Translate

PHARMDAWG weekly

August 17, 2023

Back to School!

Happy first week of classes, PharmDawgs!
We are so excited to have all of you back on campus.

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News & Announcements

147 White Coats, 8 Recitation Leaders, and 1 Ceremony Later, the Class of 2027 Begins Their Journey

The incoming Doctor of Pharmacy Class of 2027 knows better than most that this year is going to be a big one—literally. With 147 first-year students, it's the largest class the college has ever welcomed through the doors of the 120-year-old institution. This past Saturday, the students officially joined the PharmDawg family during the college's 24th annual White Coat Ceremony, when Dean Kelly Smith spoke about the transformative nature of pharmacy at UGA. "Over the next four years," she said, "you will evolve, not just as a pharmacist, but as a leader and provider for those you serve."

Read the full story here.

PharmDawg Siblings Explore the Art of Compounding at PCCA Boot Camp

For Will, P3 and Madison, P2 Marquess, a dynamic brother and sister duo from Acworth, Ga., the fall semester started early when they participated in an Introductory Compounding Boot Camp hosted by the Professional Compounding Centers of America (PCCA) earlier this month in Houston, Tx. The two-day, onsite, intensive training program taught the pair about contemporary compounding techniques and provided hands-on experience with non-sterile compounding in PCCA's state of the art facilities. "We made everything from suspensions and troches to suppositories, capsules, lip balms, lollipops, and gels," recalled Madison, who found the experience valuable in showing her "...how limitless compounding pharmacy can be."

Continue reading here.

Joshua Lyon is New PBS Laboratory Technician

The CoP is excited to welcome Joshua Lyon a new laboratory technician in the PBS department.

Born in Berlin, Germany and raised in Massachusetts, Joshua is a recent graduate from Western Carolina University where he worked in the terrestrial ecology lab and led whitewater, climbing, and backpacking trips through the Basecamp adventure program. His background is in Wilderness conservation, population biology, and outdoor education. As he began to ask bigger questions, he found his scope needed to become much smaller. Biochemistry and genetics took over the end of his Ecology and Evolution degree. Ultimately, he is interested in fungal and plant physiology and pathogenesis. He is here to develop his lab skills in Dr. Billmyre's Cryptococcus lab in order to prepare himself for a fulfilling graduate experience. His office is located in Pharmacy South, Rm 322 and he can be reached at Joshua.Lyon@uga.edu.

Welcome, Joshua!

Save the Date: 2023 Chu Lectureship

Mark your calendars on **October 4 at 11 am for the 2023 Chu Lectureship**, which will be presented by **Dr. Lawrence G. Hamann, Co-Founder, President and CEO of Interdict Bio.**

The lecture, entitled **"The Arc of Innovation in Small Molecule Drug Discovery: Past, Present & Future,"** will be held in The David and Jane Chu Auditorium in 101 Pharmacy South.

Registration will be available by **September 1**. Contact Dawn Burden with questions.

Save the Date: UGA-FDA Medical Device Regulations Conference

The College of Pharmacy and Food and Drug Administration are co-hosting the **10th Annual Medical Device Regulations Conference** November 28-29, with a workshop on the 30th.

Click here to learn more and register for this event.

Accolades, Media, & Publications

UGA Pharmacy Receives National Award for Interprofessional Education Collaboration

The University of Georgia's College of Pharmacy received an Honorable Mention in Public Health Infrastructure from the Interprofessional Education Collaborative and the Commissioned Officers Foundation for the Advancement of Public Health in Washington, D.C. earlier this summer. During the ceremony, awards were presented to one overall winner and five honorable mention recipients, all of which were recognized for innovative and transformative solutions to improving the health of communities by demonstrating a clear connection between interprofessional practice, outcomes, and impact.

Read the full story here!

Cash, Ivey, Miller Selected for FY24 FACTS Cohort

Kudos to Anna Cash, Public Service Professional/APPE Administrative Lead in Experience Programs, Jennifer Ivey, Grants Coordinator II in the Business Affairs Office, and Torrie Miller, Administrative Associate II in PBS, who were chosen to participate in this year's Fiscal Administration Certificate Training Series (FACTS) at UGA.

