

One who mixes ingredients, drugs or medications: a pharmacist

Kāwili Lā'au

The Daniel K. Inouye College of Pharmacy at the University of Hawai'i at Hilo

Fall 2014 • Volume 7, Issue 1



This just in:
**Governor
releases funds for
permanent building**

– See page 14



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HILO

DKICP salutes Mina Pharmacy

Dean's Message



We all know successful completion of the pharmacy program at the Daniel K. Inouye College of Pharmacy provides our graduates with numerous career opportunities each geared toward improving health and healthcare practices. However, today as much as ever, the community pharmacy holds a special place in the profession. Having such a close and easily assessable interface with the people we serve provides a tremendous opportunity for the pharmacist.

In this issue of *Kawili La'au*, we have the honor of featuring just one of those organizations, Mina Pharmacy. We present the story of Hany Guirguis and Adel Etainas, staunch supporters of our College, who have made impressive progress in launching an independent community pharmacy in the State of Hawai'i.

In addition, beyond our home state, we are able to provide a glimpse of our work in Thailand in this issue. The College has become a member of a prestigious US-Thai Consortium that will allow us to expand our interactions with researchers and professionals in Thailand. You will also see we have extended our connections throughout China. This type of international outreach is exactly where we should be able to show our strength because we occupy the unique geographical position in serving about one-fifth of the globe. These articles exemplify how we intend to continue that growth.

And, of course, let's not forget our students. We are welcoming the Class of 2018, our future and our reason for existence. They are already exhibiting qualities that set them apart from other classes, and they will be a force to reckon with in the years to come.

At this point in the development of the Daniel K. Inouye College of Pharmacy, we have established some traits that I believe are immutable. We are on a trajectory of growth and we continue looking forward. It is clear, however, that none of this would have been possible without the help and commitment of professionals, academics, and members of the community.

In recognition of this dedication, the current issue of *Kawili La'au* is dedicated to the people who have believed in us from the start. We are extremely grateful to our readership for your confidence in our future and for your commitment to our success. As the College continues striving to reach the next levels of excellence, your continued support will be even more critical than ever. There are changes on the horizon but I have every confidence the College is well positioned to continue setting new precedents, breaking new ground, and admirably serving our constituents.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'John M. Pezzuto'. The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letters of the first and last names being capitalized and prominent.

John M. Pezzuto
Professor and Dean



Kāwili Lā'au

Fall, 2014 • Volume 7, Issue 1

Administration

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Founding Dean

Edward Fisher

Associate Dean for Academic Affairs

Carolyn Ma

Co-chair, Pharmacy Practice

Patricia Uber

Co-chair, Pharmacy Practice

Kenneth R. Morris

Chair, Pharmaceutical Sciences

Karen Pellegrin

Director, Strategic Planning and
Continuing Education

Daryl Masanda

Director, Student Services

Kāwili Lā'au Editor

Maggie Morris

Graphic Production

UH Hilo Graphic Services

Published by the College of Pharmacy

University of Hawai'i at Hilo

200 W. Kāwili St. Hilo, Hawai'i

96720 Phone: 808-933-2909

Fax: 808-933-2974

<http://pharmacy.uhh.hawaii.edu>

Pharmacy@hawaii.edu

Kāwili Lā'au is the magazine for the only
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the University of Hawai'i at Hilo



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On the cover: Hany Guirguis (left) and Adel Etinas, co-owners of Mina Pharmacy, inside one of their 11 independent Mina Pharmacy stores. (Photo provided by Mina Pharmacy)

With gratitude to: Mina Pharmacy

With 11 independent pharmacies on the Big Island, Maui and Oahu, Mina Pharmacy epitomizes the term “support local.” With donations to the College of Pharmacy adding up to \$80,000 over the last four years, co-owners Hany Guirguis and Adel Etinas prove they themselves support local.

“The College of Pharmacy is important to Hawai‘i as a business,” Hany says. “We feel strongly that the State is supposed to support local businesses, and anybody sitting in the legislative chair needs to look to the future. We did a lot of work to let them know our priorities.”

Mina Pharmacy has specifically donated to DKICP’s permanent building fund because they wanted to show the state legislators what was important to them, says Adel, who also is on the DKICP’s Dean’s Advisory Committee. “We are happy they got the message and funded the permanent building.”

The Daniel K. Inouye College of Pharmacy (DKICP) is the only school of pharmacy in the Pacific Region. It provides sustainable employment to more than 100 faculty and staff on four islands, and gives local students a place to study pharmacy without moving to the mainland.

The pair of Egyptian-born pharmacists met with Founding Dean John Pezzuto before the school enrolled the first class of student pharmacists in 2007. They said they had had a hard time hiring pharmacists, and Dean Pezzuto explained his vision of improving health care in Hawai‘i.

“It’s difficult to imagine starting a College where there was none before without the continuous support from businesses such as Mina Pharmacy,” Dean Pezzuto stated. “They have been like family, always there when we needed them. That kind of loyalty has shaped who we are, and gives me great confidence for the future.”



Hany and Madeleine Guirguis

Hany and his wife, Madeleine, have attended a graduation luncheon to present a ceremonial check every spring since the first class of PharmDs graduated in 2011. They further displayed their confidence in the College by sending both their sons to DKICP. Remy will graduate next year with the Class of 2015 and Tamer is set to graduate two years later, with careers at Mina Pharmacy in their future.

Setting up the first pharmacy in the Ala Moana building in Honolulu in 1997, one of the goals of the Mina Pharmacy founders was to show people in Hawai‘i that they don’t have to rely on importing products and talent in order to have a competitive business.

“We wanted people to realize the islands have to be self-independent,” Hany says. “This is the message still.”

Mina Pharmacy has grown from the one store on Oahu to employing 95 people on three islands. Nearly one-quarter of their employees are pharmacists, including three DKICP graduates: Drs. Seul-Ki “Hannah” Noh (Class of 2011), Tehane Ornellas Han (Class of 2011) and Jeffrey Christley (Class of 2014). In addition, they open their doors to allow current student pharmacists to complete their experiential work in their stores. Since spring of 2009, DKICP has sent 83 students to a Mina site.

“We try to help the students by giving them more attention. It’s important for them not only to learn but to understand,” Hany says. As evidence, Micheal Hoskins, who works in the Mina pharmacy located in Hilo, was elected DKICP Preceptor of the Year for 2013 (see his story on page 38: http://pharmacy.uhh.hawaii.edu/news/newsletter/kawiliilaau/documents/kawili_laau_summ13.pdf).

Mina Pharmacy also is helping the expanded UH Hilo's Student Health Services with donations of light fixtures and other supplies to the pharmacy, which is operated by DKICP.

