



College of  
Pharmacy

# La Pharmacie en Louisiane

The College of Pharmacy's Alumni Newsletter

2020



## SCOTT'S PHARMACY CELEBRATES 100 YEARS

# DEAN'S CORNER

By: Dr. Paul Sylvester, Associate Dean of Research

## College of Pharmacy Research Committee Creates Research Strategic Plan 2019-2024.

In the Fall of 2018, the College of Pharmacy Research Committee was established to further promote research and scholarly activity. One of the first tasks undertaken by the Research Committee was to create a Research Strategic Plan with the vision to create a culture within the College that inspires innovative and collaborative research in pharmaceutical and clinical sciences. The ultimate goal of the Research Strategic Plan is to provide our professional and graduate faculty and students with the necessary leadership, infrastructure, training and resources to increase research productivity and extramural funding of all programs in the ULM College of Pharmacy.

The goals and objectives of the Research Strategic Plan include: 1) to develop a thriving research culture and environment that supports pioneering interdisciplinary biomedical research in primary areas of regional and national concern; 2) to offer state-of-the-art research training and instruction to graduate, professional, and undergraduate students; 3) to contribute to the education of pharmacy health care professionals by exposing them to a biopharmaceutical research and imparting an effectual base of knowledge to inspire innovation and life-long learning in Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences.

Specific aims were then established in order to plan specific actions steps necessary to achieve the

goals and objectives of the Research Strategic Plan. These specific aims and a few related actions steps are included below:

Aim 3: Recruit and retain superior professional and graduate students. Faculty will pursue research activities that will provide our professional and graduate students with high demand skill sets so they are competitive for excellent employment opportunities. In addition, the College will enhance its efforts to seek industrial and private funding (Merck, Gateway, AACP, etc.) to provide scholarships to enhance professional and graduate student research training.

Aim 4: Increase research collaborations with other institutions and medical schools in the region. The College will create a mechanism to introduce faculty to other institutions (LSUHSC-S, LSUHSC-NO, VCOM, Tulane, etc.) to promote inter-institutional communication and promote collaboration. Faculty and students are also encouraged to attend and participate at national and regional meetings and conferences, including non-pharmacy meetings, to establish networking opportunities.

Aim 5: Increase ULM institutional support for research and scholarly activity. The College is actively pursuing gifts and donations in support of our research mission. Efforts will also be made to



create new endowed faculty chairs, professorships and fellowships to recruit and retain meritorious faculty. We will also continue inviting federal granting agency advisors to ULM to discuss research enhancement and funding opportunities.

As the Associate Dean of Research in the ULM College of Pharmacy, I look forward to overseeing the vision and action steps outlined in the Research Strategic Plan. Each month in the upcoming issues of the Alumni Spotlight, research faculty in the Schools of Basic and Clinical Sciences will be profiled to highlight their research activities and accomplishments to further inform our alumni about the impressive cutting-edge biomedical research being conducted by our faculty and students in the ULM College of Pharmacy.

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# ALUMNI S

## Fontenot's Scott Pharmacy Celebrates 100 Years

*Source for photo and some information is from the Lafayette Daily Advertiser article “Lafayette Parish’s oldest pharmacy and Best of Acadiana winner celebrates 100 years”*



# POTLIGHT

Forrest Fontenot, a 2008 PharmD graduate of the ULM College of Pharmacy, is the current owner and pharmacist in charge of Scott Pharmacy, a landmark drugstore in Scott, LA, a town just west of Lafayette. Scott Pharmacy, established in 1919, just celebrated its 100th Anniversary.

Fontenot had been managing a Walgreens location until 2016, when Scott Pharmacy was listed for sale. He and his wife Krysti, a pharmacy technician, jumped at the opportunity to take ownership of the business. Fontenot said the pharmacy was a great fit for him because he appreciates old things and ways of the past. On taking over an establishment with so much history, he said, "it is an honor to have so many old pharmacy relics in house as a reminder but also be able to move the pharmacy forward into today's world."

Even with all the history of the business, Fontenot said the customers are his favorite thing about the pharmacy because most of them have rural backgrounds like him, making conversation easy.

Purchasing a 97-year old (at the time) pharmacy and bringing it into today's retail landscape is what Fontenot considers his biggest achievement. He said when he purchased the store the building needed lots of updating as did the prescription

processing. He said the previous owner still typed pharmacy labels on a typewriter and documented refills using a Bates stamp. Fontenot updated the building, computer system and workflow and when the business turned 100 years old in 2019 it was voted "Best local Pharmacy in Acadiana."

Although he now owns his own pharmacy, it was not his original profession of choice. Fontenot says a slow oilfield due to the September 11 attacks on the World Trade Centers is what inspired him to go back to college. His original plan was to further his electronics background, but his grades turned out to be better than he expected. With his wife being a pharmacy technician at the time and her first cousin having just graduated from ULM in the first Pharm D class, it grabbed his attention and gave him an interest in the profession. He decided to pursue pharmacy and has never regretted it. Now he has a passion for pharmacy and independent retail pharmacy, in particular.

