Dear Faculty,

Our retreat last December was a success. We crafted an ambitious vision statement, formed five research teams, and set both short- and long-term goals in an effort to expand our research over the next five years.

A primary goal of the College of Pharmacy during this effort is to promote faculty collaboration in research. The intent of this directory is to serve as a resource for you. It includes research areas and teams of faculty members, as well as self-identified opportunities for collaboration.

My hope is that this information will be useful to you as you search for faculty members with whom your research interests and areas of opportunities align. Thank you for your commitment to our college and to excellence in research.

Sincerely,

Michael Bartlett, Ph.D.
Associate Dean for Science Education, Research and Technology

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**Research Vision**

Our thriving culture of scholarship drives us to be a leader of interdisciplinary and innovative research in therapeutic discovery, application, and education to improve health in Georgia and beyond.

**Research Interest Teams**

- Cancer
- Infectious Diseases
- Neuroscience
- Scholarship of Teaching & Learning
- Vascular Diseases
CANCER Research Team

MICHAEL BARTLETT, Ph.D.

Research Areas: Methods to determine therapeutic agents, metabolites and degradation products from biological and non-biological matrices; oligonucleotide therapeutics & biomarkers

Opportunities for Collaboration: DMPK studies of therapeutic agents; assessment of biomarkers for diseases

mgbart@uga.edu

HOUJIAN CAI, Ph.D.

Research Areas: Protein acylation in cancer progression, fatty acylation metabolism, drug discovery on inhibition of N-myristoyltransferases, stromal-epithelial crosstalk in prostate stem cells

Opportunities for Collaboration: Drug delivery, medicinal chemistry for drug development, protein quantification by mass spectrometry

caihj@uga.edu

AMBER CLEMMONS, Pharm.D.

Research Areas: Supportive care, hematologic malignancies, adult bone marrow transplantation and Scholarship of Teaching and Learning

Opportunities for Collaboration: Malignant hematology, immunocompromised infectious diseases and cellular transplantation

aclemmons@augusta.edu

EWAN COBRAN, Ph.D.

Research Areas: Health services and disparities; comparative effectiveness; cancer screening, prevention and outcomes; community-based participatory research; patterns of care; nativity; and large data analysis

Opportunities for Collaboration: Health informatics, health outcomes research, cancer survivorship, genomics, health disparities, health literacy and communication

ecobran@uga.edu

BRIAN CUMMINGS, Ph.D.

Research Areas: Molecular mechanisms in cell death, specifically role of lipids and water disinfection byproducts

Opportunities for Collaboration: Medicinal chemistry and small molecule cancer screening assays; nanoparticle formulation and drug delivery; lipidomic analysis of post-disease tissues

bsc@rx.uga.edu

EILEEN KENNEDY, Ph.D.

Research Areas: Design of allosteric inhibitor compounds targeting kinase activation and signaling

Opportunities for Collaboration: Kinase signaling and disease

ekennedy@uga.edu

Faculty names are hyperlinked
CANCER Research Team

DEXI LIU, Ph.D.
Research Areas: Gene/protein as a drug for prevention and treatment of obesity, diabetes, cancer, and other diseases
Opportunities for Collaboration: Gene therapy, obesity research, drug delivery and protein drug discovery
dliu@uga.edu

MANDI MURPH, Ph.D.
Research Areas: Molecular mechanisms to prevent chemoresistance or prolong remission by extending time until chemoresistance develops in mammalian cells
Opportunities for Collaboration: Chemistry
mmurph@rx.uga.edu

ARTHUR ROBERTS, Ph.D.
Research Areas: Drug interactions and multidrug resistance transporter
Opportunities for Collaboration: Labs with innovative experimental/computational approaches applicable to MDR transporter; translating in vitro studies with labs with animal and clinical experiments with MDR transporter
aroberts@rx.uga.edu

SOMANATH SHENOY, Ph.D.
Research Areas: Molecular mechanisms regulating vascular permeability, angiogenesis, integrin activation, extracellular matrix remodeling and tumor growth
Opportunities for Collaboration: Assistance with statistical analysis for protocol approvals, research data analysis, and grant applications
sshenoy@augusta.edu

