“These relationships that you build here sustain you long after you graduate.”

DR. SHANLEIGH BOND
CLASS OF 2015
DEAR ALUMNI AND FRIENDS,

Our world has dramatically changed since I wrote my letter to you for last year’s South College School of Pharmacy Annual Report. New words and phrases have become mainstays in our everyday conversations and lives, such as: social distancing, essential, face mask (cloth versus surgical), N95, COVID-19, pandemic, and shelter in place. Additionally, Zoom Room is a common phrase spoken amongst our faculty, and who knew that hand sanitizer and toilet paper would become cherished (and hoarded) commodities?

South College School of Pharmacy adjusted quickly to the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. Over a weekend in March 2020, we transitioned to complete online delivery of our courses, beginning with finals that had to be administered two days after we received notice. This tremendous effort was done relatively smoothly, and our students were able to continue in the program without delay.

An unfortunate consequence of these changes was not being able to have a traditional convocation and graduation ceremony for the Class of 2020. However, we had a virtual convocation that was seen literally all over the world with more than 5,000 views. Dr. Raewyn Snodderly, President of the Tennessee Pharmacists Association and an independent pharmacy owner, gave an inspiring charge to our graduates to embrace their profession and practice at the top of their license.

A highlight of our 2019-2020 Annual Report is the importance of our alumni serving as preceptors. I am amazed to see the active involvement of our graduates in training and mentoring current students in their path of becoming pharmacists. We share some of these inspiring relationships in the pages ahead, including two alumni who now work together.

In closing, I want to focus on one of the words mentioned in my opening paragraph and that is the word, “essential.” As evident from the pandemic, our preceptors, faculty, graduates, and current students have been and continue to serve on the front lines of this national crisis. THANK YOU on behalf of your fellow healthcare professionals and the patients that you serve for your unselfish service: You Are Essential!

I look forward to seeing how our profession will grow and prosper during these times, and I look forward to seeing you again.

Warmest of Wishes,

William M. Gentry, PharmD
The By the Numbers information contained throughout this annual report is reflective of the current student body population in June 2020 based upon the Pharmacy College Application Service (PharmCAS) application data for the classes of 2023, 2022 and 2021. The percentage who graduated with honors on page 9 is reflective of the Class of 2020.
THE YEAR 2020 STARTED with a pandemic and a simple item like hand sanitizer suddenly was in short supply. That left communities vulnerable, especially senior care facilities.

The South College School of Pharmacy APhA-ASP Chapter made hand sanitizer for a local nursing home with Dr. Tim Smith, an associate professor in the Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences.

Students, under the direction of Dr. Smith in South College's compounding lab, made and packaged hand sanitizer and delivered it to NHC Place Farragut.

COVID-19 RESPONSE

(Above) From left: Nirali Patel, Lindsey Carson, Dr. Tim Smith, Rachel McKinney, and Kelsey Beth White
(Below) NHC Place Farragut Administrator Karla Lane and Nirali Patel.
ALUMNI IN PRACTICE

When Dr. Kevin W. Burkhead and Dr. Rob Wentworth arrive at work, no introductions are needed. Both pharmacists are South College alumni and have immediate familiarity with and respect for each other.

Burkhead and Wentworth, who work at CVS Pharmacy on Western Avenue in Knoxville, also serve as preceptors for their alma mater.

“It’s been a blessing being a preceptor for South College,” Wentworth said. “When I graduated, I got so caught up with work that my continuing education fell by the wayside. Having students at my site is an excellent way to ensure I keep up with my studies even as an alumnus. It’s also rewarding to know that I’m helping someone grow as a pharmacist.”

Burkhead took an immediate approach to becoming a preceptor.

“When I graduated, I instantly inquired about taking students,” Burkhead said. “I love giving back to them and I love being a mentor for future pharmacists. Being a preceptor is absolutely amazing. By being a new graduate, I also had insight on what worked on rotations and what did not. I am able to sharpen my skills as a preceptor through personal experiences and keep them sharp while having students.”

Burkhead and Wentworth have combined their expertise.

“Since we’re both preceptors there is an added benefit to students,” Wentworth said. “I know that even when I’m not at my site that Dr. Burkhead is challenging them as much, if not more, than I do. We have some fun with it, too.

