

# UAMS Department of Pharmacology & Toxicology

## Alumni Newsletter, Spring 2016



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# WELCOME TO OUR ALUMNI

**Dear Alumni and Friends,**

More than a year has flown by since we touched base with the Alumni and Friends of the UAMS Department of Pharmacology & Toxicology. We hope the past year was a productive and happy period for you and your families! This annual newsletter is intended to update you on recent department accomplishments and events, and also serve as an opportunity to share news from other alumni with you.

From the birds eye view, the UAMS College of Medicine continues to adapt to rapidly changing clinical and research environments. A new dean of the College of Medicine, Pope Mosely MD, arrived from the University of New Mexico last year, and joined ranks with the UAMS Hospital and campus to institute a “service line” clinical care strategy focused on multi-disciplinary patient care. Research funding is beginning to rebound after record-low funding levels at NIH, but remains the biggest challenge of the basic science departments. However, our excellent faculty and staff continue to obtain funding, and our graduating trainees are obtaining competitive postdoctoral, government and biotech positions. We constantly strive to enhance our research, teaching and service missions. Best wishes as you enjoy the first days of Spring and please stay in touch!

*Galen Wenger PhD*, Professor Emeritus and Alumni Chair

*Nancy Rusch PhD*, Professor and Department Chair

## STAFF RECOGNITION

Melinda Gunnell, Laboratory Manager for the Dr. Michael Owen’s research team was awarded the 2015 Staff Excellence Award for Research. She received this honor at the College of Medicine Dean’s Day ceremony in April. She is pictured at right with Dr. Owens.

“Over the last 29 years, Melinda has continuously demonstrated excellence in every aspect of her complex and evolving job. Her many accomplishments and contributions toward the success of our research program in drug development made her an outstanding candidate for recognition,” stated Owens.

Gunnell began her research career in the College of Medicine working for Dr. Phil Rayford, former Chair of the Department of Physiology, before joining the Owens laboratory in 1986. She also has played an active role in the mentoring and technical training of 12 predoctoral students, 5 postdoctoral fellows, 3 medical students, and 4 junior faculty members, in addition to training laboratory staff. She has managed many of the regulatory and financial requirements for Dr. Owen’s NIH research grants.

“Melinda’s exceptional professionalism and diligence for quality in research is one of her major strengths,” stated Owens. “She is devoted to her colleagues and an outstanding team player. The Department of Pharmacology and Toxicology is a much more efficient, pleasant, and collegial place to work because of her positive energy.”





## FACULTY RECOGNITION

### Michael Owens, PhD, Named ARA Fellow

S. Michael Owens, PhD, was named an Arkansas Research Alliance (ARA) Fellow. Dr. Owens, who has spent more than 30 years researching the development of medicines to treat drug abuse, was one of five fellows presented with this award by Arkansas Governor Asa Hutchinson at a December 10, 2015 news conference at the state capitol.

The ARA Fellow Program recognizes distinguished university research leaders working at one of the state's five research universities. Nominated by their Chancellor, each fellow receives a \$75,000 grant to continue their work.



*Newly named ARA Fellow Michael Owens, PhD, (left) with UAMS Chancellor Dan Rahn, MD, and Arkansas Governor Asa Hutchinson.*

## FACULTY AWARDS

### Michael Owens, PhD

#### **“Pharmacology and Therapy for MDPV and Alpha-PVP Like Drugs of Abuse”**



Michael Owens, PhD received an R01 from NIH/NIDA. Funding for this project began in April 2015 and runs through 2019. The major goals of this project are to develop highly specific medical therapies for the treatment of abuse of two of the most medically dangerous cathinones or “bath salts”. Through innovative integration of experimental therapeutics, chemistry, immunology and behavioral science, novel monoclonal antibody medicines will be created to treat overdose and protect patients from the harmful effects of relapse to cathinone abuse.