Services run the gamut of not only training students, but also showing caregivers how to take care of the elderly. According to Hany, this continuing education is another way Mina Pharmacy maintains the "support local" theme in order to meet the special healthcare needs of their communities.

DKICP Associate Dean for Academic Affairs Dr. Edward Fisher helps Mina accomplish this continuing education goal by teaching classes on the treatment of the consequences of substance abuse, such as addiction, intoxication and withdrawal.

"We got to where we are through hard work and service to our community," Hany says. "Supporting the College of Pharmacy is just another way we can show it."



Dean John Pezzuto (left to right), Hany Guirguis, and Associate Dean for Academic Affairs Edward Fisher with check signifying Mina Pharmacy's first donation to permanent building fund.

“ It’s difficult to imagine starting a College where there was none before without the continuous support from businesses such as Mina Pharmacy. They have been like family, always there when we needed them. That kind of loyalty has shaped who we are, and gives me great confidence for the future. ”

– Dean John Pezzuto

The US-Thai Consortium votes to include UH Hilo's college of pharmacy

The Daniel K. Inouye College of Pharmacy (DKICP) at the University of Hawai'i at Hilo is one of the newest members of a multinational group working to advance pharmacy education, research, practice, and improve the health and welfare of the people in Thailand.

The US-Thai Consortium for the Development of Pharmacy Education in Thailand, founded in May 1994, now includes 19 Thai and 17 U.S. schools of pharmacy. The American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy (AACP) signed the original Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) with eight schools of pharmacy in Thailand and the Committee for Pharmacy Manpower Development of the Thailand Ministry of University Affairs.

"We are energized by and grateful for the opportunity to join these other top schools of pharmacy because

we understand how to affect global health and make a difference for humanity," said DKICP Dean John M. Pezzuto. "Our geographic location positions us to become the hub of pharmaceutical research where contributions of western sciences, eastern traditions and Pacific Island heritage combine to advance pharmaceutical knowledge and practice."

Other U.S. schools of pharmacy in the consortium include top-10 schools University of Minnesota, University of North Carolina, University of Texas, University of Kentucky, University of Wisconsin-Madison, Ohio State University, Purdue University, University of Utah, the University of Washington and University of Arizona.

Thai schools of pharmacy involved include Chulalongkorn University and Rangsit University, both of which have clinical site and research agreements with DKICP. These agreements allow students a chance to go to Thailand for their experiential training, as well as brings PhD students and postdoctoral associates to Hawai'i to work in DKICP labs.

DKICP has developed relationships and signed memorandum of understanding (MOU) with universities in China, Thailand and Japan. Students in the UH Hilo program also have unique learning opportunities available throughout Hawai'i, across the mainland and the Pacific Basin, in Guam, American Samoa and Saipan.

"This consortium will help us expand our scope to include other universities in Thailand, which in turn gives



“ Our unique, innovative, and highly competitive research program focused in the area of biology-driven natural product drug discovery and characterization, with primary emphasis in the fields of cancer chemotherapy, cancer chemoprevention, malaria, and AIDS make the DKICP program an outstanding partner and collaborator within the Consortium. ”

– Supakit Wongwiwatthananutit



Some of the attendees at the conference were (from left to right): Dean Thanapat Sonsak, Rangsit University; Supakit Wongwiwatthananutit, associate professor, DKICP, UH Hilo; Professor Sarinee Kritiyanunt, Ransit University; Associate Dean Jinda Wangboonskul, Thammasat University; Kusawadee Maluangnon, Thammasat University.

our respective students a wider global perspective,” said Supakit Wongwiwatthananutit, DKICP associate professor in the Department of Pharmacy Practices who helped shape the existing agreements. “Being born and raised in Thailand, this is very meaningful because I know our work can affect generations to come.

Originally created by the Royal Thai Government in 1994, the consortium set out to strengthen the practice and education of pharmacists in Thailand. In 2008, the Thai government extended the program through 2022. The group celebrated its 20th anniversary with a 2014 consortium conference from May 28-30 at the University of Maryland School of Pharmacy in Baltimore.

“I strongly believe that as a part of the Consortium, our college is very well positioned to offer meaningful intellectual and programmatic opportunities for scientific, educational and professional interchange to the Consortium,” Wongwiwatthananutit said. “We have ability to attract Thai pharmacy faculty/preceptors, professional and graduate

students to pursue advanced professional, graduate study, residency or postgraduate training in our college, and in many of our experiential sites throughout the Hawaiian Islands. Multiple student and faculty exchanges, visiting lecturers, research collaboration projects, practice and innovation collaborations, and faculty and preceptor development programs will be seen as mutual benefits between the Thai schools of pharmacy and the DKICP.”

Wongwiwatthananutit attended the three-day consortium meeting in Baltimore with Carolyn Ma, associate professor and co-chair of the Department of Pharmacy Practice. There they were able to reconnect with faculty and

administrators they have been working with in Thailand since signing agreements with Chulalongkorn University in Bangkok in 2011 and Rangsit University in 2013.

Ma stated, “Pharmacy practice programs in Thailand are poised to advance on the clinical front with the hospital pharmacist’s partnering with the University faculty. DKICP has similar partnerships with their APPE preceptors. With this model, the availability of APPE rotations increases as well as the quality of clinical services combined with clinical research such as medication therapy management.”

This partnership will also bring out exchange of ideas for clinical research in the basic pharmaceutical sciences, Wongwiwatthananutit said. “Our unique, innovative, and highly competitive research program focused in the area of biology-driven natural product drug discovery and characterization, with primary emphasis in the fields of cancer chemotherapy, cancer chemoprevention, malaria, and AIDS make the DKICP program an outstanding partner and collaborator within the Consortium.”

Faculty from Thai university spend part of summer at DKICP for clinical training



Hilo Medical Center

Two clinical faculty/preceptors from the Faculty of Pharmacy at Chulalongkorn University in Thailand visited the Daniel K. Inouye College of Pharmacy (DKICP) in Hawai'i in June to do their short-term clinical training experiences in antibiotic stewardship.

Pharmacist Narisara Khonhong and nurse Chulaporn Cheuasangpun were able to visit the DKICP faculty at The Queens Medical Center and Straub Hospital on Oahu, Wilcox Memorial Hospital on Kaua'i and Hilo Medical Center on the Big Island of Hawai'i.

"It was our great pleasure to be with part of the University of Hawai'i at Hilo College of Pharmacy team," Khonhong said. "Working with nice and amazing people here was a wonderful experience."

