

THE UNIVERSITY OF NEW MEXICO COLLEGE OF PHARMACY

Lobo Script

a monthly magazine for everyone



COLLEGE
OF PHARMACY

SEPTEMBER . 2018

Dear Friends,

With the fall semester in full swing we are all hard at work and play this time of year. This September issue is full of celebrations as well as introductions.

It is with great pride that we introduce to you the UNM Health Sciences Center's 2018 pharmacy residents. This stellar group of young pharmacists include several of our own recent alumni from the classes of 2017 and 2018. On behalf of the UNM College of Pharmacy, congratulations and welcome to all of our pharmacy residents.

We are also very pleased to introduce to you **Markella Pavlakos**, who joins the College's leadership team as our new director of development. Markella is quickly getting to know our community. I am looking forward to personally introducing Markella to our friends and alumni across New Mexico and the U.S. in the coming months.

Although the University celebrates homecoming officially at the end of this month, the College of Pharmacy's homecoming events have already begun - we had a great turnout for our Albuquerque Isotopes alumni tailgate in partnership with the New Mexico Society of Health System Pharmacists, and perhaps our most anticipated fall event, the UNM COP/Walmart welcome back picnic was a huge hit for our students and their families. We extend our sincere appreciation to Jarvis Mixon and everyone at Walmart Pharmacies for their generosity and hard work in hosting us for the past 21 years.

Please make sure you take a look at our fall events calendar and set aside some time to reconnect and celebrate during one or more of our alumni events.

As many of you know, October is national pharmacists month and our annual community outreach day will be here before we know it. I encourage you to get involved. **Irene Gray**, our sr. alumni relations officer, is available to help you join in on serving across the state. Irene's contact information can be found in our alumni notes section.

Thank you for your continued support of and interest in the UNM College of Pharmacy.

Sincerely,



Donald A. Godwin, PhD

Dean & Associate Professor



COLLEGE
OF PHARMACY

LOBO Script a monthly magazine for everyone

editor-in-chief

Bridgette W. Jones

board

Donald A. Godwin, Irene Gray, Bridgette W. Jones, Markella Pavlakos, Chelsea Beth Walker & Krystal Ward

september contributors

Lisa Anselmo, M. Gabriela Cabanilla, Natalia Cadavid, Christa Creech, Amre Elmaoued, Kelsea Gallegos, Donald Godwin, Irene Gray, Bridgette W. Jones, Jessica Lewis, Siena Meador, Valentin Pacuraru, Markella Pavlakos, Ngoc-Yen Pham, and Rebecca Woloszyn

submission deadline

last business day of each month

submit your stories & news tips to
bcwagner@salud.unm.edu

We develop pharmacists, educators and scientists whose leadership, dedication and innovation improve the health of our local and global communities.

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[give online](#)

Gifts to the UNM College of Pharmacy help us ensure that we continue to provide future generations of pharmacists with the best foundation possible.



We are social! @#UNMCOP

Meet Our Residents



We are extremely proud to introduce you to this year's exemplary contingent of five pharmacy graduate year one (PGY-1) pharmacy practice residents and four pharmacy graduate year two (PGY-2) residents. Our PGY-2 residents specialize in the areas of ambulatory care, emergency medicine, infectious disease, and oncology.

Post-graduate pharmacy residency training at The University of New Mexico (UNM) Health Sciences Center cultivates future leaders in the pharmaceutical care profession through experiences that further advance the resident's knowledge, confidence, leadership skills and understanding of how a healthcare system functions.

PGY-1 & PGY-2 PHARMACY RESIDENCY PROGRAMS at the University of New Mexico Health Sciences Center



Through the close and enduring collaboration between the UNM College of Pharmacy and the UNM Hospitals Department of Pharmacy, pharmacy residency experiences at UNM are unique compared to most other programs. We provide our residents the opportunity to interact with one of the most diverse patient populations in the nation while practicing within an award-winning interprofessional healthcare setting.

UNM pharmacy residents have direct access to the knowledge and experience of nationally and internationally recognized practitioners - all within state-of-the-art facilities, situated in one of the most geographically beautiful and culturally rich regions of the nation.

Amre Elmaoued, PharmD

Amre is a UNM College of Pharmacy 2018 alumnus. He also completed his bachelor of science degree in biology at UNM. Amre hopes to further specialize in one of his interests, which include psychiatry, cardiology, and oncology, all with an emphasis on inpatient care. He then hopes to become board certified and, ultimately, further pharmacy in an academic setting while still participating in Project ECHO.



