

SAPh Newsletter

Social & Administrative Pharmacy Graduate Program
College of Pharmacy University of Minnesota

Issue 2019

2019 Graduate Hooding Ceremony



SAPH graduate students **Alina Cernasev, PhD** and **Emma Heupfel, MS** were hooded on May 10, 2019 at the TCF Bank Stadium.

Graduate faculty & students pictured (back row; left to right): Tim Stratton, Raquel Rodriguez, Paul Ranelli, John Pastor, Sue Haight; (front row; left to right): Jon Schommer, Holly Budlong, Alina Cernasev, Emma Heupfel, Olihe Okoro, Judith Jacobi-Mowry (CoP Board of Advisor)



MS Residency graduates (left): **Emma Heupfel, PharmD** and **Bryan Haugen, PharmD** with graduate faculty Tim Affeldt, PharmD; Holly Budlong, PharmD, PhD; Sue Haight, PharmD, MS; and Jon Pastor, PharmD. PhD graduate (right): **Alina Cernasev, PharmD**, with graduate faculty Jon Schommer, PhD and Olihe Okoro, PhD, MPH, MPharm



SAPH Alumni Graduate Faculty (right): Sue Haight, PharmD, MS and Holly Budlong, PharmD, PhD
SAPH MS Graduate (center): Emma Huepfel, PharmD, MS with Holly Budlong and Jon Schommer



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Director of Graduate Studies Message

Greetings SAPh Colleagues:

Happy 50th Birthday! The University of Minnesota SAPh Graduate Program was founded in 1970 and we are celebrating our 50th year. Based on data collected by AACP, the University of Minnesota SAPh Graduate Program produced over 60 PhD graduates over the past 15 years (the most of any program in the United States). Please join us for a 50th Year Celebration on June 12-13, 2020. You should have already been receiving information about this celebration. If not, please let us know.

The SAPh discipline has achieved great respect for understanding how to achieve best outcomes and value from medication use. Our discipline applies business, social and behavioral sciences, economics, epidemiology, implementation sciences, informatics, and social determinants of health research. It is the perfect time for us to take an intentional outward focus and discover what new opportunities lay before us! Let us know about your ideas and insights.

We would greatly appreciate hearing from you!

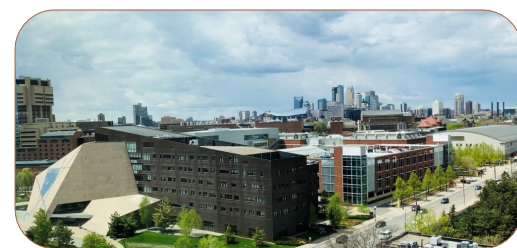
Jon Schommer, schom010@umn.edu

Director of Graduate Studies



Jon C Schommer

Minnesota, Hats off to Thee!



2019 Graduates' Final Defense Presentations

Prosperity Eneh, PharmD; **Degree: MS**

Thesis: 1) "Students' Perceptions of Global Health Competencies in the Doctor of Pharmacy (PharmD) Curriculum"
 (2) "Prevalence and Nature of Potential Drug-Drug Interactions among Hospitalized HIV Patients with Suspected Meningitis in Uganda"

Advisor: Olihe Okoro, PhD, MPH, MPharm

Bryan Haugen, PharmD; **Degree: MS**

Thesis: 1) "Assessment and Identification of Opportunities to Improve Efficiencies in Pharmacy Workflows at an Academic Medical Center" (2) "Health System Integration: Experience in Achieving an Integrated Pharmacy Department Across Two Merging Health Systems"

Advisor: Susan Haight, PharmD, MS

Emma Huepfel, PharmD; **Degree: MS**

Thesis: 1) "A Transitions of Care Program with a Home Infusion Pharmacy to Improve Patient Outcomes"
 (2) "Policy Strategies for the United States Insulin Market"

Advisor: Holly Budlong, PharmD, PhD

Alina Cernasev, PharmD, MS; **Degree: PhD**

Thesis: "A Narrative Inquiry of Socio-cultural Influences on Antiretroviral Treatment and Medication Experiences of African-born Persons Living with HIV in Minnesota"

