



# UNIVERSITY of HOUSTON

## COLLEGE OF PHARMACY

Report to the  
Texas Pharmacy Congress  
Aug. 3, 2022

## Celebrates 75 Years at Diamond Anniversary Gala

UH College of Pharmacy celebrated 75 years of excellence in pharmacy teaching, research and service with 300 alumni, faculty, students, staff and friends – including UH President Renu Khator – at its Diamond Jubilee Gala June 4.

Borrowing from the concept of determining the value of a diamond, the gala was built on the theme of “4-Cs”: “Character, Compassion, Competency and Courage.”

During the event, UHCOP welcomed its latest class into its Mading Society of benefactors and bestowed its Distinguished Pharmacist Alumnus and Meritorious



Gala emcees Tony Ohonba and Julie Spier are pictured with UHCOP Dean Lamar Pritchard.

Achievement awards to Kathleen Giacomini, Ph.D., BSPHarm, newly appointed dean at the University of California San Francisco,

and Mustafa F. Lokhandwala, Ph.D., FAHA, FASN, UHCOP professor emeritus.

Serving as masters-of-ceremony were alumni Osagie Tony Ohonba, Pharm.D., clinical pharmacist at Memorial Hermann Health System, and Julie Spier, R.Ph., director of pharmacy operations for the Southern Division of Randalls/Tom Thumb/Albertsons and president of the Texas State Board of Pharmacy.

With students sharing the impact of financial support on their pharmacy dreams, the gala also served to kick off a \$1.5 million 75th Anniversary Scholarship campaign.

## Community, Clinical Preceptors Recognized for Excellence in Experiential Education

At the UH College of Pharmacy’s Class of 2022 Graduation Awards reception May 11, the college recognized pharmacy preceptors and organizations for excellence in experiential training during the 2021-22 academic year:

- Health Systems Pharmacy – **Memorial Hermann Northeast Hospital**;
- Outpatient Pharmacy – **Avita Pharmacy**;
- Hospital Pharmacy Preceptor – **Joselin Johnny**, Pharm.D., Memorial Hermann Sugar Land;
- Institutional Patient Care Preceptor – **Ardath Plauche**, Pharm.D., RN, BCPS, BCIDP, Memorial Hermann Katy Hospital;
- Ambulatory Care Preceptor – **Amy Kelleh**, Pharm.D., BCGP, CDCES, CenterWell Senior Primary Care;
- Community Preceptor – **Joe Isbell**, Pharm.D., HEB No. 687 in Houston; and
- Faculty Preceptor – **Natalie Rosario**, Pharm.D., MPH, BCACP, UHCOP/Vecino Health’s Denver Harbor Family Clinic.

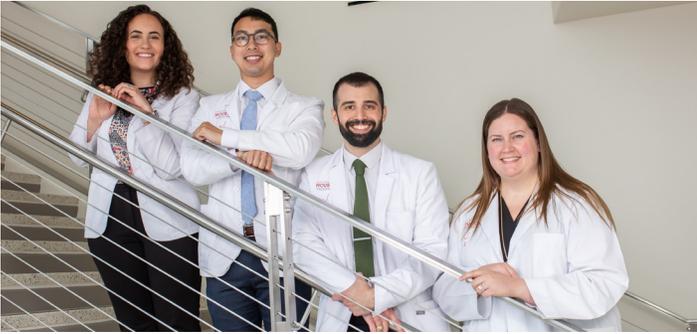
## First Lokhandwala Lecture Features Keynote by Peter Hotez Aug. 26

Internationally recognized physician, researcher, author and vaccine advocate Peter J. Hotez, M.D., Ph.D., will serve as the inaugural Lokhandwala Lecture & Research Convocation speaker Aug. 26 at UHCOP’s Health 2.

Hotez serves as dean of the National School of Tropical Medicine and Professor of Pediatrics and Molecular Virology & Microbiology at Baylor College of Medicine where he is also the co-director of the Texas Children’s Center for Vaccine Development (CVD) and Texas Children’s Hospital Endowed Chair of Tropical Pediatrics.

