Students Nicholas and Jennifer Tomlinson appointed to ASHP student positions

Jennifer and Nicholas Tomlinson were both emergency medical technicians in Georgia when they decided it was time for a career change. The couple, married since 2015, found that as they worked on ambulances, they saw impacts on patients when they didn’t take their medications.

Studying pharmacy seemed like a natural fit, and they had already followed the same career path for seven years. So, together, they enrolled at the University of Colorado Skaggs School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences to begin pursuing a new career.

Four years later, the CU Pharmacy students are continuing their tradition of growing their healthcare careers together: Both students earned student leadership roles with the American Society of Health-System Pharmacists. Nicholas is serving as a member of the Pharmacy Student Forum.
Executive Committee, and Jennifer is currently the student representative on the Council on Public Policy for the 2019-2020 term.

Click here to read more.

**Alum Sandra Leal named APhA president-elect**

Dr. Sandra Leal, a CU Pharmacy graduate, was named president-elect of the American Pharmacists Association at the beginning of June.

She will begin her three-year leadership term as the APhA president March 15, 2021, after the 2021 APhA Annual Meeting and Exposition in Los Angeles.

Leal said she’s happy with the results, adding it was an honor to run for the seat against accomplished pharmacists.

“I’ve been a member for pretty much my entire career,” she said. “APhA has been a really supportive professional organization.” Click here to read more.

**CU Pharmacy residents celebrate graduation**

The 2019 class of CU Pharmacy and University of Colorado Hospital residents celebrated graduation with faculty, staff and preceptors on campus in June, bringing an end to a year of hard work.

The graduates are listed below.

**UCHealth Postgraduate Year One Residents**

- Christian Gabriel
- Dion Tyler
- Emmeline Academia
- Joanna Huang
- Mary Bradley
- Megan Bass

**PGY1 Community Residents**

Good Day Pharmacy:

- Karly Bergquist

(Clockwise from top) Residents in the PGY1 residency at University of Colorado Hospital pose for a photo with Preceptor of the Year Lisa Slater; PGY2 critical care residents pose for a photo with faculty; PGY1 community-based residents pose for a photo with preceptors; PGY2 ambulatory care residents take a photo with Dr. Joe Saseen; PGY2 emergency medicine resident poses for a photo with preceptor; PGY2 infectious disease resident poses for a
King Soopers:

- Cyndi Dumont
- Elissa Uhl

**PGY2 Oncology Pharmacy Residency**

- Tiba Al Sagheer
- Laura Cannon

**PGY2 Ambulatory Care-Family Medicine Residency**

- Marina Maes
- Natalie Rosario
- Marina Snellings
- Kyle Troska

**PGY2 Critical Care Residency**

- Craig Furnish
- Victoria Stevens

**PGY2 Infectious Disease Residency**

- Taylor Morrisette

**PGY2 Emergency Medicine Residency**

- Abbie Britton
Leaders inside and outside of CU Pharmacy

CU Pharmacy faculty have taken on top leadership positions at professional organizations.

In June, Assistant Dean for Clinical and Professional Affairs Dr. Gina Moore took over as president of the Colorado Pharmacists Society during the organization’s annual meeting, hosted in Black Hawk, Colorado.

"I'm very excited to be involved and have the honor of being selected as president and advocating for our profession," she said. "I'm also hoping to create opportunities for our students to get involved and making sure our profession is as healthy as it can be."

In addition to Dr. Moore's new position:

- Dr. Doug Fish, professor and chair of the Department of Clinical Pharmacy, was named an ASHP fellow for 2019.

- Assistant professor Dr. Sara Wettergreen was elected by the APhA-APPm to coordinate the Medical Home and ACO Special Interest Group.

CoBank contributes to Center for Prescription Drug Abuse Prevention

With sights set on helping advance efforts to address the opioid epidemic, cooperative bank CoBank recently announced it will donate $500,000 to the Center for Prescription Drug Abuse Prevention, which is housed in the CU Skaggs School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences.