“Some months he has students assigned to him while I have students assigned to me. These months are great because we typically have them challenge each other’s knowledge. I’m biased, but I think team Wentworth has more wins than team Burkhead! All in all, I’ve been given a great opportunity to work with a fellow alum.”

The pair had an instant rapport at CVS, and the professional relationship benefits patients who have a connected team to help them at the pharmacy.

“Rob and I work great together,” Burkhead said. “We both understand what is needed for each to succeed. Rob and I also are used to the fast-paced environment that is community pharmacy. I believe South College prepared us for that. Both being graduates from South College gives us an extra bond that most partners do not have.”
Wentworth added, “I have been very fortunate with my run of pharmacist coworkers since I graduated. My first partner wasn’t a South College graduate, but he was a great person to work with. Working with Kevin has been an incredible experience to say the least. We’ve become great friends since we started working together, and the first thing we talked about was how we had both gone to South.

“It’s reassuring to know we received the same education, and both are competent in our profession.”

Both pharmacists also fielded three questions about why they chose South College, their biggest takeaway and advice to students:

**DR. ROB WENTWORTH**

I chose South because of the way the staff treated me when I interviewed. Everyone was kind and hospitable and I could tell they really cared. I also was a fan of the accelerated program, as I had to take some additional pre-requisites for pharmacy school that set me back a semester. South’s program allowed me to complete all of my higher education in eight years instead of nine and that was a blessing.

My biggest takeaway (aside from all of the information from classes) was leadership. I was a quiet, reserved person before I went to South. Even though my class was larger than previous classes, I felt comfortable around them and the staff. I stepped out of my comfort zone and became class president which I never would have imagined I’d do before my experience there. I also took on a few other leadership positions and joined a fraternity. The environment at South really helped me grow as a person.

To current/future students, my advice is to continue to push yourself. Put your time and energy into the program and you will get so much more in return. It may be difficult at times, but there is always someone there to help you through it.

**DR. KEVIN BURKHEAD**

The choice for South College was an easy one for me. First, I wanted to get schooling done as soon as possible. I attended undergrad at the University of Toledo, where I completed all prerequisites in a little over two years. I knew that going to an accelerated program would not only allow me to finish my education quicker, but also would give me the year-round schooling I needed. Secondly, I wanted a change in scenery. I love Ohio (Go Bucks), but I hated the month after month of snow and inclement weather. The warmer climate served as an enticing option.

The biggest takeaway from South College, was the never-ending learning. Having only breaks that lasted a couple weeks it allowed me to stay up to date with my education and didn’t allow me to veer off track. On the flip side, it also allowed me to designate time to myself. After constantly studying and putting in the work, I found it extremely valuable to set time aside for myself. Doing this prevented me from becoming burnt out. This was critical in my development.

My number one takeaway from the program (for students) is to give yourself some time to decompress. It’s a long program and feels like it goes on forever. You have to find time to do things you love, or it will begin to consume you, but don’t procrastinate. This is a very slippery slope, and students have to find the right balance.
School of Pharmacy students must complete professional rotations for Advanced Pharmacy Practice Experiences (APPE), and it is a critical part of their education at South College. Two students, Jenish Patel and Makerbie St. Fleur Rema, were able to have rotations with South College alumni before both graduated with the Class of 2020.

**DR. JENISH PATEL**

Dr. Jenish Patel traveled to Indianapolis, Indiana, in March 2020 for a rotation at Riley Hospital for Children. The rotation allowed Patel to see the implementation for protocols for the novel coronavirus.

“It was unique with the mix of clinical and administrative learning experience along with the exposure in management getting involved in preparing and adapting to the COVID-19 situation even before they got the first positive case in Indiana,” Patel said.

Dr. Brandon Clubb, the pharmacy operations manager at Riley Hospital for Children, served as preceptor for Patel. Clubb is a South College alumnus.

“Dr. Clubb made sure to involve me and take time in teaching everything that he did as a pharmacy manager even after the added workload of planning for COVID-19 situations for patients as well as the pharmacy team.”

**DR. MAKERBIE ST. FLEUR REMA**

Dr. Makerbie St. Fleur Rema traveled to Clermont, Florida, in October 2019 for a rotation at SmartRx, an independent pharmacy. She received firsthand experience on managing a pharmacy and staff, such as scheduling, employee handbook and workplace policies, and implementing new ideas to assist with the daily practice.