### Philip Mayeux, PhD

#### **“Preclinical Studies in a Rat Pup Model of Infant Sepsis-induced Cardiorenal Syndrome”**



Philip Mayeux, PhD received a 2-year American Heart Association Grant that began July 2015. Studies will focus on pediatric cardiorenal syndrome using a rat pup model of infant sepsis. Mayeux will use intravital microscopy to study renal injury and, in collaboration with Sharda Singh, PhD, Associate Professor of Pharmacology & Toxicology, he will use echocardiography to study cardiac function. He also will evaluate therapies to treat this syndrome.

## FACULTY PROMOTIONS



### Eric Peterson, PhD

Eric Peterson, PhD was promoted to Associate Professor in the Basic Science Tenure Track on July 1, 2015. Peterson joined the Department of Pharmacology & Toxicology in 2002 as a postdoctoral fellow. He was promoted to Instructor in 2007, and then to Assistant Professor in 2009. Peterson's research focuses on the development of new antibody-based medications to treat chronic and acute methamphetamine (METH) abuse.

Peterson has mentored 4 PhD students, many undergraduate students, and serves as training faculty on two T32 training grants. He is the PI of an R01 grant from NIH/NIDA that proposes to use AAV technology to enable the long-term production of anti-METH antibodies. He also serves as Co-Investigator on several NIH grants.

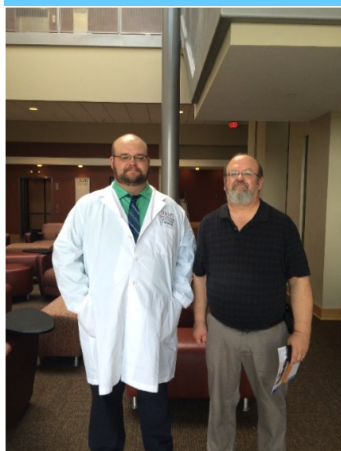
### Michael Hambuchen, PhD

Michael Hambuchen, PhD, PharmD was promoted to Instructor on July 1, 2015. Hambuchen received his PharmD from UAMS in 2007. Subsequently, he joined the department as a graduate student, graduating from the pharmacology graduate program in 2013. He has been a postdoctoral fellow in the laboratory of Dr. Michael Owens since that time.

Hambuchen's research interests are protein-based medications, specifically anti-stimulant (methamphetamine and synthetic cathinone) monoclonal antibodies and vaccines. He is a member of a team of scientists led by Dr. Michael Owens in the Department of Pharmacology and Toxicology in the College of Medicine. Hambuchen also provides a series of lectures to PharmD students in the UAMS College of Pharmacy.



## 2015 RESEARCH INDUCTION CEREMONY



Congratulations to Charles "Chuck" Hay and Michael Cozart, who passed their candidacy exams and were inducted into the PhD graduate program.

Hay (pictured left) is an Interdisciplinary Toxicology student. He graduated with his BS from Cornell College and received his master's degree from the University of Nebraska Medical Center. Hay was chosen as a trainee in 2014 for the NIH SPaT T32 program directed by Dr. Philip Mayeux. His PhD thesis advisor is Dr. Eric Peterson, and his research interests focus on designing monoclonal antibodies as medications to treat drugs of abuse.

Michael Cozart is a Pharmacology student. He received his undergraduate degree from Ouachita Baptist University and joined the program in Fall 2013 after working as a research technician at UAMS. His PhD thesis advisor is Dr. Fang Zheng, and his research project focuses on using high-resolution imaging and genetic mouse models to define the contribution of blood flow abnormalities to seizure activity.

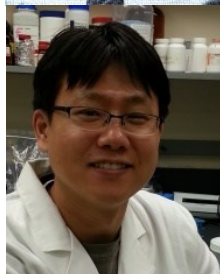
## GRADUATIONS AND THESIS TOPICS



**Neil Detweiler** (Advisor: Rusch)

*“Properties and Therapeutic Potential of the Large-Conductance  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$ -Activated  $\text{K}^+$  Channel in Pulmonary Arterial Smooth Muscle”*

Dr. Detweiler is a postdoctoral fellow at the University of New Mexico Health Science Center



