

# JERRY H. HODGE SCHOOL OF PHARMACY NEWSLETTER

MAY 2024

[TTUHSC.EDU/PHARMACY](http://TTUHSC.EDU/PHARMACY)

## SERVICE AWARDED

In February, the American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy (AACP) announced TTUHSC-Jerry H. Hodge School of Pharmacy the 2024 Lawrence C. Weaver Transformative Community Service Award winner. The award is given to institutions that demonstrate a major institutional commitment to addressing unmet community needs through education, practice and research. A formal award presentation will take place at the annual meeting in July.



## PIONEERING A NEW PATHWAY

TTUHSC Jerry H. Hodge School of Pharmacy, is excited to be introducing a groundbreaking approach to high-quality clinical pharmacy education, called the Pioneer Pathway, in the Fall of 2024. The new pathway integrates remote, immersive, and experiential learning, offering a flexible, accessible, and affordable option for aspiring pharmacists.

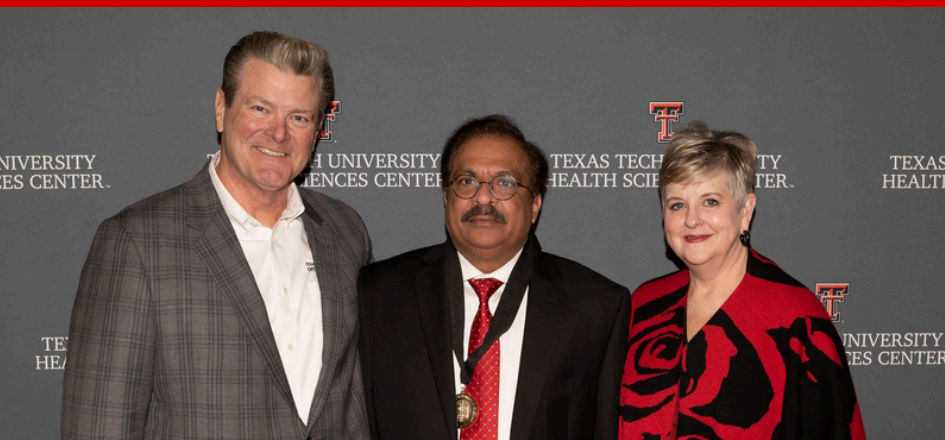
## MESSAGE FROM THE DEAN

Dear SOP Team Members, Alumni, and Friends,  
This spring marks several significant achievements at the school; e.g., winning the AACP Lawrence C. Weaver Transformative Community Service Award, advancing in the US News & World Report ranking, creating a hybrid “Pioneer” Pathway in the Pharm.D. curriculum, being selected as the Best Pharmacy of Amarillo, to name a few. We are soon gearing up to celebrate graduation with the Class of 2024!

—Grace M. Kuo, PharmD, MPH, PhD



## SRIVASTAVA RECEIVES CHANCELLOR'S AWARD



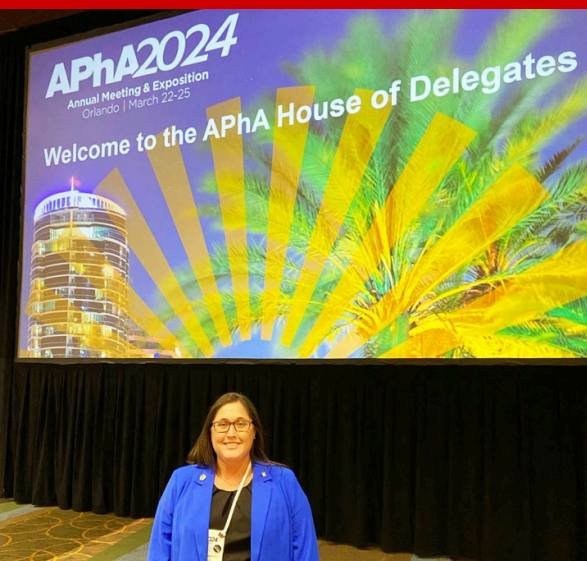
In February, Texas Tech University System Chancellor Tedd L. Mitchell, M.D., and TTUHSC President Lori Rice-Spearman, Ph.D., presented the 2024 Chancellor's Council Distinguished Teaching & Research Awards. Recognizing academic excellence, the honors are the most prestigious awards granted to faculty throughout the TTU System.

