



Student Organization Conducts Immunization Clinic

The Academy of Student Pharmacists, which is one of our student organizations, administered approximately 250 immunizations October 1 at Village Pharmacy in Amarillo. Most of the vaccines were for influenza, but about 20 of the immunizations were for pneumonia.

Students who participated in the clinic were all P2 members of ASP, which is the student academy of both the American Pharmacists Association and the Texas Pharmacy Association. The flu vaccine portion of the clinic was part of an APhA patient care project called Operation Immunization. APhA chapters at every pharmacy school in the country participated in the program and the best ones in each region and in the country will be recognized at APhA's annual meeting.

Daniel Leslie (P4 – Amarillo) serves as our ASP chapter President and said this was the first student-assisted flu clinic for the organization was a “tremendous success for us and for our school” and was made possible by the efforts of “several current and past student leaders, including myself, who worked hard to help certify students and to encourage the curriculum change that now certifies every student in their first year. It is an incredible feeling and it makes me very proud to be a student at Tech.”

Daniel said ASP members will hold several more clinics in the coming weeks and when all is said and done, the students will likely be responsible for administering more than 1,000 immunizations this year.



Anuj Patel administers a vaccine at the ASP immunization clinic in Amarillo.



Amber Elliott (left) and Ashley Dunn offer assistance to a patient at the ASP immunization clinic.

APhA Region 6 Recognizes SOP Chapter

In a related story, the efforts of our APhA student organization were highlighted at the APhA Region 6 mid-year meeting October 21-23 in Kansas City. The chapter was recognized for working with the underserved and underrepresented populations in the local community with projects like the Care Van Mobile Immunization Unit and the Tuberculosis initiative. *Dan Leslie (P4 – Amarillo), Rachel Mason (P3 – Amarillo), Penny Sitka (P2), Rob Gagliardi (P2), Lee Jacques (P2) and Jenna Hensley (P1)* represented the organization at the meeting.

This is the first time the Amarillo student chapter has been highlighted, so kudos to these students and to the entire APhA chapter. Keep up the good work!

Students, Faculty Attend NCPA Convention in Florida

TTUHSC – SOP was well represented at the 106th National Community Pharmacists Association Annual Convention and Trade Expo October 15-19th in Ft. Lauderdale, which was attended by more than 3,000 independent pharmaceutical manufacturers and wholesalers, pharmacy leaders and technology providers.

Renowned author Malcolm Gladwell and former Speaker of the House Newt Gingrich were featured speakers for the event.

Student attendees included *Mindy Sexton (P3 – Amarillo), Derek Gourley (P3 – Amarillo), Rachel Mason (P3 – Amarillo), Kelsey LaMunyon (P3 – Amarillo) and Laura Patterson (P2).*

Faculty who attended included *David Simmons, R.Ph. (Clinical Instructor, Dept. of Pharmacy Practice – Amarillo and our NCPA Chapter Advisor), Dr. Mac McCall (Asst. Professor, Dept. of Pharmacy Practice – Amarillo) and Dr. Deetra Craddock (Asst. Professor, Dept. of Pharmacy Practice – Dallas/Ft. Worth).*



Laura Patterson (left) and Mindy Sexton pose for a picture at the 106th NCPA Annual Convention and Trade Expo in Fort Lauderdale. Mindy is the founding President of the TTUHSC – SOP NCPA student chapter.

Our student representatives participated in several panel discussions attended programs that dealt with personal financing, business plans and problems that are common to most student chapters across the country.

At the student NCPA Foundation Awards Ceremony, our chapter was awarded a plaque and a check for \$250 for being the Most Improved Chapter of the Year. Mindy Sexton, who is the National Student President-Elect for NCPA-PSES (Pharmacy Student Entrepreneur Section) accepted the award for our chapter.

SOP Professor Receives NIH Grant

Congratulations go out to *Dr. Celestin Youan (Asst. Professor, Dept. of Pharmaceutical Sciences – Amarillo).*

The National Institutes of Health recently awarded Dr. Youan a two-year research grant worth \$205,867 for one of his research projects, which is entitled “Heparin Containing Microparticles for Pulmonary Delivery.”



Dr. Monica Mathys

ASCP Presents Award to SOP Professor

The American Society of Consultant Pharmacists recently named Dr. Monica Mathys (Asst. Professor, Dept. of Pharmacy Practice – Dallas/Fort Worth) recipient of the Commission for Certification in Geriatric Pharmacy (CCGP)/AstraZeneca Excellence in Geriatric Pharmacy Practice Award. She will receive the award Nov. 9 at the ASCP Annual Meeting in Boston. In addition to receiving a specially designed sculpture, her name will be placed on a permanent plaque displayed at CCGP Headquarters in Washington, D.C. and AstraZeneca will donate \$2,500 in her name to a school of pharmacy of her choice (Dr. Mathys says she will split the honorarium between TTUHSC - SOP and Midwestern University College of Pharmacy in Glendale, Arizona).

According to the a letter from ASCP, the award "recognizes the Certified Geriatric Pharmacist who fosters the principles of good pharmacy practice; demonstrates excellence in geriatric patient care; and, promotes the value and rigorous standards established by CCGP."