She said the pair gained valuable new information about the hospital antibiotic stewardship program, and learned more about the relationships of doctors, nurses and pharmacists working as a multidisciplinary team. They

concentrated on the role of the pharmacist both as clinical pharmacist and preceptor to pharmacy students and learned about medication management systems.

"Thank you everyone for a very warm welcome and helping us through our exchange visitor program," she said. "It was such an unforgettable time, and we hope to adapt this precious experience and knowledge to our job and our hospital!"



Straub Clinic and Hospital

Wilcox Memorial Hospital



WELCOME Class of 2018

Incoming student pharmacists gathered in the Longs Pavilion Lecture Hall on the UH Hilo campus on August 18 to participate in a weeklong orientation guided by the Daniel K. Inouye College of Pharmacy's Office of Student Services. With the help of Student Ambassadors, the new student pharmacists were registered and fitted for their white coats and treated to doughnuts and coffee graciously donated by Safeway.

Following registration, Dean John Pezzuto welcomed the 83 Doctor of Pharmacy students to the DKICP `ohana. Associate Dean Edward Fisher gave an overview of the College, and the students met faculty and key personnel, who were introduced by the Chair of Pharmaceutical Sciences, Ken Morris, and co-chairs of Pharmacy Practice, Patricia Uber and Carolyn Ma who was able to participate from Oahu via polycom video conferencing.

Later that day, the students and their families were treated to a warm welcome reception at the Hilo Yacht Club, sponsored by CVS Pharmacy. Dean Pezzuto introduced Joe Farrar, CVS Manager of Professional and College Relations who was visiting Hilo from San Francisco, and Pharmacy Supervisor Jaime Kon from Longs Drugs/CVS in Hilo as well as District Manager Darrell Ito from Longs Drugs/ CVS in Oahu.

Throughout the week, students participated in sessions about the student handbook, professionalism, time management, student involvement opportunities and other topics that aimed to support a smooth transition from an undergraduate to a professional level while getting to know their classmates, faculty and the UH Hilo community.

Other events included New Student Convocation in UH Hilo gymnasium, featuring faculty and administrators who welcomed the students to the community of learners at UH Hilo.

The Class of 2018 is the eighth incoming class of pharmacy students at UH Hilo, the only College of Pharmacy in Hawai'i and the Pacific region.



Dean John Pezzuto (from the right) holds *Emergence of the University of Hawai'i at Hilo*, the history of the College, which he presented to CVS representatives Joe Farrar, CVS manager of Professional and College Relations who was visiting Hilo from San Francisco, and Pharmacy Supervisor Jaime Kon from Longs Drugs/CVS in Hilo as well as District Manager Darrell Ito from Longs Drugs/CVS on Oahu.

Dean Pezzuto recognizes DKICP supporter and adjunct faculty member Gerald De Mello for all the work he's done attaining a permanent building.



One of the rights of passage for new student pharmacists is to be fitted for a white coat during orientation week.



Gail Makuakane-Lundin, UH Hilo interim vice chancellor for student affairs, prepares to speak at the 2014 Convocation for new students while DKICP's Associate Dean Edward Fisher waits his turn.



Student pharmacists from the Class of 2018 gather at UH Hilo's Convocation for new students.

UH BOR approves change of status for College of Pharmacy



Matthew Platz, UH Hilo vice chancellor for academic affairs

The University of Hawai'i Board of Regents (BOR) approved a change of status from "provisional" to "established" for the PharmD degree offered at the Daniel K. Inouye College of Pharmacy (DKICP) in a meeting on Oahu August 21.

"When the College of Pharmacy gets a cold, UH Hilo gets pneumonia, so we are obviously pleased with the committee's results," said Matt Platz, UH Hilo vice chancellor for academic affairs. "Even though this process is required for all new programs at the University of Hawai'i, we take our role in reviewing programs very seriously. The College put together an outstanding package of support and made it easy for me to endorse the change in status."

The BOR Committee on Academic Affairs recommended the approval on August 7. Established UH programs must perform regular reviews every seven years.

The PharmD program is designed to prepare students for a career as a pharmacist after passing a national board examination and successful completion of licensure requirements in the state where they will practice. In addition to acquiring extensive experience in the practice of pharmacy, the rigorous curriculum is rooted in basic, biomedical, and pharmaceutical sciences, designed for students to acquire knowledge of the scientific underpinnings of the profession.

The four-year professional program has had 341 graduates since acquiring full accreditation status in 2011. Of those graduates, 97 percent have passed their licensure exam. As of June this year, graduates from the Class of 2014 have been hired for jobs that require a PharmD degree in eight states as well as Guam and Saipan at various retail chains, community pharmacies and hospitals.

As of January 2013, 95 percent of the graduates from the Class of 2011 and 73 percent of the Class of 2012 reported that they were working in a job that required a PharmD. As of the end of May 2013, a record 11 members of the Class of 2013 were selected for highly competitive pharmacy residencies in hospitals across the US and Hawai'i.

During the first four years since the college began in 2007, DKICP stimulated more than \$50 million per year in economic activity in the state, and faculty researchers have brought in more than \$40 million in federal funding.

"Achieving this latest milestone shows we have continued to offer a first-rate education despite the economic distractions of the past few years," said DKICP Founding Dean John Pezzuto, who led the College to receive funding from the legislature for a permanent building. "Student pharmacists can rest assured the training and education they receive at UH Hilo is second to none."

Last month, the American Council for Pharmacy Education (ACPE) extended accreditation for DKICP and found the college compliant with all of 30 strict standards. A proposal for the PharmD degree program was submitted by UH Hilo in 2006 to the Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC), which accredits the University as a whole. WASC accreditation was reaffirmed in 2008.



Pharm2Pharm extends pharmacist after-care program to Oahu

Pharmacists on Oahu are now helping patients at risk of medication-related hospitalization readmissions through Pharm2Pharm, a project from the Daniel K. Inouye College of Pharmacy (DKICP) at the University of Hawai'i at Hilo.

Patients leaving Pali Momi Medical Center in West Oahu and Castle Medical Center in Windward Oahu can take advantage of the program during their recovery.

"The Hospital Consulting Pharmacists (HCPs) use risk-based criteria to identify inpatients who may benefit from further care once they leave the hospital," said Karen Pellegrin, Director of the project based in DKICP's Center for Rural Health Science. "The HCPs also consider referrals from community docs who have high-risk patients not currently in the hospital who might benefit."

HCP's Angela Li, Shanele Shimabuku, and Elizabeth Lee, who are all graduates of DKICP PharmD program, identify high-risk patients and transfer them to the care of Community Consulting Pharmacists after discharge. Dr. Shimabuku completed a pharmacy residency through the college working with Senior Clinical Pharmacist and DKICP assistant professor, Dr. Roy Goo, who is based on Kauai.