MAY XIONG, Ph.D.
Research Areas: Drug delivery and pharmaceutics, specifically the design of macromolecules to improve iron chelation therapy and strategies to combat multi-drug resistance in bacteria
Opportunities for Collaboration: Any area in which drug delivery is a challenge
mayxiong@uga.edu

YUJUN GEORGE ZHENG, Ph.D.
Research Areas: Epigenetic therapies and chemical biology strategies and probes to interrogate protein acetylation- and methylation-regulated disease processes
Opportunities for Collaboration: With those who have specialized expertise in pharmacology, such as MS and proteomics
yzheng@uga.edu
INFECTIONOUS DISEASES
Research Team

CHRISTOPHER BLAND, Pharm.D.

Research Areas: Critical care, Infectious Diseases, drug dosing in obesity, antimicrobial stewardship
Opportunities for Collaboration: Synergy and collaboration among faculty who research in critical care or Infectious Diseases areas

cbland@uga.edu

DANIEL CHASTAIN, Pharm.D.

Research Areas: HIV/AIDS, opportunistic infections, antimicrobial resistance, and antimicrobial stewardship
Opportunities for Collaboration: Co-investigators with shared research interests, as well as assistance with statistical design and analysis and grant applications
daniel.chastain@uga.edu

VIRGINIA FLEMING, Pharm.D.

Research Areas: Clinical pharmacy practice in adult internal medicine and Infectious Diseases
Opportunities for Collaboration: Between ID pharmacists on different campuses with clinical research projects

vfleming@rx.uga.edu

RUSSELL MAY, Pharm.D.

Research Areas: Drug policy development and management, allergic rhinitis, Infectious Diseases, and evaluation of new drugs
Opportunities for Collaboration: With masters students working on clinical projects

jmay@augusta.edu

CORY MOMANY, Ph.D.

Research Areas: Application of atomic structures to biological and pharmaceutical problems using molecular biology, biochemistry, structure-based drug discovery and macromolecular X-ray crystallography
Opportunities for Collaboration: RNA structural studies (non-coding and small RNA) and RNA/protein complexes, antibiotic resistance (bacterial) mechanisms, bacterial antibiotic discovery, efficient cloning, large-scale protein production, any kind of X-ray crystallography problem and bacterial transcriptional studies

cmomany@rx.uga.edu

Faculty names are hyperlinked
INFECTIONOUS DISEASES

Research Team

SCOTT PEGAN, Ph.D.

Research Areas: Regulation of the human innate immune system; discovery of new therapeutics for nerve and pesticide agent poisoning; discovery of new antibiotics for use against TB
Opportunities for Collaboration: Infectious Diseases
spegan@uga.edu

BRIAN SEAGRAVES, Pharm.D.

Research Areas: Treatment and care of HCV- and HBV-infected patients
Opportunities for Collaboration: Partnering with social work faculty; Scholarship of Teaching & Learning
cgraves@uga.edu

SOMANATH SHENOY, Ph.D.

Research Areas: Molecular mechanisms regulating vascular permeability, angiogenesis, integrin activation, extracellular matrix remodeling and tumor growth
Opportunities for Collaboration: Assistance with statistical analysis for protocol approvals, research data analysis and grant applications
sshenoy@augusta.edu

REBECCA STONE, Pharm.D.

Research Areas: Contraception, medication use during pregnancy and medication adherence
Opportunities for Collaboration: Between clinical practice faculty and PSHOP researchers
rhstone@uga.edu

CATHERINE WHITE, Ph.D.

Research Areas: Pharmacokinetics of new investigational therapeutic agents/environmental toxins including both in vitro and in vivo testing; analysis of data to generate pharmacokinetic parameters; bioanalytical analysis; stability testing, brain disposition of compounds; drug metabolism and educational research
Opportunities for Collaboration: Toxicology, preclinical evaluation of new therapeutic agents or formulations, drug delivery, medicinal chemistry, brain disposition of compounds, and educational research
cwhite44@uga.edu

MAY XIONG, Ph.D.