Forrest has been leading the company for three years and is proud to continue the tradition of Scott Pharmacy, one he hopes to keep going for years to come.

"We are thankful to our customers, some who have been coming here since they were children with their parents, and proud to carry on this building's

legacy as the town's independent drugstore." Fontenot has been married to his wife Krysti for almost 19 years. They have two sons, Jack, 11, and Elliot, 8. Besides being a pharmacy technician, Krysti also runs the gift shop at their pharmacy. The Fontenots reside in Higginbotham, which is a rural area northwest of Scott.

# Grandfather Inspires Pharmacy Student to Help Diabetes Patients

## Freshe Environment devoted to helping the medically underserved

Blair Freshe Guillory, ULM 2023 Pharm.D. candidate has a deep desire to help the medically underserved, especially when it comes to managing and treating diabetes. Guillory not only serves as Senior and Vice Diabetic Chairman for the Student National Pharmaceutical Association, he has also been inspired to start a nonprofit company to help those in need.

Blair's late grandfather, Fred Evans, suffered from several medical conditions, including diabetes, and was often unable to afford the medication and equipment needed to maintain proper health. Blair lost his grandfather, but his legacy lives on through the company, Fre'she Environment & Recycling. The name is Blair's middle name and derived from a combination of his grandparents' names, Fred and Sheila Evans. The company's mission is:

"To provide a healthier lifestyle to the medically

underserved communities by allocating an exceptional Diabetic Commodity recycling service to help lower medical costs."

The company collects donations of unopened and unexpired diabetes testing strips, lancets and glucose monitors and redistributes them to patients who do not have the financial means to cover the high costs of medications and supplies. As a pharmacy student working in a pharmacy, Blair often overhears phrases such as "I'll come back for that when I get paid." This phrase touches home with Blair after seeing his grandfather succumb to health issues and knowing that some people may not make it until payday without their medications.

Fre'she Environment & Recycling is not only helping the medically underserved, it is also helping reduce the

waste in landfills by recycling materials.

Donations of unopened and unexpired diabetes testing strips, lancets and/or glucose monitors can be dropped off at St. Vincent De Paul Community Pharmacy, located at 502 Grammont St., Monroe, LA, or pick-up arranged by calling (337) 378-0406.

If you know someone in need of OTC diabetic supplies please email [Fresheenvironment@recyclesign.net](mailto:Fresheenvironment@recyclesign.net)

## About Diabetes

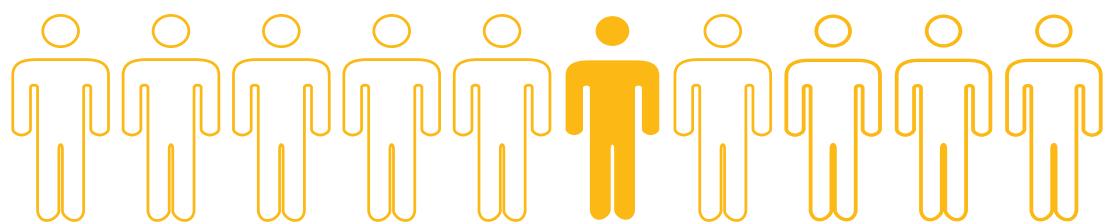
- **DIABETES IS 7TH LEADING CAUSE OF DEATH IN U.S.**
- **LOUISIANA RANKS 4TH IN THE COUNTRY FOR DIABETES**
- **TOTAL ESTIMATED COST OF DIABETES IS \$327 BILLION**

REFERENCES: <https://www.diabetes.org/resources/statistics/cost-diabetes> and <https://www.cdc.gov/diabetes>

**Between 2012 and 2017, excess medical costs per person associated with diabetes increased from \$8,417 to \$9,601 (2017 dollars)**



© ULM Photo Services



**ABOUT 1 IN 10 PEOPLE SUFFER FROM DIABETES**

# COLLEG

## Fighting the Opiod Crisis

Permanent drug take-back box offers safe medication disposal



A permanent prescription take-back box was installed at the ULM campus police department on January 15, 2020. This initiative started with our APhA-ASP organization, led by Dr. Stephen Hill and the GenerationRx co-chairs Kaitlin Comeaux and Raven Alexander, who brought the idea to the Northeast Delta Human Services Authority and the University Police Department (UPD). This box, valued at \$1,500, provides a safe, legal, and environmentally friendly option to dispose of prescription medications which will help the

response to the opioid crisis that currently faces our region. Two-thirds of teenagers who misuse prescription medications have gotten them from family and friends, which includes their home's medicine cabinets. The prescription take-back box can help prevent this diversion of unneeded medications. The unveiling ceremony was a huge success. In attendance were ULM President Nick Bruno, Executive Director of the NE Delta HSA Dr. Monteic Sizer, Director of ULM PD Tom

Torregrossa, staff from the NE Delta HSA who were instrumental in securing the grant that paid for the box, as well as many faculty, staff, and students of the university. ULM College of Pharmacy would like to extend a special thank you to Lt. Jeremy Kent of the UPD and Latonya Owens, Regional Prevention coordinator of the NE Delta HSA, who were instrumental in the success of this partnership.