Dr. Mathys says she was "surprised but honored to be recognized for services I enjoy doing every day. Like most other pharmacists and faculty, I try to develop my practice site and lectures based on what I think will help my patients and students the most. However, every now and then I ask myself the same question: 'Do my services actually make a difference in the lives of my students and patients?' Being chosen for this award does not answer that question completely, but it does feel good to be recognized by peers as a pharmacist who meets the criteria of the award."

GETTING TO KNOW...

Bi-Botti Celestin Youan, Ph.D.

*Assistant Professor
Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences - Amarillo*



*Dr. Celestin
Youan*

Celestin was born and raised in Cote d'Ivoire (Ivory Coast) in West Africa and lived there through the completion of his Pharm.D. education at School of Pharmacy of University of Cote d'Ivoire. In 1999, he completed his Ph.D. in pharmaceutical sciences at the Catholic University of Louvain in Brussels, Belgium. During his stay in Brussels he also completed his MBA at United Business Institutes of Brussels and earned his Masters in Pharmaceutical Engineering. He then moved in 1999 to Florida A&M University School of Pharmacy, Tallahassee, Florida for two years to conduct postdoctoral research on NIH projects.

Celestin is from a large family. He has eight brothers and sisters, all of whom are still living in in the Ivory Coast. He is married to Antoinette and they have been blessed with a wonderful one-year old son named Traby.

Professionally, Celestin is team leader for the Drug Delivery System III and graduate pharmaceuticals course and team member of the Drug Delivery System I course. He says he recognizes that all of us work very hard here at TTUHSC SOP and that he had been just exceptionally blessed and fortunate this year as a young investigator with contributions to three extramural research grants. He received the grants from the NIH (he is Principal Investigator for this project), the Epilepsy Research Foundation of America (he is Principal Investigator in collaboration with Dr. Karin Borges) and the American Heart Association (he is Co-Principal Investigator in collaboration with Dr. Michael Veronin).

As hobbies, Celestin enjoys relaxation with yoga, swimming, bike, movies and singing in the St. Thomas Choir. He also volunteers at BSA hospices and baby-sits. His favorite quote is from Proverbs 29:18: "*Where there is no vision, the people perish...*" In French: « *La ou il n'ya pas de vision, les hommes perissent* ».

Sue Ussery

*Unit Coordinator
Staff – Dept. of Pharmacy Practice – Dallas/Fort Worth*



Sue Ussery

Sue was born and raised in North Texas. She lives on an acre located 20 miles south of Dallas in a small town called Red Oak with her husband, Randy, whom she has been married to for 28 years. Sue and Randy have two wonderful boys who are both in college. Josh, 24, will graduate this year with a Construction Science Engineer degree and 20-year old Jared has just started planning his career in the physical therapy field with a focus on sports injuries.

Sue and Randy gather with family and friends as often as possible at their lake house in East Texas for lots good meals, laughter, water sports and fishing. Her hobbies include cooking for large groups and design projects of any nature. She says she enjoys life these days more than ever, especially her family and friends.

She presently works at our regional campus site at the Dallas VA and has accumulated 10 years of service time with TTU and TTUHSC.

Sherida Nelson, R. Ph.

Instructor

Managed Healthcare

Department of Pharmacy Practice – Amarillo



*Sherida Nelson's granddaughters
Hailey Michelle and Courtney
Elizabeth*

Sherida was born just down the street from Jerry Lee Lewis' home in Wildsville, LA, (but he is *much* older and left town before she was born). Before she got married, she made one move in 22 years when her father built a new home directly across the street from her first home. During her 34 years of marriage, she has moved six times (Iowa City; Chicago; Columbia, SC; Omaha; Pocatello, ID; Amarillo) because her husband cannot keep a job!

Sherida, a graduate of the University of Iowa College of Pharmacy, has two children – Bradford and Jennifer – both of whom are pharmacists. Because she also married a pharmacist – Arthur – the family has always enjoyed “focused” discussions at the dinner table.

Bradford went to medical school after finishing pharmacy and will be completing his five-year residency in urology next July. He and his wife, Angela, who married when Bradford was in pharmacy school, will be moving to Spokane with Sherida's two grandbabies – Hailey Michelle and Courtney Elizabeth.

Jennifer earned her Pharm.D. at TTUHSC and completed a psychiatry residency in Kansas City before accepting an Assistant Professor position at the St. Louis College of Pharmacy. Her practice site was St. Louis University Medical Center Hospital. Last summer she accepted a clinical specialist position with Tenet Health Care, the contract pharmacy service for the hospital. Sherida says Jennifer still has the same number of lectures and clerkships for St. Louis College of Pharmacy as she did when she was on the faculty—and she didn't have to change parking spaces either!

Sherida's newest “child” is Murphy, once a once-black but now salt and pepper schnauzer puppy who takes up almost as much time as both of her children combined did when they were young.

Sherida loves to dance (she takes tap and ballet classes at Amarillo College two days a week), travel, and watches reality shows almost every night! She is also known far and wide as a “power shopper.”

Her practice site is the Neal and Clements prisons in Amarillo where she performs disease state management for prisoners with asthma, COPD, diabetes and hypertension. She is also a psychiatric service consultant at Clements. She teaches clerkships for P4 Ambulatory Care, patient assessment labs and P3 case studies.