Dr. Amar Thakkar, an alumnus of South College, served as preceptor for St. Fleur Rema when the Orlando native returned to the Sunshine State.

“It was a pleasure working with Dr. Thakkar,” she said. “He provided advice and tips to help with my growth moving forward. Since our situations were similar - moving back to Florida from Tennessee - he included weekly Florida Law review questions to assist with my studies and understanding of how to tackle the Florida MPJE.”
The Multistate Pharmacy Jurisprudence Examination tests a candidate’s mastery of pharmacy law with federal- and state-specific questions. The exam is taken by new graduates and pharmacists transferring to another state.

Thakkar helped St. Fleur Rema get ready for all aspects of professional practice.

“As an alumnus who went down a similar path, he tried to make the rotation experience different from other community/retail pharmacy settings by changing my day-to-day activity/tasks,” she said. “Those tasks ranged from compounding products, completing mail orders, patient care, shadowing other departments that oversaw adjudication/rejections, and completing a ‘Shark Tank’-style final presentation.”

St. Fleur Rema took the initiative of starting a newsletter with a specific activity, such as specialty drugs compounded at the pharmacy.

“The different departments within SmartRx are not under one building,” St. Fleur Rema said. “As a way to keep the staff informed and on the same page, I created the newsletter. I also had the opportunity to organize a ‘Health Fair’ for diabetes awareness in under four weeks. Overall, it was a great experience.”
DR. SHANLEIGH BOND
CLASS OF 2015

Dr. Shanleigh Bond is a clinical staff pharmacist at Methodist Medical Center of Oak Ridge in Tennessee.

“I chose South College because it was close to home, and family is very important to me,” Bond said. “Also, after a long educational journey, the prospect of graduating in three years rather than the traditional four years was enticing. And most importantly, I loved that it was a new program, and having the opportunity to be a part of something brand new and help shape it into the amazing program it is today for future pharmacists in some small way made me fall in love with this school.

“Everything from the new, state-of-the-art facility to being only the second graduating class and having the opportunity to be a trailblazer for future students was enough to have me sold.”

Bond credits her educational experience at South College School of Pharmacy with instilling self-confidence in her abilities and developing relationships with classmates that made them seem like family.

“These relationships that you build during your three years here will sustain you long after you graduate,” Bond said. “I am so thankful for the lasting friendships I have made through pharmacy school, and I truly miss being with those people each and every day.”

She also appreciates the bonds formed with professors and preceptors in the classroom and on rotations in the field.

“These people are 100% in your corner and only want you to succeed, so trust in that,” Bond said. “Respect them. And appreciate all they do for you. I am thankful to still have a relationship with several of my former preceptors.”

The self-confidence Bond built has carried over into her work as a pharmacist.

“Be confident in your knowledge. Be confident in your abilities. And never be afraid to ask for help,” Bond said of the lessons she learned at South College and still applies to her daily life. “Your time at South will give you the knowledge you need to succeed as a pharmacist; it is up to you to trust in it.”

Bond also advises current students – who she knows are stretched to their limits time-wise – to savor every experience.

“It is easy to wish away your three years because you have been in school for so long already, and you are just ready to have a job and make real money,” Bond said. “Slow down. Soak in every moment, even the bad ones. The bad ones will make you extra thankful for the good ones. Be proud of your school and everything you’ve accomplished, because you earned it!”

DR. SERENA TA
CLASS OF 2016

Dr. Serena Ta is pharmacist-in-charge (PIC) at an independent pharmacy in her hometown of Torrance, California.

When looking for a PharmD education, Ta wanted to see a different part of the country and was attracted by South College’s accelerated program. South College is the only accelerated, three-year Doctor of Pharmacy program in Tennessee.
"I chose South College because of the three-year program they offer, and it was a change in scenery from Southern California," Ta said.

Ta also found a supportive atmosphere and seized the opportunities to take leadership roles in addition to her classwork and didactic training.

"On top of the great pharmacy knowledge, I learned how to be a leader from the different organizations I was involved in that South College offers," Ta said. "I also learned that you can do anything as long as you have a great support system, which the faculty and staff were amazing at – from my schoolwork, to ideas for events we had, to volunteer opportunities."