Advisors: Jon Schommer, PhD & Olihe Okoro, PhD, MPH, MPharm

Student News

Lisa Hillman, 2019-20 Doctoral Dissertation Fellowship (DDF)

SAPh PhD Candidate, Lisa Hillman, has been awarded a University of Minnesota - Doctoral Dissertation Fellowship (2019-2020) for her work entitled "Exploring the Medication Experience in African American Women with Early Stage Chronic Kidney Disease." Dr. Hillman has built a collaborative group of clinicians, scientists, and patient advocacy groups for implementing this research. She has engaged stakeholders in African American communities in Minnesota and is aligning her work with the National All of Us Campaign for Precision Medicine. The methodology applied for this work uses patient narratives and sophisticated analysis of the transcribed text to help understand how socio-cultural, socio-economic, and personal beliefs affect the use of medications in this patient population.



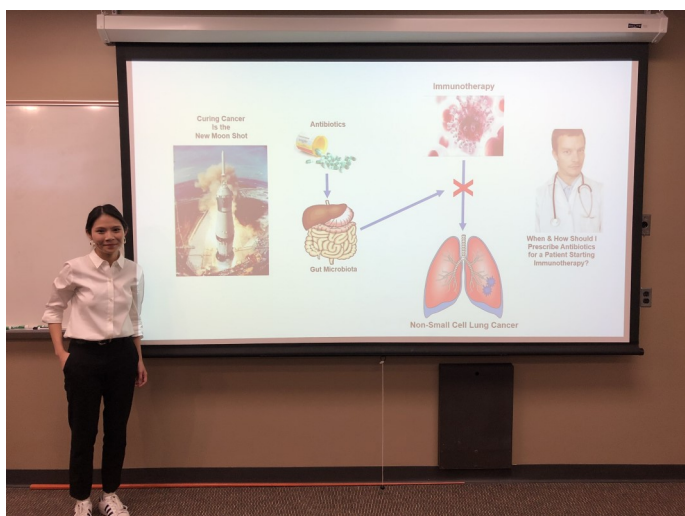
Tony Olson, MPhA Distinguished Young Pharmacist 2019

Sponsored by Pharmacists Mutual Companies, the Distinguished Young Pharmacist Award recognizes a young pharmacist within his/her first ten years of practice who has distinguished himself/herself in the field of pharmacy. This pharmacist is also a participant in national pharmacy associations, professional programs, state association activities and/or community service.

Summer Tran, represented the College of Pharmacy in the 3 Minute Thesis Competition (3MT®)

On October 24, 2019, Summer was selected as the College of Pharmacy representative for the University of Minnesota's 3-Minute Thesis Competition. She presented "The Moon Shot & Immunotherapy". In addition to being the Judge's Winner, Summer also received the People's Choice Award.

The 3-Minute Thesis challenges students to communicate the significance of their projects without the use of props or industry jargon, in just three minutes.



Student News

SAPh Graduate Program Members Publish Book on Pharmacist Services

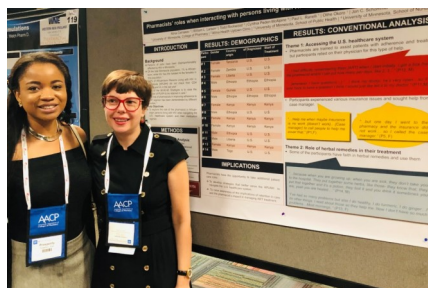


SAPh PhD Candidate, Tony Olson and Jon Schommer have published a book on Pharmacist Services. Several members of the PCHS Department and SAPh Graduate Program have contributed articles to this special issue. This book reveals how pharmacist services can progress in societal relevance; innovative delivery; integration into broader systems; enhanced image to both payers and consumers; and growth into new roles and markets. The articles reveal the overwhelming opportunities that pharmacists can embrace and fill, such as medication optimization; wellness and prevention; chronic care management; acute care management; patient education; care transitions; population health; emergency preparedness; health informatics; and patient-centered, living-in-place care. <https://www.mdpi.com/books/pdfview/book/1767>

AACP 2019



Jagannath Muzumdar
PhD 2011



Alina Cernasev (right) was recipient of a 2019 AACP Walmart Scholarship. The goal of the scholarship program is to strengthen the recipient's skills and commitment to a career in academic pharmacy through their participation at the AACP Annual Meeting.