**Dae Song Jang** (Advisor: Basnakian)

*“The Role of DNA Endonucleases in Gene Delivery In Vivo”*

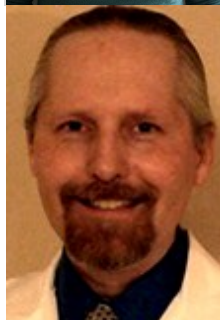
Dr. Jang is a postdoctoral fellow at the University of Florida



**Emily Reichard** (Advisor: Peterson)

*“PEGylation of an Anti-Methamphetamine scFv: Pharmacokinetic and Neurological Implications”*

Dr. Reichard is a postdoctoral fellow in the laboratory of Dr. Eric Peterson at UAMS



**Christopher Moore** (Advisor: Rhee)

*“The Role of PSD95 Scaffolding in Cerebral Vasodilation: Implications for Stroke in Beta-Blocker Therapy”*

Dr. Moore is a postdoctoral fellow in the laboratory of Dr. Michael Borrelli at UAMS



**Brenda Gannon** (Advisor: Fantegrossi)

*“In Vivo Characterization of Major 'Bath Salt' Constituent 3,4-Methylenedioxypyrovalerone (MDPV) in Mice”*

Dr. Gannon is a postdoctoral fellow at the University of Texas in San Antonio



**Anup Srivastava** (Advisor: Rusch)

*“Dynamic Modulation of L-type Calcium Channels in Vascular Smooth Muscle Cells”*

Dr. Srivastava is a postdoctoral fellow at the U.S. Food and Drug Administration in Maryland



## Systems Pharmacology & Toxicology (SPaT) T32

The Systems Pharmacology and Toxicology (SPaT) T32 Training Grant hosted its 2<sup>nd</sup> annual symposium in May. The event was attended by SPaT training faculty and students from the Pharmacology, Interdisciplinary Toxicology, and Interdisciplinary Biomedical Sciences graduate programs.

Talks were given by SPaT trainees: Lascelles Lyn-Cook (mentor: Harrill), Chuck Hay (mentor: Peterson), Daniel Meeker (mentor: Smeltzer) Alex Alund (mentors: Martin Ronis and Larry Suva), and two former SPaT Trainees, Clark Sims (mentor: Mayeux), and Emily Holthoff (mentor: Post). The program also included a poster session.



*SPaT Trainees: Daniel Meeker, Emily Holthoff, Alex Alund, Lascelles Lyn-cook, Clark Sims, and Chuck Hay with Dr. Gary Peltz (center).*

The invited speaker was Gary Peltz, MD, PhD from Stanford University, who presented a seminar titled “Computational Genetics and Translational Discovery.”

Dr. Philip Mayeux serves as director of the NIH/NIGMS-funded T32 Training Grant, which includes over 30 training faculty from the Colleges of Medicine, Pharmacy, Public Health, Arkansas Children’s Hospital, and the National Center for Toxicological Research (NCTR). The five-year grant supports four PhD graduate students each year.

## New SPaT Students (2015-2016 Academic Year)



Three students were selected as trainees for the SPaT T32 Training Grant for the 2015-2016 academic year. Two trainees receive support from NIGMS funds for two years, while a third student receives matching funds for one year from the UAMS Translational Research Institute.

Julia Tobacyk (top left) is a second year Pharmacology student in the laboratory of Allison Harrill, PhD. Tobacyk received her undergraduate degree from Louisiana Tech University.



Stephen Shrum (right) is enrolled in the Interdisciplinary Biomedical Sciences (IBS) program as a second year PhD student. Lee Ann MacMillan-Crow, PhD and Nancy Rusch, PhD serve as his co-mentors. He received his BS from Hendrix College.



Bill Hyatt (bottom left) is an MD/PhD student in the Interdisciplinary Biomedical Sciences program. Hyatt’s mentor is Bill Fantegrossi, PhD. His undergraduate degree is from Hendrix College.

## NEW GRADUATE STUDENTS (2015-2016)



The Department started three new students in the Pharmacology & Toxicology Graduate Programs, and one returning graduate student. In order of their pictures, they are:

**Brittney Garner** (East Texas Baptist College). She will join the laboratory of Dr. Nancy Rusch. Her research interest is the adverse effects of drugs with an emphasis on the lymphatic vasculature.