That support system boosted Ta’s overall resume, allowing her, she said, "to get the career I wanted."

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**DR. HUNTER OWEN**

**CLASS OF 2016**

Dr. Hunter Owen is a clinical pharmacy specialist at Fort Loudoun Medical Center in Lenoir City, Tennessee.

His path to a PharmD started in 2013 when he enrolled at South College to complete his bachelor’s degree in health science. With Owen’s pre-pharmacy requirements in place, he applied for admission to South College School of Pharmacy and was accepted.

"Continuing to attend South College would allow me to complete my pharmacy schooling a year sooner, and there would be no need to move or adjust to a new scheduling system," Owen said. "Since I had already become accustomed to the quarter scheduling system, I felt right at home when classes started."

Owen enjoyed the supportive atmosphere and helped start South College’s first pharmaceutical fraternity as alpha class historian for Kappa Psi Zeta Xi.

"A big part of what I really enjoyed in school was learning alongside my peers in the didactic setting, but my most memorable time in the pharmacy program was the time that I spent out of the classroom on rotations," Owen said.

Owen completed rotations at prominent East Tennessee hospitals and medical centers, including Cherokee Health Systems, Cumberland Medical Center, Fort Sanders Regional Medical Center, Methodist Medical Center of Oak Ridge, Moccasin Bend Mental Health Institute, Parkwest Medical Center, Physicians Regional Medical Center and Thompson Cancer Survival Center.

"I always made sure to treat each rotation as if it were its own month-long job interview, and this attitude paid off when I was rewarded with a job offer before I even graduated!" Owen said.

Owen started his professional career at Cumberland Medical Center in Crossville and immediately wanted to give back to South College.

"In December of 2016, I became an official preceptor of South College APPE students and, in total, I have precepted over 50 APPE students," he said.

He earned the South College School of Pharmacy External Institutional Preceptor of the Year in 2017.

In 2019, he transferred to Fort Loudoun Medical Center, which also is a member of the Covenant Health system in East Tennessee, to become a clinical pharmacy specialist.

"I still have many of the same responsibilities including precepting students, and I am glad to be back closer to my hometown of Knoxville," Owen said.

Owen’s education at South College isn’t done yet. In 2020, he enrolled in the online MBA program.

"I was excited to learn that it would be possible to continue working my full-time job and earn my MBA degree online with a concentration in healthcare administration," Owen said.
OFFICE OF CLINICAL EDUCATION PRECEPTORS

Preceptors provide clinical education to students and are a vital component of the School of Pharmacy degree program. The preceptors guide students through introductory and advanced pharmacy practices. Students in the Class of 2020 select candidates for preceptor of the year by providing nominations to the Office of Clinical Education.

PRECEPTORS OF THE YEAR

**DR. BRAD CAGLE** is the external preceptor of the year. He is a preceptor for multiple schools of pharmacy and is a general medicine pharmacy specialist at Morristown-Hamblen Healthcare System in Morristown, Tennessee.

**DR. NATHAN COPE** is the internal preceptor of the year. He is a full-time assistant professor with the School of Pharmacy and maintains a practice in acute care at Turkey Creek Medical Center in Knoxville. In addition, he works with residency preparation and is an advisor for Phi Lambda Sigma, the Pharmacy Leadership Society.
The featured preceptors are shown with Dr. William Gentry, the dean of the South College School of Pharmacy, and Dr. Richard Breeden, the director of Clinical Education at South College School of Pharmacy.

Dr. Ryan Reddick of Roane Medical Center.

Dr. Lisa Brannon of NHC Network Pharmacy.

Dr. Beth Millsaps, left, and Dr. David Kellogg, third from left, of Cumberland Medical Center.

Dr. Sarah Roberts of Coram CVS Specialty Infusion Services.

Dr. Don Branam, Dr. Shanleigh Bond, and Dr. Chuck Ashley of Methodist Medical Center of Oak Ridge.

Dr. Brett Olds of Walgreens Pharmacy in Knoxville.

Dr. Patti Strickler of Parkwest Medical Center.