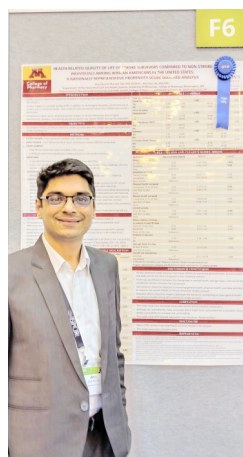
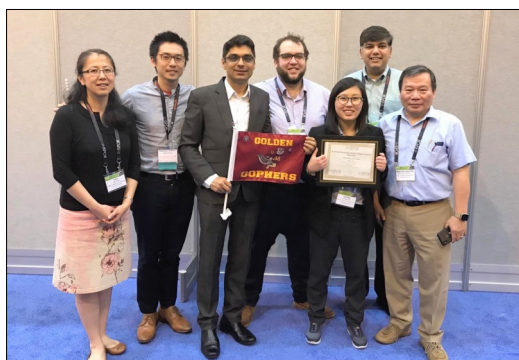
SAPh Graduate Students, Faculty, and Alumni at AACP 2019 in Chicago

Members of the SAPh graduate program were actively engaged in Scholars Programs, Plenary Sessions, Poster Sessions, Award Programs, and Networking Events during the AACP 2019 Annual Meeting in Chicago, IL. It was gratifying to see colleagues to share ideas, learn about their work, and celebrate accomplishments.

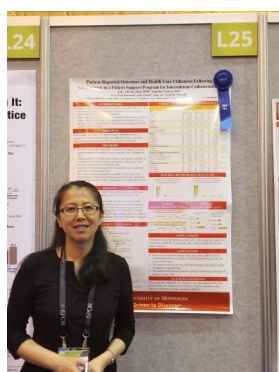
Attendees pictured: Alina Cernasev, Tony Olson, Jon Schommer, Basma Gomaa, Lisa Hillman, Bob Bechtol, Prosperity Eneh, Jagannath Muzumdar

Student News

ISPOR 2019



Arun Kumar

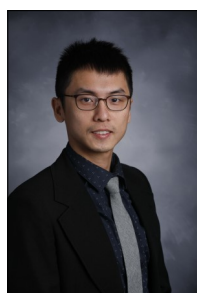


Julie Zhao

Several SAPH students attended the annual ISPOR conference at New Orleans, USA from May 18-22, 2019.

The University of Minnesota Student Chapter received one of the Outstanding Student Chapter Awards and the chapter president (Christy Choi) presented achievements to the Faculty Advisor Council.

Christy Choi received a Distinguished Service Award for her contributions to education committee, working group, and section publications on Value & Outcomes Spotlights. Arun Kumar and Julie Zhao were selected as the finalists for the Best Student Poster Award, and Arun Kumar is the recipient of the Best Student Poster Award .



Sam Hsu was awarded one of the College of Pharmacy 2018-2019 Outstanding TA Awards for the PharmD professional program. His time and effort is appreciated by the students and faculty.



Panpan Zhai Completed Her Visiting Scholar Program in Social and Administrative Pharmacy

On November 27, 2019, Panpan Zhai completed her Visiting Scholar Program within the SAPH Graduate Program. Panpan focused on Pharmaceutical Economics Public Policy, and Social Determinants of Health during her four month visiting scholar program. She is returning to her graduate program at Jiaotong University in Xi'an, China.