Research Areas: Drug delivery and pharmaceutics, specifically the design of macromolecules to improve iron chelation therapy and strategies to combat multidrug resistance in bacteria
Opportunities for Collaboration: Any area in which drug delivery is a challenge
mayxiong@uga.edu
NEUROSCIENCE
Research Team

JIM FRANKLIN, Ph.D.
Research Areas: Mitochondrial contribution to neuronal apoptosis and Alzheimer’s disease; drug discovery treatment for filaria infections in humans, animals and plants
Opportunities for Collaboration: Neurodegenerative diseases
jfrankli@rx.uga.edu

SHELLEY HOOKS, Ph.D.
Research Areas: Molecular mechanisms by which cellular signaling regulates cell function and how mechanisms go awry in cancer and central nervous system disorders
Opportunities for Collaboration: Sharing instrumentation; molecular techniques
shooks@rx.uga.edu

JAYANI JAYAWARDHANA, Ph.D.
Research Areas: Health economics, health policy, pharmaceutical economics, substance use, prescription drugs and large secondary data analysis
Opportunities for Collaboration: Health economics, health policy and health services research
jayaward@uga.edu

PRIYA NARAYANAN, Ph.D.
Research Areas: Mechanisms of neuro-vascular injury in retina, diabetic retinopathy and optic neuritis
Opportunities for Collaboration: Neurovascular diseases of the eye
pnarayanan@augusta.edu

MERRILL NORTON, Pharm.D.
Research Areas: Pharmacy-related addiction topics: neurobiology of addiction and psychiatric disorders with specialty areas of addiction medications, psychiatric and pain management medications
Opportunities for Collaboration: Substance use disorders and their treatments, effective pain management in addicted patients, and use of legalized cannabis for pain
mernort@uga.edu

MATTHEW PERRI, Ph.D.
Research Areas: Pharmaceutical marketing, policy analysis and health economics using data
Opportunities for Collaboration: With clinicians focused on specific diseases where marketing and economics are driving patient care decisions and with health economists focused on complex modeling and analysis
mp3@uga.edu

Faculty names are hyperlinked
TRINA VON WALDNER, Pharm.D.

Research Areas: Public health initiatives, caring for vulnerable populations and continuing professional development
Opportunities for Collaboration: Student development, online course evaluation, public health topics like opioid epidemic and access to care, clinical and translational research

tvonwald@uga.edu

JASON ZASTRE, Ph.D.

Research Areas: Impact of vitamin B1 on cancer progression
Opportunities for Collaboration: Techniques or expertise found in another lab

jzastre@rx.uga.edu

MAY XIONG, Ph.D.

Research Areas: Drug delivery and pharmaceutics, specifically the design of macromolecules to improve iron chelation therapy and strategies to combat multi-drug resistance in bacteria
Opportunities for Collaboration: Any area in which drug delivery is a challenge

mayxiong@uga.edu
SCHOLARSHIP OF TEACHING & LEARNING

Research Team

WARREN BEACH, Ph.D.

Research Areas: Relationship between PCAT performance and performance in courses requiring math skills and those requiring application of knowledge or critical thinking

Opportunities for Collaboration: Enhance learning and retention throughout curriculum; applying basic pharmaceutical sciences to clinical practice

wbeach@rx.uga.edu

KAY BROOKS, M.Ed., R.Ph.

Research Areas: Experiential education, simulation/standardized patients, motivational interviewing, SBIRT

Opportunities for Collaboration: Interprofessional education, simulation/standardized patients and Scholarship of Teaching & Learning

kbrooks@rx.uga.edu

ANDREW DARLEY, Pharm.D.

Research Areas: Experiential education, health system pharmacy practice, pharmacy residency training, and internal medicine

Opportunities for Collaboration: Scholarship of Teaching & Learning and practice-based research

badarley@uga.edu

DU C DO, Ph.D.