**Samantha McClenahan** (Vassar College). She is interested in exploring the effects of toxins and drugs at the whole animal level.

**Lauren Russell** (Southern Arkansas University). She is interested in drug discovery and development.

**Catheryn Wilson** (University of North Carolina at Pembroke). Her research interests include understanding the biological actions and pathways of synthetic cannabinoids.

## Interdisciplinary Biomedical Sciences Students



Three students in the Interdisciplinary Biomedical Sciences (IBS) graduate program joined the department in 2015-2016.

**Chris Bolden** (top left, University of Southern Mississippi) is a second year PhD student in Dr. Peterson's laboratory. His research project focuses on AAV-scFv mitigation of blood brain barrier permeability and neuroinflammation.

**Bill Hyatt** (right, Hendrix College) is an MD/PhD student in Dr. Fantegrossi's laboratory. His research project focuses on the abuse-related and persistent behavioral effects of synthetic cathinone 3,4-methylenedioxypropylvalerone and its enantiomers in rodent models.



**Stephen Shrum** (bottom left, Hendrix College) is a second year PhD student in the laboratories of Dr. MacMillan-Crow and Dr. Rusch. His research project focuses on activating the mitochondrial calcium-activated  $K^+$  channel to reduce ischemia-reperfusion injury in renal transplantation.





## GRADUATE RECOGNITION



### Brenda Gannon awarded ASPET Washington Fellowship

Brenda Gannon (mentor, Fantegrossi) was chosen as an ASPET Washington Fellow for 2016. Gannon will serve as an advocate to ensure public support and funding for research on Capitol Hill.

Gannon graduated from the Pharmacology PhD Program in September 2015 and is a postdoctoral fellow at the University of Texas in San Antonio.

## Seager-Braswell Student Research Symposium

The Department held its annual Seager-Braswell Student Research Symposium in February 2016, which features third and fourth year graduate students presenting their research to an audience of faculty, trainees, and research staff. Their talks are scored by faculty members.

The first place award in the Senior Competition was given to Amanda Stolarz, PharmD (mentor: Rusch) for her presentation, "Doxorubicin acutely inhibits lymph flow in rat mesenteric lymph vessels."

Two students tied for runner-up in the Senior Competition. Clark Sims (mentor: Mayeux) presented "Evaluation of targeted, clinically relevant, delayed therapy in an infant model of sepsis-induced cardiorenal syndrome." Emily Holthoff (mentor: Post) presented "PD-L1 and immune suppression in vulvar carcinoma."

Lascelles Lyn-Cook (mentor: Harrill) was the winner of the Junior Competition for "Genetic background plays a role in risk of zileuton-induced liver injury in diversity outbred mice."

## ASPET Graduate Awards at EB2015



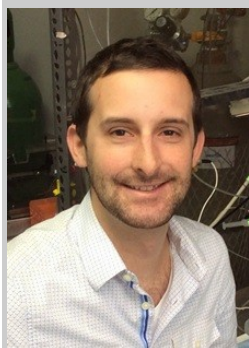
Congratulations to the following students for their awards at the Experimental Biology 2015 meeting held in Boston in April.

Brenda Gannon (top left) won First Place in the Best Abstract Competition for the Behavioral Pharmacology Division. Brenda was a member of the Fantegrossi laboratory.

Ben Lieblong (bottom left) won Second Place in the Best Abstract Competition for the Cardiovascular Pharmacology Division. Ben is a member of the Rusch laboratory.

Amanda Stolarz, PharmD (top right) won Second Place in the Best Abstract Competition of the ISTCP Division. Amanda is a member of the Rusch laboratory.

Clark Sims (bottom right) took Third Place in the Oral Presentation Competition of the ISTCP Division. Clark is a member of the Mayeux laboratory.