# GE NEWS

## Psoriasis Grant Awarded

**Dr. Jean Chamcheu receives research grant for promising psoriasis treatment**

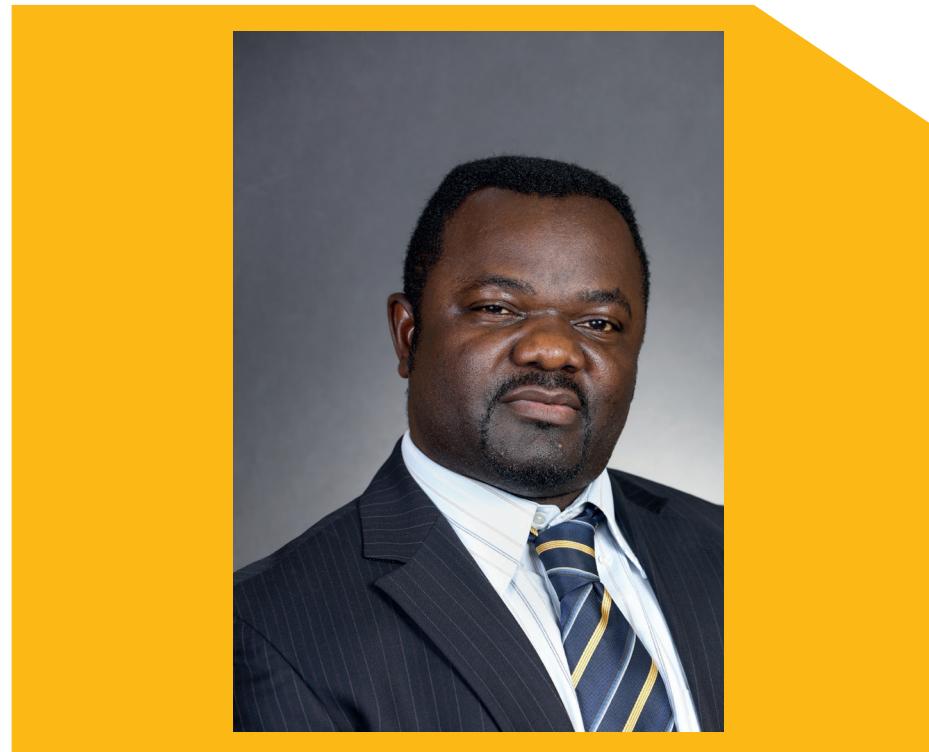
The Office of Sponsored Programs and Research announces the University of Louisiana Monroe has received a grant award of \$84,600 from the Louisiana Biomedical Research Network.

The funding is for the “The Role of mTOR and its targeting by fisetin for treating psoriasis” project written by Jean Chamcheu, Ph.D., an assistant professor in the College of Pharmacy.

Chamcheu’s research grant focuses on using natural products to treat chronic, inflammatory skin diseases with an emphasis on psoriasis. Psoriasis is a common chronic and currently incurable inflammatory skin disease that affects an estimated 2-3 percent of the world’s population, including more than eight million individuals in the United States.

“I’m very excited with this grant award because its funding will ensure collaborative ties between ULM and LSU. It will also promote the development of a cost-effective and natural therapy. If the outcome of our studies can direct us toward developing a therapeutic strategy to treat skin inflammation and psoriasis symptoms, it will have a major impact on the quality of life for many Americans and people around the world,” Chamcheu said.

This grant award can, in part, be attributed to the successes and profound research teams from the



College of Pharmacy, including Khalid El Sayed, Ph.D., Yong-Yu Liu, M.D., Ph.D., Seetharama Jois, Ph.D., and Karen Briski, Ph.D., and Dr. Sonika Patial from LSU School of Veterinary Medicine.

“This project is a great example of the collaborative efforts of ULM faculty to meet health needs by helping to produce affordable and natural solutions

to diseases. Our faculty are dedicated to their students and to making important strides in their fields of study,” said Meghan Risinger, Grants/Projects Developer in OSPR.

[https://www.ulm.edu/news/2020/psoriasis\\_grant\\_2020.html](https://www.ulm.edu/news/2020/psoriasis_grant_2020.html)

# COLLEG

## La. Cancer Foundation donates \$10k for breast cancer research Tradition continues to support Dr. Paul Sylvester research



The Louisiana Cancer Foundation presented a check for \$10,000 to the University of Louisiana Monroe Foundation for the breast cancer research of Dr. Paul Sylvester of the College of Pharmacy. Pictured are, from left, ULM President Dr. Ron Berry, Donna Jackson, and James Adams of the LCF, Sylvester, and Dr. Glenn Anderson, dean of the College of Pharmacy.

