

PharmTox Weekly Buzz

(A publication of the UAMS Department of Pharmacology and Toxicology)

Week of January 24-28, 2022

Christian Cabanlong Sets Dissertation Defense



Please mark your calendars for Friday, February 18 @ 9:00 a.m. when graduate student Christian Cabanlong will defend his PhD dissertation. Christian's dissertation titled "Atypical pharmacodynamics characteristics of novel synthetic cannabinoid receptor agonists (SCRAs) 4F-MDMB-BINACA and 5F-MDMA-PINACA: Insight into toxicity" will be presented in Rayford Auditorium and virtually (Meeting ID 997 7579 9374, Passcode 439389). Christian is a student in the Graduate Program in Interdisciplinary Biomedical Sciences (GPIBS) and joined the laboratory of professor Paul Prather in 2017. He received his undergraduate degree in biology from the University of New Mexico in 2014.

Brian Parks Receives Travel Award to BBC Meeting



Congratulations to graduate student Brian Parks on receiving a travel award to attend the 2022 Biology, Behavior and Chemistry meeting. The meeting will be held in late February in San Antonio, Texas. Brian will present a poster on his dissertation work that explores the effects of prenatal opioid exposure and early life adversity on opioid-induced antinociception in adolescence. His poster is co-authored by his mentor, assistant professor Lisa Brents, assistant professor Michael Berquist, postdoctoral fellow Julia Tobacyk, and past research technicians Paloma Salazar and Lindsey Morrison.

Dr. Morris Receives Support from DOD/CDMRP and VA (HOME)



Professor Andrew Morris recently received funding from the Department of Defense/Congressionally Directed Medical Research Program and the Department of Veterans Affairs Health Outcomes Military Exposures Service (HOME). "Analysis of serum per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances in military firefighters" initially focuses on health risk effects of exposure to per and polyfluorinated substances, which are persistent environmental chemicals widely used in military installations for firefighting. Dr Morris and his laboratory will measure circulating levels of these chemicals in subjects enrolled in large longitudinal cohort studies that are managed by the Departments of Defense and Veterans Affairs. This multi-year award provides ~\$500,000 (direct costs) in the first year and includes startup funds to enable development of the national shared health exposure analysis core facility component of a new Department of Veterans Affairs Military Exposures Research Program. The facility will be located at the Central Arkansas Veterans Healthcare System.