Among the honorees was Sanjay K. Srivastava, Ph.D., a University Distinguished Professor, chair of the TTUHSC-Jerry H. Hodge School of Pharmacy Department of Immunotherapeutics and Biotechnology, who was one of two Distinguished Research Award recipients.

## HIGBEA INDUCTED AS DISTINGUISHED FELLOW



The Texas IPE Consortium Board of Directors unanimously voted to induct Ashley Higbea, PharmD, Associate Professor and Director of Interprofessional Education, into their 2024 Class of Distinguished Fellows. The award honors outstanding individuals with significant service and leadership within the consortium who have made exceptional contributions to the field of IPE across the State of Texas and beyond. Higbea was formally honored at the Annual Meeting in April.



## KLEIN BECOMES APhA SPEAKER-ELECT

The American Pharmacists Association (APhA) announced that Mary Klein, PharmD, was elected the 2024–2025 speaker-elect of the APhA House of Delegates. As speaker-elect, Klein will serve a one-year term before taking over as speaker of the house and trustee for two years (2025–2027). Klein is an associate professor of pharmacy practice and director of Practice Labs and Simulation at the Abilene campus.





# APCC VOTED BEST PHARMACY

The Amarillo Pharmaceutical Care Center (APCC) at Texas Tech Physicians was named Best Pharmacy in the 2024 NewsChannel10 Viewers Choice Awards. Operated by TTUHSC-Jerry H. Hodge School of Pharmacy professors, residents and students, the APCC provides the area’s best prices and service for pharmaceutical care and is easily accessible from Texas Tech Physicians clinics.

# FACULTY EARN TEACHING AWARDS

**Kaci Bohn, PhD**, and **Abraham Al-Ahmad, PhD**, received teaching awards from the student senate. Bohn was selected for the Excellence in Teaching Award for the School of Pharmacy and Al-Ahmad was selected for the Excellence in Teaching Award for the Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences.



**Trista Bailey, PharmD**, and **Amal Aburahma, PhD**, were selected as Outstanding Faculty of the Year for the School of Pharmacy by the Pharmacy students for the 2023-2024 academic year. This award is sponsored by the TTUHSC Student Government Association.



# SOM HONORS MACLAUGHLIN

In April, Eric MacLaughlin, PharmD, Professor and Chair of Pharmacy Practice, was awarded the Outstanding Research Award from the Department of Family and Community Medicine at the TTUHSC School of Medicine Amarillo Regional Dean’s Award Dinner.

# TECHX TACKLES HEALTH TOPICS

On March 27, TTUHSC's Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences and Graduate Student Association in Amarillo presented TechX.

The event featured four speakers:

- Thomas Abbruscato, Ph.D. - "The Quantum Clock: Mastering Time in the Modern Era"
- Brian Weis, M.D. - "Silent Struggles: Navigating Mental Wellness in Healthcare"
- Eric MacLaughlin, Pharm.D. - "Networking: The Art of Making Meaningful Connections"
- Heidi Villalba, Ph.D. - "Healthy Work-Life Balance: Stress Management"



## JPET SUBMISSION TO HAVE VIEWPOINT EDITORIAL

In May, a submission to the Journal of Pharmacology and Experimental Therapeutics (JPET), titled "Evaluation of Systemic and Brain Pharmacokinetic Parameters for Repurposing Metformin Using Intravenous Bolus Administration," was selected for an editorial viewpoint to highlight the cutting edge findings. The viewpoint editorial will go along with the article publication in JPET. Sejal Sharma, a Ph.D. student in the lab of Dr. Thomas Abbruscato, is first author.



## SOP TOP 3 IN NEW RANKINGS

The 2024 list of Best Pharmacy Schools was released by U.S. News & World Report on April 9. TTUHSC-SOP ranked as the #3 Best Pharmacy School in Texas!