Sid Gaulee/ULM Photo Services

# GE NEWS

The Louisiana Cancer Foundation (LCF) added another \$10,000 donation for the continuing research by Paul Sylvester, Ph.D., of the University of Louisiana Monroe College of Pharmacy. Since 2005, LCF has contributed \$137,500 to Sylvester's breast cancer research.

A check presentation was held Oct. 29, 2020, during Breast Cancer Awareness Month. Attending were ULM President Dr. Ron Berry; James Adams, executive director of the Northeast Louisiana Cancer Institute and LCF; Glenn Anderson, Pharm.D., dean of the College of Pharmacy; Donna Jackson, assistant director of the LCF and Sylvester.

Adams said 15 years ago the foundation board was seeking a way to fulfill the LCF's mission to support cancer research.

"We initially met Dr. Paul Sylvester and were immediately impressed with his research using tocotrienols for breast cancer prevention and treatment," Adams said. "Since we are a local cancer foundation with all monies being raised locally and redistributed back into our community, we thought it fitting that we supported cancer research being conducted at the ULM College of Pharmacy."

Sylvester expressed his gratitude to the LCF, saying, "It has been an honor and privilege to be part of this long collaborative relationship with the Louisiana Cancer Foundation. The foundation's support and interest in our research have not only been of great benefit to our research efforts but has also resulted in the formation of some very dear friendships with the foundation's board members."

## Sylvester and tocotrienols

Dr. Paul Sylvester joined the ULM College

of Pharmacy in 2001. He is associate dean of research and Pfizer, Inc. B.J. Robison Endowed Professor of Pharmacology.

An endocrinologist, his research has focused on endocrine-dependent diseases, particularly breast cancer. His laboratory is currently examining the anti-breast cancer effects of tocotrienols, a rare natural form of vitamin E.

"With the support of the Louisiana Cancer Foundation, our laboratory has been able to conduct seminal research regarding the anti-cancer effects of tocotrienol, with the goal of developing tocotrienol-based therapies that can be used in the prevention and treatment of breast cancer in women," Sylvester said.

Sylvester found tocotrienols "... display potent anti-cancer effects against breast cancer cells at doses that have no adverse effects on normal cell growth or viability."

"Subsequent studies have shown that combined treatment of tocotrienol with other traditional chemotherapies often results in a synergistic inhibition in cancer cell growth and viability," he said,

"Since this synergistic anti-cancer effect was observed using very low doses of each agent, these findings suggest that combined low dose treatment with tocotrienol and traditional chemotherapy may have significant value in the treatment of breast cancer without causing unwanted toxic effects associated with high dose chemotherapy treatment alone," Sylvester said.

In addition to LCF, Sylvester has maintained grants from the National Cancer Institute at NIH, American Cancer Society, American Institute

of Cancer Research, and First Tech International Ltd., among others. Sylvester has authored 145 peer-reviewed research publications, 22 book chapters, and has presented more than 162 talks at national and international scientific conferences.

## About the LCF

The Louisiana Cancer Foundation for Research and Education was formed in 1999 as a local 501C3. The mission is to promote quality-of-life for cancer patients and family members while providing Louisiana citizens with accurate and up-to-date information on prevention, detection, and cancer treatment.

At ULM, the LCF supports: an endowed scholarship for a student who is a cancer survivor or has been impacted by cancer in their family, established in 2019, the scholarship fund is \$30,000; Theresa Marsala Memorial Endowed Nursing Fund, since 2009, \$30,000 has been funded; and oncology classes for nursing students, since 2008, \$22,450 has been funded.

The Cancer Foundation League, the fundraising arm of LCF, has helped over 5,300 local cancer patients since 2002 with more than \$2 million in financial assistance.

Annually, the LCF hosts four free cancer screenings for breast and cervical cancer, prostate cancer, skin cancer, and colon/rectal cancer. It also funds a mobile mammography unit to reach underserved areas in the region.

[https://www.ulm.edu/news/2020/lcf\\_ulm\\_donation\\_110520hy.html](https://www.ulm.edu/news/2020/lcf_ulm_donation_110520hy.html)

# COLLEG

## COP Welcomes Regional Dean

Dr. Oscar Garza, NOLA Regional Dean



Dr. Oscar Garza was recently selected as the new Regional Dean for the University of Louisiana Monroe (ULM) College of Pharmacy New Orleans campus, and began working for the University in February.