(HHIE), a key project support partner," said Pellegrin, who is director of Strategic Planning and Distance/Continuing Education for DKICP. "The Hawaii Community Pharmacist Association and Hawaii Pacific Health also are key operating

partners for the Pharm2Pharm project, which is funded through the federal Center for Medicare and Medicaid Innovation within the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS)."

With wireless mobile devices, Consulting Pharmacists can access cloud-based prescription-fill histories on their patients and ensure a complete and accurate medication list is available to other members of the care team through use of Health Care Systems, Inc. medication management tools. Participating Consulting Pharmacists can also communicate with each other and with other members of the care team through HHIE's secure messaging system.

Pellegrin said they are currently focusing on hospitals in regions of Oahu with higher rates of potentially preventable hospitalization rates. More than 1,300 high risk-patients have been enrolled state wide since Pharm2Pharm was implemented on Maui, Kauai and the Big Island in 2013.

What does Pharm2Pharm do? See the video

Pharmacists are joining medical care teams throughout Hawai'i trying to improve health care, and no where is that more apparent than in the Pharm2Pharm project. Funded by a \$14.3 million CMS Health Care Innovation Award, the program is located in the Daniel K. Inouye College of Pharmacy's Center for Rural Health Science and led by Karen Pellegrin, director of strategic planning and continuing/distance education. Dr. Pellegrin says Pharm2Pharm is designed to save more than \$27.1 million in health care costs in Hawai'i. See an informative video at:

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zIjRkXj_48s



Pharmacy students from China spend some of their summer weeks at DKICP

Summer of 2014 was made memorable for five pharmacy students from Zhejiang University in China who spent five weeks studying with research faculty at the Daniel K. Inouye College of Pharmacy (DKICP). Three administrators from their own university joined them during their final week at the University of Hawai'i at Hilo.

Each of the students paid their own travel and room and board for the visit, which lasted from July 4 to August 9. Chancellor Emerita and DKICP Professor Rose Tseng arranged the trip, saying this kind of student and faculty exchange is exactly what she was hoping to accomplish during her tenure as director of international relationships.

"We have conducted several workshops at various universities in China, hoping to make new contacts and show them the importance of starting a PharmD program since there is no such thing in China right now," Dr. Tseng said. "But the big picture is international collaboration. It's critical for growth not only for the College of Pharmacy but also for UH Hilo and the State of Hawai'i."

All of the students were approaching their fourth year of study in pharmacy, and will receive a bachelor's degree in pharmacy in 2015. In China, it's typical for pharmacy students to go on for advanced degrees to prepare them for careers in research, so Tseng decided to set up time in labs and connect them with DKICP faculty who could mentor them during the summer.

Yanxin Li worked in the Pezzuto lab, supervised by Laboratory Manager Dr. Tamara Kondratyuk.

"These students were extremely high achieving scholars, and it was a pleasure spending time with them," Dr. Kondratyuk said. "I know they packed in a lot of learning while they were here, and we learned from them as well."

The other students were Huanling Lai, who worked in the lab with Dr. Dianqing Sun; Hong Shen, who worked with Dr. Anthony Wright and Ph.D Student Kehau Hagiwara; Jiale Zheng, working with Dr. Dana Lynn Koomoa-Lange; and Oianqian Ge, who worked with Dr. Aaron Jacobs and his lab technician, Christina Wales.

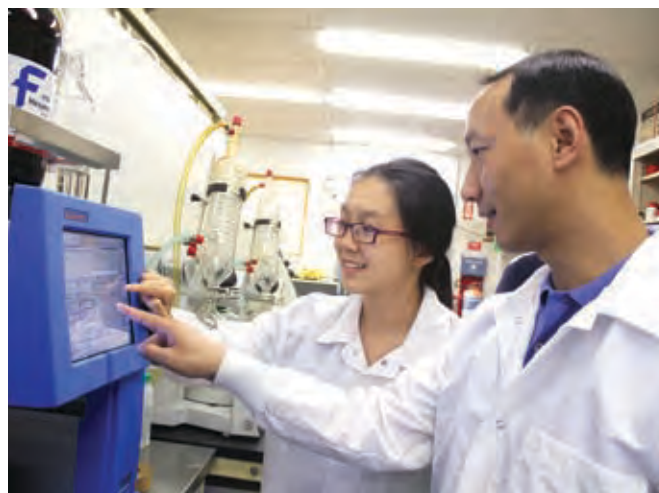
Representing the administration at Zhejiang University were Yifeng Wang, international affairs assistant; Haoshu Wu, associate director of the Pharmaceutical Experiment Center and Kalin Zhu, director of undergraduate education office, who came to observe the students' last week in the labs. While in Hilo, they were able to tour Hilo and were honored at a special banquet at the home of Dean John and Mrs. Mimi Pezzuto. They all flew back to China unscathed on August 9, two days after Hurricane Iselle hit the island.

While in Hilo, the Chinese students were treated like our own students, Dr. Tseng said. They stayed in UH Hilo dormitories and had access to use the Student Life Center, which has an Olympic size swimming pool and state-of-the-art exercise equipment.

"This was a trial, but I am hoping the program will keep growing so that we can send our own students and faculty to learn from them now that they have had exposure to a cultural exchange," Dr. Tseng said. "Their presence here was definitely successful. It's good for the economy because they came here on their own, and it's good for recruiting because they will go home and each will tell many people about the good things they learned."



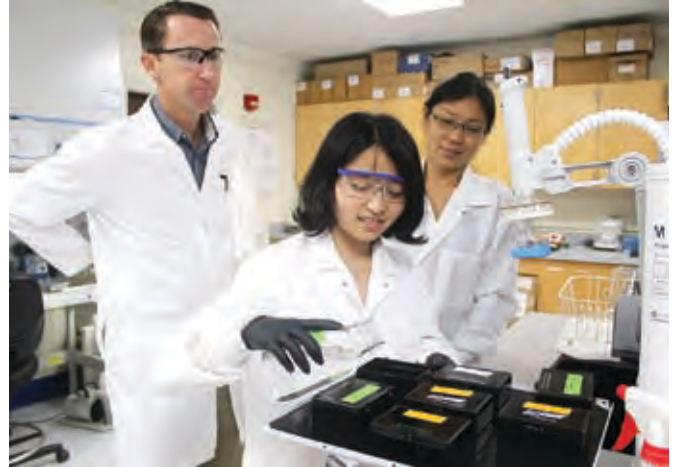
Hong Shen (right) in Dr. Anthony Wright's lab with PhD student Kehau Hagiwara (left).



