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**P3 Send-Off Ceremony and IPPE Excellence Awards**

Two of the most gratifying events hosted each year by the Division of Experiential Education are the P3 Send-off Ceremony and IPPE Excellence Awards. At the P3 Send-off Ceremony, students are congratulated for completing the didactic portion of the Pharm.D. curriculum and presented with business cards and ACPHS pins. They also receive final words of advice before they embark upon their APPE rotations. This year’s speaking program consisted of “Rotation Pearls” by P4 students, tips by a local preceptor, and encouragement from Dean Robert Hamilton in Albany and Associate Dean Jennifer Mathews in Vermont. The event concluded with the students (along with all other pharmacists in the room) reciting the “Oath of the Pharmacist.” The Oath helps reinforce the importance of their pending APPE rotations and underscores the gravity of the profession they have chosen.

The highlight of the ceremony is the announcement of the Introductory Pharmacy Practice Experience (IPPE) Excellence Awards which recognize outstanding work performed during IPPE rotations over the previous two summers. Criteria include the grade of a Pass Plus for the Community and/or Institutional IPPE rotations as well as an exemplary workbook for those rotations. A student’s Health and Wellness project and their Team Based Care SOAP note are also graded according to a rubric with excellent work earning extra points towards this award. This year, awards were given to 17 students – 14 in Albany and 3 in Vermont.

Look for these “stars” on their APPE rotations this year!



P3 Students taking the “Oath of the Pharmacist” in Albany (top photos) and Vermont (bottom photos)



**Albany IPPE Award Recipients**

- |                |                   |                    |
|----------------|-------------------|--------------------|
| Patricia Drake | Matthew Klock     | Elizabeth Pastor   |
| Rachael Eaton  | Amanda Lamkins    | Nicholas Stornelli |
| Megan Gerken   | Jenna N. Lee      | Emily Swanson      |
| Kyle Guiffre   | Amanda Mascitelli | Ashia Wright       |
| Tyler Hertz    | Katie Parsels     |                    |



**Vermont IPPE Award Recipients**

- Emily Trainor
- Kayla Brahm
- Donna Gordon

## Save the Date for Annual Preceptor Training!



The Annual Experiential Education Preceptor Training Program will be held in conjunction with the ACPHS Medication Safety Symposium CE event on August 9, 2018.

- One of this year's topics will be Teaching the Pharmacist's Patient Care Process.
- Mastering the Four Preceptor Roles when Teaching Clinical Problem Solving

## Pharmacy and Nursing Students Learn Together to Help Improve Patient Outcomes

Interprofessional education (IPE) is a hot topic in health care education and is an Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education (ACPE) standard that all colleges of pharmacy must meet. IPE is defined as "when students from two or more professions learn about, from and with each other to enable effective collaboration and improve health outcomes" (WHO, 2010).

Throughout the year, our students have a variety of IPE events that they can take part in both on and off campus. Two recent opportunities took place in May when 16 IPPE and APPE pharmacy students on rotation at various sites in the Capital Region participated in a collaborative discussion and a communication simulation with 26 Nursing III students from Samaritan Hospital School of Nursing in Troy, NY.



Pharmacy and nursing students participate in an interprofessional education activity.

Organized by ACPHS Assistant Professor and preceptor Alyssa Smith, the first day began with a presentation by Kristen Bulmer, a clinical pharmacist at Samaritan Hospital and another one of our preceptors! She spoke to the students about the role of pharmacy and pharmacists in the institutional setting and gave examples of how nurses and pharmacists work together to provide patient care.

The students then watched a video detailing the case of a 15-year-old boy who died from an unintentional NSAID overdose. The boy had been admitted for an elective surgery and several mistakes were made, many the result of a breakdown in communication between hospital staff. After the video, students broke into seven small groups and, guided by discussion prompts, discussed the roles of nurses and pharmacists in the scenario and how they could work together to prevent a similar error from happening in the future.