Graduate Faculty News



Joel Farley, PhD, has been named the Peters Endowed Chair in Pharmacy Practice Innovation, effective July 1, 2019. As a pharmaceutical outcomes researcher, Farley specializes in the evaluation of programs and policies affecting medication use in patients with chronic health conditions. His expertise conducting research using secondary medical claims data includes federal data sets, commercial claims data sources, and publicly available data sources. The Peters Chair was established as part of a \$13.5 million gift from William and Mildred Peters to stimulate innovation and research that would advance the practice of pharmacy.



Wendy St. Peter, PharmD, FCCP, FASN, FNKF, will receive the National Kidney Foundation' Medical Advisory Board Distinguished Service Award for her help in advancing the lives of patients on a local level through educational activities and community service during the NKF's Spring Clinical Meetings, March 25—27, 2020.

Wendy is an investigator with the United State Renal Data System and conducts pharmacoepidemiology and health outcomes. She has been focused on improving medication management and drug safety in patients with end-stage kidney disease.



Jon Schommer, MS, PhD, RPh received the American Pharmacists Association (APhA) Research Achievement Award in the Pharmaceutical Sciences. The award recognizes and encourages outstanding, meritorious achievement in any of the pharmaceutical sciences.

He was recognized for being "a true scholar, research scientist and passionate pharmacist in the areas of economic, social and administrative sciences." Schommer has moved pharmacy forward through teaching and research in the domain of medication optimization that translated research findings to patients, practice and communities. He was recognized at the APhA Annual Meeting, March 22-25, 2019.



Stephen Schondelmeyer, PharmD, PhD is co-PI on The Resilient Drug Security & Supply Chain project which is the first end-to-end comprehensive effort to define and address vulnerabilities to public health and national security resulting from medical drug shortages in the United States. The primary goal is to make the medical and drug supply chain resilient to drug shortages to ensure reliable delivery of the right medication to the right person at the right time.

Rui Zhang, PhD was promoted to Associate Professor with Tenure 2019.



Dr. Zhang has also been named a **2019-2022 McKnight Presidential Fellow**.

The McKnight Presidential Fellows Program is a three-year award given to promising faculty who have been newly granted both tenure and promotion to associate professor. It recognizes recipients based on excellence in research and scholarship, leadership, potential to build top-tier programs, and ability to advance the University's priorities.

Zhang is a data scientist who develops health informatics methods and applies them to advance the promise of precision medicine. His research provides innovative methods of capturing and filtering through volumes of health and biomedical big data to make novel discoveries about the safety and effectiveness of medical care and drug therapy. He specializes in natural language processing (NLP) and he is also the leader of the NLP collaborative science services offered within the Best Practices Integrated Informatics Collaborative Science and Service Core of the CTSI Biomedical informatics Program.

Faculty & Student News



SAPh Faculty and Alum at Engagement Scholarship Consortium in Denver, October 8-9, 2019

SAPh Graduate Faculty Dr. Paul Ranelli and SAPh Alum Dr. Reshmi Singh, PhD 2005, participated in the 20th Annual Conference of the Engagement Scholarship Consortium in Denver, Colorado. The focus of this years conference was: **Deepening Our Roots: Advancing Community Engagement in Higher Education**

SAPh Students, Faculty, and Alumni at APhA 2019 in Seattle

SAPh students, faculty, and alumni were active at the American Pharmacists Association Annual Meeting in Seattle, Washington, March 22-25, 2019. Some of the activities included running for Board of Trustees, receiving awards, serving as Postgraduate Officer for the Academy of Research and Science, presenting research, meeting with national research teams, serving in the House of Delegates, and more.



