



SOP Marks 10th Anniversary with Celebration

In many ways it seems like it was just yesterday that we opened our pharmacy program here in Amarillo, but as the Aug 4-6 weekend of events and alumni get-togethers reminded us, it's been ten years since the SOP opened with 65 students, 26 faculty and 10 staff.

For those who may not remember, the Texas Legislature in 1994 approved funds for TTUHSC to develop a pharmacy school based in Amarillo, though no state funds were allocated to construct an actual facility for the school. That meant the citizens of Amarillo had to step up and raise the money if they wanted the pharmacy school to become a reality. And step up they did. Through the efforts of the Amarillo Economic Development Corporation, the Amarillo Hospital District and a plethora of private donors more than \$13 million was raised. It was a truly amazing experience that was certainly on my mind as we celebrated our 10th anniversary.

One of the highlights of the weekend was the "Ten Year Reunion Round-up" held north of Amarillo at the River Breaks Ranch. Besides great food, the evening featured a Texas Hold 'em tournament, horseback rides, a silent auction and plenty of activities for the kids.

TTUHSC-SOP...TEN YEARS AND COUNTING



The TTUHSC - SOP Ten Year Reunion Round-up was a shindig for friends, families and some little buckaroos. SOP card players also got a chance to display their skills.

The celebration concluded the next day at the Globe-News Center for the Performing Arts in Amarillo with a reception and live music by the Amarillo College Faculty String Ensemble and the Martinis jazz band. It was truly a fantastic weekend and I'd like to express my gratitude to all those who helped put this celebration together. I also want to offer a very special "thank you" to the Amarillo Globe-News and CVS/pharmacy for sponsoring the festivities.

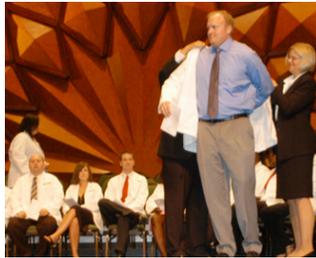
White Coat Ceremony Punctuates Anniversary Weekend

The SOP Class of 2010 played a special part in our 10th anniversary celebration. The annual White Coat Ceremony, where incoming first-year students receive their white coats and recite the “Oath of a Pharmacist” as their first steps into the profession of pharmacy, was scheduled as part of the Aug. 6 anniversary festivities at the Amarillo Globe News Center for the Performing Arts.

Each year the White Coat Ceremony kicks off our eight-day “boot camp” for first-year students. The boot camp helps orientate our new students for their first year of classes and provides them with an overview of TTUHSC’s four-year pharmacy program.



(From left) P1s Lacey Lantelme, Jacqueline Lebahn, Julie Ledbetter and James Lee wait for the White Coat Ceremony to begin.



Members of the Class of 2010 look on as classmate Jason Crumley receives his white coat from Dr. Cynthia Raehl.



(From left) P1s Adebimpe Ayanwola, Amanze Asogu and Amma Akrofi pose for a photo in their new white coats.

A special thanks to CVS/pharmacy for sponsoring the 2006 White Coat Ceremony and helping us welcome the 90 members of the TTUHSC - SOP Class of 2010!

Trio of SOP Students Garner Scholarships

Kudos to [Kathryn Calvo \(P2 – Amarillo\)](#), who recently received a \$5,000 scholarship from The Hispanic Scholarship Fund’s National College Scholarship Program. She competed with students enrolled in graduate and professional degree programs throughout the U.S. Generally, these scholarships range from \$1,000 to \$3,000, so Kathryn’s award was particularly impressive.

Congratulations are also in order for [Emily Nguyen \(P2 – Amarillo\)](#) and [Rachel Mason \(P4 – Amarillo\)](#). They were recently awarded \$1,250 Helen Hodges Educational Charitable Trust Scholarships in recognition of their academic achievement. In addition to submitting an application for these scholarships, Emily and Rachel were interviewed by trustees of the Helen Hodges fund.



*Kathryn
Calvo*



*Emily
Nguyen*



*Rachel
Mason*

New Faculty Join SOP

I am happy to announce the arrival of three new faculty members to the Division of Primary Care within the SOP Department of Pharmacy Practice.