Huan Ling Lai (left) with Dr. Dianqing Sun.



Jiale Zheng (left) with Dr. Dana Lynne Koomoa-Lange.



Qiangian Ge (center) in the lab with Dr. Aaron Jacobs and Christina Wales.



Yanxin Li (left) with Dr. Tamara Kondratyuk in the Pezzuto lab.



The visiting Chinese students and faculty were treated to a poolside banquet with family and friends at the Pezzuto home.



Writing course offered this summer

The five student interns from China were able to take advantage of a writing course presented by Elizabeth Luman, Ph.D., an epidemiologist with extensive experience in the area of vaccines who works for the Center for Disease Control. Several faculty and postdoctoral associates also attended the course, which was geared to graduate students and faculty in scientific disciplines. This course was designed to teach students to be more effective, efficient, and confident writers, with an emphasis on interactive examples

and practice, and covered the process of scientific writing and presentation, including developing abstracts and presentations for scientific conferences, and writing manuscripts for a scientific journal. Using critical thinking and practical strategies to help students plan, write, and revise their scientific documents, topics included crystalizing the key message, organizational strategies, using language effectively, section-by-section writing and revision, authorship, submission and peer review, editing and proofreading strategies, and presentation skills.



Faculty member from Chinese university observes DKICP

Ping Huang, the chief pharmacist from Tongde Hospital of Zhejiang Province and master tutor from Zhejiang Chinese Medical University, spent a few weeks this summer visiting DKICP and working with Dr. Roy Goo at Wilcox Memorial Hospital. Greeting her in Hilo were (from left): Dean John Pezzuto, Dr. Leng Chee Chang, Mrs. Mimi Pezzuto, Dr. Rose Tseng, Dr. Edward Fisher, Ping Huang, and Dr. Supakit Wongwiwatthananut.

Researchers vie for top place in first Research Day

By Linda Connelly and Dana Lynn Koomoa-Lange

On Wednesday August 13, the Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences held their first Research Day. This event incorporated the Annual Post-Doctoral Research Symposium and was the first event that featured all junior researchers within the department.

The Research Day allowed research technicians, undergraduate and graduate students, and postdoctoral researchers to present their research. All of the participants submitted an abstract describing their research. Based on the abstracts, six participants were selected for oral presentations.

Oral presentations were given by: Ronbing Yang (Post-doctoral Researcher, Chougule Lab), Mailani Puli (Undergraduate student/Pre-Pharmacy STEP student, Koomoa-Lange Lab), Lissa Tsutsumi (PhD student, Sun Lab), Nishant Ghandi (PhD student, Chougule Lab), Mingming Zhang (Post-doctoral researcher, Sun Lab) and Kay Howe



(from left) Dana Koomoa-Lange, first place winner for oral presentation Mailani Puli, first place winner for poster presentation Susanne Youngren-Ortiz, and Linda Connelly

(TCBES Masters student, Jarvi Lab). The other participants presented their research at the poster session. Posters were presented by - Undergraduate students: Tamiah Johnson (Koomoa-Lange Lab); PhD students: Nathan Sunada (Chang Lab), Nalini Yadav (Connelly and Jacobs Labs), Susanne Youngren-Ortiz (Chougule Lab) and Lisette Yco (Bachmann Lab); Research assistants: Christina Wales (Jacobs Lab) and Danielle Takeshita (Koomoa-Lange Lab); Post-doctoral researchers: Hao Lin (Sun Lab).

Four members of the audience were selected to act as judges for the event, and prizes were awarded for the best presentation in each category.

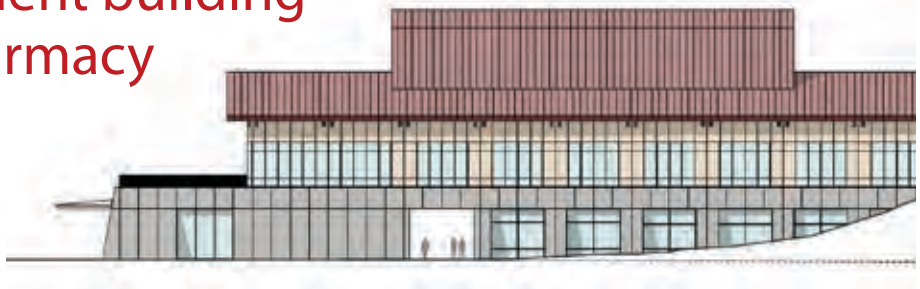
Undergraduate student Mailani Puli was selected to receive the award for oral presentation and PhD student Susanne Youngren-Ortiz received the award for poster presentation.

Faculty members Linda Connelly and Dana Koomoa-Lange organized the event and hope to make it an annual affair.

Participants in the first Research Day presented posters of their research in the halls of the modular buildings on the DKICP campus. Photo by Dr. Aaron Jacobs



Governor releases \$33 million to construct permanent building for College of Pharmacy



Governor Neil Abercrombie has released \$33 million for construction of a permanent building for the Daniel K. Inouye College of Pharmacy at the University of Hawai‘i at Hilo. The state legislature approved the funding earlier this year.

“During the course of my administration it has been an inspiration to witness the tremendous growth and development of the Daniel K. Inouye College of Pharmacy. Even during the controversial times of the University, this College remained steadfast and focused on providing a strong intellectual and economical environment,” said Governor Abercrombie. “I am proud of the College of Pharmacy, and I know the people of Hawai‘i are proud. Construction of this building will secure the future of the College and continuously benefit the citizens of our State. I am pleased to say this is one of the greatest transformations to have come to fruition during my term in office.”

The College has admitted students since 2007, initially sharing classrooms and laboratories with other departments at UH Hilo. A group of four temporary modular buildings

resembling trailers allowed the College to have a presence on the UH Hilo campus since 2009, but faculty and staff were required to travel up to 7 miles away for lab and office space in three separate locations.

In the new building, the first floor will include areas for student services and activities; the second floor will include research laboratories. The complete structure will occupy around 40,000 sq. ft. of space. The modular buildings will continue to serve their current or related functions of classrooms, teaching and research laboratories, and offices, which will supply adequate space to consolidate all of four Big Island core functions at one single site.

Founding Dean John M. Pezzuto said that the timing of the release of the funds couldn’t have come at a better time. DKICP has been required to undergo site visits from ACPE accreditation teams since before admitting students, and passed every one of the 30 strict standards until last year when they faced possible probation for not having suitable facilities. He has said he was concerned that without a permanent building the only College of Pharmacy in the Pacific region was in serious jeopardy

The Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education (ACPE) sent an evaluation team on Oct. 15-16 for a focused site visit to decide the future of the College’s accreditation. The College is waiting for their decision, which should come in January.