The discussions were very lively and when the groups came back together to wrap up, many students commented how beneficial it was to hear the perspectives of students in a different health profession.



Kristina Tepedino, Class of 2019 (far right) played the role of a pharmacist in a communication simulation.

The next day, six IPPE and APPE students on rotation at Samaritan Hospital returned to the School of Nursing to participate in a communication simulation with the Nursing III students. A patient scenario was provided and each student was assigned a role: patient, nurse, pharmacist, or observer.

The patient's profile was reviewed for errors or missing information, then the nurse interviewed the patient and when further clarification was necessary, contacted the pharmacist for assistance. At the end of the simulation, the observer provided feedback on what was done well and what could have been improved.

Overall, this simulation provided the students with opportunities to practice communicating and collaborating with both patients and colleagues. These are just two of the opportunities for students to participate in IPE, training them to work as part of a health care team and ultimately enhance patient care.

Kudos to the preceptors for providing such rich experiences!

## 2018 Experiential Honors Awards

For the past four years, the Division of Experiential Education has given out the Experiential Honors Award to up to 10% of the graduating class. This year, 21 students were honored at their respective Graduation Galas, 19 students in Albany and 2 students on the Vermont Campus.

This honor has replaced the Dean's List for the P4s and is listed in the graduation program and can be added to their resumes. Stringent criteria are used to determine the award recipients including: an A+ or A grade on their rotations, preceptor nominations, preceptor evaluation comments (yes, we read all of them!), and excellence on IPPE work products.

This year we are proud to present the Class of 2018 Experiential Honors Award recipients:

Curtis Blow	Alyssa Hopsicker	Leanna Murphy
Christopher Blum	Seema Jaipal (VT)	Teresa Regis
Justin Bouffard (VT)	Mallory Kuchis	Jalonia Roberson
Sarah Briwa	Stephanie Lombardi	Jake Singer
Madeleine Burnett	Weston Malek	Jacquelyn Turturo
Michele Caronia	Kiersten Marsicano	Jessica Van Acker
Sarah DiVello	Mitchell Miller	Taylor Wills

## A new, free resource for Ambulatory Care Preceptors

[iForumRx](#) is an interactive web-based community designed to inform ambulatory care pharmacy specialists, pharmacy residents, and student pharmacists about high-quality, practice-changing evidence. Their goal is to empower practitioners to apply the best evidence to patient care in ambulatory care settings. This forum uses brief commentaries, podcasts, panel discussions, and polls to convey information about recently published literature and landmark studies. iForumRx allows participants to interact online by submitting comments and participating in discussion boards.

They also offer an [Educator Resources](#) section which is designed to provide guidance for educators to use the iForumRx site for teaching learners in either the didactic or experiential environment. The information contained on the pages linked above has descriptions, as well as screen shots, of various parts of the website and examples of how an educator might use each resource. iForumRx is a great resource for helping students stay abreast of important practice-changing articles and a good resource for topic discussion prep and more. Be sure to check it out when you get a chance.

## Preceptor Highlights

Preceptors not only take students on rotations, but are also involved in community outreach initiatives where they often bring our students along for the ride. Below are two examples:

### [Saratoga Hospital Wellness Fair](#)

In April, three rotation students from the Class of 2018 participated in the Saratoga Hospital Wellness Fair where they counseled approximately 100 employees of the hospital regarding the importance of keeping an accurate and updated list of home medications and answering any questions that the employees may have had. To reinforce their counseling, the students distributed medication list wallet cards and weekly pill organizers.

Preceptor Maria Griswold, PharmD., organized this event.



Left to right: Jake Singer, Emily Nikolski and Tara Britton Knotts

## Preceptor Highlights, continued

### Poison Prevention with Kinney Drugs

During Poison Prevention Month in March, preceptor Hayley Hooks, BS, RPh from the Kinney Drugs in Essex Junction, Vermont, took several students to the Chamberlin School in South Burlington to talk about poison prevention.