Research Areas: Scholarship of Teaching & Learning, particularly in area of PharmD admissions and academic support services

Opportunities for Collaboration: Scholarship of Teaching & Learning

duc.do@uga.edu

LORI DUKE, Pharm.D.

Research Areas: Experiential learning and student professional development

Opportunities for Collaboration: Within experience learning and among experiential faculty from other institutions

ljduke@uga.edu

Faculty names are hyperlinked
SCHOLARSHIP OF TEACHING & LEARNING

Research Team

DEBORAH ELDER, Ph.D.
Research Areas: Pharmaceutical products, beyond-use-dating of compounded non-sterile pharmaceuticals, drug formulation for individualized care and technology in pharmacy education
Opportunities for Collaboration: Specialized dosage form preparations for human/veterinary trials, optimization of care with individualized pharmaceutical dosage forms and technology use to improve student learning
dlstrong@uga.edu

GEORGE FRANCISCO, Pharm.D.
Research Areas: Curriculum development and assessment
Opportunities for Collaboration: Scholarship of Teaching & Learning
rxgef@uga.edu

MICHAEL FULFORD, Ph.D.
Research Areas: Educational policy, assessment of learning, curriculum review/design, accreditation/program review, student development theory, admissions and enrollment management, co-curricular activities, instructional design, strategic planning, intercollegiate athletics, academic support, embedded assessment
Opportunities for Collaboration: Assessment of interprofessional education, co-curricular activities, accreditation and self-study development, predictors of student performance, pharmacist’s patient care process, assessment of affective domains and professionalism
mfulford@uga.edu

ASHLEY HANNINGS, Pharm.D.
Research Areas: Ambulatory care, community pharmacy, diabetes, entrepreneurship, immunizations and Scholarship of Teaching & Learning
Opportunities for Collaboration: Scholarship of Teaching & Learning, practice-based research and ambulatory care
ahannings@rx.uga.edu

KEITH HERIST, Pharm.D.
Research Areas: Scholarship of Teaching & Learning
Opportunities for Collaboration: Scholarship of Teaching & Learning
kherist@rx.uga.edu

JOHNNA HODGES, M.Ed.
Research Areas: Active engagement of students with online programs, development of digital multimedia learning, online accessibility issues, distance learning administration
Opportunities for Collaboration: Multimedia learning for emergency preparedness, veterinary medicine, and public health
jhodges@rx.uga.edu
LINDA LOGAN, Pharm.D.

Research Areas: Leadership, experiential and interprofessional education, hospital-based practice and efficacy of interprofessional teams in “whole person care”

Opportunities for Collaboration: Currently collaborating with UNC, UGA Counseling and Human Development Department and Experiential Education faculty

ldlogan@uga.edu

DIANNE MAY, Pharm.D.

Research Areas: Drug information services, policy development and formulary management, literature evaluation, gastroesophageal reflux disease, adverse drug reactions

Opportunities for Collaboration: Pharmaceutical health services, outcomes and policy
dimay@augusta.edu

ANNE MISHER, Pharm.D.

Research Areas: Ambulatory care services, chronic care management, transitions of care and diabetes

Opportunities for Collaboration: Within disease states and mentorship from senior faculty to junior faculty

amisher@uga.edu

SHARMON OSAE, Pharm.D.

Research Areas: Improvement in quality measures, optimization of medication management among geriatric, and assessment of clinical pharmacy trainee perceptions

Opportunities for Collaboration: Population health projects (i.e., text interventions or multi-site studies)
sharmon.osae@uga.edu

BETH PHILLIPS, Pharm.D.

Research Areas: Ambulatory care pharmacy practice and residency training

Opportunities for Collaboration: Scholarship of Teaching & Learning, including residency training and the pharmacists’ patient care process; ambulatory care pharmacy practice

bbp@uga.edu

CATHERINE REBITCH, Pharm.D.

Research Areas: Residency training, diabetes, health literacy and cardiovascular risk reduction

Opportunities for Collaboration: With ambulatory care clinical faculty to create multi-center study on outpatient population with method assistance from tenure track health outcomes faculty

bourgc@uga.edu
MELODY SHEFFIELD, Pharm.D.

