



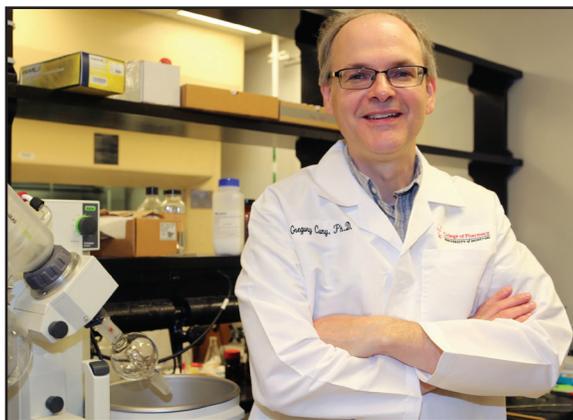
Report to the Texas Pharmacy Congress — Aug. 17-18, 2016

Cuny Awarded \$3.8M NIH Grant to Fight Cryptosporidium

Associate Professor **Gregory D. Cuny**, Ph.D., has been awarded a five-year, \$3.8 million National Institutes of Health R01 grant to advance the development of novel therapeutics against infection by *Cryptosporidium* species of protozoan parasites.

Commonly used anti-parasitic drugs are ineffective, the only FDA-approved drug is poorly efficacious, and vaccines are unavailable for cryptosporidiosis, which causes severe diarrhea in young children and immunocompromised adults.

In the new R01 project, Cuny and his collaborators are pursuing the design and in-vitro evaluation of CpIMPDH inhibitors in



assays of CpIMPDH inhibitory potency and selectivity, a *C. parvum* cell culture infection model and ADME properties; assess the in vivo pharmacokinetic and acute toxicity properties of CpIMPDH inhibitors; and evaluate optimized CpIMPDH inhibitors in animal models of cryptosporidiosis.

Cuny's team — which includes UHCOP Professor Ming Hu, Ph.D. — also will examine the impact of the inhibitors on commensal bacterial

populations and develop a strategy for enterohepatic recycling to maximize gastrointestinal concentrations while reducing systemic exposure and toxicity risk.

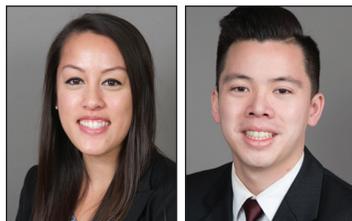
UH Earns Clinical Skills Title, Chair Posts and Top 3 Chapter at SNPhA National Meeting

The UHCOP Chapter of the Student National Pharmaceutical Association are celebrating numerous achievements at the 2016 SNPhA National Conference July 29-31 in Atlanta, including finishing among top 3 Large Category chapters for the SNPhA/Rite Aid Chauncey I. Cooper Chapter of the Year Award.

The chapter also took third in the SNPhA/Walgreens HIV/AIDS Health Outcomes Award competition.

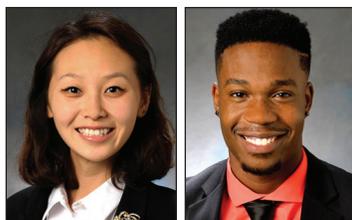
Pharm.D. candidates **Natalie Chu** and **David Pham** won Division 2 (P3/P4) of the SNPhA/Kroger Clinical Skills Competition.

Pharm.D. students **Shutian Ju** and **Brian Nwokorie** were appointed 2016-17 chairs of the National Remember the Ribbon Chair and National Bridging the Gap Chair initiatives.



Chu

Pham



Ju

Nwokorie



PHOP Team Claims Trophy in ISPOR Research Competition

A team of UHCOP Pharmaceutical Health Outcomes and Policy Ph.D. students brought home the Student Research Competition trophy from the International Society of Pharmacoeconomics and Outcomes Research 21st Annual International Meeting May 21-25 in Washington, D.C.

