

# The EXPERIENTIAL EDUCATOR

Winter 2024 Vol 13

## Highlights

Preceptor of The Year Awards

Alumni Q & A

Upcoming CE's



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California Northstate University College of Pharmacy



@CNUCOP

Faculty Editor: Dr. Tony Eid  
Staff Editor: Liz Suarez -Yang

# A Message from the Assistant Dean of Experiential Education

*By: Dr. Tony Eid*

I am truly delighted to welcome you to the latest edition of our Experiential Education newsletter. With great enthusiasm, I share with you some of the remarkable developments, accomplishments, and highlights within our dynamic academic community. One of the cornerstones of our success is our dedicated team, and I am honored to introduce you to the extraordinary individuals who work tirelessly behind the scenes. They are the driving force that makes our experiential education programs thrive, ensuring our students receive the best opportunities for growth and development.

This month's spotlight is on our esteemed alumni, who serve as shining examples of the potential that experiential education can unlock. Their journeys from our programs to remarkable careers are inspiring, and we take pride in their impact in their respective fields.

The experiences they gained here have been instrumental in shaping their success stories. We are also excited to announce the Preceptor Awards, a recognition of our preceptors' vital role in guiding and mentoring our students during their experiential placements. These awards honor those who provide invaluable experiences to our students, ensuring they receive top-tier training and mentorship.

Community outreach remains a core tenet of our mission, and we are proud of our students' engagement in various community service projects. These initiatives demonstrate the power of experiential education in creating a sense of responsibility and instilling a spirit of giving back. Their commitment to positively impacting our local and global communities is commendable. As part of our ongoing commitment to preceptor service, we continuously work to enhance the support and resources available to our preceptors. Their contributions are immeasurable, and we are dedicated to ensuring they have the tools and training needed to excel as mentors and educators.

A commitment to excellence in experiential education marks our journey forward. We will continue to strengthen our team, shine a light on our alumni's incredible achievements, recognize our preceptors' outstanding contributions, extend our hand in service to the community, and provide unwavering support to those who guide our students on their educational paths. Experiential education holds the promise of transformation, and together, we will empower our students with experiences that will serve as the foundation for a future filled with opportunity and achievement.

Thank you for your steadfast support, and I look forward to sharing more success stories, milestones, and inspiring moments in our upcoming newsletters.



# A Message from the IPPE Director of Experiential Education

*By: Dr. Welly Mente*

It is a pleasure to reintroduce myself as the current Director of Introduction Pharmacy Practice Experience (IPPE). First, I want to kindly express my sincere thank you to every preceptor for what you have done and for your continued support and dedication to educating pharmacy students, in addition to your responsibilities at your practice site. The college recognizes the crucial role preceptors and faculty play in providing and shaping the learning opportunities and skillsets of our promising and future pharmacists. Thank you for your commitment and collaboration in hosting CNUCOP pharmacy students during experiential rotations now and in the near future.

At any time, feel free to reach out if you need any tips on orienting or re-orienting your CNUCOP rotation students to your IPPE practice site. Experience shows that efficiently orientating your student to your practice site will provide an improved rotation experience for both the student and preceptor. The college provides IPPE preceptors with a starter list of items to be reviewed with each new student as found in the IPPE syllabus known as the Preceptor Checklist. Please keep in mind that this is a basic minimal starter list that can be expanded according to your practice site needs. Consider letting your student know upfront who to report to in your absence. Make sure to provide your practice site rules, safety protocols, rotation objectives, project due dates, and meeting times for a more detailed experience for your student. These are just some of the items that can be scheduled or prepared in advance and will save you time. Most importantly, set clear expectations and allow opportunities for the student to ask questions. Your student will appreciate this and feel informed and welcome.

We look forward to exploring opportunities with you to engage CNUCOP students in educational and experiential ways in order to advance the profession of pharmacy together through experiential training. If you have something you would like to teach or offer to our students, please feel free to reach out to us. Your expertise and passion for pharmacy practice can make a difference in the lives of an aspiring future pharmacists.

Before I go, we welcome you to stay connected with California Northstate University College of Pharmacy. Please let us know how we can better serve the needs of your student program. I am honored to work together with you as we advance the expertise of future pharmacy practitioners with the medication use process as well as medication and patient safety in today's evolving digital landscape. As a preceptor, there is nothing more professionally satisfying than being recognized by their students for their efforts that have made a positive impact.