Jessica Lewis, PharmD

Jessica is a UNM College of Pharmacy 2018 alumna. She also earned bachelor of science degrees in biology, psychology, and pharmaceutical sciences from UNM. Jessica intends to pursue a PGY-2 in Oncology and to one day practice as a board certified oncology pharmacist at a comprehensive cancer center and be involved in teaching student pharmacists. Her other primary interests include infectious diseases and critical care.



Siena Meador, PharmD

Siena was born and raised in El Paso, Texas. She received her doctor of pharmacy degree from the cooperative pharmacy program between the University of Texas at Austin and the University of Texas at El Paso. Her professional interests are widely varied, but include anticoagulation, antimicrobial stewardship, and medication safety.



Valentin Pacuraru, PharmD

Valentin Pacuraru hails from the northern suburbs of Chicago and earned his doctor of pharmacy degree from Rosalind Franklin University in north Chicago. Within pharmacy his primary interests are oncology and emergency medicine, with a lean towards toxicology. In the short term he would like to complete a PGY-2. Valentin enjoys precepting students and in the long term hopes to have a position as clinical faculty at a university, having one foot in academia/research and the other firmly rooted in clinical practice.



Ngoc-Yen Pham, PharmD

Yen is from Houston, TX, where she attended the University of Houston and earned her undergraduate degree in nutrition. She then ventured out of state to earn her doctor of pharmacy degree from St. John Fisher College, Wegmans School of Pharmacy in Rochester, NY. Her current interests lie in ambulatory care and oncology. She is excited to further her skills and grow as a pharmacist at UNMH.



PGY-2 Residents



PGY-2 Ambulatory Care Resident

Kelsea Gallegos, PharmD

Kelsea is a UNM College of Pharmacy 2017 alumna. She completed her PGY1 community-based pharmacy residency at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Her professional interests include ambulatory care with a focus on harm reduction, transgender care, pain management, and providing care for the under-served. She is also interested in leadership and resiliency topics and is serving in a national leadership role within the American Pharmacists Association new practitioner network. Kelsea aspires to teach in academia and precept student pharmacists while also working as a pharmacist clinician.



PGY-2 Emergency Medicine Resident

Christa Creech, PharmD

Christa was raised in Cocoa Beach, Florida, and moved to Jacksonville, Florida to attend the University of Florida where she earned her doctor of pharmacy degree in 2017. She completed her PGY-1 at Intermountain Medical Center in Murray, Utah. Her areas of interest include emergency medicine with a focus on trauma and resuscitation, critical care, and infectious disease.



PGY-2 Infectious Disease Resident

M. Gabriela Cabanilla, PharmD

Gabi was born and raised in Guayaquil, Ecuador, and moved to Albuquerque after completing her bachelor of science degree in biochemistry at Duquesne University in Pittsburgh, PA. She is a UNM College of Pharmacy 2017 alumna, and completed her PGY-1 training at UNM in 2018. Her professional interests include critical care, adult infectious diseases - specifically gram negative resistance, microbiology research, antimicrobial stewardship and Project ECHO.




PGY-2 Oncology Resident

Natalia Cadavid, PharmD

Natalia was born and raised in South Florida and received her bachelor's degree in biology at the University of Central Florida. She then obtained her doctor of pharmacy degree at Nova Southeastern University in 2017 and completed her PGY-1 at the Orlando VA Medical Center in 2018. Natalia hopes to become a board certified oncology pharmacist and attain a position at a large comprehensive cancer center.

Welcome



Fundraising for a pharmacy school is not new to Markella Pavlakos, whose first day as the new director of development for the UNM College of Pharmacy was August 15th. She began her development career at the University of Southern California, School of Pharmacy as the associate director of major gifts and alumni relations.

Markella comes from Los Angeles, California where she served as a development officer at Providence Saint Joseph Medical Center, overseeing development opportunities in the emergency services, NICU and labor and delivery service lines.

In 2009, Pavlakos earned her bachelor of business administration at San Diego State University and her master of business administration from the University of Southern California in 2016.

INTRODUCING OUR NEW DIRECTOR OF DEVELOPMENT

Markella Pavlakos

Our new director of development, **Markella Pavlakos**, has been at the College of Pharmacy for about a month now and we asked her to share her first impressions and some of her preliminary goals for her first year as a lobo. Here is what she had to say:

“Everyone from my colleagues to alumni and friends have expressed extreme kindness and I can’t thank everyone enough for giving me such a warm welcome and making me feel so quickly at home.

I plan to spend the first few months in this role getting to better know my new UNM ‘pharmily’. This community is a shining example of how behind each of our individual triumphs there is a vast network of people who help to make them possible.