## RETIREMENTS

### Joan Runnels

Joan Runnels (Administration) was employed by the department for 24 years, most recently as a Grants Specialist. Joan began her career with the department in 1992 as an administrative secretary, rapidly moving up to Department Business Officer within a year. She became a Project/Program Manager in 1999 keeping track of accounting accuracy and reporting of all projects and programs for State and Federal grants held by departmental faculty. She became a Grants Specialist in 2014 handling grant submissions not only for the Department of Pharmacology and Toxicology, but also for the other Basic Sciences departments.

Joan's plans for retirement include spending more time visiting with her three children, and her seven grandsons!



### Ron Reed

Ron Reed (Research Assistant, Crow Laboratory) also galloped into retirement after many years of dedicated service. Ron was responsible for all of the management of the mouse breeding colonies and selection of animals for the ALS drug studies. He was involved in animal research since 1992, working as supervisor for the Division of Laboratory Animal Medicine at UAMS prior to coming to the department.

Ron plans to spend his time on his passion for horse training and competitions. Keep those blue ribbons coming in Ron!



## Future Scientists

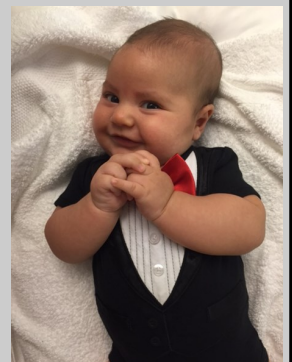


*Abel James*

*Samantha  
McClenahan  
(Graduate Student)  
November 28, 2015*

*Theo Lionel*

*Lirit Franks  
(Graduate Student -  
Mentor: Prather)  
June 10, 2015*



## ALUMNI and OTHER FRIENDS (NEW UPDATES)

**Rais Ansari** (Research Assistant, Gandy) is an Assistant Professor in the College of Pharmacy at Nova Southeastern University in Fort Lauderdale, FL.

**John Bowyer** is still with the FDA and continuing to do research related to brain vasculature and the blood-brain barrier at NCTR in the Division of Neurotoxicology.

**Angela Burke** (PhD, Hinson) has been at North American Science Associates (NAMSA) since 2013 and was recently promoted to Surgical in vivo Biocompatibility Supervisor in May 2015. She also gave birth to Savannah Skye on June 22nd.

**Dian Cao** (PhD) is currently a Staff Cardiologist, Assistant Professor of Internal Medicine, Cardiology Division, UT Southwestern Medical Center.

**Jaclyn Daniels** (PhD, Wessinger) is a December 2015 graduate (PhD) of the IBS program, Cancer Biology Track and has accepted a position as a postdoc at NCTR as of October 19th.

**Neil Detweiler** (PhD, Rusch) and **Rachel Versluis** (Research Technician, Rusch) moved to the University of New Mexico where Neil is working as a postdoctoral fellow. Emrys James Detweiler joined big brother, Owen, on October 5, 2015.

**Karen Gilmore-Thomas** has a 4-year old granddaughter and a new grandson.

**Dinesh Hinenallur** (PhD, Rusch) accepted a position as Laboratory Animal Veterinarian at the Amgen in Thousand Oaks, CA.

**John Lipscomb** (PhD, Slikker) recently presented the keynote address on health risk assessment at Kansas University Medical Center's annual John Doull Symposium.

**Xiuli Liu** (PhD, Mayeux) will be moving to the Department of Pathology, Immunology, and Laboratory at the University of Florida in Gainesville as a GI pathologist, Full Professor of Pathology, and the Director of GI and Liver Pathology.

**John Marecki, PhD** (Faculty) is an Instructor with the Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology at UAMS.

**Beth Maris** is still teaching AP Chemistry at Little Rock Central High School, and recently won the American Chemical Society Division of Chemical Education Southwest Region Award for Excellence in High School Teaching.

**James Oldham** (PhD, Cave) is welcoming THREE new grandchildren in 2016 for a total of 7 grandchildren. He is retired and babysitting.

**Nisha Nanaware-Kharade** (PhD, Peterson) is a pharmacokineticist, Clinical Pharmacology Division, Pharmaceutical Product Development, LLC.

