October 2021

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

**October Was American Pharmacists Month**

October was a busy time for pharmacy! The entire month has been [American Pharmacists Month](#), sponsored by APhA. This year, we celebrated your courage, and we thanked you for standing by your patients throughout the pandemic and beyond. Oct. 12 was also [Women Pharmacist Day](#), where we celebrated the significant gains that women have made in pursuing careers in pharmacy. And lastly, Oct. 17-23 was [National Pharmacy Week](#), sponsored by ASPH, which acknowledges the invaluable contributions pharmacists and technicians make to patient care in hospitals, outpatient clinics, and other healthcare settings. All month long, Skaggs School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences has been celebrating. [Check out our highlights on Facebook!](#)

**Mallela Lab COVID Research Gaining National Attention**
Krishna Mallela, PhD, along with Vaibhav Upadhyay, Alexandra Lucas, Sudipta Panja, and Ryuki Miyauchi saw their research published in the Journal of Biological Chemistry. Their article, *Receptor binding, immune escape, and protein stability direct the natural selection of SARS-CoV-2 variants*, focuses on the emergence of new SARS-CoV-2 variants that have raised concerns related to the effectiveness of vaccines and antibody therapeutics developed against the unmutated wild-type virus. Dr. Mallela was also featured in this Discover magazine article title, “How COVID-19 Variants Could Outsmart Vaccines,” in which he discusses the implications of this research.

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**CU Pharmacy Boasts Seven Skaggs Scholars**

Drs. Heather Anderson, PhD, Christina Aquilante, PharmD, Kristina Brooks, PharmD, Shaodong Dai, PhD, Jed Lampe, PhD, Vanessa Phelan, PhD, and Laura Saba, PhD, have been selected as 2021-23 Skaggs Scholars. Each recipient receives funding to support collaborative research projects with pharmacy faculty members at one or more of the six other Skaggs-affiliated
institutions. Funded by a generous grant from The ALSAM Foundation, the Skaggs Scholars Program has awarded 38 grants totaling nearly six million dollars since 2011. Read about the fascinating research projects selected for this award here.

Trujillo, Mueller, Kiser Publish on COVID Outcomes


Trujillo Publishes Consensus Article
Dr. Toby Trujillo published a consensus article with colleagues around the county in the Journal of Pharmacotherapy. That paper, “Optimizing Anticoagulation for Patients Receiving Impella Support,” is the result of the expert committee’s work to synthesize all available evidence evaluating anticoagulation for patients receiving the Impella support in order to provide consensus recommendations for the management of anticoagulation with these devices.

Farrar Wins Best Resident Poster Award

Alumna Julie Farrar, PharmD, won this year’s ACCP Best Resident or Fellow Poster Award for her presentation titled “Evaluation of a patient specific, targeted-intensity pharmacologic thromboprophylaxis protocol in hospitalized patients with COVID-19.” Dr. Farrar was a PGY2 critical care resident with Drs. Scott Mueller, Ty Kiser, and Toby Trujillo, PharmDs, and extends special appreciation for their mentorship with this project. Farrar is currently serving as an Assistant Clinical Professor at Auburn University Harrison School of Pharmacy.
P4 a Finalist for National Best Poster Award

Lyra Beltran, P4, had her research poster selected as a finalist for the ACCP student best poster award. Her research project is titled: “Evaluation of Anti-Xa Level Monitoring in Hospitalized COVID-19 Patients on a Targeted-Intensity Thromboprophylaxis Protocol.” Authors include: Lyra Beltran, PharmD Candidate 2022, Julie Farrar, PharmD, Toby Trujillo, PharmD, Scott Mueller, PharmD, Cecilia Nguyen, BS, Kathryn Hassell, MD, and Tyree Kiser, PharmD.