“We never stopped believing in our future,” said Founding Dean John M. Pezzuto. “I am personally grateful to the legislature and to the Governor for recognizing the need for upgrading the quality of the environment students need to succeed, and for demonstrating to the community that the Big Island contributes to the wellbeing of the entire state. With a permanent building the College is well positioned to continue the quest of achieving a high national ranking.”



Dean John Pezzuto expresses his appreciation to Governor Abercrombie during an earlier meeting.

Student-run interprofessional education project uses simulation model in mock hospital



By Carlo Tiano, Samantha Hanabaga, Kevin Wang,
Student Pharmacists

The first student-run nursing-pharmacy education collaboration took place at the Daniel K. Inouye College of Pharmacy (DKICP) on July 3 with DKICP student pharmacists and nursing students from Hawai'i Community College (HCC). The workshop, supervised by faculty members Patricia Juszczak from DKICP and Erick Cremer and Luzviminda Miguel from HCC nursing, emphasized the importance of communication among health professions with the patient as the center of focus.

Inspired by the transdisciplinary model at the UCSD Student-Run Free Clinic in California, students from both health care disciplines on the Big Island of Hawai'i developed the interdisciplinary workshop.

The development and the planning for the workshop started during early May with weekly meetings that lasted until the beginning of July. The faculty encouraged the students to take control of the planning and be creative; as a result, the event was designed and led by the students with faculty providing feedback and guidance.

The idea is to have pharmacy and nursing students work together as a team to ensure the best care is provided to patients. In the process, students from both schools will be able to observe each other at work. This experience is significant in that students usually do not get to work with other health professions until rotations or after graduation. Even now in hospitals, health professionals from different disciplines still do not have a clear perception of each other's roles, responsibilities, and how critically important it is to



Nursing students take first turn on practicing with the Sim Man in the labs at DKICP while pharmacy students observe.

acknowledge that the best patient care is a care that is consistent and well communicative between each health professional working towards improving a patient's current and future health.

Students from the pharmacy and nursing schools were recruited to participate in two patient case scenarios. The first scenario was a direct simulation involving a patient suffering from a stroke, and the nursing students would need to quickly assess and identify the symptoms and classification of the stroke. Pharmacy students would then process the medication order given by the nursing students, calculate the required dosage, and check for any contraindication and drug interactions. At the end of the scenario, pharmacy students would compound the medication using proper aseptic techniques to ensure the sterility of the medication.

continued on page 16



After the nursing students evaluated the Sim Man's ailments, the pharmacy students prepared medication.

The second scenario was a patient-counseling workshop. This workshop involved nursing and pharmacy students to divide themselves up based on their discipline and present to each other on a given scenario. Both scenarios were based on a newly diabetic patient either ready for discharge at a hospital or ready to pick up medication at a local pharmacy. Each group was given a set time for preparation and presentation of counseling session with pronounced patient. After the groups presented, feedback was given and discussion on similarities and

differences between groups were conducted.

Katrina Spinola, a third year pharmacy student, summed up her experience saying, "Attending the collaboration workshop helped to provide me with a fresh perspective of how other healthcare professionals think. It illustrated the similarities we share, as well as the differences. This allows me to see that together we cover all of the possible gaps in medicine."

There is growing interest for health-care professionals to be able to work together, and to understand each other's critical role in providing quality patient care. Mrs. Juszczak stated, "What better time than now, as nursing and pharmacy students, to learn about one another's role in patient care and to practice communicating effectively as a member of the healthcare team. Interprofessional education events such as this help prepare students for entry into their respective fields of practice where they will indeed be working collaboratively to provide optimal patient care."

Interprofessional collaboration is a dynamic process. The idea of simply bringing healthcare professionals together and expecting collaboration to occur is not likely to happen. Rather, trust and appreciation for each other's roles must be established for collaboration to take place. This small event over the summer is a huge step towards collaborative events in the future.



Student pharmacists and nursing students took part in the first student-run interprofessional education project at DKICP. (Photo by Kevin Wang)



Mrs. Irene Inouye pays visit to UH Hilo

Irene Hirano Inouye, whose late husband is Senator Daniel K. Inouye, spent time at the modular buildings on the pharmacy campus at UH Hilo with her staff learning about the Daniel K. Inouye College of Pharmacy from DKICP's Executive Committee on July 2. From left, Sara Daly Hamakawa, Gerald De Mello, Jennifer Sabas, Dean John Pezzuto and Irene Hirano Inouye.

A first for DKICP's Center for Rural Health Science



This summer, Michelle Tagorda, a student working on her Master of Public Health (MPH) degree at UH Mānoa, became the first person to conduct a practicum at the Center for Rural Health Science (CRHS) at UH Hilo, based in the Daniel K. Inouye College of Pharmacy (DKICP). Similar to the PharmD

requirement for experiential placements, which are called rotations in pharmacy, a practicum placement is required for completion of the MPH degree.

Tagorda, who was born and raised on the Big Island of Hawai'i, returned to Hilo in June to work with Dr. Karen Pellegrin, founding director of CRHS as well as director of continuing education/strategic planning at DKICP.

According to Dr. Pellegrin: "This collaboration helps our center become more recognized throughout the region, which enhances opportunities to conduct research and community service as well as help educate the public and facilitate policy change. It also helps students become professionally engaged

with the community in which they live."

"The practicum gives students an opportunity to apply academic knowledge in partnership with community organizations and other agencies, to learn practical skills in a public health related setting, to develop problem solving skills in a supervised practicum experience and in many cases 'to be of service' with the partnering organization," Dr. Nigg, chair of the social and behavioral health sciences specialization at the UH Department of Public Health Sciences and Tagorda's advisor said. "We are excited to have the Center of Rural Health Science at UH Hilo as a new placement site."

Tagorda hopes to better understand and measure community culture through the development of a tool that measures the relationships among cultural practices/beliefs, health and well-being.

"The project requires different steps to ensure the measurement tool is representative of the community culture, including a literature review and tool development," Tagorda said. "I will conduct several focus groups and interviews with individuals in order to gain perspectives from the community."

Tagorda, who holds bachelor's degrees in biology and psychology from UH Mānoa, serves as the student representative on the University of Hawai'i Board of Regents. She is an undergraduate advisor for the UH Office of Public Health Studies and assists the Mānoa Peer Advisors.

College of Pharmacy achieves another first, gains approval to offer continuing education for psychologists in addition to pharmacists and physicians

The Daniel K. Inouye College of Pharmacy (DKICP) has received approval as sponsor of continuing education (CE) for doctoral-level psychologists from the American Psychological Association (APA) Continuing Education Committee.