# MATCH DAY RESULTS REVEALED



On March 13, pharmacy students interested in completing a residency after they graduate learned where they would spend the next stage of their training during Phase I of Pharmacy Residency Match Day. A combined 32 students from all four TTUHSC-SOP campuses participated in the program; 25 students were successfully matched. Additionally, 22 TTUHSC Jerry H. Hodge School of Pharmacy alumni successfully matched with PGY-1 and PGY-2 programs. During Phase II brought our totals to 28 students (79%) matching with PGY-1 programs and 23 alumni (100%) matching with PGY-2 programs.

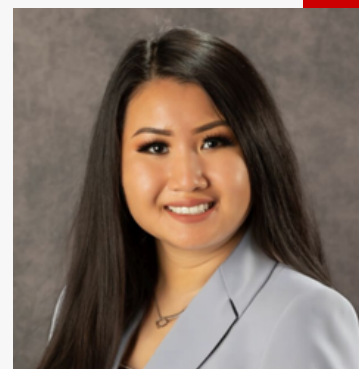
## MUSHAROF RECOGNIZED BY US PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE

Afsana Musharof, P3 at the Dallas campus, received the Excellence in Public Health Pharmacy Award from the U.S. Public Health Service. The award recognizes pharmacy students that make significant contributions to public health. She is one of 91 nominees recognized from across the nation.



## DOAN ACCEPTS FELLOWSHIP

Daisy Doan, P4 at the Dallas campus, accepted a NCODA Oncology | Advocacy | Health Policy and Equity Fellowship sponsored by Bristol Myers Squibb. During the year-long fellowship, Daisy will play a key role in creating educational resources that will enhance the medically integrated oncology practice.



# CAMPUSES CELEBRATE ACHIEVEMENTS



On Wednesday, May 8, all four TTUHSC-SOP campuses participated in the annual Celebration of Achievement. The event recognized professional organizations, government accomplishments, students, faculty, and staff, and included faculty and staff trivia. Award recipients are listed below.

## EXCELLENCE IN AMBULATORY CARE

Vivian Pham (P4)

## EXCELLENCE IN GERIATRICS

Laura Schenk (P4)

## EXCELLENCE IN PEDIATRICS

Cheyanna Petty (P4)

## EXCELLENCE IN COMMUNITY PRACTICE

Destinee Wells (P4)

## EXCELLENCE IN CORRECTIONAL MANAGED HEALTHCARE

Bryan Hoang (P4)

## EXCELLENCE IN INPATIENT CLINICAL PRACTICE

Brandon McCormick (P4)

## EXCELLENCE IN PUBLIC HEALTH

Afsana Musharof (P3)

## EXCELLENCE IN IPE

Megan Bareis (P4)

## OUTSTANDING PATIENT ADVOCATE

Abilene - Derek Fostel (P4)

Amarillo - Alexia Bobah (P4)

Dallas - Georgia Inman (P3)

## OUTSTANDING CLINICIAN

Abilene - Faith Windham (P4)

Amarillo - Dillyn King (P4)

Dallas - Danh Phan (P4)

## OUTSTANDING SERVICE

Abilene - Klarissa Sanchez (P3)

Amarillo - Lauren Covey (P3)

Dallas - Alexandria Arnett (P3)

## EXCELLENCE IN STAFF SERVICES

Sandy De Los Santos

Trina Brown

## P1 GO GETTER

Abilene - Asia Fernandez

Amarillo - Justin Hierholzer

Dallas - Mackenzie Gunn

## P2 RISING CLINICIAN

Abilene - Jake Hall

Amarillo - Darian Higgins

Dallas - Taylor Boyd

## TEACHER OF THE YEAR

P1 – Sami Nazzal

P2 – Drew Ramirez

P3 – Chris Selby

## STUDENT ROLE MODEL

Abilene - Traylor Moses (P4)

Amarillo - Katie Phelan (P4)

Dallas - Michael Tierney (P1)

Lubbock - Joshua San Juan (P4)