On the Amarillo Campus we have assistant professor [Dr. Niambi Horton](#), who received her Pharm.D. from Auburn University and recently completed a Primary Care residency with the University of Tennessee Health Science Center.

Assistant professors [Dr. Marissa Escobar](#) and [Dr. Carlos Alvarez](#), both members of the TTUHSC – SOP Class of 2004, will work at the Dallas/Fort Worth regional campus. Dr. Escobar recently completed her residency experiences at the VA in Dallas and Dr. Alvarez recently completed a two-year MS / Pharmacotherapy residency at (dare I say it) the University of Texas.

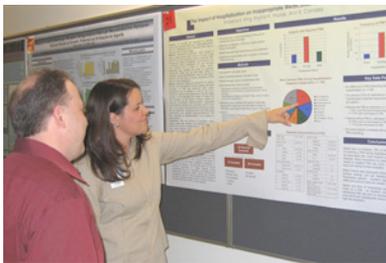
Please take the time to welcome these new faculty members to our program. They will no doubt be valuable additions for many years to come!

2006 Research Days

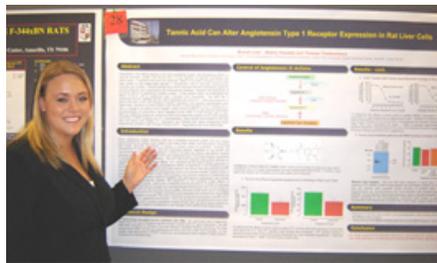
Faculty and student researchers from Amarillo, Lubbock and Dallas recently took part in the SOP's 5th Annual Research Days, and as usual, the event was top-notch. Research Days is an interdisciplinary forum designed to showcase research activities that have taken place at TTUHSC – SOP during the past year. It provides faculty, postdoctoral fellows and students an opportunity to exchange research ideas and interests and seeks to stimulate interdisciplinary collaborations between departments and schools.

This year attendees were able to attend a day-long grant writing workshop presented by David Morrison, Ph.D., a co-founder and member of Grant Writers' Seminars and Workshops, LLC. The scientific portion of the event program consisted of oral presentations and group discussions and was highlighted by the Research Days poster competition. This year we had 39 posters entered into the competition and three others were on display as extra, non-judged posters highlighting additional research projects. The winners of the poster competition included:

- First Place – [Dr. Kalkunte Srivenugopal \(Associate Professor, Dept. of Pharmaceutical Sciences – Amarillo\)](#)
- Second Place – [Jennifer Paulson \(Graduate Student/Research Asst., Dept. of Pharmaceutical Sciences - Amarillo\)](#)
- Third Place – [Jim Egbert \(Graduate Student/Research Asst., Dept. of Pharmaceutical Sciences - Amarillo\)](#)
- Best Poster, Amarillo Biomedical Research Intern – [Brandi Cota](#)



Amarillo pharmacy practice resident Dr. Shawna King discusses her poster with Dr. Thomas Parker (Asst. Prof., Dept. of Pharmacy Practice – Amarillo).



Brandi Cota, a student in the Amarillo Biomedical Research Internship program, stands beside her award-winning Research Days poster.

Congratulations to the winners and to all those who participated in the competition, and thanks to the Office of Research for all the hard work they put in to make the event such a success!

Students in Relay for Life

The American Cancer Society's annual Relay For Life was held in August at Demon Stadium in Dumas, Texas and a group from TTUHSC – SOP was on hand to sell snacks and drinks and otherwise help raise funds to support cancer research. The event, which included 42 miles of running and walking, started on a Friday at 7 p.m. and concluded at 7 a.m. Saturday.

