



The  
Official  
Newsletter  
of  
California  
Northstate  
University  
College of  
Pharmacy

# The Pride



**Spring  
2020**

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*Dear CNUCOP Family,*

As one of the founding faculty members of CNUCOP, I have experienced and witnessed the establishment, development, and improvement of CNUCOP PRIDE. The PRIDE program has defined CNUCOP and molded our alumni and students into leaders and advocates of our school, community, and pharmacy profession.



There is no better time than now to promote the spirit of PRIDE: To advance the art and science of pharmacy through professionalism, responsibility, and involvement of our dedication to excellence. Our students, alumni, and faculty serve the community at every forefront of patient care, side by side with all essential health care workers, including pharmacists, to fight the unprecedented global pandemic of COVID-19. You risk your life to work extra shifts in the pharmacy while the whole community, state, and country are “sheltering in place.” You uphold the oath of the white coat and never let social distancing keep you

away from caring for your patients, even when most clinics are closed, because you are the only accessible healthcare resource in many communities.

Our PRIDE members and partners thrive and drive PRIDE to a new level. You have upheld the highest standard of pharmacy education and the pharmacy profession through the PRIDE activities which promote excellence in research, community service, clinical skills, professionalism, leadership, and public services. I look forward to writing a new, exciting chapter of CNUCOP PRIDE with all of our members and partners.



*Xiaodong Feng, PhD, PharmD  
Dean and Professor*



The amazing spirit of human solidarity must become even more infectious than the coronavirus itself. We must all come together around the globe, throughout our nation, and right here on our campus. All of us here at California Northstate University College of Pharmacy just wanted to assure you that...

*“No matter the distance, we’re all in this together.”*



# Combating COVID-19



## Compounding Hand Sanitizer

Dr. Uyen Le and Dr. Fitsum Sahle worked with Melanie Rose and Jocelyn Gonzalez to make hand sanitizer. They came together to help protect and support our healthcare workers so that they can take care of our community.



## Supporting Local Heroes

California Northstate University donated masks, gloves, and hand sanitizer to the Cosumnes Fire Department, the Elk Grove Food Bank Services, and other essential professionals. This protective wear will be used by firefighters, paramedics, and food bank volunteers during the coronavirus pandemic. This donation included over 200 N95 masks, 900 patient masks, and 60 gallons of hand sanitizer.



# Faculty Spotlight



## **What do you like about pharmacy?**

Pharmacy combines a broad range of scientific disciplines. What I like the most about pharmacy is that whatever the scope of your practice is, you do it to make people feel better and live longer.

## **Do you have any hobbies outside of pharmacy?**

Yes, although I am mostly busy, I spare some time to relax and what I like to do depends on the time that I have and the weather outside. On beautiful sunny days, I prefer to do some outdoor activities like playing soccer, walking, riding a bike, or hiking. My other hobbies include spending time with family and friends, watching TV and movies, reading, listening to music, and playing chess.

## **Is there a message you would like to convey to the students regarding COVID-19 and distance learning?**

We are all facing a huge and unprecedented challenge. This is an episode of the continuous battle between humans and microbes. Realizing this, we should remain determined to prevent the spread of COVID-19 by strictly adhering to the social distancing and other prevention guidelines. In addition, as front-line healthcare professionals, we shoulder an additional responsibility to fight the virus by educating our community and by helping patients through the provision of quality pharmaceutical services during rotations and internships.

As part of the prevention plan, we also have done a great job switching to virtual learning. It is a new experience, which has been overwhelming for most of us. However, it is my conviction that we will soon win the battle with COVID-19 and return to normal. We may also see it as an opportunity to learn something new. With the rapid advancement of technology, virtual learning might be the future trend and the experience that we are gaining today would undoubtedly be helpful in the future. No matter what, we are in this together and we will come through this together.



**Dr. Fitsum Sahle, PhD**  
**Assistant Professor, Pharmaceutical & Biomedical Sciences Department**

## **What made you choose to become a professor?**

I was most influenced by my passion for teaching and research. Research enables me to be part of the ongoing effort of scientists around the globe to discover new and better treatment possibilities for new and existing diseases.

## **What is the best part about being a CNU faculty member?**

The best part about being a CNU faculty member is the exceptional collegial work environment and the high level of etiquette and professionalism among our students. At CNUCOP, going to class to teach always feels great.

## **What is the most helpful advice you have received?**

I have received a lot of helpful advice, but there is one instance that resonates with me the most. Immediately after graduating from pharmacy school, I was anxiously discussing the challenges and opportunities in pharmacy with my mentor. He recognized my doubts and worries and told me “as long as you have the right attitude and mindset, the sky is the limit” and advised me not to settle for anything that I do not deserve.