**Andrew Norwood** (PhD, Fantegrossi) is a student at Bowen School of Law in Little Rock.

**Naeem Patil** (PhD, Mayeux/MacMillan-Crow) is completing his postdoctoral training at Vanderbilt University and received the ASPET Washington Fellow award for 2016 and ASPET mentoring network award for 2016-2017.

**Asif Pathan** (PhD, Rusch) is a postdoctoral fellow at the University of Louisville.

**Edith Parker** (Administration) is an Program Coordinator in the Division on Nephrology, Dept of Internal Medicine at UAMS.



## ALUMNI and OTHER FRIENDS (NEW UPDATES)

**Tonya Rafferty** (Research Assistant, Palade) is working as a Research Assistant in the UAMS Department of Neurobiology and Developmental Sciences.

**John Seng** (PhD, Gandy/Leakey) was promoted to Assistant Research Professor at UAMS and BARBA Program Manager.

**Swapnil Sonkusare** (PhD, Rusch) is a tenure-track Assistant Professor at University of Virginia (UVA) Charlottesville. His primary appointment is in the Dept. of Molecular Physiology and Biological Physics with a joint appointment in the Dept. of Pharmacology.

**Misty Thompson** (PhD, Crow) is working as a clinical research coordinator in clinical trials for neurological diseases, living in Memphis, TN.

**John Wedig** is still shooting action pistol, 3 gun and doubles trap competitions as well as steel challenge with a pistol. When not shooting, he is catching rainbow trout in the Ozarks at Rockbridge, MO. He and his wife, Rita, recently completed a Mediterranean 16-stop cruise and a trip to Peru (Cuzo and Machu Picchu).

**Linnzi Wright** (PhD, Paule) now works at the US Army Edgewood Chemical Biological Center, Toxicology and Obscurants Division, Aberdeen Proving Ground, MD.

## ALUMNI and OTHER FRIENDS (PREVIOUS UPDATES)

**Bill Allaben** received the FDA's Lifetime Scientific Achievement Award for his lasting contribution to the advancement of regulatory science in recognition of his leadership in establishing and managing an interagency agreement with the NIEHS/National Toxicology Program.

**Will Atchley** (PhD, Owens) is a resident in the Department of Internal Medicine at UAMS.

**January Baumgardner** (PhD, Ronis) is a lecturer at Ouachita Technical College in Malvern.

**Venkata Bhogaraju** (PhD, Crow) is a pharmacist at WalMart in Moses Lake, WA.

**Lisa Brents** (PhD, Prather) is a postdoctoral fellow with Dr. Clint Kilts in the Brain Imaging Research Center of the UAMS Psychiatric Research Institute.

**Kelly Byrnes-Blake** (PhD, Owens) is still doing consulting, and enjoying her children, Ron and Sierra.

**Louis Chang** is retired as the Founding Director of the Division of Environmental Health and Occupational Medicine at the National Health Research Institutes in Taiwan, and now serves as visiting staff to help NHRI and the Taiwan government on various issues.

**Krishna Chimalakonda** (PhD, Moran) is a Scientist in the Division of Drug Safety Research (DDSR), Center for Drug Evaluation Research (CDER), US FDA.

**Danielle Cruthirds** (PhD, Macmillan-Crow) is an Associate Professor in the Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences at McWhorter School of Pharmacy, Samford University.

**Brian Cummings** (Postdoc fellow, Schnellman) is Director of the Interdisciplinary Toxicology Program at the University of Georgia.

## ALUMNI and OTHER FRIENDS (PREVIOUS UPDATES)

**Helen Cunny** (PhD, Slikker) is working for the NIEHS in Research Triangle Park, NC as a Project Officer in the area of reproductive and developmental toxicology.

**Jaclyn Daniels** (MS, McMillan) is a PhD student in the IBS program at UAMS.

**Linval DePass** (PhD, Morris) is President of the Hispanic Organization of Toxicologists (Society of Toxicology). She is Executive Director, Nonclinical Safety at Direct Corporation.