We all stand on the shoulders of countless individuals who contributed so much to make us the people we are and will become, and my passion comes from being able to continue to find more strong shoulders on which future generations will not just stand, but thrive.

I see a huge part of my job as being a story teller of sorts. I believe that by sharing the stories of both those who give and those who receive, we collectively benefit from a deeper sense of connection that propels us to engage in philanthropy.

It is because of our patrons that our students’ dreams of becoming pharmacists are turning into realities. For some of them that means working in a hospital setting or becoming one of the only pharmacists in their rural community. Students are even called to do cutting edge research that will change the face of health care for generations to come. Others are using their education to instill knowledge and educate their successors in the classroom.

There has never been a more pressing time for the support of higher education and healthcare. Today’s world demands new leaders, critical thinkers, and innovative approaches to newly arising problems in the pharmacy field, but what is also important is that we collectively need to continue to think big and have even bigger dreams. Together, we can make those dreams come true.”

We had only one additional question for Markella. It was the classic, New Mexican multiple choice question of red, green or Christmas. Her answer? Green!

If you would like more information on the many ways you can support the UNM College of Pharmacy, please contact:

Markella Pavlakos, MBA
Director of Development
UNM College of Pharmacy
505.272.3657
markella.pavlakos@unmfund.org

Innovation Spotlight

by Rebecca Woloszyn



Delfín Awarded American Heart Association Grant

Dr. Dawn Delfín hopes to find a novel means of improving the success of stem cell therapy for cardiovascular disease patients, and the American Heart Association (AHA) has recently provided funding for her work to that end.

Dr. Delfín plans to investigate whether the protein ABI3BP can overcome existing barriers to successful stem cell therapy treatment in damaged hearts.

By showing that ABI3BP both promotes stem cells to adhere to a damaged heart and encourages stem cells to more completely transform into cardiomyocytes, Dr. Delfín expects to improve the clinical effectiveness of cardiac stem cell therapy.

Dr. Delfín's July, 2017 College of Pharmacy pilot project award helped her generate preliminary data and feasibility studies for her new AHA grant.

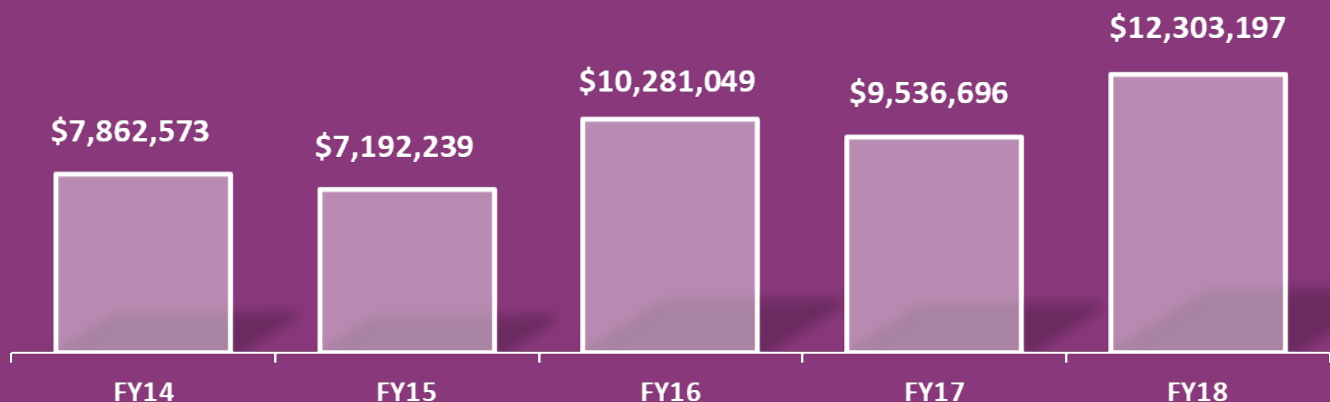
UNM College of Pharmacy associate dean for research, Dr. Jim Liu offered Dr. Delfin congratulations on behalf of the college, "Congratulations to Dr. Delfín on her new AHA award. Dr. Delfín has embodied the intent of the College's pilot program, which is to provide pilot funds for investigators to use to gather data in order to obtain extramural funding. This was a wonderful investment of funds by the College."

Extramural Research Funding FY18 Recap

The 2018 fiscal year was another great year for research at the UNM College of Pharmacy, with researchers pulling in a total of \$12,303,197

in extramurally funded research awards. The College's research enterprise has achieved impressive growth over the past five years. Fiscal

year 2018 funding marks an increase of nearly 57% over the College's research funding just 5 years ago. Congratulations to all of our innovative researchers.