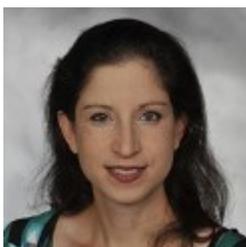
As can be seen from the photograph, the students were very engaged by the presentation.

### Research Poster Award

While on rotation, many preceptors share their scholarship with students, inviting them to help research and present their findings.



Left to right: Alex Dipierdomenico, Brittany Allen and Christian Santiago



Associate Professor Joanna Schwartz and P4 student Ai Tran, both members of the Vermont Campus, received a first place poster award at the spring meeting of the Northern New England Clinical Oncology Society.

Their research poster, completed while Ai was on rotation with Dr. Schwartz, was titled "Potential herb-chemotherapy or radiation interactions in patients with cancer: A prospective study of the pharmacist and student-pharmacist run herbal assessment service at the University of Vermont (UVM) Cancer Center." It was voted best among the 37 abstracts accepted at the conference. Ai, who attended the meeting and co-presented with Dr. Schwartz, is now a PGY1 resident at the Providence Medical Center in Seattle, WA.



### Preceptor John Croce Wins Excellence in Innovation Award



Preceptor John Croce, RPh., co-owner of Four Corners Pharmacy in Delmar, NY won the National Alliance of State Pharmacy Associations (NASPA) Excellence in Innovation Award, presented at the Pharmacy Society of the State of New York (PSSNY) conference in May. John's efforts have raised the profile of pharmacists and pharmacy services with other health care providers and have resulted in improved patient care. He is an excellent ambassador for the profession of pharmacy and is most deserving of the NASPA Excellence in Innovation Award. We are proud to have our preceptors at the forefront of pharmacy practice.

Congratulations, John!

## Taking One for the Team

In Vermont, student pharmacists may administer patient immunizations under the direct supervision of their preceptors. This forward-thinking rule allows students to get a jump on practice experiences, helping them to build confidence and skill in the area of immunization.

Vermont also allows pharmacists to provide any immunization available and this opens up a wide spectrum of opportunities for students to practice their immunization technique. Many Vermont-based students are already immunizing, both on rotation and in their intern jobs, gaining valuable experience.

Early in the fall of their P3 year, students are required to take the APhA Immunization Certification training. Their practical immunization skills are assessed by faculty with immunization training, as well as by volunteer preceptors who have received certification.

In addition to being a great opportunity for preceptor engagement, it is also a way to provide preceptors with an example of the type of rigorous training that students must take on their path to becoming a pharmacist. Any immunizing preceptor is invited to volunteer for this. Please advise us of your interest.



Thalissa Baptiste and Ms. Rosa

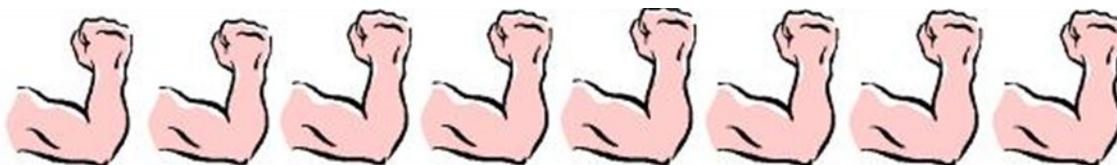
## Taking One for the Team, continued

Knowing how well the students are prepared for this, Sandra Rosa (Director of Pharmacy Practice Experiences on the Vermont Campus) is willing to put her arm on the line, as she keeps up with her required immunizations. Students on rotation may be surprised by a visit from Ms. Rosa who asks them to not only provide the required immunization, but also to explain the necessity of the immunization, counsel on the side effects, and provide a follow-up.

Each lucky student receives the “I Shot Ms. Rosa Immunization and Counseling” Award, and their picture is put up on the Experiential Education bulletin board on Campus. In the past it was simply flu vaccine, but now Ms. Rosa is eligible for others as well. This spring, Thalissa Baptiste won the Award for her administration of the Pneumovax 23 while on rotation with Hayley Hooks at Kinney Drugs in Essex Junction, Vermont. Detailed counseling was provided and the shot was administered without incident or pain. The pain came afterward, as Thalissa said it might, when she counseled Ms. Rosa on the side effects.