Research Areas: Evaluation and feedback provided to pharmacy students on experiential rotations; inpatient geriatrics

Opportunities for Collaboration: Evaluation of P4 students and geriatrics

gsrekhi@rx.uga.edu

GURVINDER SINGH REKHI, Ph.D.

Research Areas: Nanotechnology, dosage forms, IVIVC, CMC, technology transfer, regulatory submissions, patent development

Opportunities for Collaboration: Teaching and data interpretation

gsrekhi@rx.uga.edu

MICHAEL THIMAN, Pharm.D.

Research Areas: Ambulatory care, diabetes and practice development

Opportunities for Collaboration: Scholarship of Teaching & Learning, practice-based research and ambulatory care

thiman@uga.edu

MISHA THOMASON WATTS, Pharm.D.

Research Areas: Experiential education, health system pharmacy practice, geriatrics, internal medicine and residency preparation

Opportunities for Collaboration: Scholarship of Teaching & Learning and practice-based research

mthomaso2@uga.edu

LINDSEY WELCH, Pharm.D.

Research Areas: Pharmacy experiential education including student/preceptor development, intervention and assessment

Opportunities for Collaboration: Patient outcomes and student professionalism

lwelch@rx.uga.edu

CATHERINE WHITE, Ph.D.

Research Areas: Pharmacokinetics of new investigational therapeutic agents/environmental toxins including both in vitro and in vivo testing; analysis of data to generate pharmacokinetic parameters; bioanalytical analysis; stability testing, brain disposition of compounds; drug metabolism and educational research

Opportunities for Collaboration: Toxicology, preclinical evaluation of new therapeutic agents or formulations, drug delivery, medicinal chemistry, brain disposition of compounds, educational research

cwhite44@uga.edu
TRISHA BRANAN, Pharm.D.

Research Areas: Sepsis complications, issues in Infectious Diseases, critical care education, innovative teaching methods and interprofessional education

Opportunities for Collaboration: Vascular and hemodynamic changes in sepsis; Scholarship of Teaching & Learning

tbranan@uga.edu

DANIEL CHASTAIN, Pharm.D.

Research Areas: HIV/AIDS, opportunistic infections, antimicrobial resistance, and antimicrobial stewardship

Opportunities for Collaboration: Co-investigators with shared research interests, as well as assistance with statistical design and analysis and grant applications

daniel.chastain@uga.edu

SUSAN FAGAN, Pharm.D.

Research Areas: Stroke pharmacotherapy, animal models of ischemic stroke, hemorrhagic transformation, vascular protection after stroke, angiogenesis after stroke and stroke outcomes

Opportunities for Collaboration: Stroke research

sfagan@uga.edu

DUSKA FRANIC, Pharm.D., Ph.D.

Research Areas: Patient-reported outcomes, quality of life, preference and utility measurement and pharmacoeconomics in various chronic conditions

Opportunities for Collaboration: Health outcome research in clinical trials

dfranic@uga.edu

PHIL GREENSPAN, Ph.D.

Research Areas: Health benefits of nutraceuticals and functional foods and effect of select natural extracts on inflammation, protein glycation and LDL oxidation

Opportunities for Collaboration: Labs interested in studying the mechanisms of atherosclerosis and diabetic complications

greenspn@rx.uga.edu

ANTHONY HAWKINS, Pharm.D.

Research Areas: Choice of IV fluids, fluid resuscitation and hemodynamic monitoring

Opportunities for Collaboration: Critical care practice-based research, critical care education in the didactic and experiential curriculum

hawkins@uga.edu
ANNE MISHER, Pharm.D.

Research Areas: Ambulatory care services, chronic care management, transitions of care and diabetes
Opportunities for Collaboration: Within disease states and mentorship from senior faculty

PRIYA NARAYANAN, Ph.D.

Research Areas: Mechanisms of neuro-vascular injury in retina, diabetic retinopathy and optic neuritis
Opportunities for Collaboration: Neurovascular diseases of the eye

ANDREA NEWSOME, Pharm.D.