Dr. Garza spent his early years in various places across the Southwestern United States including New Mexico, South Texas, and West Texas, eventually settling in Central Texas. He graduated high school from Northside Health Careers (Magnet) High School in San Antonio, Texas. After high school, he left Texas to attend college at the University of Toledo in Toledo, Ohio, where he completed two bachelor's degrees in Psychology and Pharmacy Administration, as well as an MBA with specializations in Finance, International Business, and Marketing. Shortly before, during and after the MBA program, Dr. Garza spent some time working at Microsoft Corp., Audio-Technica Corp., Fortune Brands, and the International Business Institute (at the University of Toledo). Upon realizing he missed pharmacy and academia, he decided to return to school, pursuing a PhD at the University of Iowa in Pharmaceutical Socioeconomics with concentrations in Global Health and Health Services Research.

# E NEWS

After completing his Ph.D., Dr. Garza began working at the University of Minnesota College of Pharmacy in the Department of Pharmaceutical Care and Health Systems. He served in many roles during his time there: Assistant Professor, the founding Director of the PRAXIS Institute for Community Health and Education, and a Grand Challenges Community-Engaged Scholar in-residence for the Office of the Vice President and Provost. The latter focused on providing strategic direction for positioning the university to more effectively integrate interdisciplinary and community-engaged research and teaching related to the university's strategic goals of Fostering Just and Equitable Communities and Assuring Clean Water and Sustainable Ecosystems.

While working on his Ph.D. at the University of Iowa and as a faculty member at the University of Minnesota, most of Dr. Garza's career work was related to international and rural health care infrastructure development, built upon a global health-oriented training and experience working with urban and rural communities in the US and abroad. His program of research is largely focused on the economic, historical, institutional, and socio-cultural determinants of health and health policy; leadership development;

and innovation in pharmacy and health care services development. His research and teaching often intersect—examining pharmacy's role in addressing health disparities among rural and urban medically underserved populations, and preparing future pharmacists for their roles in contributing to the broader population health and ensuring equitable, as well as optimal, health outcomes both locally and abroad.

In his spare time, Dr. Garza enjoys long walks on the beach (or riverbanks when he can't be near a beach) and quiet sunsets. He also enjoys traveling, both locally and abroad, and experiencing different music, food and drinks. When not working or traveling, you may find him golfing, going to the movies, gaming, reading books, or, most importantly, spending time with his wife and their dogs. As he and his wife are involved in various animal rescue organizations, other critters like guinea pigs, rabbits, etc., can also be a part of their lives from time to time but, for now, they share their home with three rescue dogs, a Brussels Griffon mix, a Chihuahua and a Miniature Pinscher/Chihuahua mix. They love their senior dogs as they tend to match their generally quiet and laid-back demeanor.

On his new role as Regional Dean for the ULM College of Pharmacy New Orleans Campus, Dr. Garza stated, "I am extremely excited to be at the ULM College of Pharmacy - being closer to home, in warmer weather, and having the opportunity to get to know the greater Louisiana and ULM Pharmily."

# #COPINGW

## THE ULM PHARMILY COPIES WITH



Jessica Brady, Pharm.D., BCPS  
Associate Director, School of Clinical Sciences/Clinical Professor

# VITH COVID

## PANDEMIC CHANGES

### Dissolving the imaginary line between home and work lives

[https://www.ulm.edu/news/2020/faculty\\_covid\\_response\\_81320](https://www.ulm.edu/news/2020/faculty_covid_response_81320).

Story by Hope Young, Office of Marketing and Communications

Photo by Sid Gaulee, ULM Photo Services

In the workplace, the closest most people get to their colleagues' "other lives" are photos of snaggle-toothed smiles and an occasional tiny handprint in plaster on an office bookshelf, just in front of a framed diploma.

COVID-19 dissolved the imaginary line between work and home for Jessica Brady, PharmD, BCPS, Clinical Professor and Associate Director of the School of Clinical Sciences in the College of Pharmacy.

The mother of three little girls, Brady's online meetings were often Zoom-bombed by one or more of her children.

"At the start of the pandemic, I quickly realized how difficult it was to work from home while parenting full-time! My husband continued working outside of the home, while I worked from home with our three girls," Brady said.

"There was no break. Any of my colleagues can attest to that, as I was never alone during a meeting, with at least one of my children joining in every Zoom meeting and class that I participated in. And I know some of our students found themselves in very similar situations."

Brady juggled online school lessons for her children and her work in the College of Pharmacy.

"That meant a very flexible view of work hours, often waking early to accomplish tasks before they were up for the day, and working in spurts- between meals, nap times, school lessons for my two oldest girls, and finally bedtime."

She's looking forward to returning to the classroom but remains cautious when it comes to COVID-19.

"I have a young family at home, and my husband's work is not able to be done in a remote way, so my concerns are remaining healthy so that I can care for our family, while also keeping them healthy and continuing to fulfill my work duties," Brady said.

Brady teaches upper-level courses in pharmacy, with different delivery designs.