Students to Represent School at National CSSHP Clinical Skills Competition

Students Madi Lebin and Cali Lunowa won this year’s 2021 CSSHP-ASHP school-level Clinical Skills Competition. Lebin and Lenora will be representing the School at this year’s national competition. Congratulations are also in order for the 2nd and 3rd place winners; Lyra Beltran and Austin Saderup, and Melissa Porter and Sydney Zackeroff. Toral Patel, PharmD, served as the advisor of this organization.
Alumni Spotlight: Jennifer Kobylarczyk, ’19 combines expertise in compounding and veterinarian pharmacy

In her own words, Jennifer Kobylarczyk, ’19, describes how she created a path for herself in building a career as a consultant. Read her interview conducted by Career Services manager Laurie Sein as part of a series on specialty careers in pharmacy.

1911 Scholarship Fund, Benefitting Student Scholarships

The 1911 Scholarship Fund allows our students to continue to thrive and all funds go to support student scholarships. Our 110th anniversary aligns with American Pharmacists Month in October. To mark this occasion, we invite you to support
the next generation of pharmacy and pharmaceutical professionals! Give to the 1911 scholarship fund here [https://bit.ly/3i2ho66](https://bit.ly/3i2ho66) anytime though Nov. 15 and see how you can make an impact!

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**Alumni Awards and Homecoming 2021!**

Alumni Awards, building and campus tours, tailgating and football! We’re pulling out all the stops to make this Homecoming Weekend one of the most memorable yet. Join us Nov. 4-6 for this year’s celebration.

Register here: [https://cvent.me/D5w2PG](https://cvent.me/D5w2PG)

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**Alumni Book Club**

The CU Pharmacy Alumni Association
Book Club returns **Thursday, Nov. 16 at 6 p.m.** with a wrap-up discussion on the book *The Adaptation Advantage* lead by faculty member Katy Trinkley, PhD ’19. Be ready to share your thoughts and learn about the next book to be featured in future discussions. [Click here to register.](#)

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**Register for Happy and Healthy Hour**

**Wednesday, Nov. 10 5-6:00 p.m. MDT**
Cooking with Anschutz Health and Wellness Center: Learn to make Chipotle Chilaquiles!

Join AHWC Registered Dietitians as they create a vegetarian recipe with global flavor! Learn basic cooking and food preparation skills to improve your health, discover multi-cultural influences for flavor and taste, and hear nutrition tips from the experts. [Click to learn more and register.](#)
Bugs & Drugs Symposium

Virtual Conference
Nov. 6, 2021

This conference is jointly provided by the University of Colorado College of Nursing Office of Continuing Nursing Education and the Skaggs School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences. This symposium focuses on updated diagnoses and treatments of infectious diseases. It includes didactic presentations with audience participation, small group lectures and case presentations. The goal of the course is to have participants leave with a skill set that will improve their clinical practice related to infectious diseases. Click to learn more and register.

Other CE Opportunities

- Back by popular demand! The Bottom Line with Joe and Bob Cardiovascular Webinar Series
- Home Study Infectious Disease Home Study Series
• NEW Advanced Diabetes Training Program (Rolling Registration) Diabetes Certificate Training Program
• Home Study Individual Cannabis Home Study Modules
• Home Study Say What You See - Infectious Disease Puzzles
• Home Study Integrative Health and Medicine
• Home Study Motivational Interviewing for Healthcare Professionals
• Home Study CO Statewide Protocols: Hormonal Contraception, Smoking Cessation & PrEP
• Home Study Don’t Let Orange be the New White Coat: 2019 Pharmacy Law Webinar Series
• Home Study COVID-19: Implications for Pharmacists
• March 5, 2022 (Save the Date) Advances in Pharmacotherapy

CU Pharmacy Thought Leaders

• 9News: New tool to help speed up life-saving drug treatments, feat. Dan LaBarbera, PhD
• 9News: Demand at pharmacies ramps up as COVID-19 vaccine booster shots approved, feat. Emily Zadvorny PharmD, BCPS
• CU Anschutz Newsroom: New Pill Is a Potential Game-Changer in the COVID Battle, CU Anschutz Expert Says, feat. Peter Anderson, PharmD
• Denver abc7: Robotic technology takes us into a new era of drug discovery, feat. Dan LaBarbera, PhD
• Discover Magazine: How COVID-19 Variants Could Outsmart Vaccines, feat. Krishna Mallela, PhD