



UNIVERSITY of MARYLAND  
SCHOOL OF PHARMACY

# UMSOP NEWS

January 2023

## New Chair of Pharmaceutical Sciences



[Sarah Michel, PhD](#), has been appointed the new chair of the School's Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences (PSC). She succeeds Peter Swaan, PhD, who became dean of the University of Florida College of Pharmacy on Dec. 1. Michel, a professor in PSC, associate dean for graduate programs, and co-director of the [Metallotherapeutics Research Center](#), has been on faculty at the School of Pharmacy since 2004. Her research focuses on the roles of metals in biology and pursues both fundamental and translational research problems. [Read more.](#)

## New Associate Dean for Research and Advanced Graduate Studies



[Paul Shapiro, PhD](#), professor in the Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences (PSC), has been named the School of Pharmacy's associate dean for research and advanced graduate studies. Shapiro, a faculty member since 1999, will work to enhance the impact of the School's research enterprise by increasing the number of funded investigators and by building interdisciplinary collaborations. He will also work with the directors of the [PhD in PSC](#) and the [PhD in Pharmaceutical Health Services Research](#) programs on their respective programs' growth and development. Shapiro previously served as the School's associate dean for research and graduate studies from 2009 to 2011.

[Read more.](#)

---

## School of Pharmacy Welcomes “Girls in STEM” Group



The simulation rooms on the third floor of Pharmacy Hall are typically used by University of Maryland, Baltimore students pursuing careers in pharmacy and the physician assistant profession to perform mock medical procedures and physical examination practice with realistic mannequins that can breathe, cough, and respond in real-time to treatments and tests. But on Nov. 17, middle school students from Mother Mary Lange Catholic School were treated to a behind the scenes look at the University of Maryland School of Pharmacy simulation space. [Read more.](#)

---

## State Regulation Expands Medication Access and Pharmacist Capabilities



The University of Maryland School of Pharmacy became the first in the state to train its student pharmacists on the administration of long-acting injectable medications as a result in changes to state regulations. In June 2022, a new regulation was implemented that authorized pharmacists, with approved training from the Maryland Board of Pharmacy, to administer maintenance injectable medications in the community setting. Third year students in the School’s Abilities Lab 5 course received instruction in late October on how to intramuscularly administer HIV, substance use disorder, and antipsychotic medications. [Read more.](#)

---

## Computational Modeling Advances Research in Asthma Treatment

In a [recently published article](#) in *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*, [Alexander MacKerell, PhD](#), the Grollman-Glick Professor of Pharmaceutical Sciences and director of the [Computer-Aided Drug Design \(CADD\) Center](#) at the School of Pharmacy, details translational research using computational methods to identify a new binding site for drug therapy along with compounds that bind to that site with the potential to be developed into new therapeutics. This use of using novel computational modeling technologies will help improve the efficacy of treatments for lung diseases like asthma and chronic obstructive pulmonary disease. [Read more.](#)



---

## PSC Professor Investigating Effect of Cadmium on Drug Response

A faculty member in the Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences (PSC) has received a five-year, \$1.8 million grant from the National Institute of

Environmental Health Sciences to research the interaction of cadmium with various drugs used in cancer and HIV treatment. [Yan Shu, MD, PhD](#), an associate professor of PSC, is leading the investigation with the hopes of improving personalized medicine in the future. [Read more.](#)



## EVENTS

### MS in Regulatory Science Virtual Information Session

Jan. 10, 1 p.m.  
Online

Meet with the Regulatory Science program director and faculty to discuss the master's and graduate certificate program. Learn about the courses, how the program works, and how to apply. [Register here.](#)

### MS in Medical Cannabis Science and Therapeutics Information Sessions

Jan. 10, 3 p.m.  
Online

Meet with the Medical Cannabis Science and Therapeutics program co-director and faculty to discuss the master's program. Learn about the courses, how the program works, and how to apply. [Register here.](#)

### APhA's Delivering Medication Therapy Management (MTM) Certificate Training

Jan. 21  
Online

The Office of Continuing Education is offering this online program, which presents a systematic approach for developing, implementing, delivering, and sustaining MTM services. [Registration](#) closes Jan. 9.