The new annual event, which also will feature TED Talks by UHCOP Ph.D. students, was established in honor of former UHCOP Dean and Professor Mustafa F. Lokhandwala, Ph.D., FAHA, FASN, who retired in January after nearly five decades at the college. Visit [bit.ly/30BeBON](https://bit.ly/30BeBON) to register for the lecture livestream.

## College @ Student News



A team of Pharm.D. students – pictured above from left, Jeanette Lahoud (P4), Adam Siddique (P3), Michael Toraño (P4) and Dana Elder (P4) – won the 2022 Leadership Challenge Competition at the Texas Society of Health-System Pharmacists Annual Seminar May 13-15 at the Kalahari Resort & Convention Center in Round Rock.

The competition requires participants to submit a document outlining plans and strategies to resolve the issues mentioned in the challenge case. This year's case details hospitals hit by medication errors, low morale, high turnover/vacancies and increased tension among pharmacy personnel. The UHCOP team's proposed solutions included creating new roles, boosting relationships with area schools to train and recruit graduating pharmacists and technicians, fostering cross-training, and administering regular surveys.

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**Shrey Gohil**, Ph.D. candidate, was recognized with a Distinguished Service Award from the ISPOR Student Network.

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Four Ph.D. students have received appointments to ISPOR Student Network committees: **Bilqeas Fatima**, Event Planning; **Jieni Li** and **Olajumoke Olateju**, Survey and Evaluation; and **Marjan Zakeri**, Publications.

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Three Pharm.D. students were awarded Texas Pharmacy Foundation scholarships at the 2022 TPA Conference & Expo: **Petar Jordanov** – TPF General Scholarship, **Michael Toraño** – Larry “Neal” McClaugherty Scholarship, and **Catherine Vu** – Buford Abeldt, Jr. Scholarship.

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The UHCOP Chapter of the **Hispanic Pharmacy Student Association** has received a \$5,000 National Hispanic Health Foundation (NHHF)/Rockefeller Foundation Community Activation Grant as part of the “Building Community through COVID-19 Vaccine Awareness and Equity” campaign to increase vaccination confidence and uptake in Hispanic communities in three target cities: Oakland, Chicago and Houston.

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The Houston Program in Health-System Pharmacy Administration and Leadership honored UHCOP alumna **Diane Ginsburg**, Ph.D., M.S., R.Ph., FASHP, as the 2022 recipient of the Roger W. Anderson Leadership Award, which recognizes individuals for their contributions to the future of pharmacy. Ginsburg was the inaugural resident at The Methodist Hospital (now Houston Methodist Hospital) and concurrently completed her M.S. in Pharmacy Administration at UHCOP.

Pictured at right from left, **Roger Anderson**, DrPH, R.Ph., FASHP, and **Alex Varkey**, Pharm.D., M.S., FAPhA, and, far right, **Danielle Alvarez**, Pharm.D., M.S., present the award to Ginsburg.



## Faculty News

**Julianna Fernandez**, Pharm.D., BCPS, BCGP, clinical associate professor, has been selected for the 2022-23 American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy's Academic Leadership Fellows Program.

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**Rajender R. Aparasu**, Ph.D., FAPhA, Mustafa & Sanober Lokhandwala Endowed Professor, has co-authored a new publication, “Student Handbook for Pharmacy Practice Research” (McGraw-Hill, 2022), with University of Mississippi colleagues **John P. Bentley**, R.Ph., Ph.D., FAPhA, FNAP, and **Adam N. Pate**, Pharm.D., BCPS. UHCOP faculty members **Douglas Thornton**, Pharm.D., Ph.D., **Divya Varkey**, Pharm.D., M.S., **Matthew Wanat**, Pharm.D., BCPS, BCCCP, FCCM, and **Elisabeth Wang**, Pharm.D., BCCP, were among the chapter contributors.