# Exploring the World of Pharmacy

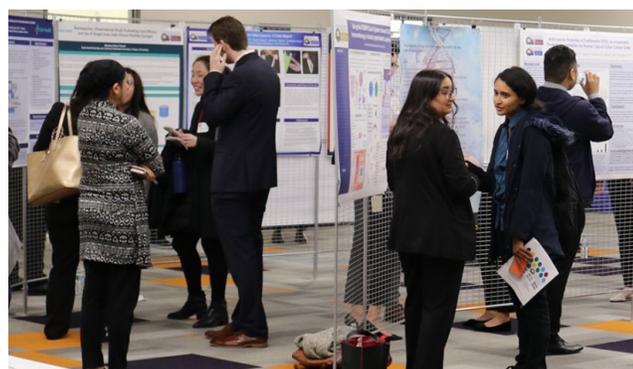


## Pharmacy Internship & Networking Fair

CNUCOP students were able to meet potential employers, learn about IPPE rotations, and make new connections for the future. This successful event attracted over 60 students and faculty. Companies including Walgreens, Walmart, CVS, Rite Aid, and Kaiser Permanente attended the event.

## 2020 Annual CNU Translational Research Symposium

Healthcare professionals, faculty, and CNU students gathered to present and showcase their research and network for collaboration across colleges and universities. This event attracted hundreds of students, residents, researchers, and faculty from CNU and nearby universities.



## CAPSLEAD Conference

This year's CNUCOP CAPSLEAD Team traveled to South San Francisco for the Annual CAPSLEAD Conference hosted by California Health Sciences University School of Pharmacy. This conference delivered programming on leadership and research and provided pharmacy students with the opportunity to network with peers from other pharmacy programs.



## SNPhA's Regions III, IV, & V Conference

CNUCOP students traveled to Lexington, KY to attend SNPhA's Regions III, IV, and V Conference hosted by the University of Kentucky College of Pharmacy. Students had the opportunity to attend educational seminars and leadership development workshops, compete in clinical skills competitions, and network with students from other pharmacy programs.



# Semester Highlights



## **APhA-CPhA's Casino Night**

APhA-CPhA sought to bring together the community by hosting a casino night full of games and food. This successful fundraiser had over 20 attendees and raised funds for community outreach events. Winners included Rajan Vaidya- 40 inch TV, Victor Phan- power bank, Kevin Chau- Amazon Echo Dot, and Vinny Walia- Amazon Echo Dot.

## **CNU Cross Training**

CNU is not just about producing strong leaders for pharmacy, but also promotes a healthy lifestyle by encouraging students and faculty to exercise together. Katey Hilburger, a certified cross trainer and P3 student, provided cross training sessions for CNU students and faculty in weekly sessions.



## **Therapy Dog Day**

Who doesn't love adorable friends that can help you relieve stress. The CNU Health and Wellness Committee brought in therapy animals for the students, faculty, and staff to enjoy. With midterms around the corner, petting cute dogs and rabbits was a treasured highlight of the semester.

## **National Pharmacist's Day**

CNUCOP celebrated National Pharmacist's Day, on January 12th. This day focuses on the importance of pharmacists and honors how much they impact our health and well-being. It provides an opportunity to thank the pharmacists who keep us healthy throughout the year.



# Faculty Achievements

## CPHA's New Practitioner of the Year

Congratulations to our very own Dr. Jennifer Courtney!

Dr. Courtney has been named the California Pharmacists Association (CPHA's) New Practitioner of the Year. She is a Class of 2015 alumnus and an excellent CNUCOP faculty member.

This award recognizes an outstanding new practitioner who has demonstrated leadership at multiple levels of pharmacy. The recipient should be an energetic leader who has stimulated others to actively participate in the profession, advocate for the pharmacy profession, and/or participate in community affairs related to the practice of pharmacy. The recipient should be recognized by his/her colleagues for their professional advancements.

Dr. Courtney continues to shine within the field of pharmacy. Her fresh approach, community outreach, and genuine interest in student success has earned her this award. Please join us in congratulating Dr. Jennifer Courtney as the CPHA New Practitioner of the Year!



**Dr. Jennifer Courtney, PharmD**  
Assistant Professor, Clinical and  
Administrative Sciences Department

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## 2020 AACP New Investigator Award

Congratulations to our very own Dr. Justin Lenhard!

Dr. Lenhard won the prestigious 2020 AACP New Investigator Award. He received a \$10,000 grant to conduct his research involving optimizing the Treatment of Polymicrobial Wound Infections. The results of his research will be presented at the AACP Pharmacy Education 2021 Conference in Toronto, Canada.

This award provides a start-up fund for the independent research programs of early-career pharmacy faculty. The grant is intended to fund research and provide a foundation for future scholarly endeavors and continued extramural funding success.

Congratulations Dr. Lenhard on your amazing accomplishment!