Team members included:

- *Richard Jackson (P2 – Amarillo)*
- *Joe Hartmann (Post Doctoral Research Asst., Dept. of Pharmaceutical Sciences – Amarillo)*
- *Connie Kiewert (Graduate Research Asst., Dept. of Pharmaceutical Sciences – Amarillo)*
- *Kaci Bohn (Graduate Research Asst., Dept. of Pharmaceutical Sciences – Amarillo)*
- *Lee Bohn*
- *Dr. Karin Borges (Assistant Professor, Dept. of Pharmaceutical Sciences – Amarillo)*
- *Merlin Morris*
- *Amanda Roberts*
- *Jeremy Roberts*
- *Jeremiah Bonilla (Technician III, Dept. of Pharmaceutical Sciences – Amarillo)*
- *Julie Gaasch (Graduate Research Asst., Dept. of Pharmaceutical Sciences – Amarillo)*
- *Lloyd Alfonso (Graduate Research Asst., Dept. of Pharmaceutical Sciences – Amarillo)*
- *Dr. Quentin Smith (Chair and Professor, Dept. of Pharmaceutical Sciences – Amarillo)*
- *Helen Smith*
- *Dr. Margaret Weis (Associate Professor, Dept. of Pharmaceutical Sciences – Amarillo)*



Some members of the TTUHSC – SOP Relay for Life team pose for a group photo. Back row (from left): Joe Hartmann, Connie Kiewert, Richard Jackson, Helen Smith, Dr. Quentin Smith, Julie Gaasch, Kaci Bohn, Amanda Roberts and Jeremy Roberts. Front row (from left): Merlin Morris, Dr. Karin Borges, Jeremiah Bonilla and Lee Bohn.

GETTING TO KNOW...

Teresa Carlisle

*Graduate Program Coordinator
Staff, Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences - Amarillo*



Teresa Carlisle

Teresa was born in Plainview and raised on a Texas Panhandle farm near Kress. She completed her Bachelor of Arts degree in Music Education at Southwest Texas State University in San Marcos. After completing her studies, Teresa returned to the Texas Panhandle where she taught in the public schools for nine years, first as an assistant band director in Dimmitt and then as head band director for the Highland Park ISD in Amarillo.

Teresa and her family moved to Amarillo in July 2001 where her husband, Bill, works for Quality Nissan. In 2004, she accepted the Senior Business Assistant position for the SOP's Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences. Since May 2005 she has served as the Pharmaceutical Sciences Graduate Program Coordinator and says she enjoys "assisting students with all aspects of the program, from admission through graduation."

When Teresa is not working with the students, faculty and staff at TTUHSC, she is involved with her kids' activities, which include gymnastics, scouts, baseball, soccer and riding dirt bikes. She is a scout den leader and enjoys attending camps and other scout activities with her two sons, Justin and Joshua. She also attends gymnastic competitions in which her daughter, Carolyn, participates.

Teresa and her family are members of South Georgia Baptist Church. Her hobbies include cake decorating, family camping and boating.

Teresa Sterling, Pharm.D., BCPS, CGP

*Assistant Professor
Department of Pharmacy Practice – Amarillo*



*Teresa and Jack Sterling
with daughter Caitlin*

Teresa was born and raised in Bloomsburg, Pennsylvania, a small university town of about 13,000 people that sits on the banks of the Susquehanna River. She and her husband, Jack, were married "not too long after high school" and let the Navy move them up and down the east coast for a few years before landing in Norfolk, Virginia, where Jack served on the USS Virginia out of Norfolk for four years. His service included a deployment to the Middle East during the first Gulf War. Teresa and Jack remained in Virginia Beach for another five years after he left the Navy.

After a number of years as a property manager Teresa decided it was time "to go back to college and do something science related." She then left Virginia Beach and started pharmacy school at Shenandoah University in Winchester, Virginia. Following her graduation from Shenandoah in 2000, Teresa completed her Geriatrics Pharmacy Practice residency here at TTUHSC – SOP. Since joining our faculty in 2001, Teresa has earned her Board Certification in Pharmacotherapy and become a Certified Geriatric Pharmacist. She and Jack have an 18-month old daughter named Caitlin who is "the joy of our lives."

Teresa's hobbies include reading, spending time with family and friends and "whatever Caitlin wants to do." She also spends her time studying for class and is presently pursuing a Masters degree in Education Instructional Technology with an emphasis on distance education.