FACTS is a comprehensive fiscal management training and certification program that emphasizes technical knowledge of laws, regulations, policies, and procedures, and allows for an understanding of established business practices and ethical management. Selection for the program allows participants to enhance their operational effectiveness and efficiency while strengthening their financial and management responsibilities in their administrative roles.

Congratulations, Anna, Jennifer, and Torrie for enhancing our financial and management environment!

Dr. Bartlett Publishes Study on mRNA Therapeutics

Shoutout to Dr. Michael Bartlett, whose work was published last month. The paper, **"Characterization of mRNA Therapeutics,"** is an invited review in the top journal of his field.

Read Dr. Bartlett's paper here!

PharmDawgs Publish New Study in ChemistrySelect

Dr. Uma Singh, Ransom Jones, Dr. Yugandhar Kothapalli, Dr. Varughese Mulamoottil, Dr. Pingrong Wei, and Dr. C.K. David Chu recently published one publication titled **"A Stereoselective Synthesis of 4′-α-Fluoro-methyl Carbocyclic Nucleoside Analogs."**

The published study reveals the method development of new analogs of carbocyclic nucleoside molecules as antiviral and anticancer agents. The described procedure of this report may open new synthetic avenues for the construction of new carbocyclic nucleosides. The antiviral and anticancer evaluation of 4′-modified nucleoside analogs have not been well explored for biological activities; This report may open the path of newly synthesized molecules for the Structure-activity relationship studies against emerging viruses.

Read their publication here!

Dr. Randall Tackett Presents on Medical Marijuana

Dr. Randall Tackett gave the following presentation at the beginning of this month in Destin, Fla.:

"Medical Marijuana: Current Status in Alabama and What You Need to Know About Prescribing." Prescribing and Pharmacology of Controlled Drugs: Current Issues and Strategies for Successful Patient Care. Medical Association of the State of Alabama and the Alabama Board of Medical Examiners.

Way to go, Dr. Tackett!

Students

Save the Date: Upcoming Orientations

The College of Pharmacy is excited to host orientations for incoming and returning pharmacy students! Click here to see the **full list of dates and times for upcoming orientations**.

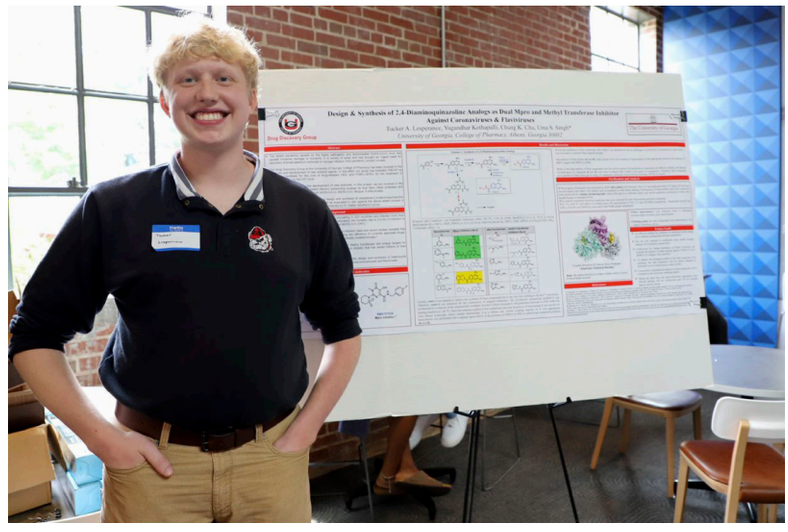
UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA
College of Pharmacy

FALL 2023

PHARMDAWG ORIENTATIONS

Tucker Lesperance Presents Poster at CURO Fellows Summer Final Forum

BSPS student Tucker Lesperance recently presented a poster on his research for the CURO Summer Fellowship at the CURO Fellows summer final forum. Lesperance's presentation was **"Design & Synthesis of 2,4-Diaminoquinazoline Analogs as Dual Mpro and Methyl Transferase Inhibitor Against Coronaviruses & Flaviviruses,"** which he researched under the guidance of Dr. Uma Singh.



Faculty & Staff

Hart, Smith, McKenzie Attend CBMI

Jessica Hart, Business Affairs Manager in the Office of Business Affairs, Lynn Smith, Business Manager II in PBS, and Kim McKenzie, Business Manager III in CAP recently attended the College Business Management Institute (CBMI) in Lexington, KY, which was cosponsored by the Southern Association of College and University Business Officers (SACUBO) and the University of Kentucky.