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**Bernadette Asias-Dinh**, Pharm.D., BCACP, BCPS, CDCES, UHCOP clinical assistant professor and Vecino's Denver Harbor Family Clinic ambulatory care pharmacy specialist, has been elected

coordinator-elect of the American Pharmacists Association-Academy of Pharmacy Practice and Management's Diabetes Management Special Interest Group.

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**Briget Martinez**, Pharm.D., BCPPS, MASPPhM, clinical assistant professor in the Rio Grande Valley Pharm.D. Satellite Program and pediatric clinical pharmacy specialist at DHR Health in Edinburg, has been appointed to the Texas Health and Human Services Commission's Drug Utilization Review Board.

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**Samina Salim**, Ph.D., associate professor, has embarked on a U.S. Fulbright Specialist program outreach assignment to Jordan University of Science and Technology. Salim will review the institution's graduate programs and make recommendations for improvement, present a workshop on scientific writing to graduate students and junior faculty members, and conduct research on refugee health and disparities as part of a planned collaborative grant.

# 4 Students Earn Presentation Awards at SPAC 2022

Four student researchers were recognized with poster and podium awards among a record-setting number of abstracts presented at the 2022 Southern Pharmacy Administration Conference (SPAC) June 24-26 on the UH campus.

The presentation winners and their project titles were:

**First Place Poster** – Nabin Poudel from Auburn University (UA) for “Impact of New Product Entry on the Price Trends of Existing Disease-Modifying Antirheumatic Drugs”;

**Second Place Poster** – Vaishnavi Tata from UH for “Physician Perspectives on Risk Mitigation Strategies for Prescribing Opioids: A Thematic Analysis of National Survey”;



**First Place Podium** – Ruchira Mahashabde from the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences (UAMS) for “First-line immune checkpoint inhibitor treatment in non-small cell lung cancer with brain metastases”; and

**Second Place Podium** – Olajumoke Olateju from UH for “Patterns in Immuno-

therapy Utilization for Non-Small Cell Lung Cancer Pre- and Post-FDA Approval.”

The program also featured presentations by Elisabeth Uphoff Kato, M.D., MRP (Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality); Nethra Sambamoorthi, Ph.D. (Institute for Analytics USA) and Usha Sambamoorthi, Ph.D. (University of North Texas); and Lindsey Hohmann, Pharm.D., Ph.D. (UA HCOP), Bradley C. Martin, Pharm.D., Ph.D. (UAMS), Sujith Ramachandran, Ph.D. (University of Mississippi), and Douglas Thornton, Pharm.D., Ph.D. (UH).

Sponsors for SPAC 2022 included ISPOR, the Research in Social and Administration Pharmacy (RSAP) journal, and TriNetX.

**Taryn A. Eubank**, Pharm.D., BCIDP, and **Jinhee Jo**, Pharm.D., BCIDP, Infectious Diseases Pharmacy Fellows, have received IDWeek 2022 Trainee Abstract Travel Awards to present their research Oct. 19-23 in Washington, D.C. Eubank will present “A molecular epidemiological exploration of reduced vancomycin susceptibility in *Clostridioides difficile*,” and Jo will present “Bile Acid Concentrations in Healthy Volunteers Receiving Oral Omadacycline or Vancomycin.”

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**Shrey Gohil** and **Ashna Talwar**, Ph.D. candidates, have been awarded 2022 ICPE Scholarships by the International Society of Pharmacoepidemiology to present their respective projects, “Impact of Cancer Diagnosis on Non-Cancer Chronic Disease Medication Adherence – A Systematic Literature Review” and “Comparison of machine learning algorithms versus logistic regression in predicting 30-day readmissions after joint arthroplasty in US adults” at the 38th ICPE Aug. 24-28 in Copenhagen, Denmark.