**Greg Davis** (Technician, Wessinger) is a Desktop Support Engineer for the IT department at UAMS. He is in school pursuing entrance to Nursing School.

**Rob Dorman** lives in Bentonville where he is a general surgeon at Mercy Hospital in Rogers.

**Malvin Driver, MD** retired from private practice July 2014 and is now Chief of Retina Service, South Texas Veteran's Healthcare System in San Antonio, TX. He is teaching ophthalmology to residents from UTSA.

**Gloria Gabriel** (Administration) runs Gigi's Cake Boutique in Sherwood, AR.

**Yun Ge** (PhD, Light) works at the FDA/CDRH/OIVD as a scientific writer.

**Angela (Disch) Gray** (PhD, Ali) is the Clinical Business Solutions Analyst with Mercy Health Systems in Fort Smith.

**Stephanie Hastings** (Technician, Stimers lab) is a nurse anesthesiologist at Great Rivers Medical Center in West Burlington, IA.

**Howard Hendrickson, PhD** (Postdoc fellow, Owens) was awarded tenure in the Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences at UAMS.

**Joseph Hunter Holthoff** (PhD, Mayeux) is completing his residency in Internal Medicine at UAMS.

**Tom Hudzik** is Volweiler Research Fellow with Abbott/AbbVie, which is an emeritus, director-level position.

**Scott Jarmer** (MS, Harbison) is a pathologist in Wichita, KS.

**Biny Joseph** (PhD, Rusch) is a research scientist at Vernenum Biodesign in New Jersey.

**Sujay Kharade** (PhD, Rusch) is a Research Fellow in the Anesthesiology Research Division at Vanderbilt University Medical Center.

**Anthony Kiorpes** (Adjunct Faculty, NCTR) is "semi-retired", but still active in the field of toxicology, lecturing at the University of Minnesota, serving as Associate Editor for the journal *Toxicology and Industrial Health*.

**Charlotte Lemmonds** is working for Bayer Consumer Care.

**Mark Levi** (Postdoc fellow, Crow) is a pharmacologist at the Center for Biologics at the FDA.

**Alessandra Milesi-Hale** (PhD, Owens) is a child neurologist at Miami Children's Hospital.

**Tanecia Mitchell** (PhD, MacMillan-Crow) is an Instructor, Dept of Urology, University of Alabama Birmingham School of Medicine.

**Shankar Munasamy** (PhD, MacMillan-Crow) is an Assistant Professor at Qatar University.



## ALUMNI and OTHER FRIENDS (PREVIOUS UPDATES)

**Meagan Myers** reports a new addition to her family, Sloane Winter Myers.

**Paul Nony** (PhD, Schnellmann) is a partner at the Center for Toxicology and Environmental Health, LLC.

**Elina Pathak** (PhD, Mayeux) is a research scientist at Reliance Life Sciences in Mumbai.

**Merle Paule, PhD** is Professor at the National Center for Toxicological Research.

**Aleksandra Pesic** lives in Toronto, Canada, where she is involved in cancer research at Toronto General/Princess Margaret Hospital.

**Maheswari Rajasekaran** (PhD, Prather) returned to her native India following graduation.

**Martin Ronis, PhD** is Professor of Pharmacology and Therapeutics in the College of Medicine at Louisiana State University.

**Jennifer Gibson Schnellmann** (PhD, Schnellmann) is an Associate Professor in the College of Pharmacy at the University of South Carolina.

**Kathryn Seely** (Postdoc, Mayeux) is a chemist at the Arkansas Department of Health.

**Bernard Schwetz** (former Director, NCTR) is currently living in Taiwan and working as the English editor for an academic health center.

**Jennifer Shoemaker** (PhD, Prather) is owner and a science writer with Flourish Medical Writing based in Nashville.

**Rohit Singal** (PhD, Ronis) is a research scientist with Sanofi U.S. Inc., in Framingham, MA.

**Manish Tiwari** (PhD, Mayeux) is a physician/researcher at University of Nebraska at Omaha.

**Linda Traylor** (PhD, Mayeux) works for The Binding Site, Inc as the Senior Director of Scientific Affairs.

**Barbara Vogt** (PhD, Mattison) has a consulting practice, Tox Focus LLC, which provides product safety support to chemical companies. She is Adjunct Assistant Professor in the Fay W. Boozman College of Public Health, guest lecturing in Jay Gandy's certificate program in Regulatory Sciences.