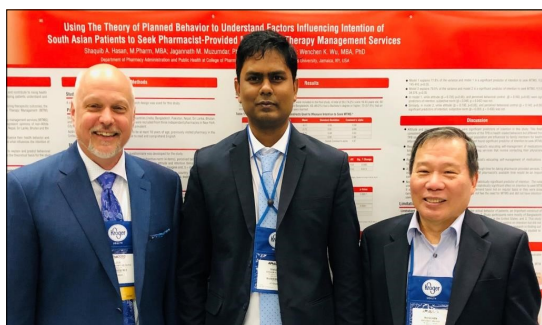
Jon Schommer & Marcia Worley, PhD 2001



Caroline Gaither, Arun Kumar, Jon Schommer



Enrique Seoane-Vazquez, PhD 2002



Jon Schommer, Shaquib Al Hasan, PhD Student
Wenchen (Kenneth) Wu PhD 1988



Meena Murugappan, Ron Hadsall, Professor Emeriti,
Debbie Pestka, PHD 2018



Faculty & Student News

Dubai International Pharmaceuticals & Technologies Conference - February 26-28, 2019

The Dubai International Pharmaceuticals & Technologies Conference and Exhibition (DUPHAT) is the largest pharmaceuticals and technology event in the Middle East and Africa region. More than 700 pharmaceutical companies from over 75 countries showcased their latest innovations to the 7,000 conference attendees. In addition, many world-renowned speakers from around the world were invited to offer their insights on the latest trends in the pharmaceutical sciences.

Charles Daniels (SAPh PhD, 1981), Albert Wertheimer (SAPh Director of Graduate Studies, 1973-1990), and Jon Schommer (SAPh Graduate Faculty Member, 1999-present) were invited speakers at this event and offered their perspectives on the future of pharmacy practice, strategic planning, telepharmacy, transition of care roles for pharmacists, and the social transformation of community-based pharmacy.



Djenane Oliveira and Lisa Hillman Presented at the Fifteenth International Congress of Qualitative Inquiry, May 15-18, 2019



SAPh Graduate Program members, Djenane Oliveira, (PhD 2003) and Lisa Hillman, PharmD, (PhD candidate) presented their work at the International Congress of Qualitative Inquiry. The International Institute for Qualitative Inquiry is a multidisciplinary institute at the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign with the goals of methods development, application to social issues, leadership, publishing, education, collaboration, and international interaction in the field of qualitative inquiry.

Midwest Pharmacist Workforce Research Consortium Celebrates its 20th Year

Professors Bill Doucette (IA), Dave Kreling (WI), Dave Mott (WI), Caroline Gaither (MN) and Jon Schommer (MN) met at the University of Iowa August 13-14, 2019 to work on the 2019 National Pharmacist Workforce Survey with research team members for this year's survey. These five faculty members have worked together for over 20 years as the Midwest Pharmacist Workforce Research Consortium and have served as principal investigators for the 2000, 2004, 2009, 2014, and 2019 National Pharmacist Workforce Surveys.



Alumni

SAPh Alumni Connections

Alumni, current SAPh graduate students, faculty and friends gathered together at the first-ever SAPh **SNAC (Social Networking and Connections)** at Lake Monster Brewery on September 25th.

It was an evening of good conversation and fun. We shared some old pictures and stories while we reconnected with one another.

There will be more SNACs in 2020 so watch for e-mails about them!



Save the Date: June 12—13, 2020

[View the Event Website](#)

Social & Administrative Pharmacy Graduate Program

Celebrating 50 years...and counting!

1970-2020



UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA
Driven to Discover™



The College of Pharmacy will mark the 50th Anniversary of the founding of the Graduate Program in Social & Administrative Pharmacy with an evening dinner and celebration on Saturday, June 13, 2020 in Minneapolis. All SAPh alumni will be invited to join, and formal invitations will be sent later this spring. The weekend will also include a welcome event on Friday, June 12, as well as a research showcase during the day on Saturday, June 13.

We look forward to celebrating with you in June!

Please contact Joe Kolar at 612-625-6305 or kolarj@umn.edu with questions.

Alumni

It's a Small World After All



Emerita Professor Cynthia Gross met SAPh grads and former advisees Chulaporn and Supon Limwattananon (PhDs 2000) on an Alaska tour of the glaciers in Prince William Sound that was an unplanned and wonderful surprise.



Debbie Pestka, PharmD, (PhD 2018) Dr. Pestka is a pharmacist and health services researcher at the University of Minnesota College of Pharmacy. Her project evaluates the implementation and outcomes of comprehensive medication management services in Fairview Health Services' population health primary care transformation.