"The core courses I teach in will be delivered with both synchronous and asynchronous delivery, with most of my lectures being delivered live, in the classroom, with a subset of students connected to the livestream from a different classroom or even a different location," she said.

Elective courses will be a hybrid with no face-to-face classes, and Brady will have one week of small, in-person labs.

Over the summer, Brady has explored new techniques to engage students in a virtual environment, such as breakout rooms in Zoom and embedded polling questions.

In the spring, Brady found many students had the same issue with online learning. "The common theme I heard from our pharmacy students was the overwhelming task of managing their time."

The beauty of asynchronous material is students can

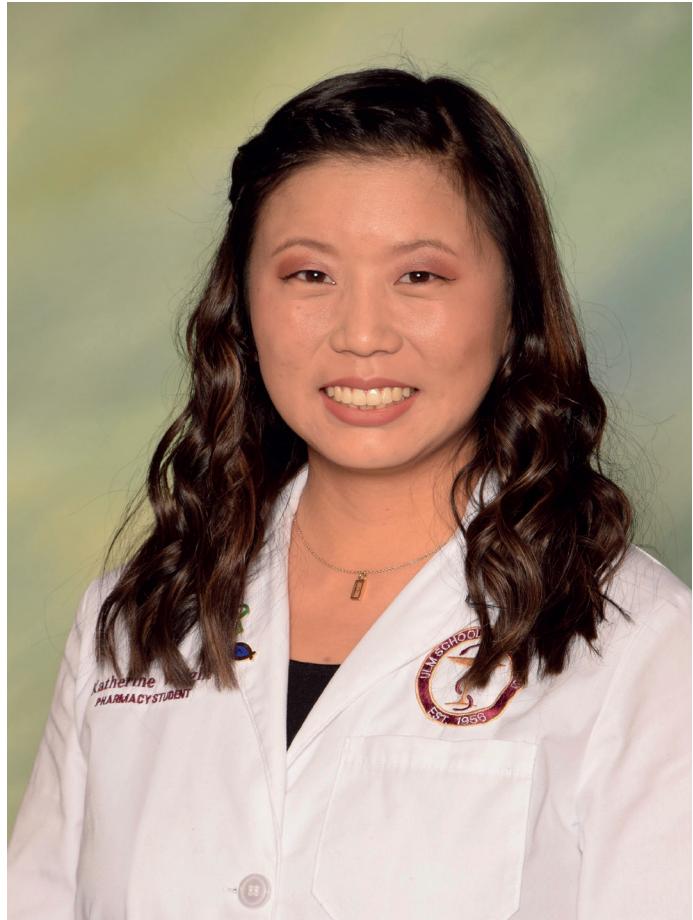
watch it on their own time; the beast is they must make the time to do it.

"Many students continued to work in pharmacies, often working more hours, making time for classwork more difficult. Others were juggling their course work with children at home or other responsibilities as well," she said.

Brady's best tools for interacting with students are through Zoom and virtual office hours. Still, it isn't the same as being in a room together on campus.

"With the College of Pharmacy continuing some components of face-to-face instruction, I look forward to seeing our students and interacting in a safe, distanced, and masked way, as I do miss the personal connections. I think it's also important to make sure that students know how to reach you and that they're still encouraged to interact with faculty, just maybe in a different way," said Brady.

# #COPINGW



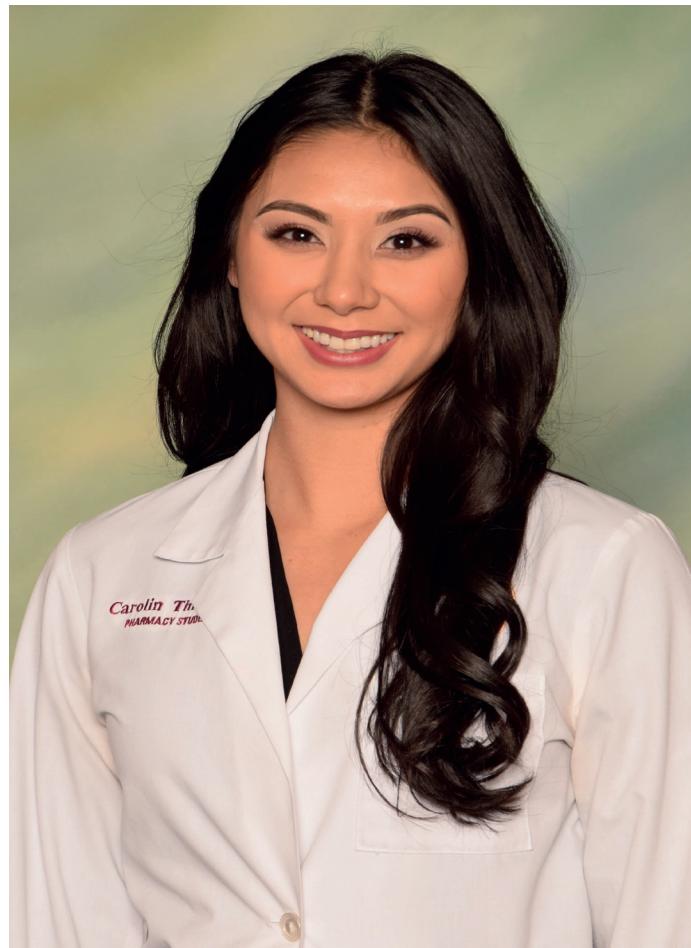
Katie Wright  
2021 Pharm.D.  
Candidate