**Tony Joseph Eid, PharmD,  
REHS, BCMTM, APH, CHC,  
FACC  
Assistant Dean of Experiential  
Education, College of  
Pharmacy  
Associate Professor**



**Welly Mente, PharmD, FCSHP  
Director of Experiential  
Education - Introductory  
Pharmacy Practice Education  
(IPPE)  
Associate Professor**



**Elizabeth (Liz) Suarez-Yang,  
BSPH  
Experiential Education  
Coordinator**

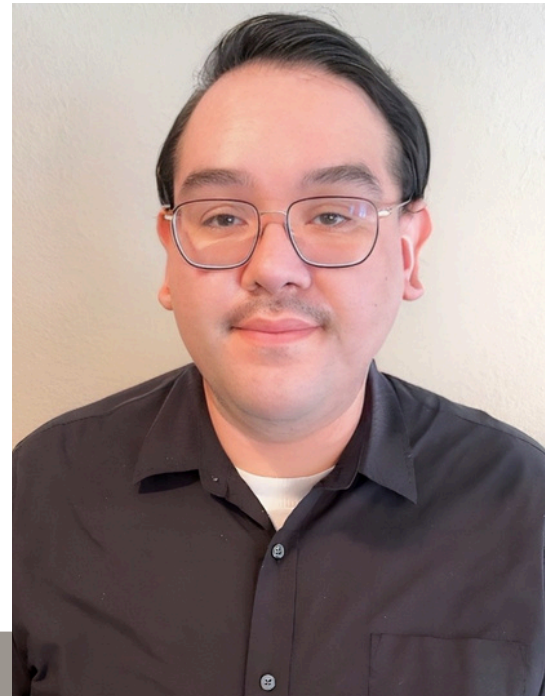


*Introducing  
The Office of Experiential Education*



# Q & A with Alumni

By: *Dr. Jesse Arraiga*



What initially inspired you to pursue a career in pharmacy?

Since childhood, I vividly remember translating for my parents during doctor and pharmacy visits. Growing up in a bilingual household, I was naturally drawn to helping them understand medical instructions and explanations in our non-native language. This early exposure sparked a curiosity about the field of pharmacy, as I began to appreciate the crucial role pharmacists play in ensuring accurate medication use and patient care.

How did your time as a pharmacy student prepare you for your current role as a pharmacist?

One of the most invaluable aspects of my education was the experiential learning gained through rotations. These rotations allowed me to apply classroom teachings in real-world settings, working directly with patients and healthcare teams. Whether in hospital pharmacies, community pharmacies, or specialty clinics, each rotation provided unique insights into various aspects of pharmacy practice. Beyond academics and rotations, my involvement in volunteer initiatives significantly enriched my understanding of community healthcare needs. Engaging directly with underserved populations emphasized the importance of accessibility and patient education in improving health outcomes.



What specific area of pharmacy practice are you currently working in, and why did you choose this specialization?



I am currently working as a lead pharmacist in hospital pharmacy practice, which aligns perfectly with my career aspirations. In hospital pharmacy, each day brings opportunities to contribute directly to patient outcomes. Whether it's optimizing medication therapies, ensuring safe medication administration, or providing clinical interventions, I find immense satisfaction in knowing that my work enhances patient safety and well-being. My decision to specialize in hospital pharmacy was driven by a desire to see direct, immediate improvements in patient outcomes and to work collaboratively within a healthcare team.

Are there any projects that you're currently involved in or excited about?

I'm currently engaged in an exciting initiative to enhance our Transitions of Care (TOC) program, with a specific focus on improving outcomes for patients with heart failure. This project is particularly compelling as it addresses a critical healthcare challenge: reducing readmissions, which are prevalent among heart failure patients. I also work closely with our students, who play a pivotal role in this initiative.

What is the most rewarding aspect of being a pharmacist, and how does it align with your initial motivations for pursuing this career?



For me, the most rewarding aspect of being a pharmacist is witnessing the direct impact on patient well-being and satisfaction. There's nothing quite like seeing a patient improve and leave the hospital feeling better after being involved in their care throughout their journey. These tangible results from our efforts are incredibly fulfilling and reinforce my dedication to the profession.