The center, which recently opened at the CU Skaggs School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences on the CU Anschutz Medical Campus, will continue to host the Colorado Consortium for Prescription Drug Abuse and facilitate its efforts to work with partners to coordinate Colorado's response to the opioid crisis. The new donation will be put toward the center’s research and education-based efforts to address the ongoing public health issue.

Read more
CU Pharmacy takes home local, national awards

The leadership of CU Pharmacy's faculty, staff and preceptors was honored with several top awards in June from organizations near and far.

- Instructor for Pre-Pharmacy Engagement Dr. Julia Rawlings (Classes of 1985, 2004) took home the HOSA-Future Health Professionals Caduceus Award for her extraordinary leadership in helping promote the organization. The award, given to her at the organization's
Associate Professor **Dr. Sarah Anderson (Class of 2007)** won the **Pharmacist of the Year Award** at the Colorado Pharmacists Society Annual meeting.

Associate professor **Dr. Jennifer Kiser** won the **Outstanding Women in STEM Professor Award** as part of the inaugural **CU Anschutz Women in STEM Awards**. The award was created to amplify the efforts of STEM professors outside of research grants.

Assistant professor **Dr. Morgan Payne** collected the **Distinguished Young Pharmacist of 2019 Award** from the Colorado Pharmacists Society. She was also recognized with an **award from the CU Pharmacy Affinity Corps**, formerly known as the Speakers’ Bureau, for all of her contributions in promoting the school.

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**Integrative Health and Medicine program accepting applications**

Eight students were the first to graduate from CU Pharmacy's Integrative Health and Medicine certificate program in 2019, gaining skills in pharmacognosy and pharmacology and learning about drugs obtained from plants and other natural sources.

The certificate, a nine-credit-hour online program, addresses the need to train healthcare professionals in the safe and effective use of integrative health and medicine.

At CU Pharmacy, faculty members are preparing to train the next group of graduates for the program, which can be completed in just two semesters. Flexible options, perfect for most employer tuition reimbursement programs, are also available for interested students.

The application deadline for fall 2019 classes is July 15. Classes begin in August.

For information about the program, email **sop.ihm@ucdenver.edu** or call (303) 724-8980.

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**How a CU Pharmacy professor's research is helping people with severe epilepsy**

For patients with a severe form of epilepsy, it can be dangerous to drive, go to work or even walk to the mailbox alone. A fear of falling and blacking out prevents many patients with medically refractory epilepsy from living lives most people take for granted.
“They can’t have a job, they can’t really live a normal life,” said Tom Anchordoquy, PhD, professor at the University of Colorado Skaggs School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences. “These patients, before, had to always have someone with them because there was a fear of seizures.”

On top of that, the drugs patients with the severe form of epilepsy take to manage their disorder — which are needed in high concentrations in the brain — are typically taken orally and then distributed throughout the entire body, resulting in problematic side effects.

To help find a solution for this problem, Anchordoquy and his colleague, Dan Abrams, MD, the CEO of Cerebral Therapeutics, have reformulated an approved drug that treats epileptic seizures and repurposed a pump typically used in patients with pain disorders, creating an innovative, new treatment for the disorder.

Click here to read more about how it works.

In the News

Check out the CU Pharmacy alumni and experts that were featured in the news recently:

- **Tom Anchordoquy, PhD**, talked with 9Health about a new epilepsy treatment method he and his colleague, Dr. Dan Abrams, developed for patients with a severe form of the disorder.
- **Ashley Glode, PharmD**, was named to Rising Stars and Emerging Leaders’ 40 Under 40 in Cancer list and mentioned in a story posted on Yahoo! Finance. She was also interviewed by Medscape for a story about a nurse in New York accused of replacing opioids with tap water.
- **Colorado Public Radio** and KUNC interviewed Rob Valuck, PhD, RPh, (Class of 1987) about a recent donation from CoBank for the Center for Prescription Drug Abuse Prevention.
- **Peter Rice, PharmD**, wrote a column for My Prime Time News about sun protection. He was also interviewed by 9News about how to choose a safe and effective sunscreen.