As tired of the phrase, “unprecedented times,” as we all are, it perfectly describes the state we are in due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The last several months I have felt out of sorts and a little lost, quite honestly. I am thankful that many ULM COP staff and faculty members have gone above and beyond to help students in the midst of our COVID-induced distress. With several Shreveport and New Orleans faculty members lecturing through Zoom long before the stay-at-home order, ULM pharmacy students already have experience with distance learning. This made the transition to online-only classrooms a little easier. Missing out on face-to-face lecturing made absorbing the material more difficult for me, but student and faculty familiarity with Zoom/recorded lectures helped ease that burden to an extent. There were some unavoidable frustrations, though. I, along with many of my classmates, had to accept we would miss many “lasts” due to the stay-at-home order. It was especially surreal finishing our didactic, in-class curriculum without being in that classroom together. I think this aspect that was the most saddening. We left class on a Friday morning in March, without knowing we would not see most of our classmates again until we graduate. We missed our last class ever, our last exam, our last Rx Rally, and our last Pharmal. But we also missed months of laughing at anecdotes between classes, stress-cramming minutes before exams, and a million other ordinary things we took for granted. You truly do not realize how meaningful those small moments are until they are taken away.

Of course, the changes wrought by this COVID-19 pandemic extend to life outside of school as well. One of the main lessons I have learned over the last few months is that we need to allow ourselves, and others, the space to process and grieve what has been lost. This pandemic has changed our world forever, and it will be interesting to see what our new “normal” is. Everyone from government officials, to academic administrators, to parents, to young children is still figuring out what has and will change moving forward. If we do not let ourselves feel the loss of normalcy, we will not have the emotional endurance to move forward in these uncertain times. We must show each other grace in mourning and encourage each other as we find our next steps. Resilience is built through adversity. My hope is that we emerge from this trial a more flexible, compassionate, and determined people.

# VITHCOVID

Due to the public health crisis, my first APPE rotation was converted into a non-patient course. It was heartbreaking to know that one of the most experiential rotations that aligned with my career goals took place solely in a virtual format. I did not anticipate this to happen, and I had to cope with the changes and move forward. Despite the changes, I was still eager to learn about new topics in order to gain the most out of my APPE rotation. I proactively tackled on extra projects and attended various presentations throughout my rotation. My preceptor, along with others, worked diligently to create the most beneficial, meaningful, and enjoyable experience via online. Even though I did not have direct patient interaction during this block, I gained the knowledge that allowed me to confidently walk away knowing that I chose a very noble profession. As a future healthcare professional, my advice to student pharmacists is to remain adaptable and to constantly seek opportunities to expand your knowledge in any pharmacy practice.”



Carolin Tran  
2021 Pharm.D.  
Candidate

“As a newly graduated PharmD during an unprecedented global health crisis, I am grateful to have the education and skills necessary to help those in need. My goal is to serve my community with integrity while leading my work team to success.”

MHER NALIJAYAN  
PHARM.D. 2020

Dr. Robert Cichewicz (M.S. Pharmaceutical Sciences '99) featured in February 2020 issue of Chemical & Engineering News, "University of OK natural product chemist finds novel molecules in unexpected places." <https://cen.acs.org/biological-chemistry/natural-products/University-Oklahoma-natural-product-chemist/98/i7>

Dr. Stacie LaHaye Bordelon (Pharm.D. '14) nominated as a finalist for the allied health Healthcare Hero Award by Arkansas Business

Dr. Regina Jaquess (Pharm.D. 2002) was inducted into the National Collegiate Water Ski Association Hall of Fame

## SHARE YOUR NEWS!!

Keep your ULM “Pharmily” informed and let us know what you’ve been up to.

Email: Michelle White  
mmassey@ulm.edu

Alum

# Highlights

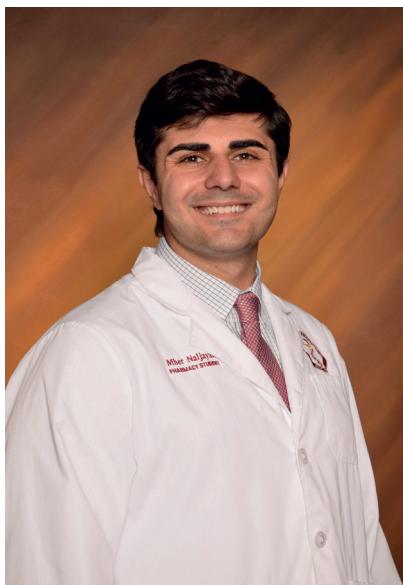


**DAVID CALDWELL**

Pharm.D. 2007

Dr. David Caldwell, Associate Dean of Academic Affairs at the University of Arkansas for Medical Science, has been selected by the American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy for the Academic Leadership Fellows Program. He was one of only 24 faculty members chosen nationwide for the program.