Dr. Dan Tomaszewski, PharmD (PhD 2014) featured on CBS's 'The Doctors' (pictured second from the right)

Dan Tomaszewski was invited to The Doctors to discuss the role of PBMs in managing care, including in cancer treatment. On the episode, Dan discussed the use of Prior Authorizations and how patients can navigate the healthcare system to ensure their medication related needs are met.



The College of Pharmacy announces with sadness the passing of alumnus Dr. Ahmad Fuad Afdhal **Ahmad Fuad Afdhal**, (PhD 1983) was an accomplished researcher, author, entrepreneur, business executive, academic leader and alumnus of the SAPh program in 1983, with his thesis entitled, "Patterns of Innovation Behavior of Community Pharmacists." Dr. Afdahl worked closely with many College of Pharmacy faculty and researchers including Drs. Bruce Benson, Jim Cloyd, Norrie Thomas, Steve Schondelmeyer, Bill Elmquist, Abraham Hartzema, Linda Strand and his advisor Albert Wertheimer.

Dr. Afdhal has demonstrated outstanding leadership in academia, business and international research in pharmacoeconomics. He had been the president of the local chapter of the International Society for Pharmacoeconomic and Outcomes Research in Indonesia.

Dr. Afdhal is the former president of the National Institute of Science and Technology in Jakarta, where he also served as the Dean of the Faculty of Mathematics and Natural Science and the Head of the Department of Pharmacy. Dr. Afdhal remained an active researcher throughout his leadership career. His is widely recognized for his research on quality-of-life and cost-effectiveness analyses of typhoid treatments, hepatitis C and hypertension. In 2012 Dr. Afdhal was the recipient of the Distinguished Leadership Award for Internationals, a University of Minnesota-wide honor bestowed upon alumni, former students, and friends of the University who have distinguished themselves in their post-university work as leaders in their professional careers. With this honor he was recognized for remarkable leadership accomplishments in Indonesia. He used his University of Minnesota experience and translated that education into new educational and research programs in Indonesia, which in turn spread health outcomes research and social pharmacy throughout Asia.

Dr. Afdhal resided in Indonesia and remained firmly connected to the University of Minnesota College of Pharmacy. Dr. Afdhal was a life member of the Alumni Association and returned to campus when the Department of Social and Administrative Pharmacy celebrated its twentieth anniversary. He was the guest who came furthest for the event! hosted College of Pharmacy Faculty and students in Jakarta. His legacy of leadership will be felt in Indonesia and here at the College for Years to come.



SAPh Fellowships

SAPh Fellowships 2019

Created to encourage and recognize leadership qualities and aspirations among PhD students in the SAPh graduate program:

- ◆ **SAPh Alumni Fellowship**
- ◆ **St Peter & Leiner Family Fellowship**
- ◆ **Wertheimer Leadership Fellowship**



Donations to these Fellowship Funds are welcome. Please visit the [SAPh website](#); click on **MAKE A GIFT**.

You can also send a check payable to the University of Minnesota and mail to: Jon Schommer, College of Pharmacy
7-155 Weaver-Densford Hall, 308 Harvard Street SE, Minneapolis, MN 55455

Fellowship Recipients

Zachary Rivers
Wertheimer Leadership

Meena Murugappan
SAPh Alumni

Christy Choi & Arun Kumar
St. Peter & Leiner Family
Outcomes Research



Social & Administrative Pharmacy



College of Pharmacy University of Minnesota

7-155 Weaver-Densford Hall

308 Harvard Street SE Minneapolis, MN 55455-0343

Dr. Jon Schommer, Director of Graduate Studies

Phone: 612-626-9915

Fax: 612-625-9931

SAPH MISSION

The mission of the **Social & Administrative Pharmacy** graduate program is to educate and mentor graduate students in the discovery and dissemination of new knowledge to foster appropriate use of drugs in order to improve patient outcomes at the individual and societal level.