“I have seen the extent of the immunization training, and I have confidence in the students’ ability to provide a skillful and professional immunization. It is rewarding to me to see how well these students perform and knowing that they will be well-rounded pharmacists in the future. I have done this for several years now and have never had a bad experience,” says Ms. Rosa. “I have a plan worked out for my Shingrix vaccine series, as well as my fall flu shot, but do not want to give away any more details. The students are aware that I could pop in at any time and that they need to be prepared!”

\*\*\*At the time of this writing, the “Interns as Immunizers” bill (A-2857-D/S-1043-D) has passed both the NY State Senate and Assembly and is heading to Governor Cuomo’s desk. Once the Governor signs the legislation, it will become law. This bill has been the result of the lobbying efforts of the Pharmacy Society of the State of NY (PSSNY), the New York State Council of Health-systems Pharmacists (NYSCHP), and the NY pharmacy community. New Yorkers, prepare to bare your arms!!



## Intercultural Diversity Awards

In almost every geographic region and every health care setting, pharmacists and healthcare providers care for diverse populations of patients. The Office of Institutional Advancement at Albany College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences has established the Intercultural Diversity Fund to provide our students with the communication tools and cultural understanding required to improve the health of diverse populations.

Two areas covered by the awards are (1) the provision of housing/travel stipends to students who complete APPE rotations in communities that serve diverse populations and (2) training courses that embrace and promote diversity and inclusion. The goal of this program is for ACPHS students to graduate with a heightened awareness and respect for their patients’ familial and cultural values.

Five awards were given out this year to students pursuing diverse population experiences. Four of these were for students participating in Indian Health Services ambulatory care APPEs: Shaheedul Sami and Md.Jasimuddin Shohan in Chinle, AZ, serving the Navajo; Emily Gicewicz and Thomas O’Brien in Cherokee, NC, serving the Cherokee. The other award went to Chukwuma Onumonu who will be participating in the CVS Spanish Immersion program at the Spanish-dominant CVS in Miami, FL. The monetary awards ranged from \$500 to \$1,250 per student, based on location/site requirements.



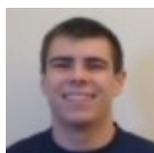
Shaheedul Sami



Md.Jasimuddin Shohan



Emily Gicewicz



Thomas O'Brien



Chukwuma Onumonu

## Experiential Road Trip

Sitting in their APPE Orientation class in the fall of 2017, Vermont P3 students CJ Miller and Hogan Smith decided to take full advantage of their APPE year. Both outdoorsmen, they wondered how to pursue their interests while on rotation. Upon hearing that they could set up special arrangements outside of the school roster, they met with Vermont Experiential Coordinator Sandra Rosa to discuss the requirements and explore the possibilities. They diligently researched hospitals and clinics in western states by networking with ACPHS alumni to set up core rotations in Montana and Nevada. Elective rotations in Long Term Care (Omnicare in Colorado) and Infusion Services (Coram in Oregon) were chosen from the CVS roster with the assistance of Wendy Perreault, University Relations Manager from CVS Health. Choosing to do their Community rotations in Module A and their Faculty rotations in Module H, they developed an APPE schedule that allows them to enjoy their passions of skiing, hiking, and fishing.



In preparation for the trip, they purchased a large navy blue van and are fitting it with beds, a sink, heat, and electricity. Further research revealed a Planet Fitness in each site location, so they joined in order to shower (always a good idea!). To further their adventure, they purchased Ikon ski passes for access to local mountains, not only on rotation but during their free module in February. This is a well-researched, well-prepared trip!

Said CJ and Hogan, "We are going on an experiential adventure." The two will set out the week of July 2 to travel and see some of the sights along the way, such as Yellowstone and Mt. Rushmore, arriving in Portland, Oregon in time for their Home Infusion rotation at Coram. They are particularly excited about this opportunity, as they both have extensive compounding experience.