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**Shrey Gohil** and **Marjan Zakeri**, M.D., Ph.D. candidates, and **Tarilate Temedie-Asogwa**, Ph.D. student, earned ISPOR Student Travel Grants to present their research at ISPOR 2022 May 16-18 in Washington, D.C. The projects for which they received the travel grants were: “Prescribing Patterns and Predictors of Opioid Prescription Among Outpatients with Osteoarthritis in the United States” (Gohil); “Marginal Health Care Expenditure of Patients with Non-Hodgkin Lymphoma: 2014-2019” (Zakeri); and “Barriers and

**FY2021 AACP Research Rankings**

**#30** • All Sources  
• NIH Only

Source: [www.aacp.org/research/funded-research-grant-institutional-rankings](http://www.aacp.org/research/funded-research-grant-institutional-rankings)

Facilitators of Reporting Adverse Drug Reaction Among Hospital Pharmacists in Nigeria and USA” (Temedie-Asogwa).

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**Benjamin Lewing**, Ph.D., M.A. (’21), now senior manager of health economics and outcomes research Inovalon, was one of three recipients of the Best Student Research Poster Presentation at the 2022 ISPOR meeting May 15-18 in Washington,

D.C. His presentation, “Comparing Change in Medical Expenditure for Type 2 Diabetes Mellitus Patients with High Versus Low Adherence to Treatment Guidelines: A Retrospective Longitudinal Propensity Score-Matched Analysis,” was coauthored by UHCOP Ph.D. candidate **Marjan Zakeri**, M.D.; University of Maryland Ph.D. student **Jennifer Contreras**, MPH; and UHCOP Professor **Sujit Sansgiry**, Ph.D.

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**Haowen Zhang**, Ph.D. student, earned the Robert A. Magarian Outstanding Podium Presentation Award at the 47th Annual MALTO Medicinal Chemistry Pharmacognosy Meeting May 18-20 at the University of Mississippi. The presentation, “Optimization and biological validation of a vimentin binding peptoid antagonist in non-small cell lung cancer stem cells,” was based on research conducted by Zhang, UHCOP Associate Professor **Gomika Udu-gamasooriya**, Ph.D., and postdoctoral researcher **Satya Prakash Shukla**, Ph.D.