**Rick Wiese** (PhD, Kadlubar) is Head of Production for EMD Millipore in St Charles, Missouri.

**Zhen Wang** (PhD, Mayeux) is a postdoctoral fellow at the University of Mississippi Medical Center.

**Sarah White** (PhD, Owens) is teaching chemistry at Arkansas Technical College at Ozark.

**Liping Wu** (PhD, Mayeux) is Associate Manager of Regulatory Affairs at Johnson & Johnson in Singapore.

**Xinwen (James) Yu** (PhD, Kennedy) continues his quest of personalized medicine for cancer therapy while working at Dako, an Agilent company, in CA.

**Mark Zorbas** (PhD, Owens) works on innovative medicines in chronic pain and oncology.

## Do you have contact information for these alumni?

Adams, Robert Johnson	Juan, David
Adatsi, Felix K	Le, Hoa
Anthony, Anna	Li, Erdong
Barfield, Lisa	Li, Jin
Baron, Scott	Lu, Song
Bever, Ronnie Jo, Jr.	Marvin, Peter Michael
Blackall, Doug	Matthews, Anthony Michael
Butler, Mary A. Stromberg	Medlock, Kevin Lawrence
Chapman, John Raymond	Merritt, James M
Chen, Genfu	Mitchell, Benjamin E
Chou, Hsien-Chang	Montague, D. C. Eckman
Clevenger, Martha Ann	Morrison, David R
Cohen, Harold Gene	Murphy, Bruce Edward
Cole, Troy W	Partridge, Jennings E
Cutsinger, Doug	Plowchalk, David R.
Dauback, Sarah D	Rastogi, Santosh
Fadhel, Nawzad	Richtarik, Alfred A
Frame, Lynn T	Rock, Tara
Gaar or Garr, Kermit A	Schiefer, Mark Anthony
Garcia, Linta	Schmid, Jack Robert
Griffin, Joseph	Selders, Marie
Hall, Benjamin H	Si, Ying
Hanna, Calvin	Stone, William Tyler
Hart, Ronald	Vadlapatla, Rajesh
Hastings, Stephanie	Vertino, Anthony
Henry, Berch Eugene	Watts, Dennis R
Huey, Sally	Williams, Richard Franklin
Jerram, David C	Williamson, Anthony Paul



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**Department of Pharmacology and Toxicology Faculty**

Nancy Rusch, PhD, Professor and Department Chair

Philip Mayeux, PhD, Professor and Vice Chair

Alexei Basnakian, MD, PhD, Professor

John Crow, PhD, Professor

William Fantegrossi, PhD, Associate Professor

Paul Gottschall, PhD, Professor

Michael Hambuchen, PhD, PharmD, Instructor

Lee Ann MacMillan-Crow, PhD, Professor

Jeffery Moran, PhD, Assistant Professor

Shengyu Mu, PhD, Research Assistant Professor

Michael Owens, PhD, Professor

Philip Palade, PhD, Professor

Eric Peterson, PhD, Associate Professor

Paul Prather, PhD, Professor

Sung Rhee, PhD, Associate Professor

Sharda Singh, PhD, Research Assistant Professor

Joseph Stimers, PhD, Professor

William Wessinger, PhD, Professor

Fang Zheng, PhD, Associate Professor

**Departmental Staff**

Fred Goad, Departmental Administrator

Pam Kahler, Education Specialist

Jessica Macchi, Procurement Specialist

**Emeritus Faculty**

Donald McMillan, PhD, Former Chair and Professor Emeritus

Jack Hinson, PhD, Distinguished Professor Emeritus

Galen Wenger, PhD, Professor Emeritus

Piotr Zimniak, PhD, Professor Emeritus