## STAFF MENTOR

Abilene - Vicki Whiteaker

Amarillo - Camille Stoddard

Dallas - Amanda Hines

Lubbock - Gabby Robledo

## TEACHING TEAMS OF THE YEAR

P1 – Pharmacy Science & Calculations

P2 – IMER Integrated Theapeutics & Practice III

P3 – Neurology/Psychiatry Pharmacotherapy

## ADJUNCT PRECEPTOR OF THE YEAR

Abilene - Trista Bailey

Amarillo - Tiffany Dobbs

Dallas - Charlene Merritt

Lubbock - Staci Moss

## PRECEPTOR OF THE YEAR

Abilene - Ryan George

Amarillo - Emily Buatois

Dallas - Ashley Higbea

Lubbock - Rebecca Talley



## P4S PRESENT AT AACP GRAND ROUNDS

Two P4 students from the TTUHSC-SOP Amarillo campus presented at the American College of Clinical Pharmacy (ACCP) Adult Medicine PRN Student Grand Rounds.



- Bryan Hoang: “The Use of Dexamethasone in COVID-19 Pneumonia”
- Jacob Sanchez: “Digoxin in Atrial Fibrillation and HFrEF”

## 16 STUDENTS RECEIVE WTPA SCHOLARSHIPS



In March, the West Texas Pharmacy Association awarded scholarships to TTUHSC-SOP students Gracie Daniels, Shiva Azar Goshasb, Jordan Miller, Traylor Moses, Jacy Sconce-Bien, Elaina Spriggs, and Faith Windham of the Abilene campus; Reagan Bills, Lauren Covey, Mary-suong Le, Katie Phelan, and Laura Schenk of the Amarillo Campus; Mackenzie Gunn and Hong Tran of the Dallas campus; and Duke Cullins and Hiep Trinh of the Lubbock campus. View a full list of scholarships and recipients [here](#).

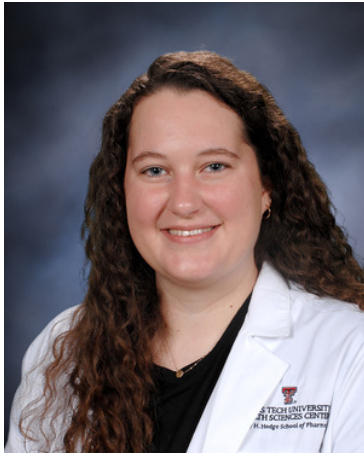


## TPPC CONCLUDES SPRING MEDICATION CLEANOUTS

The Texas Panhandle Poison Center (TPPC), managed by the TTUHSC-SOP, wrapped up its Spring Medication Cleanout events with the third and final event taking place in Abilene on April 27. The collections yielded more than 1439 pounds of medications and 273 pounds of sharps from nearly 400 cars in Amarillo, 968 pounds of medication and 155 pounds of sharps from 230 cars in Lubbock, and more than 1060 pounds of medication and 221 pounds of sharps from 316 cars in Abilene.



# P3S HAVE PAPER PUBLISHED



Chandler Batson and David Mara, P3's at the Amarillo campus, recently had a paper titled "The Pharmacy Students' Guide to Artificial Intelligence – AI" published in The Journal of Pediatric Pharmacology and Therapeutics. The paper can be viewed [here](#).

## ONAIWU WINS LOCAL COMPETITION



Grace Onaiwu, P2 at the Amarillo campus, won the American Pharmacists Association (APhA) Local Counseling Competition. Onaiwu went on to represent TTUHSC in the 2024 APhA-ASP National

Patient Counseling Competition in March. The purpose of the competition is to encourage student pharmacists in their efforts toward becoming better patient educators.



## DISASTER DAYS PREP STUDENTS

In March, School of Pharmacy students on the Amarillo and Lubbock campuses joined students from other TTUHSC schools, Red Cross staff and volunteers, and local first responders for Disaster Day events, inter-professional emergency response simulations. These events allow student teams to work to diagnose, treat and care for volunteers role-playing as patients and populations affected by a natural disaster. The teams practice the basics of mass casualty triage and apply assessment, reasoning and decision-making skills during an emergency to facilitate and optimize collaboration through teamwork, communication, ethics and understanding of roles and responsibilities.