Research Areas: Critical care pharmacy practice and translational sciences
Opportunities for Collaboration: With critical care and CET faculty

LILIAN SATTLER, Ph.D.

Research Areas: Management of advanced heart failure, particularly through nutritional interventions in the context of existing pharmacotherapy; socioeconomic health disparities in cardiovascular health (CVH)
Opportunities for Collaboration: With faculty interested in CVH and clinical/translational research

STEPHANIE PHAN, Pharm.D.

Research Areas: Post-discharge care adherence after psychiatric hospitalization, student/trainee clinical/critical thinking skills and application of foundational knowledge to patient care
Opportunities for Collaboration: Behavioral/medication-related aspects/health outcomes of adherence in patients with mental illness and script concordance test experience

BRADLEY PHILLIPS, Pharm.D.

Research Areas: Underlying mechanisms for cardiovascular disease in patients with sleep apnea
Opportunities for Collaboration: Clinical studies in sleep and sleep disorders in people with and without systemic diseases

VASCULAR DISEASES Research Team

amisher@uga.edu

pnarayanan@augusta.edu

andnewsome@augusta.edu

sphan@uga.edu

bphillip@rx.uga.edu

lilian@uga.edu

Research Areas: Management of advanced heart failure, particularly through nutritional interventions in the context of existing pharmacotherapy; socioeconomic health disparities in cardiovascular health (CVH)
Opportunities for Collaboration: With faculty interested in CVH and clinical/translational research
**VASCULAR DISEASES**

Research Team

**LAKSHMAN SEGAR, Ph.D.**

Research Area: Molecular mechanisms of neointima formation after arterial injury in diabetic and nondiabetic states

Opportunities for Collaboration: Diabetic vascular complications: dysregulated vascular smooth muscle cell phenotype; endothelial dysfunction; glucose transporters; insulin resistance; glycemic control

lsegar@augusta.edu

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**SUSAN SMITH, Pharm.D.**

Research Areas: Infectious Diseases and sepsis in critically ill patients

Opportunities for Collaboration: With other critical care clinical faculty with interests in Vascular Diseases

susan.smith@uga.edu

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**RANDALL TACKETT, Ph.D.**

Research Areas: Ethnic and gender differences in cardiovascular disease and pharmacotherapy; mechanisms of action of abused drugs and preventative education; mechanisms of adverse drug effects: recognition and minimization

Opportunities for Collaboration: Substance abuse; FDA regulations and drug approval

rtackett@rx.uga.edu

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**SOMANATH SHENOY, Ph.D.**

Research Areas: Molecular mechanisms regulating vascular permeability, angiogenesis, integrin activation, extracellular matrix remodeling and tumor growth

Opportunities for Collaboration: Assistance with statistical analysis for protocol approvals, research data analysis and grant applications

sshenoy@augusta.edu

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**ROBIN SOUTHWOOD, Pharm.D.**

Research Areas: Diabetes therapy in hospitalized patients

Opportunities for Collaboration: Diabetes and diabetes-related complications

rsouthwd@uga.edu

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**MAY XIONG, Ph.D.**

Research Areas: Drug delivery and pharmaceutics, specifically the design of macromolecules to improve iron chelation therapy and strategies to combat multidrug resistance in bacteria

Opportunities for Collaboration: Any area in which drug delivery is a challenge

mayxiong@uga.edu

Faculty names are hyperlinked
YAO YAO, Ph.D.

**Research Areas:** Blood Brain Barrier (BBB), stroke, laminin biology, muscular dystrophy; therapies for neurological disorders and muscular dystrophy

**Opportunities for Collaboration:** In the above-mentioned fields

yyao@uga.edu

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HENRY YOUNG, Ph.D.

**Research Areas:** Patient medication use to improve quality of life and health outcomes, with a special interest in health services and outcomes in underserved and minority patient populations

**Opportunities for Collaboration:** Different contexts (e.g., medical conditions, diverse populations); areas of asthma, pain and cardiovascular disease

hnyoung@uga.edu