

TSU COPHS

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**TEXAS SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY**  
**College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences Update**

**This Issue**

- *March of Dimes Walk*
- *Residency Placement*
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## Class of 2013 Prepares for First Year of Pharmacy School

The College welcomed 110 incoming first year pharmacy students to its annual Summer Academy program July 6, 2009. The class of 2013 will participate in classes to prepare them for the successful completion of their first year in the program. Students will take part in pharmacy calculations, pharmacology/ pathophysiology, and pharmaceutical chemistry sessions. The Academy also provides an opportunity for the students to develop relationships with their peers and College faculty and staff. Summer Academy is coordinated through the Office of Student Services and concludes August 7, 2009.



## The College Marches for Babies



Students, staff, and faculty joined together to walk for babies in the March of Dimes March for Babies on April 26, 2009 at the University of Houston Robertson Stadium. The College maintains its place on the MOD's list as one of the Top 100 supporters.



## Students Receive Scholarship Awards

<i>2009 Texas Pharmacy Foundation</i>	Hoa (Melinda) T. Le
<i>The Texas Federation of Drug Stores</i>	Alan Le
<i>Texas Society of Health-System Pharmacists Research and Education Award</i>	Fernando Medrano
<i>The Walgreens Diversity Award</i>	Arezo Noormohammad

## 2009 COPHS Awards Ceremony



This year the College held its annual Awards Ceremony on May 15, 2009. The theme, "Sixty Years of Excellence in Achievement", was a tribute to the College's success in producing health care professionals, particularly minorities, who deliver quality health care and who excel in career paths of clinical laboratory science, environmental health, health administration, health information management, pharmacy and respiratory therapy.

Brian Mitchell (Pharm. D., 2009) and Jonna Kiel-Mack (B.S. health administration, 2009) served as the master and mistress of ceremony, respectively. There were

nearly 30 awards given to deserving students. Prospective graduates, their family and friends and COPHS faculty and staff celebrated the occasion with live music.

The May 2009 graduates of the COPHS included eighty-eight graduates from the Pharm.D. program; 12 clinical laboratory science graduates; 15 health care administration graduates; 18 respiratory therapy graduates; 5 environmental health graduates; and 12 health information management graduates.



### 2009 Phi Lambda Sigma Inductees

Dominique Brewster

Rakhi Dave

Oluremi Eyikogbe

Celia Fenceroy

Annie Lianekeo

Du Luu

Anh Nguyen

Frank North

Pauline Nwachwu

Gift Nweke

Rakiya Wada

## COPHS Sponsors HCOP Students

The COPHS is proud to sponsor three Alabama A&M University students (Brittney Garrett, Lauren Riles, and Andrea Jackson) who are taking part in the Health Careers Opportunities Program. The six-week enrichment program, which began June 22, 2009, is designed to provide the students with an opportunity to take part in pharmacy related experiences including shadowing clinical pharmacists and introductory research laboratory rotations. These students were selected to participate in HCOP based on their superior academic standing and interest in health careers.

This effort is supported by funds provided by the Alabama A&M University Health Careers Opportunities Program, where Dr. Deidre Gopher and Dr. Malinda Gilmore serve as Director and Program Coordinator, respectively.

## COPHS Participates in Project GenWellness

The College took part in the Houston Wellness Association's 2009 Project GenWellness held May 16th at Sanchez High School. GenWellness targets African American, Asian, and Hispanic youth in an effort to improve their health and expose them to careers in health and wellness. Linda Solis, coordinator of recruitment and retention, spoke to approximately 250 students about careers in pharmacy and health sciences.

