, our CU Pharmacy professionals are in the news:

- **ACCC**: Oncology Research in Community: Leveraging the Role of Pharmacist, feat. Cindy L. O'Bryant, PharmD, BCOP, FCCP, FHOPA
- **Colorado Times Recorder**: Colo Lawmaker Won't Get COVID Vaccine, Instead Takes Equine Deworming Meds, feat. David Kroll, PhD

Read more CU Pharmacy news

Support CU Pharmacy