“With this designation, DKICP becomes the only organization in the state that can offer CE to three licensed health care providers: psychologists, physicians and pharmacists,” said Karen Pellegrin, director of continuing education/strategic planning for DKICP. “This is especially gratifying as we enter the age of interprofessional healthcare.” The College received accreditation to offer CE to pharmacists as well as physicians in 2009.

Representatives from all three professions – the pharmacist, physician and psychologist – presented at DKICP’s first interdisciplinary CE course in Waikiki on October 1-3. The workshop, called “Pharmacotherapy in the Age of DSM-5,” refers to APA’s Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders. Speakers included Edward Fisher, DKICP professor, associate dean for academic affairs, director of the Masters in Clinical Psychopharmacology (MSCP) program and a registered pharmacist; Christopher Frueh, a clinical psychologist who is professor of psychology at UH Hilo and adjunct professor of psychiatry at Baylor College of Medicine in Houston; and Chad Koyanagi, M.D., assistant clinical professor, Dept. of Native Hawaiian Health, University of Hawaii School of Medicine, Honolulu.

“The next time we apply, we may be granted approval for a five-year period,” Pellegrin said. “The ability to now offer CE to psychologists in addition to the MSCP degree offered demonstrates the commitment of DKICP to address the educational needs of psychologists.”

The MSCP program is a two-year educational and experiential program for professionals who already have a Ph.D. or Psy.D. in psychology and want to specialize in psychopharmacology for use in a variety of professional settings.

To receive future announcements about continuing education events, send an e-mail to COPCE@hawaii.edu.

Student pharmacists learn essential skill

First-year student pharmacists completed the APhA Immunization Delivery Program during May, in preparation for their summer IPPE retail rotation. Students were required to demonstrate competency of administering both intramuscular and subcutaneous injections under the guidance of several faculty from the Department of Pharmacy Practice.



DKICP adds 'priceless' books about medicine in ancient China to historical collection

When Robert "Bob" Chi made a trek to a monastery in China last winter, he made a valuable discovery that will result in contributing to the education of generations of pharmacy students at UH Hilo.

Chi, who is director of Instructional Technology and Distance Learning Services at UH Hilo, doesn't have expertise in pharmacy, but he has several good friends in the Daniel K. Inouye College of Pharmacy (DKICP). Because of that friendship, he has donated several volumes of Chinese medical literature from the early 20th century to DKICP's historical collection, where they are housed and protected in a temperature-controlled room near the labs on campus. Helen Wong Smith, archivist and information resource coordinator at DKICP, plans to collaborate with faculty member Mimi Pezzuto, who originally started the historical collection, to try to preserve and translate the collection.

While the medicine in the books seems very practical and natural-products based, the way they came into his possession sounds somewhat magical. While visiting Zhangjiajie City in the northwestern part of Hunan last winter on a personal mission, Chi met a female monk more than twice his age with a soft and gentle voice who lived at a monastery high in the mountains. He describes the place as the model for the movie "Avatar," full of mystical trees and beautiful scenery.

As he was talking to her, he spotted some books made out of what looked like hand-made, now yellowed linen paper on a table with words written in traditional Chinese (not traditional), which he knew meant they were written sometime around the Chinese Revolution, which took place in 1911-1912. Originally from Mongolia, Chi can read only about 60-70 percent traditional Chinese, but he was able to read the words "pharmacy" and "optometry" on the covers. He told the woman about his friend who was the Dean of the pharmacy college and asked if he could look at them. He soon became mesmerized with the descriptions of health care from that time period, and asked if they were for sale. Initially he was refused but eventually he said the woman decided he was worthy of her treasure and gave them to him. "The books were not my objective for being there," Chi says chuckling. Later, he made sure he gave a healthy donation to the monastery.

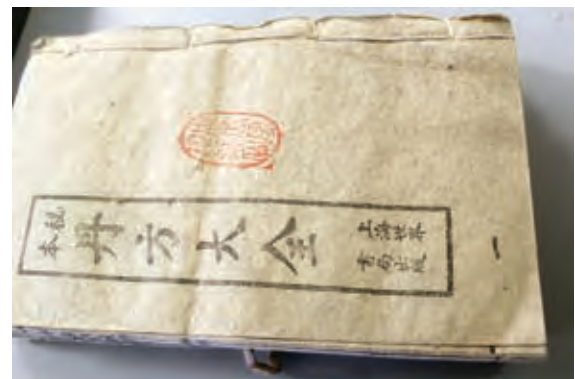
A different publisher in Shanghai produced each set, one in 1915, the other in 1913. There are nine volumes in the pharmacy collection and 10 volumes in the optometry collection. Each page is folded in half, and each volume is gathered together with string binding.

Chi says the title on the pharmacy collection is roughly translated as "The Sacred Recipes for Immortal Pill Collection." The publisher collected prescriptions, called "recipes," from several doctors at the time for all types of ailments, including hemorrhoids, sore throat and women's issues. Notes after one remedy said "using this recipe, symptoms were immediately resolved."

"I wish all medicine could be so effective," Chi says.



(from left) Mimi Pezzuto and Helen Wong Smith learn about the ancient Chinese books that were a donation to DKICP's historical collection from Robert Chi.





Kappa Psi recognizes two DKICP student pharmacists

The Kappa Psi Pharmaceutical Fraternity named Davis Hanai and Akio Yanagisawa, both from the Class of 2015, recipients of the Henry J. Goeckel Grand Council Scholarship Key Certificate.

This award, which was first given out in 1916, is given annually to members of Kappa Psi who graduate with "First Honors" or who stand first in their graduating class. The student pharmacists were awarded a 14-carat, engraved, gold key and accompanying scholarship certificate from Kappa Psi's Grand Council.

Kappa Psi is the oldest and largest pharmaceutical fraternity in the world, and was founded on May 30, 1879 in New Haven, Connecticut. There are 155 chapters (90 Collegiate and 65 Graduate chapters), more than 6,000 members, and more than 87,000 graduate members across the United States, Canada and the Bahamas.



Phi Delta Chi Gamma Theta chapter represents DKICP at seminar in Florida

by Lindsey Takara and Bryan Huynh, Student Pharmacists, Class of 2015

Members of the Daniel K. Inouye College of Pharmacy's Phi Delta Chi (PDC) fraternity Gamma Theta chapter, attended the 15th Leader-Development Seminar (LDS) of in Tampa, Florida August 6-9.