**Dr. Justin Lenhard, PharmD**  
Assistant Professor, Clinical and  
Administrative Sciences Department

# Spring Town Hall Awards

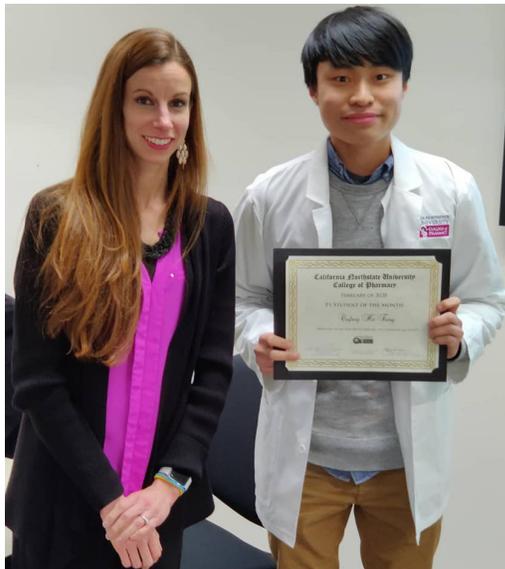
## February Team of the Month

P1 Team 9 of Fall 2019



Randy Nguyen, Patricia De Perio, Nemrah Amir, Long Quach, and Aneesah Khan

## February Students of the Month



**P1**

Cafrey He Feng



**P2**

Vy Tran Luu



**P3**

Helena Carmon

# Spring Town Hall Awards

## March Team of the Month

### P1 Team of the Month



Tram Bui, Sarfraz Singh, Yvonne Cunningham, Jessica Cheung, and Cafrey He Feng

### P2 Team of the Month



Jun Ting Liu, Emiliano Llave, Aisha Matloob, Lusine Movsisyan, Ngoc Thao Phan, Alyssa Renison, and Kevin Torres

## March Students of the Month



### P1

Tram Bui



### P2

Aisha Matloob



### P3

Julia Tryhorn

# Student Achievements

## Rho Chi Initiates

### Class of 2021

Iulia Corlateanu  
Luis Tolento Cortes  
Katrina Magana  
Tiffany McMurtry  
Duyen Thi My Nguyen  
Jenny Hoang Nguyen

### Class of 2022

Haley Abbett  
Rohit Bassi  
Anthony Cacchiotti  
Victor Changcoco  
Yu An Cho  
Nhi Duong  
Shoaib Khan  
Jun Liu  
James Lugtu  
Vy Tran Luu

Kayla McCann  
Alexander Nguyen  
Andy Pham  
Sanh Anh Phan  
Nicolette Quario  
Manpreet Sidhu  
Jenny Tiet  
Quynh Tran  
Yvonne Tseng  
Pa Nhia Vang

## Phi Lambda Sigma Initiates

### Class of 2021

Aleks Foksha  
Janie Yu  
Jennifer Huang  
Jennifer Magness  
Stephan Le  
Vivian Nguyen

### Class of 2022

Lynn Huynh  
Jacquelyn Jee  
Vivi Le  
James Lugtu  
Kayla McCann  
Hang Nguyen  
Reilly Oki

Sabrina Rai  
James Santiago  
Hae Ji Shin  
Jenny Tiet  
Mai Kia Vang  
Kyle Wong

## Completed the PRIDE Application 2019-2020

### Class of 2021

Elizabeth Browning  
Jake Castoreale  
Ariana Dagdag  
Kimberly Moll Lee  
Jamieson Thom  
Jenny Tran

### Class of 2022

Co Mai Duong  
Nhi Duong  
Agata Ho  
Emiliano Barja Llave  
James Alexander Lugtu  
Kayla McCann  
Hang Nguyen  
Justin Nguyen  
Kevin Nguyen  
Sang Anh Phan  
Sabrina Rai  
Jurtej Singh  
Maria Surti  
Jun Liu Ting  
Kimberly Xiong

### Class of 2023

Tram Ngoc Bui  
Kenneth Cheng  
Cafrey He Feng  
Juan Gonzalez  
Glenda Melisa Pelayo Torres  
Quoc-Anh Tran  
Vinh Thai Truong

### Completed 3 Years of PRIDE

Jeffrey Chen  
Kristine Kunzi  
Antonella Yousif

# Congratulations Winners

## SNPhA's Prescription for Service Competition

CNUCOP students Jacquelyn Jee (P2), Tiffany McMurtry (P3), Melinda Nguyen (P3), Jenny Tiet (P2), and Mai Kia Vang (P2) were awarded a \$2,500 grant. These students will use this grant to implement their project called The Pink Bags Project. They will assemble Pink Bags that contain essential items to empower survivors of domestic violence, sexual assault, and human trafficking. At the SNPhA National Conference, this team will present their accomplishments and have the chance to win a \$10,000 grant to continue their service to the community.