Pictured above are team coaches UHCOP faculty member Marc Fleming, far left, and Nandita Kachru, far right, and team members Ruta Sawant, Archita Bhansali, Aisha Vadhariya and Navneet Upadhyay.

Student News

Pharm.D. student **Shawn Ahmad** was elected Texas Pharmacy Association Student Leadership Chair-elect at the TPA 2016 Conference & Expo July 15-17 in Austin. Four UHCOP students were awarded TPF scholarships: **Shawn Ahmad** and **Stephanie Crowley** — Professional Recovery Network Scholarships; **Erin Moody** — TPF General Scholarship; and **Lauren Puckett** — TPF Larry “Neal” McClagherty Scholarship. In addition, Moody tied for the third-place finish in the Patient Counseling Competition.



Ahmad



Crowley



Moody



Puckett

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Pharm.D. students **Shawn Ahmad**, **Stephanie Crowley** and **Chelsea Jose**, along with Assistant Dean of Student & Professional Affairs **Paige Pitman**, Pharm.D., MBA, R.Ph., participated in the American Pharmacists Association Institute on Alcoholism and Drug Dependencies June 3-6 in Salt Lake City, Utah.



Jose

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Pharm.D. candidate **Marissa Blumenthal** was among the 2016 recipients of an American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy Walmart Scholars Program award, which provides scholarship support to attend 2016 AACP Annual Meeting and Teachers Seminar July 23-27 in Anaheim, Calif.



Blumenthal

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Pharm.D. students **Hannah Chan**, **Amy Kiley** and **Katrina Watson**, all officers of the UHCOP



Chan



Kiley



Watson

Chapter of the American Pharmacists-Academy of Student Pharmacists, attended the APhA's Summer Leadership Institute July 15-17 in Washington, D.C.

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Four graduate students recently completed summer internship programs: Pharmaceutical Health Outcomes and Policy Ph.D. students **Farid Chekani**, **Ruta Sawant**, and **Nanveet Upadhyay**



Chekani



Sawant



Taneja



Upadhyay

worked at IHS in Washington, D.C., Biogen in Cambridge, Mass., and Amgen in Thousand Oaks, Calif., respectively, and **Guncha Taneja** worked at Vertex Pharmaceuticals in Boston, Mass.

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Two students were awarded scholarships from the TSHP Research & Education Foundation: **Bradley Endres** — Micheline & Bourjois Abboud Scholarship and **Lydia Solis** — Arthur L. Davis Pharmacist Scholarship.



Endres



Solis

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Pharm.D. student **Lauren Goldberg** recently completed the Houston Methodist Hospital's Summer Pharmacy Observership Program, a six-week program designed to give students early exposure to health-system pharmacy before beginning their Institutional Introductory Pharmacy Practice Experience.



Goldberg

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Pharm.D. candidate **Eric Kao** has been selected for the 2016-17 Houston-Galveston Albert Schweitzer Fellowship Program. Kao also serves as the 2016-17 National Project Coordinator on the APhA-ASP International Standing Committee and 2016-17 Co-Chair of the Houston Global Health Collaborative Conference.



Kao

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Pharmaceutical Health Outcomes and Policy doctoral student **Manvi Sharma** has been selected for the UH Future Faculty Fellowship Program, a competitive selection program of the UH Graduate School and the UH Office of the Provost with support from a National Science Foundation-funded network.



Sharma

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Pharm.D. student **Katrina Watson** attended the Cardinal Health Student Leadership Conference in Houston in May.

Susan Abughosh, Ph.D., assistant professor of Pharmaceutical Health Outcomes and Policy, has received a one-year, \$184,587 grant from Regeneron Pharmaceuticals Inc. for her project “Improving adherence to statins with targeted motivational interviewing interventions based on group based trajectory models among patients enrolled in a Medicare advantage plan.”