Felton Awarded NIH Exploratory Grant

Dr. Linda Felton has received a 2-year, exploratory R21 grant from the National Institutes of Health to develop a technology to mask the bitter taste of drugs for children.

Dr. Felton notes that overcoming the bitter taste of many drugs is a major barrier in developing a successful product for pediatric patients.

Given that compliance rates as low as 11% have been reported in children due to palatability/taste as well as swallowability and dose flexibility issues, Dr. Felton and her team will develop a micron-sized, taste masked drug delivery platform for a wide range of drugs that can be readily incorporated into a variety of oral dosage forms suitable for pediatric patients.

The taste masking drug delivery platform will involve a novel two-step spray drying process to prepare sealed microparticles, and will be evaluated by an age-stratified pediatric taste panel.

Dr. Felton will partner with Dr. Pavan Muttill on the project, as well as School of Medicine collaborators Drs. Hengahmeh Raissy and Walter Dehority.

Congratulations, Dr. Felton.



UNM College of Pharmacy Hosting the Premier Conference in the Field of Metal Toxicity and Carcinogenesis

UNMCOP.NET/METALS

REGISTRATION
OPEN!

2018
MTG

TENTH ^{on} conference METAL TOXICITY & CARCINOGENESIS
OCTOBER 28-31 . ALBUQUERQUE NM

UNMCOP.NET/METALS

Deadline Sept. 15

REGISTER ONLINE

early bird registration discount ends
September 15th at 11:59PM MST

Deadline Sept. 30

APPLY ONLINE

abstract submissions for oral & poster presentations, travel awards & minority student scholarship applications due by 11:59 PM MST on September 30th

Deadline Oct. 6

RESERVE YOUR HOTEL ROOM ONLINE

Hotel Albuquerque at Old Town special group rate "cut off" date - reservations after this date based upon availability

CONFERENCE PUBLICATION

a special issue of *Toxicology and Applied Pharmacology* will be dedicated to this conference

MORE INFO ONLINE

please visit our website for more information and draft program

THANK YOU TO OUR 2018 SPONSORS



National Institutes of Health Support
conference grant #R13ES029807-01



The University of New Mexico...
College of Pharmacy,
College of Pharmacy, Dept of
Pharmaceutical Sciences
Comprehensive Cancer Center
Health Sciences Center



CONFERENCE CONTACT
Rebecca Woloszyn, Head of Logistics & Planning Office of Research, UNM
College of Pharmacy 505.272.1477 | hsc-metals-conference@salud.unm.edu



Walmart Pharmacies Sponsors 21st Annual Welcome Back Picnic

by Irene Gray

For 21 years, the Walmart welcome back picnic has become a treasured annual event for our student pharmacists, staff and faculty – and this year’s event was no exception.

Switching it up a little this year, our college community gathered together at North Domingo Baca Park on Saturday, August 11th to gear up for the academic year ahead. Thanks to some games of volleyball and Frisbee, as

well as a bean bag toss and a wonderful lunch served up by Walmart Pharmacies employees, a wonderful time was had by all.

Jarvis Mixon, Walmart health & wellness market manager, gave an inspiring speech about the impact pharmacists make on a daily basis to their patients and the community as a whole. And to wrap things up, Dean Don Godwin thanked Walmart employees for their tireless dedication to

our students over the years with a camping light engraved with the College’s new logo.

A huge thank you goes out to Walmart Pharmacies employees and their families for their support of our student pharmacists over the years. An entire generation of alumni, faculty and staff have benefited from your kindness, and we could not be more thankful for your generosity.

Play Ball!

by Irene Gray



In a unique collaboration between the UNM College of Pharmacy Alumni Society and the New Mexico Society of Health System Pharmacists (NMSHP), the inaugural Isotopes tailgate took place on Saturday, August 18th. Nearly 50 alumni and their families gathered together in the north lot of Dreamstyle stadium to get to know one another and enjoy some food grilled by Dr. **Jason Koury**, PharmD class of 2014 and current NMSHP president-elect.

This collaborative event served as a fun way to get to know members of both NMSHP and the UNM College of Pharmacy Alumni Society in order to encourage membership in both organizations and create networking opportunities for our alumni. Thanks to a generous sponsorship by NMSHP, attendees also got to watch the Isotopes take on the Sacramento River Cats that evening.

We would like to extend a huge thank you to everyone who attended and we look forward to doing this again next year.