## Class of 2009 Residency Placements

Portia Davis	<i>TSU Drug Information Center</i>
Eka Eboung	<i>Birmingham Veterans Affairs Medical Center Birmingham, AL</i>
Linda Ho	<i>St. Luke's Episcopal Hospital Joint PGY 1/ PGY 2 with University of Houston</i>
Brian Mitchell	<i>North Texas Veterans Affairs Medical Center Dallas, TX</i>
Adora Obiechina	<i>University of Charleston Charleston, WV</i>
Medhin Tzegazad	<i>Christus Santa Rosa Hospital San Antonio, TX</i>
Candace Wiggins	<i>Methodist Dallas Medical Center Dallas, TX</i>
William Casey	<i>Valley Baptist Medical Center PGY1 Harlingen, TX</i>
Janae Williams	<i>Baptist Medical Center Dallas, TX</i>



### Students Travel to TPA

The 2009 Summer Academy, (Class of 2013) enjoyed a professionally enriching one-day trip to the Texas Pharmacy Rxperts Conference and Expo in San Antonio, Texas, July 24, 2009.

## Alumni Receive National and Statewide Recognition

Robert Mayes (B.S. Pharmacy, 1981) is TPA House of Delegates Chair.

Jason Trahan (Pharm.D., 1999) received the Pharmacy Mentor Award from the Texas Society of Health-System Pharmacists. Dr. Trahan is a pharmacy manager at Baylor All Saints Medical Center in Fort Worth, TX and coordinates the hospital's student rotations.

Tameya Dowell Sam (Pharm.D., 2006) was recognized at the APhA Annual Meeting in San Antonio, TX (April 3-6, 2009) by Pharmacy Today for providing excellent one-to-one patient care. Dr. Sam's expertise lies in adherence counseling where she makes regular calls to patients to monitor their drug therapy adherence, provide education on how to take medications, and develop medication schedules. She practices pharmacy at a local CVS store in Houston, TX. Ten pharmacists were selected, nationally, for their work with patients.

# TSU Celebrates Excellence in Research Achievement

The theme of the University's Annual Research Week, held March 30-April 6, 2009, was "Celebrating Excellence in Research Achievement." The NASA University Research Center for Biotechnology and Environmental Research Activities hosted a special general session for the University, "Inspiring the Next Generation of STEM Professionals." During Research Week, the COPHS also hosted a series of presentations including, "Proteomics as a core biomedical research technology," presented by Dr. Richard I. Somiari of ITSI-Biosciences in Johnstown, PA. COPHS faculty, research scientists, and students won over 50% of the 2009 Research Week Award. The COPHS Research Week activities were coordinated by Dr. Melanie Lawson, assistant professor of health administration.

<b>Category</b>	<b>Winners</b>
First Place Faculty Oral Presentation	Biotransformation of Inositol Hexanicotinate by Human and Rat Plasma Esterases Dong Liang, Chair and Associate Professor, Pharmaceutical Sciences
First Place Faculty Poster	Methionine Aminopeptidase as Novel Antimycobacterial Targets Omonike Olaleye, Assistant Professor, Pharmaceutical Sciences
Third Place Faculty Poster	Radiolabelling of Gold Nanoshells for PET and SPECT Imaging in Live Animals Huan Xie , Assistant Professor, Pharmaceutical Sciences
First Place Staff Oral Presentation	PPARα: Molecular Target for Subarachnoid Hemorrhage-Induced Cerebral Vasospasm Momoh A. Yakubu, Senior Scientist, Vascular Biology, TSU Center for Cardiovascular Diseases
Second Place Staff Oral Presentation	Effect of Hydrogen Sulfide on Cyclic AMP Production in Isolated Mammalian Neural Retinae Ya Fatou Njie-Mbye, Post-Doctoral Research Fellow, Pharmaceutical Sciences
First Place Staff Poster	Effect of Acrolein on Protein Expression in Rat Lung Epithelial Cells: a Proteomic Approach Poonam Sarkar, Research Associate, Pharmacy
Second Place Staff Poster	Butyrate and Trichostatin A Exhibit Disparate Effects on Cyclin D1 in Vascular Smooth Muscle Cells Omana P. Mathew, Research Associate, RCMI Program
Second Place Student Oral Presentation	Antipyrine Pharmacokinetics in a Simulated Weightlessness Rat Model: Gender Difference Bo Wei, Doctoral Student, Pharmaceutical Sciences and Dong Liang, Faculty Advisor
First Place Student Poster	Role of PPARA Agaonists in the Expression of COX-2 in an Endometrial Cancer Cell Line, RL95-2 Sharika Lewis, Graduate Student, Pharmaceutical Sciences, and Barbara Hayes, Faculty Advisor
Second Place Student Poster	Highlighting Over- the-Counter (OTC) Product Proliferation as a Marketing Strategy: Implications for Patients and Pharmacists Leeja Varghese, Pharm.D. Student, Pharmacy Practice and Sondip Mathur, Faculty Advisor