FEATURED PRECEPTORS

236
ROTATION SITES

700+
ROTATIONS

19
STATES

247
PRECEPTORS

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FEATURED PRECEPTORS

236
ROTATION SITES

700+
ROTATIONS

19
STATES

247
PRECEPTORS
The bestowing of the white coat serves as a reminder to students of the professional obligations that pharmacists have to patients and care providers as ultimately set forth in the Pledge of Professionalism.
RESIDENCY

**DR. ANDY CROSS**
PGY-2, Ascension Sacred Heart Ambulatory Care
Pensacola, Florida

**DR. ANGELA JOHN**
PGY-2, University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Internal Medicine
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

**DR. KARI PARKER**
PGY-1, Hampton VA Medical Center
Hampton, Virginia

**DR. JENNIFER SILVA**
PGY-1, Fort Sanders Regional Medical Center
Knoxville, Tennessee

**POST-GRADUATE ACHIEVEMENT AWARD**

**DR. COREY BRAY,** who serves at Erlanger Health System in Chattanooga, Tennessee, won the Post-Graduate Achievement Award. The recipient of this award is a graduating student in the top 25% of the class who has secured a PGY-1 residency.
1:9
TEACHER-TO-STUDENT RATIO
The South College School of Pharmacy engages in research projects by professors and students, presentations, patents, development of academic materials and textbooks, grant procurement, and advances in pharmaceutical sciences. The list of accomplishments is extensive thanks to the commitment and dedication of everyone associated with the School of Pharmacy.
NEW RESEARCH COLLABORATIONS

Zhihong Xu. Prodrug research area in collaboration with Professor Dhiren Thakker, University of North Carolina Eshelman School of Pharmacy in Chapel Hill.

Zhihong Xu. Molecular modeling/computer assisted drug discovery area in collaboration with Professor Weifan Zheng, North Carolina Central University/University of North Carolina Eshelman School of Pharmacy in Chapel Hill.

MANUSCRIPTS

Published


Submitted


In preparation


Zhihong Xu (South College and Shanghai Tongji University). Nucleoside H-phosphonate formation from nucleoside boranodiphosphates via proton catalyzed intramolecular reduction and hydrolysis.

Zhihong Xu (Duke University, Tongji University, and South College) and Barbara Ramsay Shaw (Duke University). Deboranation studies on nucleoside boranodiphosphates – the discovery of a class of mild reducing agents in aqueous solutions.
Zhihong Xu (Duke University, South College, and Tongji University) and Barbara Ramsay Shaw (Duke University). Deboronation studies on nucleoside boranomono- and tri-phosphates – a class of mild reducing agents in aqueous solutions.

Zhihong Xu, Aaron Parsons and Jacob Dunbar. Stability studies of antibacterial diterpenes in dry Andrographis paniculata stems.

Zhihong Xu (Shanghai Tongji University and South College), Mariama Jabati (Methodist University) and Mensah Boakye Agyemang (South College). Effective isolation of bioactive diterpenes from Andrographis paniculata by high performance flash chromatography.

Zhihong Xu (Duke University, South College and Shanghai Tongji University), Barbara Ramsay Shaw (Duke University), Charlotta K. Wennefors (Duke University), Victor Marquez (NIH), et al. 4’-Sustituted nucleoside boranotriphosphate incorporation by mutant HIV reverse transcriptase.

Zhihong Xu (Shanghai Tongji University and South College), Aaron Parsons (South College) and Jacob Dunbar (South College). Stability studies of antibacterial diterpenes in dry Andrographis paniculata stems.

Erica L. Rowe, Connie F. Rust. Fostering professional development through mentorship. Anticipated November 2020 to Currents in Pharmacy Teaching and Learning.

ABSTRACTS/POSTERS/PRESENTATIONS


Jacob Dunbar and Braden Crocco. Comparative Dissolution of Different Over-the-Counter (OTC) Acetaminophen Extended-Release Tablets. Poster presented at the American Association of Pharmaceutical Sciences Annual Meeting; San Antonio, Texas; Nov. 3-6, 2019.

Clarissa Henderson and Eric Daday. The Effect of Storage Temperature on the In Vitro Dissolution Profiles of Caffeine from Three Lipophilic Topical Formulations. Poster presentation at the American Association of Pharmaceutical Sciences Annual Meeting; San Antonio, Texas; Nov. 3-6, 2019.

Olga Denezh, Clarissa Henderson and Eric Daday. A Comparison Among the In Vitro Release Profiles and the In Vitro Absorption Profiles of Caffeine from Three Lipophilic Topical Formulations. Poster presentation at the American Association of Pharmaceutical Sciences Annual Meeting; San Antonio, Texas; Nov. 3-6, 2019.