CBMI offers an intensive course of study in business and financial management for administrators of colleges and universities. Ranging from entry-level to advanced, approximately 50 courses were taught during CBMI 2023 by distinguished faculty who are practicing administrators and leaders in their fields. Jessica, Lynn, and Kim are in their second of a three-year program to earn a certificate of completion.

Thank you, Jessica, Lynn, and Kim for dedicating yourself to this effort.

Professional Learning Opportunities for Faculty and Staff

Professional development classes for UGA faculty and staff are now available for the 2023 fall semester (August 17-December 7) through University Human Resources Learning & Development

(L&D). The fall schedule includes virtual and in-person classes related to:

- Supervisory skills
- Health and financial well-being
- Certificate in Academic Advising
- Certificate in Diversity and Inclusion
- Global Certificate
- Faculty Learning Series
- Other topics designed for professional development

The course catalog is available here. Register for classes through the Professional Education Portal (PEP) at pep.uga.edu.

Coffee and Connections

Provost S. Jack Hu invites faculty and staff to participate in Coffee and Connections. Coffee and Connections is an informal networking event that offers an opportunity for faculty and staff to build connections with the University's leadership and among each other.

This fall, two Coffee and Connections events will be held:

- Friday, Sept. 14, 8:30 – 10 a.m.
- Thursday, Nov. 9, 8:30 – 10 a.m.

Both events will be held at the Delta Innovation Hub, 210 Spring Street.

Please fill out the online registration form to participate.

'Challenging Year' Causes Changes to Health Insurance Plans

The Board of Regents has approved the 2024 University System of Georgia (USG) healthcare plans and premiums for active employees and pre-65 retirees and approved USG funding for the Health Reimbursement Account (HRA) for retirees aged 65 and older. In an ArchNews emailed Aug. 15, Juanita W. Hicks, Senior Associate Vice President of Human Resources and Chief HR Officer at UGA

UGA stated, "This year was a particularly challenging year due to a higher-than-normal increase in projected costs from inflationary pressures, higher utilization of healthcare services, and the continuing increases in the cost and use of prescription drugs."

The memo continued with an overall plan, which includes:

1. Plan design changes in all the USG healthcare plans
2. A reduction in the well-being credit from $200 to $100
3. Changes to some of the healthcare programming
4. Increases to both the employer share and employee share of monthly premiums to cover the rest of these higher-than-normal increases in projected costs

For more details, read the memo in its entirety.

New Time Clocks Coming Soon

Employees using time clocks will be switching to TimeClock Plus devices for time collection later this year.

Click here to learn more

Position Postings

Current job openings within the College of Pharmacy are listed below. Click the job title for more information.

Sr. Accountant
S10847P
Pharmacy-Finance & Admin
Staff

Student Worker/Graphic & Photography Support
G/R20501P
Pharmacy-Dean's Office
Grad/Research/Student/Temp

Development Coordinator - Temporary
G/R22898P
Pharmacy-External Affairs
Grad/Research/Student/Temp

Administrative Assistant - Temporary
G/R22899P
Pharmacy-External Affairs
Grad/Research/Student/Temp

Post-Doctoral Associate
G/R22906P
Pharmacy-Pharm & Biomed Sci
Grad/Research/Student/Temp

Post-Doctoral Associate
G/R20835P
Pharmacy-Pharm & Biomed Sci
Grad/Research/Student/Temp

Calendar

It's new year and a new opportunity to become a part of the 20 student organizations at CoP! Many of these groups are hosting welcome, welcome back, orientation, and even bowling outings. Check out this calendar every week!

View the DSAC Calendar.

WEDNESDAY, August 16

First Day of the Fall 2023 Semester
All Day | Classes Begin

SATURDAY, August 19

IBRS Meet & Greet
10-12 pm | Gwinnett Campus

MONDAY, September 4

Labor Day
All Day | No Classes

PharmDawg Photo of the Week

PharmDawgs Reciting the Rx Dawgs Pledge this Saturday

Want to be featured? Tag us on Instagram or Twitter @ugapharmacy for a chance to be our next photo of the week!

Have a submission for the *PharmDawg Weekly*?
Email PharmDawg Weekly. Include a 2-3 sentence write-up, any photos or graphics, and a contact person.

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