In fact, CJ was on the ACPHS Team that finished 3<sup>rd</sup> nationally at the Compounding Competition in 2017! They are off to a great start. Stay tuned ....



## (Re) Introducing the Division of Experiential Education Team

The last five years have seen some changes in personnel in the Experiential Education (EE) Division, and while we have introduced each of these new members individually over that time, we want to bring you up to date on everyone.

As preceptors, you have likely been in contact with each of us at some point and probably wish you could put faces to names. The six of us are spread out over two campuses – one in Vermont and 5 in Albany – but work together like a well-oiled machine. Monthly meetings via distance technology plus an annual face-to-face retreat keep us all on the same page and allow us to brainstorm and develop new programs and protocols to better enhance the student experience on rotation and assist preceptors in providing those excellent experiences. We are always just a phone call or e-mail ([experientialed@acphs.edu](mailto:experientialed@acphs.edu)) away if you have any questions.

Our mission, as defined in the 2018-23 EE strategic plan, is to: strengthen ACPHS partnerships with preceptors/sites; promote and enhance EE interactions with students; optimize curricular outcomes of Experiential rotations; provide EE personnel with continuous professional development; and develop EE components of the VT accelerated program plan. This plan, which is in the beginning stages, has already produced streamlined evaluation forms, Experiential Success Plans for students to address their deficiencies, and a new grading schema (see Module A e-Blast for more details on the Evaluations and Grading plans).

So, without further ado, here is the entire Experiential Education Team, ready to assist!

**Megan Veselov**, PharmD,  
MBA, RPh.—Coordinator,  
Community Practice  
Experiences

**Sandra Rosa**, BS, RPh.—  
Director, Pharmacy Practice  
Experiences Vermont

**Cindy Jablanski**—Coordinator,  
Experiential Education



**Diana Foster**— Program Admin-  
istrator, Experiential Education

**Laurie Briceland**, PharmD,  
FASHP, FCCP—Assistant  
Dean, Experiential Education

**Courtney Caimano**, PharmD,  
MBA, RPh.—Director, Introductory  
Pharmacy Practice Experiences

## Active Community Impact

The first day of summer in beautiful Battery Park on the Burlington (VT) waterfront was the site for the 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Lung Force Walk sponsored by the American Lung Association. Students doing their IPPE Health and Wellness rotation with the Association helped put together the event and then went above and beyond by not only forming an ACPHS team, but also soliciting donations, advertising the event, manning the activity booths, participating in the Zumba warm-up, and scooping out the complimentary Ben & Jerry's ice cream for the finishers.

Rebecca Ryan, Division Director of Eastern Health Promotion at the Lung Association and the preceptor for the rotation stated: "We weren't sure if we would have enough for the students to do to meet the requirements of the rotation, but they jumped in immediately and ran with it!"

The ACPHS Team, consisting of rotation students, their classmates, faculty, and staff made a fair showing (they didn't come in last!) in their fundraising efforts for the Lung Association. Team leader, Mitchell Ramsey, said: "It is nice to get out into the community to give back."

Yes, indeed it is!



Team ACPHS (L-R): Team Leader M. Ramsey, K. Cross, R. Quinn, S. Rosa. T. Roberts, C. Evans, B. Allen, C. Claxton, B. Claxton



Kelly Cross and Brittany Allen



Ryan Quinn, and Team Leader, Mitchell Ramsey



Zumba with Brittany Allen, Kelly Cross, Ryan Quinn

## Class of 2018 APPE Health and Wellness Project Spotlights



Stephanie Lombardi at Four Corners Pharmacy in Delmar, NY



Princess Ohene at ShopRite in Clark, NJ



Alisha Bacchus with preceptor George Samaras at ShopRite in Yonkers, NY



Lindsey Richards on rotation at Kinney Drugs in Essex Junction, VT (P4 Justin Bouffard in background)

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