Zhihong Xu, Makerbie St. Fleur Rema. Lewis acid-modified pyrophosphate bond synthesis via an improved phosphoramidite approach. Poster presentation at the 2019 Fall National Meeting of the American Chemical Society (ACS); San Diego, California; Aug. 25-29, 2019.

Rachael McKinney and Jacob Dunbar. Comparison of ketoprofen release from semisolids using the Phoenix DBN-6 Diffusion Tester versus immersion cells. Accepted for poster presentation at the American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy (AACP) Annual Meeting; July 2020.


PATENTS

Issued


Applications


OTHER PHARMACEUTICAL SCIENCES RESEARCH PRESENTATIONS


GRANTS/CONTRACTS

Submitted

Dr. Zhihong Xu finished additional preliminary chemical experiments for an anti-pancreatic cancer drug discovery project (Chinese herbal medicine) for a Chinese NSF grant application which was submitted Feb. 28, 2019 as a foreign PI. Resubmitted March 31, 2020, in collaboration with Shanghai Tongji University. Total funding requested: $120,000 (four-year renewable).


In preparation

Dr. Zhihong Xu (PI) has finished the preliminary chemical experiments for an antiviral/anticancer nucleotide prodrug project, which is targeted toward a U.S. grant application (will be submitted from South College) in collaboration with Professor Dhiren Thakker (co-PI) from University of North Carolina Eshelman School of Pharmacy in Chapel Hill.

NEW HUMAN SUBJECTS RESEARCH PROTOCOLS

Institutional Review Boards (IRB)-Approved

Dr. Eytan Klausner. The use of various approaches to solve pharmacy calculations problems. Sept. 25, 2019.
MANUSCRIPTS


Reinert J and Branam DL. Pain Management in Transitions of Care. Submitted for publication.


Schmidt B, Zitko KL. No Provider Status, No Problem: Using Chronic Care Management as a Revenue Source in Community Pharmacy. iForumRx [Internet]. Submitted.


Rowe E, Rust C. “Content, Delivery, and Curricular Integration: Bridging the Gap Between Foundational Sciences and Pharmacy Communications.” Submitted April 2020 to Currents in Pharmacy Teaching and Learning.

POSTERS


of cardiovascular events in older adults. Poster presented at American Society of Health-Systems Pharmacists (ASHP) 54th Midyear Clinical Meeting; Las Vegas, Nevada; December 2019.


Sherrod J, Grimes S, Crane B, Yates D, Sowards N. Retrospective review of discharge antibiotic appropriateness for the treatment of pneumonia to determine if readmission rates are affected. Poster presented at Southeastern Residency Conference; Athens, Georgia; April 2020.


Reinert J and Branam DL. Pain Management in Transitions of Care. Submitted for publication.


Bruck WK. A retrospective review of vancomycin induced acute kidney injury (AKI) pre and post implementation of population kinetics and area under the curve (AUC)/minimum inhibitory concentration (MIC). Oral abstract presented at the Fourth Annual Middle Tennessee Antimicrobial Stewardship Symposium at Belmont University; Nashville, Tennessee; January 2020.


Cope N. “Vancomycin AUC/MIC Dosing.” South College School of Pharmacy Annual Continuing Education Event; Knoxville, Tennessee; 2019.

O’Neil M. Updates in medication misuse and diversion. Southern Appalachia Fall Seminar; Pipestem, West Virginia; Sept. 22, 2019.


Bruck W. 2020 ACCP/ASHP Ambulatory Care Pharmacy Preparatory Review and Recertification Course Infectious Disease I chapter. September 2019.

O’Neil M. Preemptive Topical Sphenopalatine...

**Kiser K.** Editor for the Dermatologic Disorders for the 12th Edition of Applied Therapeutics.

### INSTITUTIONAL REVIEW BOARDS (IRB) SUBMISSIONS

**Zitko K.** Impact of a collaborative pharmacy practice agreement on anticoagulation management in a Tennessee primary care setting.


**Kiser KL and Schmidt B.** Assessment of entrustable professional activities in a longitudinal objective structured clinical examinations program.