Abughosh

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Kimberly K. Birtcher, Pharm.D., M.S., BCPS, CDE, CLS, clinical professor of Pharmacy Practice and Translational Research, has been appointed to a three-year term as a director on the Pharmacist Clinical Council of the Accreditation Council for Clinical Lipidology’s Board of Governors.



Birtcher

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Rustin D. Crutchley, Pharm.D., AAHIVP, clinical associate professor of Pharmacy Practice and Translational Research, was awarded the Society of Infectious Diseases Pharmacists’ 2016-2017 Merck Infectious Diseases Pharmacotherapy Residency Award and a \$60,000 grant in support of the college’s PGY-2 HIV Ambulatory Care-Clinical Pharmacogenetics Residency Program.



Crutchley

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A biotechnology startup company whose co-founders include Associate Professor **Jason Eriksen**, Ph.D., and Pharmacology Ph.D. candidate **Craig Vollert** was recognized among the Rice Alliance 10 Most Promising Life Science Companies at the 2016 Texas Life Science Venture Forum May 26 in Houston. The company has one U.S. patent pending for its antigen retrieval protocol, with additional patent applications in progress. In addition, Eriksen recently was awarded a \$50,000 National Science Foundation Innovation Corps (I-CORPS) grant to facilitate further development of the technology.



Eriksen



Vollert

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Marc L. Fleming, Ph.D., MPH, R.Ph., assistant professor of Pharmaceutical Health Outcomes and Policy, has received a one-year, \$98,314 grant from Sanofi US for his project, “Physician educational webinars to improve statin prescribing and guideline adherence among patients in a Medicare advantage plan.”



Fleming

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Three Pharmaceutical Health Outcomes and Policy doctoral candidates were finalists in the Student Research Poster Competition at the International Society of Pharmacoeconomics and Outcomes Research 21st Annual International Meeting May 21-25 in Washington, D.C. The UHCOP finalists were **Mark Hatfield** with advisor **Marc Fleming**, Ph.D., MPH, R.Ph., for “Rescheduling Hydrocodone Combination Products: Assessing the Impact on Opioid Utilization”; **Ya-Huei Li** with advisor **E. James Essien**, Ph.D., Dr.PH, for “Modeling Ecodevelopmental Context of STDs/ HIV Risk and Protective Behaviors Among African American Adolescents”; and **Xin Wang** with advisor **Michael Johnson**, Ph.D., for “Comparison of Cardiovascular Risks Following Smoking Cessation Treatments Using Varenicline vs. NRT Among Schizophrenic Smokers.”



Hatfield



Li



Wang

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Amelia K. Sofjan, Pharm.D., BCPS, clinical assistant professor of Pharmacy Practice and Translational Research, has been awarded the Society of Infectious Diseases Pharmacists/ Alere Research Award and a \$10,000 grant for her project, “Incidence and microbiological characteristics of *Clostridium difficile* infection in Bangladesh.”



Sofjan

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UHCOP’s annual awards for Excellence in Teaching, Research and Service to **MariVi Tejada-Simon**,



Tejada-Simon



Cuny



Simpson

Ph.D., M.Ed., associate professor of Pharmacology, **Gregory D. Cuny**, Ph.D., assistant professor of Medicinal Chemistry, and **Lynn Simpson**, Pharm.D., clinical associate professor of Pharmacy Practice and Translational Research, respectively.

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Pharmacology Ph.D. candidate **Santosh Suryavanshi**, working under advisor **Bradley K. McConnell**, Ph.D., FAPS, FAHA, associate professor, was a top 10 Research Poster Competition finalist at the 2016 Medical World Americas meeting May 26 in Houston. His project was entitled “Disruption of Gravin’s Scaffolding: Potential Therapeutic Target for Heart Failure.”



Suryavanshi

Recent Publications

Development of a conceptual model of health-related quality of life among hepatitis C patients: A systematic review of qualitative studies.