## Recent Publications

- Racial and ethnic differences in capecitabine toxicity in patients with gastrointestinal tract cancers. **Brazelton A, Yande S**, Pope R, **Johnson ML**, Musher B, **Trivedi MV**. *Ann Gastroenterol*. 2022 Mar-Apr;35(2):182-186. doi: 10.20524/aog.2022.0688. Epub 2022 Feb 15. PMID: 35479584
- Barriers to COVID-19 Vaccines and Strategies to Improve Acceptability and Uptake. Nawas GT, Zeidan RS, Edwards CA, **El-Desoky RH**. *J Pharm Pract*. 2022 Apr 23;8971900221081621. doi: 10.1177/08971900221081621. Epub ahead of print. PMID: 35465688; PMCID: PMC9047593.
- Initiating Primary Care Services when the World Is Paused: Lessons for Pharmacists in the Post-COVID-19 Era. Nardolillo JA, **Rosario N**, Cheng V, Lobkovich AM. *J Pharm Pract*. 2022 Apr 19;8971900221087934. doi: 10.1177/08971900221087934. Epub ahead of print. PMID: 35440223; PMCID: PMC9024150.
- Early-Life Sleep Deprivation Enhanced Alcohol Consumption in Adolescent Rats. **Atrooz F, Alrousan G, Hassan A, Salim S**. *Front Neurosci*. 2022 Apr 25;16:856120. doi: 10.3389/fnins.2022.856120. eCollection 2022. PMID: 35546871
- In vitro activity of tigecycline and proteomic analysis of tigecycline adaptation strategies in clinical *Enterococcus faecalis* isolates from China. **Bai B**, Chen C, Zhao Y, Xu G, Yu Z, **Tam VH**, Wen Z. *J Glob Antimicrob Resist*. 2022 May 1;30:66-74. doi: 10.1016/j.jgar.2022.04.022. Online ahead of print. PMID: 35508286
- Early Life Sleep Deprivation and Brain Development: Insights From Human and Animal Studies. **Alrousan G, Hassan A, Pillai AA, Atrooz F, Salim S**. *Front Neurosci*. 2022 May 3;16:833786. doi: 10.3389/fnins.2022.833786. eCollection 2022. PMID: 35592259
- Improving pharmacy students' empathy and attitudes regarding opioid overdose and substance use disorder in a skills-based learning environment. **Wollen J, Zhao A**, Hinman B, **Surati D, Wallace D**. *Curr Pharm Teach Learn*. 2022 May;14(5):604-611. doi: 10.1016/j.cptl.2022.04.010. Epub 2022 May 9. PMID: 35715101
- Angiotensin (1-7) protects against renal ischemia-reperfusion injury via regulating expression of NRF2 and microRNAs in Fisher 344 rats. **Zaman A, Banday AA**. *Am J Physiol Renal Physiol*. 2022 Jul 1;323(1):F33-F47. doi: 10.1152/ajprenal.00283.2021. Epub 2022 May 9. PMID: 35532070
- A Vancomycin HPLC Assay for Use in Gut Microbiome Research. **Hu C, Beyda ND, Garey KW**. *Microbiol Spectr*. 2022 Jun 29;10(3):e0168821. doi: 10.1128/spectrum.01688-21. Epub 2022 May 10. PMID: 35536037
- Recurrent *Clostridioides difficile* infection worsens anxiety-related patient-reported quality of life. Hengel RL, Schroeder CP, **Jo J**, Ritter TE, Nathan RV, **Gonzales-Luna AJ**, Obi EN, Dillon RJ, Van Anglen LJ, **Garey KW**. *J Patient Rep Outcomes*. 2022 May 14;6(1):49. doi: 10.1186/s41687-022-00456-9. PMID: 35567724
- Effect of TDP43-CTFs35 on Brain Endothelial Cell Functions in Cerebral Ischemic Injury. **Xu X**, Zhang C, Jiang J, Xin M, **Hao J**. *Mol Neurobiol*. 2022 Jul;59(7):4593-4611. doi: 10.1007/s12035-022-02869-5. Epub 2022 May 18. PMID: 35581521
- Higher in vivo fecal concentrations of *Clostridioides difficile* toxins A and B in patients with NAP-1/027 strain infection. Alonso CD, Pollock NR, **Garey KW, Gonzales-Luna AJ**, Williams DN, Daugherty K, Cuddemi C, Villafuerte-Gálvez J, White NC, Chen X, Xu H, Sprague R, Barrett C, Miller M, Foussadier A, Lantz A, Banz A, Kelly CP. *Clin Infect Dis*. 2022 May 24;ciac406. doi: 10.1093/cid/ciac406. Online ahead of print. PMID: 35607815
- Evaluating adherence to concomitant diabetes, hypertension, and hyperlipidemia treatments and intermediate outcomes among elderly patients using marginal structural modeling. **Paranjpe R, Johnson ML, Chen H, Birtcher K**, Serna O, **Mohan A, Abughosh S**. *Pharmacotherapy*. 2022 May 25. doi: 10.1002/phar.2705. Online ahead of print. PMID: 35611624