### PhD and MS in Pharmaceutical Sciences Virtual Information Session

Jan. 25, Noon  
Online

This virtual info session will include a brief overview of the PhD and MS in PSC programs and application process. There will also be time for participants to ask questions and have them answered by program administration and faculty. [Register here.](#)

## FACULTY, STAFF, AND STUDENT NEWS

### LAURELS

[Byron Au](#), [Dana Gordon](#), and [Ayush Sinha](#), students in the MS in Pharmaceutical Sciences program, received American Association of Pharmaceutical Scientists poster awards.

[Haixi Cui](#) and [Yihan Wang](#), both graduate students in the Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences, received the department's Dr. Gerald P and Margaret M Polli Graduate Student Travel Award to attend the AAPS annual conference.

[Steven Fletcher, PhD](#), associate professor of pharmaceutical sciences (PSC), has been

[Cherokee Layson-Wolf, PharmD, BCACP, FAPhA](#), professor of practice, sciences, and health outcomes research and associate dean for student affairs, was part of a UMB team that received the Indian Health Services Director's Award for COVID-19 Pandemic Heroism.

[Amanda Oglesby, PhD](#), associate professor of pharmaceutical sciences (PSC), has been named director of the [PhD in PSC program](#).

[Scott Riley, PhD](#), an instructor in the Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences, has

named director of the [MS in PSC program](#).

[Vijay Ivaturi, PhD](#), assistant professor of practice, sciences, and health outcomes research, has been named president-elect of the International Society of Pharmacometrics.

**Catherine Ladipo**, a graduate student in the Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences, received the 2023-2024 Genentech Meyerhoff Graduate Fellowship.

been accepted to the University of Maryland, Baltimore's Costa Rica Faculty Development Institute.

**Nhu Truong**, a graduate student in the Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences, received the second-place poster award at the National Institute for Pharmaceutical Technology & Education's annual research conference.

**Ayanna Williams**, a graduate student in the Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences, received an NIH Research Supplement to Promote Diversity in Health-Related Research Award.

## GRANTS AND CONTRACTS

[Nicole Brandt, PharmD, MBA, BCPP, CGP, FASCP](#), professor of practice, sciences, and health outcomes research and executive director of the [Peter Lamy Center on Drug Therapy and Aging](#), has received a five-year \$826,146 contract from Virginia Commonwealth University for "Prescribing Trends and Associated Outcomes of Antiepileptic Drugs and Other Psychoactive Medications in US Nursing Homes Surrounding the COVID-19 Pandemic."

[Susan dosReis, PhD](#), professor of practice, sciences, and health outcomes research, has received a three-year \$48,539 contract from the Research Institute at Nationwide Children's Hospital for "Improving Quality and Outcomes for Low Income Children with Depression in the US" and a one-year \$55,400 contract from Cytokinetics, Inc. for "Patient-Driven Priorities for Reldesemtiv."

## ALUMNI CLASS NOTES

**Mehmet Burcu, PhD '17**, started a new position as a senior director at Merck.

**Michelle Campbell, PhD '14**, started a new position at the U.S. Food and Drug Administration as an associate director of stakeholder engagement and clinical outcomes in the Office of Neuroscience.

**Elissa King, PharmD '17**, obtained the Mental Health First Aid certification from the National Council for Mental Wellbeing.



University of Maryland School of Pharmacy | 20 N. Pine Street, Baltimore, MD 21201

[Unsubscribe emerino@rx.umaryland.edu](mailto:unsubscribe_emerino@rx.umaryland.edu)

[Update Profile](#) | [Constant Contact Data Notice](#)

Sent by [marketing@rx.umaryland.edu](mailto:marketing@rx.umaryland.edu) powered by



Try email marketing for free today!