# AMARILLO HOSTS RESEARCH SYMPOSIUM



More than 100 student and trainee researchers from TTUHSC and the Texas Tech University School of Veterinary Medicine presented research findings at the 2024 Student Research Day on April 19. This is the first time both universities have come together to recognize research taking place in Amarillo. The symposium highlighted the research accomplishments of students, residents and faculty in their respective fields of study with 81 poster and 34 oral presentations. Trainees showcased their research scholarship and projects and awards were given out to outstanding presenters.

## STUDENTS/FACULTY ATTEND TSHP

In April, our Double T members, officers and faculty attended the Texas Society of Health-System Pharmacists (TSHP) annual seminar. While there, students participated in the Clinical Skills Competition, attended the SSEC town hall meeting and made connections with pharmacists from across Texas.



## PICKLE BALL FUN

On April 25, the Amarillo SOP Student Council hosted a pickleball tournament that invited students and faculty to form teams and join in the fun. The event took place at the Amarillo National Tennis Center and included light food and drinks for participants.



## DALLAS - MEDICATION TAKE BACK DAY

In April, our Dallas campus students partnered with the Irving and Arlington police departments to help with the DEA National Medication Take Back Day at multiple sites. The events aimed to make communities safer and healthier by removing unneeded medications from the community.

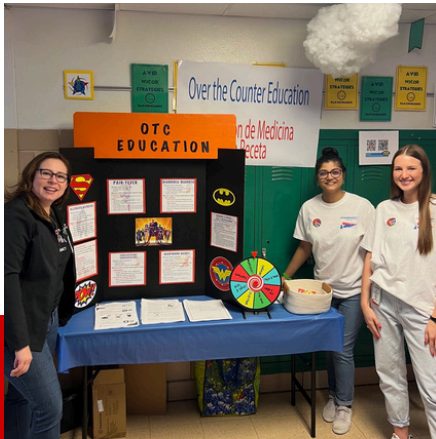


# STUDENTS VOLUNTEER AT FOOD BANK

The Amarillo Student Council partnered with the High Plains Food Bank for their spring community service event. Students volunteered in the warehouse where much of the food is organized on pallets prior to distribution. In addition to helping alleviate food insecurity in the Amarillo area, this organization has provided food to many victims of the recent wildfires in the Panhandle area.



## COMMUNITY HEALTH FAIRS



In April, our students joined others from a variety of health professions to provide education and screenings to community members at the Dallas Community United to Serve Health Fair, as well as Canaval de Salud health fair.



Our Student National Pharmaceutical Association (SNPhA) joined Parkland ACCESS clinic, Dallas County, the North Texas Food Bank, and other vendors to provide free services to underserved people in the Dallas community. Students provided blood glucose and blood pressure screenings with hypertension and diabetes education to nearly 100 people during the event.

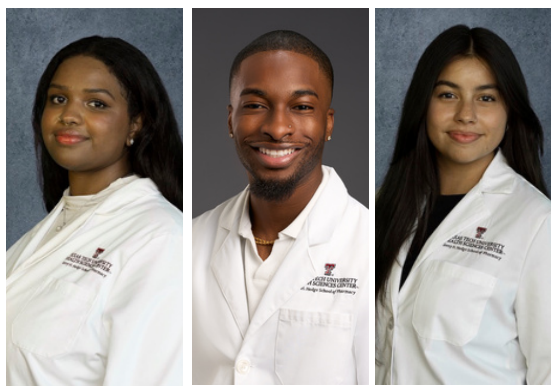


Our Student College of Clinical Pharmacy (SCCP) and the Student National Pharmaceutical Association (SNPhA) helped organize a health fair booth at the Women's Health Fair in Dallas. Student volunteers were able to perform blood pressure and blood sugar screenings for those attending the event.



# PIE DAY PUTS FUN IN FUNDRAISING

In honor of Pi Day, PDC held a Pie Day on March 18. Leading up to the event, students could cast a vote for the professor they wanted to see pied by donating a dollar, with all proceeds benefitting St. Jude's. Professors who received the most votes on the Amarillo, Abilene and Dallas campuses were then pied during the event.