**Melendez D, Schalliol L, Gabriel G, et al.** Community pharmacy dispensing patterns of naloxone after implementation of a clinical queue intervention program.


**Gabriel W.** School of Pharmacy Faculty Perceptions and Knowledge Regarding the Use of Medical and Recreational Marijuana in the United States.

**Gabriel W.** Evaluation of Dosing Differences in Females and Males Prescribed Antiarrhythmic Therapy with Sotalol and Dofetilide.

**BY THE NUMBERS**

- **65%** OUT-OF-STATE STUDENTS
- **35%** IN-STATE STUDENTS
1. Members of the Tennessee Society of Student Pharmacists (TSSP) from South College attend the Tennessee Pharmacists Association’s Winter Meetings in Nashville, which create connections with pharmacy professionals and legislators.

2. Dr. William Gentry and Jill Brehmer, director of admissions, accept the Walgreens Diversity Scholarship from Dr. Keith Ford and Dr. Scott Leslie of Walgreens.

3. Dr. Holly Lowe and students volunteer at a local elementary school.

4. Members of the Student National Pharmaceutical Association (SNPhA) participate in a health fair.

5. The Kappa Psi Pharmaceutical Fraternity holds its initiation ceremony.

6. Students attend the Midyear Clinical Meeting and Exhibition in Las Vegas, which was hosted in December by the American Society of Health-System Pharmacists (ASHP).

7. P3 students present their research at the Midyear Clinical Meeting and Exhibition

8. The Class of 2022 officers are ready to serve.


10. Faculty and staff help host the 2019 Brain Games.

11. Students participate in the Multicultural Showcase.

12. Faculty and students work at the Wallace Mobile Clinic.

13. Students participate in the Race Against Cancer walk in support of the Thompson Cancer Survival Center.
SOUTH COLLEGE SCHOOL OF PHARMACY GRADUATES EXCEL ON NATIONAL EXAMS

South College School of Pharmacy graduates have either surpassed or are on par with the national averages in first-time pass rates for the licensure and jurisprudence exams.

The School of Pharmacy also fared at the top for first-time pass rates in 2019 among accelerated doctoral programs in the United States on both the Multistate Pharmacy Jurisprudence Examination (MPJE) and North American Pharmacist Licensure Examination (NAPLEX), based on data from the National Association of Boards of Pharmacy.

South College’s MPJE rate of 91.89 percent outperformed the national average of 83.58 percent; its NAPLEX rate of 87.84 percent was on par with the national average of 88.34 percent.

“The high performance of our pharmacy graduates in their national examinations highlights the high-quality education students receive at South College,” South College Chancellor Steve South said. “We will continue to provide our students with excellent education and training to start their careers.”

South College is the only accelerated, three-year Doctor of Pharmacy program in Tennessee and is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education (ACPE).

“Our graduates are passing both the MPJE and NAPLEX exams at high rates, allowing them to be able to secure positions and practice in this most noble profession,” said Dr. William Gentry, dean of South College School of Pharmacy. “This confirms that our didactic courses, clinical training, faculty, and external preceptors are preparing our graduates to succeed.”

MPJE combines federal- and state-specific questions to test the pharmacy jurisprudence knowledge of prospective pharmacists. It serves as the pharmacy law examination in participating jurisdictions and tests a candidate’s mastery of pharmacy law.

NAPLEX measures a candidate’s knowledge of the practice of pharmacy. It is just one component of the licensure process and is used by the boards of pharmacy as part of their assessment of a candidate’s competence to practice as a pharmacist.

NEW APPOINTMENTS, POSITIONS AND AWARDS

Congratulations to:
Dr. Richard Breeden, appointment to the Tennessee Board of Pharmacy.
Dr. Katie Kiser, appointment as South College Director of Interprofessional Education.
Dr. Nathan Cope, voted Preceptor of the Year Class of 2020.
Dr. Rachel Lazim, voted Teacher of the Year Class of 2021.
Drs. Lauren Ladd and Rachel Lazim, appointed assistant professors in Department of Pharmacy Practice.
Dr. Fadi Alkhateeb, appointed professor in Department of Pharmacy Practice.

Drs. Don Branam, Brittany Schmidt and Wendy Gabriel, promotion to associate professors in Department of Pharmacy Practice.