If you are interested in participating in the UNM College of Pharmacy Alumni Society, please contact Irene Gray at hsc-cop-alumni@salud.unm.edu

Alumni spotlight:

Sneha Sharma, PharmD ('06) by Irene Gray



Clinical pharmacist, educator, children's book author - these are just three ways to describe PharmD 2006 alumna, Dr. **Sneha Sharma**.

As the medical pharmacist liaison for Magellan Health, Dr. Sharma takes great pride in her profession and her community as a whole. In the past 12 years of her career, she has used her role to serve as a leader in the profession and as an educator for future pharmacists. "I truly enjoy seeing those around me grow professionally. Whether it is the intern asking for career advice, or the technician stepping into a leadership role, I like to use my experiences to guide them." Clearly, it is a role that she takes seriously, and as a result, no opportunity is left unexplored - including authoring a children's book.

Inspired by her experiences growing up, *I Like French Fries, Too!* celebrates the similarities we all share regardless of our cultural background. "The book is simple learning about other countries and cultures. We all share food, we all share similarities and we all share stories." Ultimately, she hopes that children who read this book can relate to the characters and learn from them.

Dr. Sharma credits her experiences here at the College for shaping her into the person she has become. "I have been taught to be confident, yet be humble and compassionate for the profession. The relationships and network I have been able to create have been encouraging and so valuable to all of my endeavors."

Congratulations, Dr. Sharma. *I Like French Fries, Too!* is available on [amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com).



"We all share food, we all share similarities and we all share stories" - Sneha Sharma

Alumni notes

In Memory

Ruric Mason (BSPH, 1950) passed away on Saturday, August 18th. His [obituary](#) can be found by clicking here.

Upcoming Precepting Opportunities

Please contact Irene Gray at hsc-cop-alumni@salud.unm.edu if you would like to precept for any of our student-led health fairs throughout the year, including:

October 19

Community Outreach Day

Career Opportunity

Pharmacist - Kewa Pueblo Health Corporation

The Pharmacist is responsible for any and all functions within and/or dealing with the pharmacy department and/or any pharmaceuticals dispensed at Santo Domingo Health Center. [Click here for more information.](#)

Stay Connected

Irene Gray, our Senior Alumni Relations Officer, is your alumni liaison for all things UNM COP. Please feel free to contact her anytime.

Irene M. Gray, MPA
505.925.0845
igray@salud.unm.edu

Tell Us Your Stories

Did you just begin a new position? Get married? Become a proud new parent? Know another classmate who has accomplished something incredible and you want to share? Tell us.

Send us an email at hsc-cop-alumni@salud.unm.edu and we will announce the news in our next Lobo Script Magazine.

STATE OF THE UNIVERSITY

EVENTS & SYMPOSIA

SEPTEMBER 17 - 21

MONDAY **State of the University Address**
SUB Ballroom C | 12:00-1:00 PM

TUESDAY **LoboBITES** — Three-minute presentations on a thesis or dissertation. Learn about graduate student work from Signs of Music to Exploring Snail Immunology.
SUB Ballroom A | 12:00-1:00 PM

THURSDAY **Faculty Focus** — Enjoy cider, donuts, and faculty performances and presentations
RSVP to presrsvp@unm.edu
Alumni Chapel | 5:30-7:00 PM
Maxwell Museum | 7:00-8:00 PM

FRIDAY **Campus Tour** — See UNM's campus like never before, through a tour guided by University experts
Alumni Chapel | 4:00-5:00 PM
Departs from Alumni Chapel at 4:00 PM

Staff Reception — End the week enjoying refreshments with President Stokes
University Club | 5:00-7:00 PM



FALL 2018 Events events.unmcop.net

SEPTEMBER 29
UNM Homecoming Reception
RSVP at: events.unmcop.net
1-3 pm . Domenici north rm 3720
Special guests: classes of '93 & '08
Cheer on the Lobos as they face Liberty University at 4pm at Dreamstyle Stadium. Discounted tickets for \$15 available online at: unmalumni.com/homecoming.html

OCTOBER 19
Community Outreach Day
If you are interested in precepting an event, please contact [Irene Gray](#)

OCTOBER 27
15th Annual JDRF Halloween Carnival
4-7pm . UNM College of Pharmacy

OCTOBER 28-31
10th Conference on Metal Toxicity & Carcinogenesis: unmcop.net/metals/

NOVEMBER 3
Austin UNM Health Sciences Alumni Dinner Cruise
[Click here for details and to RSVP](#)

NOVEMBER 14
Career Expo
6PM . UNM Student Union Ballroom

DECEMBER 2
Alumni Mixer at ASHP Midyear Meeting, More info to follow

We are social! @#UNMCOP