Dr. Caldwell is a ULM COP 2007 Pharm.D. graduate and later served as an associate professor of clinical sciences, director of assessment and faculty development and director of professional affairs with the ULM College of Pharmacy.



**MHER NALIJAYAN**

Pharm.D. 2020

Recent graduate, Mher Nalijayan, was awarded The Future Leaders in Healthcare award. This award is presented to healthcare students in the US and Canada that have displayed initiative, curiosity, and a strong work ethic.

Students receiving the Future Leaders in Healthcare award are selected from more than 15,000 healthcare students for their completion rate (volume + level of difficulty) of digital activities within the school's eLearning center hosted on CORE's READINESS co-curricular LMS.



**JENNIFER MCRIGHT**

Pharm.D. 2000

Dr. Jennifer McRight ('00) opened her own independent pharmacy, Lighthouse Pharmacy, in Biloxi, MS.

Jennifer is originally from Ponchatoula, LA, but moved to Biloxi with husband, Damian, after graduation. The two have a son, Shawn.

# mni News

# Your Support



## Thank You!

Last year was a very trying one for all of us and we want to thank you for your service as healthcare workers and for the continued care you provided your patients throughout this time.

We are also proud of the way our students, faculty and staff adapted to the unforeseen obstacles thrown at them by 2020.

Thank you to our donors who have continued to support us and who continue to help us provide top quality healthcare workers for the years to come.

We look forward to starting this new year with you all and hope that 2021 proves to be a good year for all!.

### OPTIONAL LICENSE RENEWAL FEE

To those who chose to participate in the optional “pharmacy education support fee,” the ULM College of Pharmacy students, faculty, staff and administration says “Thank You!”

Your donation of \$100 goes a long way toward helping us maintain the high standards expected of today's pharmacists and provides opportunities these young adults would otherwise miss. Your unwavering commitment to the profession, and the examples you set, establish a standard for all to follow.

# Art Matters

When you support pharmacy education, you invest in our students and the future of the profession. Your gift helps to fund student education, facility improvements, faculty development, community outreach and other programs that strengthen the mission of the ULM College of Pharmacy.



## Ways to Give:

### ANNUAL GIVING

You can give directly to the Dufilho Society by check or online.

#### Check

Payable to *ULM Foundation* and mailed to:  
ULM Foundation  
700 University Avenue  
Monroe, LA 71201

\*Specify *Dufilho Society* in memo line

#### Online

[www.ulm.edu/give](http://www.ulm.edu/give)

\*Use the designation tool to scroll and select *College of Pharmacy/Dufilho Society* from the drop-down list.

### OTHER WAYS TO GIVE

Other ways to give include stock or security gifts, IRA gifts, endowments such as chairs and professorships, planned giving through a will or estate, or a naming opportunity.

For more information or to learn how to leave a lasting legacy to ULM, please contact the ULM Foundation by phone at (318) 342-3636 or by email at [foundation@ulm.edu](mailto:foundation@ulm.edu).

**MARY RHEA  
ASSOCIATE DEAN**

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As Associate Dean of Student Affairs and Development for the ULM College of Pharmacy Mrs. Mary Rhea heads up the Office of Student and Professional Affairs, overseeing COP student services and organizations, scholarship programs, and pharmacy foundation gifts. Contact Mary if you or your company would like to make a donation to the ULM College of Pharmacy.

**MICHELLE MASSEY WHITE  
STUDENT AFFAIRS COORDINATOR**

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As Student Affairs Coordinator, Mrs. Michelle White is in charge of College of Pharmacy advertising, marketing, publications, social media and news. Contact Michelle with any news, events or other activities or information you have to share!

# Contact Us

## **KATIE KELLEY SCOGIN COORDINATOR OF ALUMNI RELATIONS**

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As Alumni Relations Coordinator for the ULM College of Pharmacy Mrs. Katie Scogin is in charge of the College of Pharmacy's alumni relations and events. Contact Katie if you are interested in the Alumni Association, getting on our COP contact list, attending an alumni event

## **SEAN MENEFEE PHARMACY RELATIONS COORDINATOR**

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As Pharmacy Relations Coordinator for the ULM College of Pharmacy, Mr. Sean Menefee carries out recruiting for the COP. Contact Sean if you have a recruiting event or have someone interested in pharmacy school.