Drs. Laura Schalliol and Kimberly Zitko, achievement of national certification, board certified geriatric pharmacist (BCGP); Dr. Wendy Gabriel, national certification, board certified cardiology pharmacist (BCCP); and Dr. Wiyanna Bruck, national certification, board certified infectious diseases pharmacist (BCIDP) and board certified pharmacotherapy specialist (BCPS).

Dr. Shivani Patel, appointment to Tennessee Society of Chain Pharmacists (TSCP) secretary/treasurer-elect for Tennessee Pharmacists Association (TPA).

Dr. Don Branam, appointment to Commission on Affiliate Relations for American Society of Health-System Pharmacists (ASHP).

Dr. Wendy Gabriel, appointment to American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy (AACP) Audit Committee.

Dr. Tyler Dougherty, appointments to Tennessee Pharmacists Association (TPA) Legislative and Regulatory Policy and Collaborative Practice committees.

SCHOOL OF PHARMACY EARLY ADMISSIONS READINESS PROGRAM

The School of Pharmacy Early Admissions Readiness Program (SPEAR) is an early assurance program for qualified students who are interested in the profession of pharmacy. Students who successfully complete the program will earn an Associate of Science in Health Science (Pre-Pharmacy), Bachelor of Science in Pharmaceutical Science, and Doctor of Pharmacy. Completion of the SPEAR program takes five years for students who complete all the requirements on time. To enter the program out of high school, a student must have at least a 3.25 GPA and a 26 on the ACT or 1260 on the SAT.

SPEAR is designed for students who know exactly what they want to do after high school graduation and allows them to stay on a fast track to achieve a career in pharmacy.

DR. JALLENA ROBERTS EARN Grant

Dr. Jallena Roberts earned a 2020 Practitioner Innovation in Pharmaceutical Care incentive grant for the project titled “Evaluation of Patient Perceptions of a Standardized Curriculum for Opioid and Naloxone Counseling.”

The South College School of Pharmacy alumna currently serves as the Palm Beach Atlantic University PGY-1 community pharmacy practice resident at Atlantis Pharmacy in Atlantis, Florida.

By using pharmacist-patient collaboration, Roberts hopes to develop a counseling tool that will maximize the way community pharmacists deliver opioid and naloxone education to their patients.

Learn more about Roberts’ project at www.phafoundation.org/2020-incentive-grant-roberts.

SOUTH COLLEGE SCHOOL OF PHARMACY RECEIVES WALGREENS DIVERSITY DONATION

South College has received an $8,000 donation from Walgreens to support funding a diversity and inclusion scholarship for School of Pharmacy students during the 2020-2021 academic year.

The purpose of the Walgreens Diversity Scholarship is to recognize student pharmacists who represent a diverse group or underrepresented minority and have an interest in community pharmacy.

“We are grateful to Walgreens for its support of diversity in pharmacy education and honored to be chosen as a recipient of these funds,” said Dr. William Gentry, dean of the South College School of Pharmacy. “Having a diverse and inclusive student population is vital to positive outcomes for all of our students both while they are at South College and when they enter the professional ranks as pharmacists.”

South College School of Pharmacy students in their second year are eligible for a $2,000 scholarship, funded by the Walgreens donation. The remaining funds will be used to expand and promote outreach programs to attract diverse students to the school. Minorities currently represent 30 percent of the South College School of Pharmacy student population, and 22 percent were born outside the United States with 27 countries represented.
The setting for the commencement ceremony was the same as always – inside the Tennessee Theatre in downtown Knoxville. But the momentous milestone for graduates had to be attended virtually for those being honored on July 1, 2020.

South College created a dynamic event that included remarks by Dr. William M. Gentry, dean of the School of Pharmacy, and motivational speaker Inky Johnson, a former University of Tennessee football player who suffered a life-threatening injury to his shoulder and blood vessels on a tackle play on Sept. 9, 2006, that permanently paralyzed his right arm. Country music group Lady A also performed via video a special song for all South College graduates.

Members of the Class of 2020 submitted their own photos of celebrations, and we congratulate each one and will always welcome our graduates back to campus at South College.
The South College Doctor of Pharmacy program is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education (ACPE), 190 S. LaSalle St., Suite 2850, Chicago, IL 60603; phone: 312-664-3575; fax: 866-228-2631; website: www.acpe-accredit.org.