## P2S WIN LOCAL CLINICAL RESEARCH CHALLENGE

In February, Zainab Hamid, Alvin Muketiwa, and Jaelynn Sanchez, all P2's at the Dallas campus, finished in first place at the annual Texas Tech SCCP/ACCP Clinical Research Challenge (CRC). Their team went on to represent TTUHSC at the national competition.

## ALMA MATER RECRUITMENT

In March, SOP team member Allison Rogers and pharmacy students Jordan Miller (P2) and Amber Jones (P1) helped recruit biomedical students for the PharmD program at an event at Tarleton State. The trio graduated from Tarleton State in 2004, 2022 and 2017 respectively and took a photo with a statue of the school's founder.

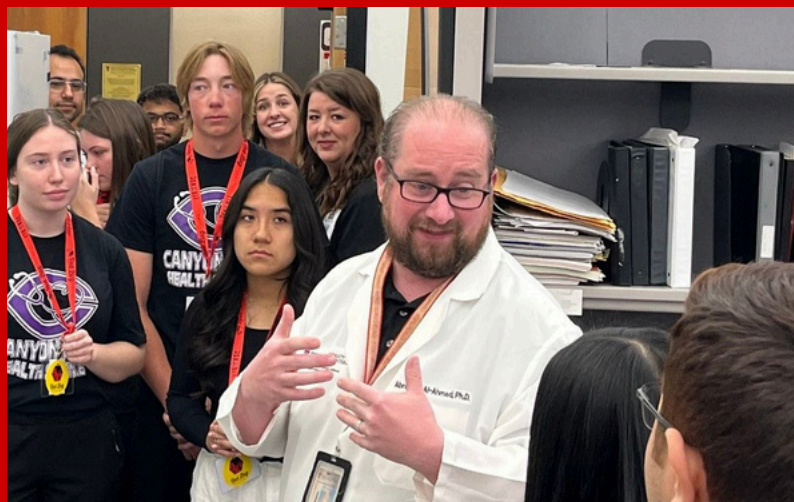


## SOP/SON HOST NAF HEALTH SCIENCES ACADEMY

On February 15, SOP joined the School of Nursing to host 50 Dallas Independent School District juniors from the NAF Academy on the Dallas campus. The students learned about both pharmacy and nursing through hands on activities, including learning how to scrub in/garb up for a sterile environment, preparing an IV piggyback, practicing health assessments, learning about blood draws, and giving medications through gastric tubes. The day ended with a panel discussion with SOP/SON students and faculty.



# SOP SUMMER CAMP OPPORTUNITY



Our Abilene and Amarillo campuses are excited to be offering Rx Summer Camps for rising 9th-12th grade students interested in learning more about the pharmacy profession. These immersive camps will serve as STEM-driven college prep experiences with hands-on projects, laboratory activities, simulations, field trips and engaging presentations. Camps will take place from 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. on the following dates:

- Abilene Campus: June 24 - 27
- Amarillo Campus: June 24 - 26

# SOP KEY CONTRIBUTOR REMEMBERED



TTUHSC Jerry H. Hodge School of Pharmacy is saddened to share the news of the passing of our partner and friend, Cynthia Nash, Pharm.D. Dr. Nash served as an Adjunct Assistant Professor of Pharmacy Practice for the School, and was an instrumental collaborator and key ally in our partnership with the Dallas VA North Texas Health Care System. We extend our sincere condolences to her family, friends, and colleagues. Learn more about Dr. Nash's impact [here](#).



# DAPA/SCCP HOST SPEED NETWORKING

In March, the Dallas Area Pharmacy Association (DAPA) and the Student College of Clinical Pharmacy (SCCP) held a speed networking event at the TTUHSC Dallas campus. At the event, pharmacists from multiple areas, including nuclear, compounding, HIV, infusion, academia, consulting, hospital, and industry pharmacy, discussed their career paths with students.



# PFIZER WORKSHOP EDUCATES ON PHARMACEUTICAL INDUSTRY

In March, 42 TTUHSC-SOP students participated in the Pfizer “3D Drug Discovery and Development Workshop.” Three Pfizer representatives and several SOP faculty members helped students learn more about the pharmaceutical industry and explore potential careers. Students were assigned to teams, given individual roles, and tasked with making decisions to help bring their “company’s” molecule to the market.