Mhatre SK, Sansgiry SS. *Hepatol Res.* 2016 Jan;46(1):29-39. doi: 10.1111/hepr.12521. Epub 2015 May 22. Review. PMID: 25847330

Impact of hyperglycemia on outcomes of patients with *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* bacteremia. Patel TS, Cottreau JM, Hirsch EB, **Tam VH.**

Diagn Microbiol Infect Dis. 2016 Feb;84(2):155-8. doi: 10.1016/j.diagmicrobio.2015.10.024. Epub 2015 Oct 28. PMID: 26639227

Comparative Cognitive Profile of Second-Generation Antidepressants in Elderly Nursing Home Residents With Depression. **Bali V, Johnson ML, Chen H, Fleming ML,** Holmes HM, **Aparasu RR.** *Ann Pharmacother.* 2016 Feb;50(2):96-105. doi: 10.1177/1060028015618978. Epub 2015 Nov 25. PMID: 26610873

Pharmacokinetics and safety of intravesicular cidofovir in allogeneic HSCT recipients. **Aitken SL,** Zhou J, Ghantaji SS, Kontoyiannis DP, Jones RB, **Tam VH,** Chemaly RF. *J Antimicrob Chemother.* 2016 Mar;71(3):727-30. doi: 10.1093/jac/dkv393. Epub 2015 Nov 26. PMID: 26612873

In vitro activity of dalbavancin and five comparator agents against common and uncommon Gram-positive organisms isolated from cancer patients. Rolston KV, Wang W, Neshler L, Shelburne SA, **Prince RA.** *J Antibiot (Tokyo).* 2016 May;69(5):381-7. doi: 10.1038/ja.2015.120. Epub 2015 Dec 2. PMID:26626876

SGLT-1 Transport and Deglycosylation inside Intestinal Cells Are Key Steps in the Absorption and Disposition of Calycosin-7-O- β -d-Glucoside in Rats. Shi J, Zheng H, Yu J, Zhu L, Yan T, Wu P, Lu L, Wang Y, **Hu M,** Liu Z. *Drug Metab Dispos.* 2016 Mar;44(3):283-96. doi: 10.1124/dmd.115.067009. Epub 2015 Dec 11. PMID: 26658676

Novel N-pyrimidin-4-yl-3-amino-pyrrolo [3, 4-C] pyrazole derivatives as PKC kinase inhibitors: a patent evaluation of US2015099743 (A1). **Das J.** *Expert Opin Ther Pat.* 2016 Apr;26(4):523-8. doi: 10.1517/13543776.2015.1124088. Epub 2015 Dec 14. PMID: 26593678

Caffeine and REM sleep deprivation: Effect on basal levels of signaling molecules in area CA1. **Alkadhi KA,** Alhaider IA. *Mol Cell Neurosci.* 2016 Mar;71:125-31. doi: 10.1016/j.mcn.2015.12.015. Epub 2016 Jan 6. PMID: 26767416

Development and validation of an UPLC-MS/MS method for the quantification of irinotecan, SN-38 and SN-38 glucuronide in plasma, urine, feces, liver and kidney: Application to a pharmacokinetic study of irinotecan in rats. **Basu S,** Zeng M, Yin T, **Gao S, Hu M.** *J Chromatogr B Analyt Technol Biomed Life Sci.* 2016 Mar 15;1015-1016:34-41. doi: 10.1016/j.jchromb.2016.02.012. Epub 2016 Feb 9. PMID: 26894853

Impact on toxin production and cell morphology in *Clostridium difficile* by ridinilazole (SMT19969), a novel treatment for *C. difficile* infection. Bassères E, **Endres BT,** Khaleduzzaman M, Miraftabi F, **Alam MJ,** Vickers RJ, **Garey KW.** *J Antimicrob Chemother.* 2016 May;71(5):1245-51. doi: 10.1093/jac/dkv498. Epub 2016 Feb 18. PMID: 26895772