- Inhibiting protein synthesis to treat malaria. **Statsyuk AV**. *Science*. 2022 Jun 3;376(6597):1049-1050. doi: 10.1126/science.abq4457. Epub 2022 Jun 2. PMID: 35653471
- Omadacycline and *Clostridioides difficile*: A Systematic Review of Pre-clinical and Clinical Evidence. **Garey KW**, Rose W, Gunter K, Serio AW, Wilcox MH. *Ann Pharmacother*. 2022 Jun 3;10600280221089007. doi: 10.1177/10600280221089007. Online ahead of print. PMID: 35656828
- Risk of Serious Adverse Events Associated With Individual Cholinesterase Inhibitors Use in Older Adults With Dementia: A Population-Based Cohort Study. **Masurkar PP, Chatterjee S, Sherer JT, Chen H, Johnson ML, Aparasu RR**. *Drugs Aging*. 2022 Jun;39(6):453-465. doi: 10.1007/s40266-022-00944-z. Epub 2022 Jun 6. PMID: 35666463
- Prevalence and Correlates of Self-Medication Practices for Prevention and Treatment of COVID-19: A Systematic Review. Ayosanmi OS, Alli BY, Ak-ingbule OA, Alaga AH, Perepelkin J, Marjorie D, **Sansgiry SS**, Taylor J. *Antibiotics (Basel)*. 2022 Jun 16;11(6):808. doi: 10.3390/antibiotics11060808. PMID: 35740214
- Irinotecan decreases intestinal UDP-glucuronosyltransferase (UGT) 1A1 via TLR4/MyD88 pathway prior to the onset of diarrhea. **Tao G, Dagher F, Li L, Singh R, Hu M, Ghose R**. *Food Chem Toxicol*. 2022 Aug;166:113246. doi: 10.1016/j.fct.2022.113246. Epub 2022 Jun 18. PMID: 35728726
- Targeting EP2 receptor with multifaceted mechanisms for high-risk neuroblastoma. Hou R, Yu Y, Sluter MN, Li L, **Hao J**, Fang J, Yang J, Jiang J. *Cell Rep*. 2022 Jun 21;39(12):111000. doi: 10.1016/j.celrep.2022.111000. PMID: 35732130
- Group based trajectory modeling to assess adherence to oral anticoagulants among atrial fibrillation patients with comorbidities: a retrospective study. **Mohan A, Majd Z, Trinh T, Paranjpe R, Abughosh SM**. *Int J Clin Pharm*. 2022 Jul 1. doi: 10.1007/s1096-022-01417-4. Online ahead of print. PMID: 35776377
- Validation of a health-related quality of life questionnaire in patients with recurrent *Clostridioides difficile* infection in ECOSPOR III, a Phase 3 randomized trial. Lapin B, **Garey KW**, Wu H, Sissi V, Huang SP, Reese PR, Wang E, Deshpande A. *Clin Infect Dis*. 2022 Jul 5;ciac554. doi: 10.1093/cid/ciac554. Online ahead of print. PMID: 35789381
- Stool Toxin Concentration Does Not Distinguish *Clostridioides difficile* Infection from Colonization in Children Less Than 3 Years of Age. Sandora TJ, Williams DN, Daugherty K, Geer C, Cuddemi C, Kociolek LK, Chen X, Xu H, Savage TJ, Banz A, **Garey KW, Gonzales-Luna AJ**, Kelly CP, Pollock NR. *J Pediatric Infect Dis Soc*. 2022 Jul 8;piac059. doi: 10.1093/jpids/piac059. Online ahead of print. PMID: 35801632
- The role of gut microbial  $\beta$ -glucuronidase in drug disposition and development. Gao S, **Sun R, Singh R**, Yu So S, Chan CTY, Savidge T, **Hu M**. *Drug Discov Today*. 2022 Jul 9;S1359-6446(22)00286-0. doi: 10.1016/j.drudis.2022.07.001. Online ahead of print. PMID: 35820618
- Association of Puberty Stage and Weight Status with Cardiometabolic Risk in Children and Adolescents Living on the Texas-Mexico Border. **Low EV**, Lee M, Bauer C, Fisher-Hoch SP, McCormick JB, **Abughosh S, Essien EJ**, Rodriguez J, **Chen H**. *Metab Syndr Relat Disord*. 2022 Jul 11. doi: 10.1089/met.2021.0151. Online ahead of print. PMID: 35819796
- The Abl/Abi signaling links WAVE regulatory complex to Cbl E3 ubiquitin ligase and is essential for breast cancer cell metastasis. Jiang P, **Tang S**, Hudgins H, Smalligan T, **Zhou X**, Kamat A, Dharmarandi J, Naguib T, **Liu X**, Dai Z. *Neoplasia*. 2022 Jul 12;32:100819. doi: 10.1016/j.neo.2022.100819. Online ahead of print. PMID: 35839699