# The three - year PharmD journey Begins with Class of 2027 Entering in Fall 2024

*By: Dr. Welly Mente*

California Northstate University College of Pharmacy (CNUCOP), pharmacist preceptors, faculty, staff, and administrators are taking steps to help students achieve their professional career goals in three years. This Fall, CNUCOP is pleased to announce that the Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education (ACPE) has granted approval for CNUCOP to transition to a three-year accelerated Doctor of Pharmacy program. Newly admitted students will now enroll and are scheduled to complete their degree in three years. This new chapter marks the beginning of our journey, based on a year-round curriculum with trimester coursework across various subject areas. Many thanks to all our preceptors, faculty, staff, and administrators for their tireless work and diligence in helping make this reality happen for CNUCOP students and the profession. The college is grateful and privileged to accomplish this monumental goal with your support and collaboration.

The Class of 2027, entering in the Fall of 2024, is the inaugural class of the three-year PharmD program. The third year of the pharmacy program (P3) will still include six, six-week Advanced Pharmacy Practice Experience (APPE) rotations alongside APP 910 and APP 911 didactic courses, culminating in graduation at the end of the Spring session. These students will be simultaneously enrolled in APPE rotations during year three and will graduate alongside the Class of 2027, who entered in the Fall of 2023 in the four-year PharmD program. Now more than ever, graduates from the three-year program will sit for the licensure board exams (NAPLEX and CPJE/MPJE), similar to peers in other three-year programs.

At present, Introduction to Pharmacy Practice Experience (IPPE) students enrolled in the three-year program will begin their first IPPE rotation as early as the end of their first trimester in school or during the Winter session. This will provide our IPPE students the benefit of an accelerated curriculum and earlier exposure to community and clinical pharmacy practice settings. The Office of Experiential Education (OEE) thanks our preceptors and requests your continued support and collaboration during this transition period from the four-year to the three-year program. As part of any organizational milestone, it is important for the OEE to inform our experiential sites about the new IPPE rotation periods, which will now align primarily with five listed time slots each academic year, starting with the 2024-2025 academic calendar year, based on a five-trimester didactic schedule:

1. Rotation period between trimesters 1 and 2 (Winter 2024, academic year 1) – Students complete a 150-hour IPPE
2. Rotation period between trimesters 2 and 3 (Spring 2025, academic year 1) – Students complete a 75-hour IPPE
3. Rotation period between trimesters 3 and 4 (Summer 2025, academic year 1) – Students complete a 75-hour IPPE
4. Rotation period between trimesters 4 and 5 (Winter 2025, academic year 2) – Off block unless a student needs to complete an IPPE
5. Rotation period between trimester 5 and the start of APPEs (Spring 2026, academic year 2) – Some students may begin APPEs, complete an IPPE, or have an off block

In conclusion, the OEE is excited about this transition and appreciates the continued collaboration with experiential sites and preceptors for CNUCOP students. We anticipate a high level of dedication and commitment in helping to prepare future cohorts of pharmacist professionals as CNUCOP's journey begins with the three-year PharmD program.



# PRECEPTOR OF THE YEAR AWARDS



IPPE Site of The Year  
*Rogers Drug Store*

*Niragen Pharmaceuticals, Inc.*

APPE Site of The Year

# PRECEPTOR OF THE YEAR AWARDS



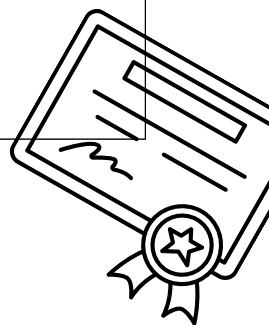
*Dr. Henry Ng*  
*Kaiser Permanente - Sacramento Morse*

APPE General Medicine Preceptor of The Year



Alumni Preceptor of The Year

*Dr. Hesu Bazaryan*  
*Central Valley Specialty Hospital*



# PRECEPTOR OF THE YEAR AWARDS

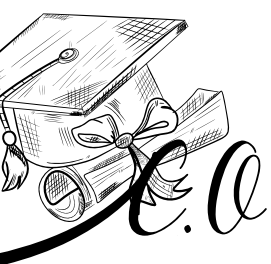


APPE Ambulatory Care Site of The Year  
*9th Medical Group Beale Air Force Base*



Faculty Preceptor of The Year  
*Dr. Eugene Kreys*  
*California Northstate University. College of Pharmacy*





# C.O. 2024 Commencement Ceremony

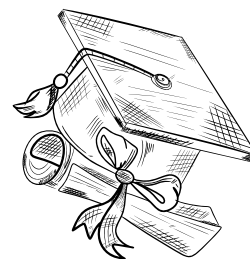
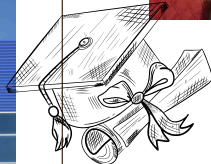
By: Dr. Tiffany Kreys



On Saturday, May 18th, 2024, California Northstate University graduated over 230 students from five different CNU colleges, including the College of Pharmacy, College of Medicine, College of Psychology, Graduate Studies, and the College of Health Sciences, in a unified ceremony at the SAFE Performing Arts Center in downtown Sacramento. President Alvin Cheung, along with CNU Board of Trustees members, preceptors, university administrators, faculty, staff, peers, family, and friends, gathered for this momentous occasion to celebrate the accomplishments of our Class of 2024 graduates.