## Faculty Receive Honors as Teacher and Researcher of the Year



Dr. Edward C. Bell, assistant professor of pharmaceuticals, has been with the College for only three years, but has already distinguished himself as a talented educator and COPHS faculty. Dr. Bell was awarded the honor of COPHS Teacher of the Year. A native of Jackson, Mississippi, Bell received his undergraduate degree in chemistry from Tougaloo College and graduate training in pharmaceuticals from Auburn University. His teaching philosophy is "to instill confidence in my students by promoting an environment of mutual respect, and by genuinely believing in their abilities." His research interests include drug-drug and natural product-drug interactions, especially as they pertain to human cytochrome P450-mediation of drug metabolism.



Dr. Dong Liang, chair of pharmaceutical sciences department and associate professor, was awarded the 2009 COPHS Researcher of the Year Award. Dr. Liang has made significant accomplishments in the fight against cancer, with a recent U.S. patent with Dr. Diana Chow of the University of Houston College of Pharmacy, for a mechanism that uses nanoformulations of the compound mebendazole. Although mebendazole has been used for decades as an antiparasitic agent, it is showing promise in the suppression of tumor growth and inhibition of cancer cell growth.

## "COPHS Celebrates 60 Years of Providing Health Professions Education and Training"

The College's Continuing Education program sponsored its annual preceptor conference, "Celebrating 60 Years of Providing Health Professions Education and Training," May 2, 2009. Speakers and topics included Iona Grant, senior compliance officer of Texas State Board of Pharmacy (Texas State Board of Pharmacy Law Updates); Dr. Andrea Simmons, pharmacist-in-charge of Triumph Hospital, Baytown (Review of Advanced Pharmacy Practice Experiences); and Dr. Santhi Masilamani, clinical manager/pharmacist-intern coordinator of Harris County Hospital District (Mentoring a Student Pharmacist).

The COPHS also continues its commitment to training pharmacists in geriatric care. The College's CE program entitled, "Bioterrorism: 'The One Step Ahead' Approach to Protecting the Aging" was held April 25, 2009 and June 13, 2009 at the Doubletree Guest Suites. Topics addressed during the four hour CE program included the unique characteristics of the older adult population that places them at increased risk during emergency situations; signs and symptoms associated with existing and emerging infectious diseases and natural disaster emergencies; and psychosocial and ethical issues in bioterrorism responses as it affects the treatment and continuity of care of older adults. Contributors to the programs included Dr. Andrew James, interim chair of Health Sciences Department; Dr. Angie Eaton-Maxwell, assistant professor of pharmacy practice; Dr. Ray Love, staff physician at Michael E. DeBakey VA Medical Center; Jeffery Floyd, Strategic National Stockpile Coordinator- City of Houston Department of Health and Human Services, Dr. Mary desVignes-Kendrick, research scientist, Texas A&M Health Science Center and School of Rural Public Health, and Dr. Adlia Ebeid, TSU Drug Information Resident. This educational training is sponsored through funding from the Texas Consortium Geriatric Education Center (TCGEC). Dr. Angie Eaton-Maxwell is acting Director of Continuing Education and oversees the implementation of health professions continuing educational offerings.