## SNPhA's Regions III, IV, and V Clinical Skills Competition

CNUCOP students Elizabeth Browning (P3) and Kathryn Pearce (P2) traveled to Lexington, KY to compete in SNPhA's Regions III, IV, and V Clinical Skills Competition. They used their clinical skills to analyze a complicated case then effectively counseled a patient. These students won 2nd place against 38 teams and walked away with a year's subscription to Lexicomp, \$300 in cash, a \$25 gift card for Kroger, and the 10th edition of the Pharmacotherapy Handbook.



## CNUCOP's Summer Research Fellowship

CNUCOP awarded Summer Research Fellowships to 6 deserving students. These students will complete an 8-week research project with a faculty mentor and have the opportunity to present their research findings at the 2021 CNU Translational Research Symposium. The Summer Research Fellowship Recipients are pictured below.

### Students:

Victor Changcoco  
(P2)

Sang Anh Phan  
(P2)

Vy Tran Luu  
(P2)

Luling Li  
(P2)

Kenneth Cheng  
(P1)

Alexander Akerlund  
(P1)



### Faculty Mentors:

Dr. Hogbin Wang

Dr. Justin Lenhard

Dr. Justin Lenhard

Dr. Islam Mohamed

Dr. Fitsum Sahle

Dr. Eugene Kreys

# Congratulations Winners

## AMCP's Pharmacy & Therapeutics (P&T) Competition

CNUCOP students Farhan Jangda (P3), Jacqueline Saechao (P3), Jennifer Magness (P3), and Jeffrey Chen (P3) competed in CNUCOP's P&T Competition. These students had the opportunity to compete at AMCP's National Meeting held this April in Houston, Texas.



## SCCP's SOAP Note Competition

CNUCOP Students worked together to SOAP complicated cases including diabetic foot infections, acute decompensated heart failure, and many other disease states.

### P1 Winners

Randy Nguyen, Patricia De Perio,  
Nemrah Amir, and Andy Thoong

P1



### P2 Winners

Vy Tran Luu, Tammy Huynh,  
Co Mai Duong, and Hoa Doan

P2



### P3 Winners

Jenny Nguyen, Thanh Truc Nguyen,  
Angelica Marquez, and Alexander Hahn

P3



# Scholarships & Awards

## Dean's Scholarship

Randy Nguyen (P1)  
Shane Sasada (P2)  
Luis Tolento Cortes (P3)  
Andy Soohyung Jeong (P4)

## President's Scholarship

Randy Nguyen (P1)  
Kai Ging Wong (P2)  
Jake Castoreale (P3)

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## Academic Excellence Award

Farah Sedki (P1)  
Vivi Le (P2)  
Julia Tryhorn (P3)

## Student of the Year

Farah Sedki (P1)  
Sang Anh Phan (P2)  
Janie Yu (P3)

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## Student Organization Leadership Award

Julie Lam (P2)

## Mylan Pharmaceutical Excellence Award

Britney Satow (P4)

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## Soroptomist Scholarship

Shawna Evans (P4)

## Tutor of the Year Award

Farah Sedki (P1)  
Vy Tran Luu (P2)

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## CPhA-ASP Chapter of Excellence Award

CNU CPhA/APhA-ASP Chapter

## USPHS Excellence in Public Health Pharmacy Award

Ryan Sauer (P4)

# Scholarships & Awards

## NCEF Scholarships

Alexander Swanberg (P1)  
Patience Iyere (P1)  
Alisa Miatselitsa (P1)

Hang Nguyen (P2)  
Kayla McCann (P2)  
Christina Nguyen (P3)

Ryan Sauer (P4)  
Christina Stephenson (P4)  
Shawna Evans (P4)

## Walgreen's Diversity Scholarship

Helena Carmon (P3)

## Walgreen's Multilingual Scholarship

Co Mai Duong (P2)

## CSHP: Mercy San Juan Medical Center Scholarship

Viet Nguyen (P4)

## CORE Future Leaders in Healthcare Award

Ramanpreet Kaur Dhindsa (P3)

## CSHP: Student Leadership Award

Vivia Phu (P4)

## CSHP-SV Chapter: Intern Pharmacist Scholarship

Jeffrey Chen (P3)

## SVPhA Scholarship

Christina Nguyen (P3)  
Reilly Oki (P2)



# *Congratulations*

Upon completing your final year in the PharmD program you have officially entered the profession of pharmacy, where you will serve the community and advance the profession. Even though you are moving on, remember that California Northstate University is, and will always, be your family. You will always be a part of

our community no matter where your future endeavors take you. You have faced and overcome many challenges these past four years, and you must maintain that perseverance to become the best pharmacist you can be. While we are sad we cannot share this milestone with you in person, we wish you the best of luck in the years to come. Your future is bright and full of endless possibilities.

*Class*  
*of* 2020



Congratulations Class of 2020! You did it!