## TTUHSC-SOP TAKES TPC LEAD

TTUHSC-SOP proudly serves as the administrative lead for the Texas Pharmacy Congress (TPC) and recently joined other pharmacy organizations and schools for the February meeting. The Congress meets regularly to unite Texas Pharmacy with the goal of enhancing the health and well-being of Texans by transforming pharmacy practice.

## ABILENE HOSTS SPRING FORMAL



On April 12, the Abilene Student Council hosted a Masquerade Spring Formal at the Grace Museum. The event gave students a chance to socialize and have some fun while enjoying refreshments and dancing.



# THE WALK ON: ATHENA CANNON '20



Whether they are intentionally doping or not, most athletes are not experts in medicine for enhancement or to address health issues. However, they must navigate complex and ever-changing lists of prohibited substances. To Athena Cannon, PharmD, (Pharmacy '20), there's one perspective missing. With a passion for the emerging field of sports pharmacy, the response she often hears is, "Athletes are healthy; they don't take medications, therefore (pharmacists) don't have a role in their care."

"When we have myths that truly disregard athletes taking dietary supplements or athletes that are just like everybody else that (have) other chronic conditions (such as) paralympic athletes, we're really excluding them from the interprofessional resources that we could be providing them," Cannon says. Read the full story [here](#).

## MOVING ON UP: BONNIE DUGIE '00



What began as a job in retail and mail-order pharmacy for Bonnie Dugie, Pharm.D., MBA, FTSHP, has led to a senior leadership position as senior director of pharmacy program management with Maxor National Pharmacy Services. In her role, Dugie uses her expertise from behind the counter to open new pharmacies across the country. "The company has grown, and I've grown with it," Dugie said. "I try to help others to grow, too. I think that's the beauty of it." Read the full story [here](#).

## DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI NOMINATIONS OPEN

Nominations for the 2024 Distinguished Alumni Awards are now open! The annual awards honor the accomplishments and contributions to health care made by alumni who have achieved a high level of success in their professions, or whose efforts have made a positive impact on their community or humanity. Nominations can be made [here](#) by June 2.



# UPCOMING EVENTS



Commencement ceremonies for the TTUHSC Jerry H. Hodge School of Pharmacy Class of 2024 will be held on Saturday, May 18 at 10 a.m. in the Auditorium of the Amarillo Civic Center in downtown Amarillo.

## MAY:

- 8: Celebration of Achievement
- 16-17: Faculty Retreat, Amarillo Campus
- 27: Memorial Day Holiday

## JUNE:

- 10-15 and 17-22: Camp New Day (Diabetes Camp)
- 24-26, 27: Amarillo Rx Summer Camp, Abilene Rx Summer Camp

## JULY:

- 4: Fourth of July Holiday
- 20-23: AACP Annual Meeting in Boston, MA
- 26-28: Texas Pharmacy Association Meeting in Allen, TX

## AUGUST:

- 3: Dallas White Coat Ceremony, 10 a.m.
- 10: Amarillo White Coat Ceremony, 1 p.m.
- 11: Abilene White Coat Ceremony, 1 p.m.
- 5-9: P1 Bootcamp
- 12: First Day of Fall Semester
- 16-17: Student Leadership Retreat





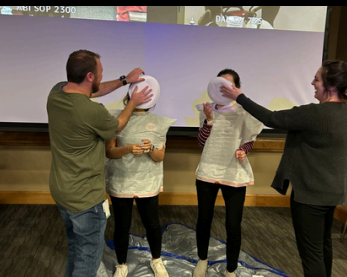
# Fun Around Campus



*TSHP*



*Pie Day*



*Abilene Spring Formal*

*Outstanding Faculty of the Year*



*Solar Eclipse*



*Dallas Health Fair*

Have something or someone you'd like to see featured in the SOP Newsletter? Send a photo and a brief description of what you would like to see featured to [amber.bustos@ttuhsc.edu](mailto:amber.bustos@ttuhsc.edu)