PDE4 Inhibitors Attenuate the Asthma Phenotype Produced by β 2-adrenoceptor Agonists in PNMT-KO Mice. **Forkuo GS, Kim H, Thanawala VJ, Al-Sawalha N,** Valdez D, **Joshi R,** Parra S, Pera T, Gonnella PA, **Knoll BJ,** Walker JK, Penn RB, **Bond RA.** *Am J Respir Cell Mol Biol.* 2016 Feb 24. [Epub ahead of print] PMID: 26909542

Physician Perception of Patient Medication Adherence in a Cohort of Medicare Advantage Plans in Texas. Winters A, Esse T, **Bhansali A,** Serna O, **Mhatre S, Sansgiry S.** *J Manag Care Spec Pharm.* 2016

Mar;22(3):305-12. doi: 10.18553/jmcp.2016.22.3.305. PMID: 27003560

Cardiomyocyte-specific conditional knockout of the histone chaperone HIRA in mice results in hypertrophy, sarcolemmal damage and focal replacement fibrosis. Valenzuela N, **Fan Q,** Fa'ak F, Soibam B, Nagandla H, Liu Y, Schwartz RJ, **McConnell BK,** Stewart MD. *Dis Model Mech.* 2016 Mar 1;9(3):335-45. doi: 10.1242/dmm.022889. PMID: 26935106

Prevalence and predictors of non-evidence based proton pump inhibitor use among elderly nursing home residents in the US. **Rane PP,** Guha S, **Chatterjee S, Aparasu RR.** *Res Social Adm Pharm.* 2016 Mar 8. pii: S1551-7411(16)00059-0. doi: 10.1016/j.sapharm.2016.02.012. [Epub ahead of print] PMID: 27033427

Evaluating the role of atazanavir/cobicistat and darunavir/cobicistat fixed-dose combinations for the treatment of HIV-1 infection. **Crutchley RD, Guduru RC, Cheng AM.** *HIV AIDS (Auckl).* 2016 Mar 9;8:47-65. doi: 10.2147/HIV.S99063. eCollection 2016. Review. PMID: 27022304

Smoking Cessation Support Among Oncology Practitioners in a Regional Cancer Center in the Middle East-Improving a Critical Service for Cancer Care. Obeidat NA, Ayub HS, Amarin R, Ghonimat I, Hawari FI, Aburajab Altamimi B, **Abughosh S.** *Oncologist.* 2016 Mar 9. pii: theoncologist.2015-0305. [Epub ahead of print] PMID: 26961922

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Protective Effect of Tempol on Buthionine Sulfoximine-Induced Mitochondrial Impairment in Hippocampal Derived HT22 Cells. **Salvi A,** Patki G, Khan E, **Asghar M, Salim S.** *Oxid Med Cell Longev.* 2016;2016:5059043. doi: 10.1155/2016/5059043. Epub 2016 Mar 16. PMID: 27069531

Adjunct histamine blockers as premedications to prevent carboplatin hypersensitivity reactions. **Mach CM,** Lapp EA, Weddle KJ, Hunter RJ, Burns KA, Parker C, Brown J, Smith JA. *Pharmacotherapy.* 2016 Mar 16. doi: 10.1002/phar.1739. [Epub ahead of print] PMID: 26990212

Comparative Effectiveness of Smoking Cessation Medications to Attenuate Weight Gain Following Cessation. **Yang M, Chen H, Johnson ML, Essien EJ,** Peters RJ Jr, **Wang X, Abughosh S.** *Subst Use Misuse.* 2016 Apr 15;51(5):586-97. doi: 10.3109/10826084.2015.1126744. Epub 2016 Mar 23. PMID: 27007975

Selective Modulation of Protein Kinase C α over Protein Kinase C ϵ by Curcumin and Its Derivatives in CHO-K1 Cells. Pany S, Majhi A, **Das J.** *Biochemistry.* 2016 Apr 12;55(14):2135-43. doi: 10.1021/acs.biochem.6b00057. Epub 2016 Mar 25. PMID: 26983836

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