### COPHS

### Welcomes

### New Staff

Adlia Ebeid, PharmD

Director of Introductory Pharmacy Practice Experiences in the Office of Experiential Education and Training

Linda Solis, M.S.

Coordinator of Recruitment and Retention of the Office of Student Services

Portia Davis, PharmD

Drug Information Resident (2009-2010), in cooperation with the TSU/Harris County Hospital District Drug Information Center

Golda A. Leonard, PhD

Associate Dean for Academic Affairs

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## Publications

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Abobo CV, Wei B, Liang D. Stability of zonisamide in extemporaneously compounded oral suspensions. *Am J Health Sys Pharm.* 2009;66(12):1105-9.

Eaton-Maxwell A, Ebeid A, Azuike C, Crain D. Treatment of hypertension in the elderly. *US Pharm.* 2009;34(6):HS12-HS18.

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Oyekan AO. Peroxisome proliferator activated receptors – The new frontiers in the treatment of cardiovascular diseases – (Editorial article). *Trop J Pharm Res.* 2009; 8: 101-3.

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Yousefipour Z and Newaz MA. Fatty Acid Metabolism and Peroxisome Proliferator Activated Receptors (PPARs). *Fatty Acids in Health Promotion and Disease Causation.* Ed. Ronald R. Watson. Chapter 17. Publisher American Oil Chemists Society. 2009.

Sarkar P and Hayes BE. Proteomic profiling of rat lung epithelial cells induced by acrolein. *Life Sci.* 2009; 85:188-195.

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Yousefipour Z, Oyekan A, and Newaz M. Role of G-protein coupled receptor kinase-2 (GRK2) in PPAR $\gamma$ -mediated modulation of blood pressure and renal vascular reactivity in SHR. *Am J Neph* 2009; 30:201-208.

Zhang G, Yang Z, Lu W, Zhang R, Huang Q, Tian M, Li L, Liang D, Li C. Influence of anchoring ligands and particle size on the colloidal stability and in vivo biodistribution of polyethylene glycol-coated gold nanoparticles in tumor-xenografted mice. *Biomaterials.* 2009; 30:1928-1936.

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# Presentations

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Chow D S-L, Gupta P, Qi Y, Liang D, Wisniecki P, and Shah J. Approaches of Nanomedicine Formulations in Cancer Therapy- for Achieving Significant Impacts on Pharmacokinetics and Biodistributions . *6<sup>th</sup> Annual Congress of International Drug Discovery Science and Technology (IDDST)*,” October 18-22, 2008, Beijing, China.

Chow D S-L, Gupta P, Qi Y, Liang D, Wisniecki P, and Shah J. Nanomedicine – Self-nanoemulsifying drug delivery system (SNEDDS) and nanosuspension for oral and parenteral formulations in cancer therapy with significant impacts on pharmacokinetics and biodistributions” . *6<sup>th</sup> Annual Congress of International Drug Discovery Science and Technology (IDDST)*,” October 18-22, 2008, Beijing, China.

Liang D, Meyer L, Lin J, Pu X, Ye Y, Lu K, Wu X. Genetic variants in microRNA pathway genes and ovarian cancer risk. *The American Association for Cancer Research 100th Annual Meeting at Colorado Convention Center*, April 18-22, 2009, Denver, CO.

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Ranganna K, Mathew OP, and Yatsu FM: Insights into epigenetic regulation and chromatin remodeling of butyrate arrested vascular smooth muscle proliferation. *European Atherosclerosis Society Meeting. June 14-18, 2009*, Boston, MA.

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Xie H, Wang Z., Bao A, Goins B, Phillips WT, Coleman CL. Radiolabeling of Nanoshells with <sup>64</sup>Cu and <sup>111</sup>In for PET and SPECT Imaging in Rats. *Nanotech 2009 Conference and Expo* May 3-7, Houston, TX.



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