A special thanks to our keynote speakers, Dr. Ryan Stice, Chief Pharmacy Officer at Sutter Health, and Dr. Davis Liu, Chief Medical Officer at Curai Health, as well as our valedictorians: Ms. Amy Chan (College of Health Sciences), Dr. Pinelopi Xenoudi (Master of Healthcare Administration program), Mr. Jackson Temple Donald (Master of Pharmaceutical Sciences program), Dr. David Girard (College of Psychology), Dr. Amber Huynh, Dr. Jennifer Jie Ying Liem, and Dr. Xinge Zheng (College of Pharmacy), and Dr. Shawn Park (College of Medicine), for their heartfelt messages to their fellow graduates.

A special shoutout to our interdisciplinary CNU Graduation Committee, consisting of administrators, faculty, and staff, who worked tirelessly to execute this wonderful event!





# Upcoming Continuing Education (CE) Courses



## 2024-2025 CE EVENTS

### **Event: Capital Leadership Forum – AI and Its Impact on Pharmacy Practice**

Date: 10/22/24  
Time: 6:00PM to 7:30PM (Pacific Time)  
Target Audience: Pharmacists  
CE Credit: 0.15 CPE for 1.5 hours of live instruction  
Venue: Online  
No Registration Fee | [Refund Policy](#)  
Learn more here: <https://tinyurl.com/c6aubcpa>  
Register here: <https://tinyurl.com/zk834j8>

### **Event: 2025 Preceptors Conference**

Date: 01/25/25  
Time: 8:45AM to 12:00PM  
Venue: Online  
Target Audiences: Pharmacists, Physicians and Psychologists

#### Speakers and Topics:

- ForShing Lui, MD, CNUCOM: Neurological insights associated with the diagnosis and treatment of dementia (9am) CPE, CME and PsyCE
- Shahanara Ahsan, PharmD, CNUCOP: Drug interactions with over the counter and supplements. (10am) CPE and CME
- Welly Mente, PharmD, CNUCOP: Instructing pharmacy students on Pharmacist Patient Care Process (11am) CPE

Request an invitation to register:  
<https://forms.office.com/r/6hFzhefBwj>

### **Event: 2025 Residency Symposium (In-Person)**

Date: 05/07/25  
Time: 5:00PM to 8:30PM  
Request an invitation to the 2025 Residency Symposium:  
<https://forms.office.com/r/WVVJZT6CV7>

### **NEW! Cultural Competency CPE required by the California State Board of Pharmacy**

*Effective January 1, 2024, for pharmacists and pharmacy technicians are required to take one hour of CE training on cultural competency as part of their CE training required to renew their license. This course will fulfill that requirement. This CE renewal requirement applies to all pharmacy technicians, pharmacists and advance practice pharmacists whose expiration date is after December 31, 2023. Read more [here](#).*

Online Home Study: Cultural Competency (to fulfill California Board of Pharmacy CE requirements)

- Target Audience: Pharmacists and Pharmacy Technicians
- No Registration Fee | Register here: <https://forms.office.com/r/gHd5HZLpdr>
- Learn more about this course here: <https://tinyurl.com/4bsd8fh>

### **LAST YEAR IN REVIEW**

In AY2023-2024, a total of 471 pharmacy community professionals (across all activities) assembled to learn about the following topics:

- Reimbursement Strategies (Capital Leadership Forum)
- Cultural Competency in Pharmacy Practice (Preceptors Conference)
- Medication Therapy Management (Preceptors Conference)
- Team Based Learning (Preceptors Conference)
- 2024 Residency Symposium (resident research presentations on disease states and therapies)

Seventy-one (71) percent of participants indicated they were willing and/or planning to make changes to their practice because of these trainings. Great work!





For more information regarding California Northstate University, College of Pharmacy, please visit us at [pharmacy.cnsu.edu](https://pharmacy.cnsu.edu)