Gamma Theta Past President Bryan Huynh summed it up, saying: "Going to LDS was a great way to meet new people and to reconnect with others. The workshops allowed me to gain a better insight of my leadership qualities and how to enhance them. Overall, the experience left me in awe as we came away with three awards, a \$200 scholarship, and being recognized as the third ranked chapter in the nation."

PDC is a professional pharmacy fraternity with more than 90 collegiate chapters nationwide. The fraternity makes great efforts to advance pharmacy by producing future leaders of the profession.

Members are invited to participate in a biennial conference that promotes leadership and professional growth. The seminar is an opportunity for PDC members

throughout the nation to gather and further develop as leaders in pharmacy. PDC is the only professional fraternity to offer a week dedicated to develop and strengthen the leadership skills of its members. It is also an opportunity to network amongst pharmacy professionals, while strengthening and building brotherhood amongst its members. This conference also evaluates each chapter's participation and progress for each year through an Achievement Award Program (AAP).

PDC's Gamma Theta's Achievement Award Program (AAP) journey began in February 2012 in Portland, Oregon at the Phi Delta Chi Pacific Regional Conference. At the conference, eighteen DKICP students split into groups to attend the various workshops offered to learn more about developing our chapter and ourselves as professionals.

Andy Le and Lindsey Takara attended the workshop in Oregon and said they had no idea what was going on. They thought that AAP was just filling in blanks. They furiously took notes about what other chapters did and left that meeting eager to learn more about AAP and with a mission to share this information with Gamma Theta brothers.

AAP is very important because its purpose and tools allow our chapter to focus on and uphold our values of scholarship, leadership, service, and brotherhood. It also promotes growth, innovation, and brother involvement. It encourages communication between chapters and improves our relationship with alumni. It does this by giving measurable goals and providing an objective tool to complete them.

The Achievement Award Program is vital to Phi Delta Chi. It is an all encompassing tool, which chapters use to meet established standards of the fraternity and communicate achievements regularly to the Grand and Regional Officers. It consists of monthly reports and the Thurston Cup items. Monthly reports include items such as chapter self-evaluations and an account of our annual St. Jude philanthropic event. The Thurston Cup items are detailed reports that highlight our scholarship, leadership, brotherhood, and service endeavors. Our annual chapter publication is also a Thurston Cup item.

Our chapter set the goal to win the Dale W. Doerr 100% Achievement Award, which is a noncompetitive award for completing all requirements every year. With our initial goal met, we strive to improve in the Thurston cup standings and eventually win the Emory W. Thurston President Award, the most prestigious award based on the quality of the Thurston Cup items. In 2012, we ranked 51st out of about 70 chapters nationwide.

We looked at the requirements for all the reports and examined previous winning reports to get a better sense of what we should be doing and how we can improve upon them. We also networked with brothers from other schools to get ideas for events and projects. We implemented an event reporting system to gather information. Over the years, the record keeping involved has helped us look

back on what we have done to debrief it and see what improvements we can make. Looking at other chapters reports gave us ideas to implement at our own chapter

The Gamma Theta chapter won the Dale W. Doerr 100% Achievement Award the past four years due to our timely completion of the monthly reports. With each passing year, we improved in the Thurston rankings. Gamma Theta ranked 51 nationally in 2010-2011, 38 in 2011-2012, and then 15 in 2012-2013.

Most recently, at the Leadership Development Seminar, Gamma Theta received third place out of more than 90 chapters nationwide in the race for the Thurston Cup, including several awards for specific reports. We received second place Albert B. Prescott Scholarship Report and \$200 in scholarship money. Gamma Theta also received plaques for 3rd place for the John D. Grabenstein Leadership Report, 4th place for our Professional and Service Projects Report, and 4th place for our Chapter Publication the Kokua Aku Kokua Mai.

Congratulations to all of the Gamma Theta brothers and thank you to all of the DKICP faculty and staff for helping us implement our new ideas. We hope to continue our improvement in our core areas of leadership, scholastics, community service, and brotherhood and have a lasting positive effect on our school, community and the profession of pharmacy.



(from left) Bryan Huynh, Class of 2015; Diana Doan, Class of 2018; and Jairus Mahoe, Class of 2016 display plaques awarded during the Phi Delta Chi leadership conference in Florida last summer.

Students step up to support ALS Association, St. Jude's

Jairus Mahoe, president of Phi Delta Chi Gamma Theta Chapter and student pharmacist from the Class of 2016, sat in a kiddie swimming pool filled with 200 pounds of ice and allowed buckets of ice to be poured over him in order to collect money from other students and faculty. The stunt, the brainchild of faculty adviser Dr. Aaron Jacobs, was a twist on the national ALS Ice Bucket Challenge. In this case, the UH Hilo group plans to split all proceeds with the ALS Association and the St. Jude's Children's Research Hospital. (Photo by Andy Takahata, Student Pharmacist, Class of 2016)



Note of thanks From Phi Delta Chi President Jairus K. Mahoe Student Pharmacist, Class of 2016

A five-gallon bucket of ice water being dumped over the head of one of our beloved assistant professors, Dr. Aaron Jacobs, turned out to be the beginning of one of the most impressive displays of selflessness I have witnessed. It was Dr. Jacobs' actions that inspired the events to follow.

On a cold rainy afternoon I sat in a pool of ice asking for donations. I never fathomed what would follow. For the next three days, Phi Delta Chi received contributions from faculty, staff, student pharmacists (both at the DKICP and those on rotation on the other side of the country), graduates, and even a former national Grand President of Phi Delta Chi.

Phi Delta Chi and I would like to thank everyone who has donated to a great cause. I know many of you requested to remain anonymous and all of you donated not for recognition, but because helping others is a part of you. And for that, I thank all of you. I am truly humbled by your generosity.

Altogether we have collected an astonishing \$1,136, which is absolutely remarkable. The people and the spirit of DKICP will never cease to amaze me. I am proud to be a part of one of the best schools in country. You all have my gratitude. Thank you.

Mahalo nui loa.

Introducing: Daryl Masanda

Daryl Masanda has been appointed Director of Student Services at the Daniel K. Inouye College of Pharmacy (DKICP).

"Since October of last year, Daryl has served admirably as interim director," said Edward Fisher, associate dean for academic affairs. "Given his dedication and knowledge of the position, I have no doubt that he will continue to do so in the future."

Masanda is originally from Lynnwood, Washington but his parents are both natives of Hawai'i, his father from Maui and mother from Oahu, so he visited Hawai'i often as he was growing up. He received his bachelor's degree in sociology from the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa, where he met his future wife, Carrie, who was born and raised in Hilo and now works at UH Hilo's business office. They have a son, 12-year-old Davin, and a daughter, 9-year-old Cammie, both enrolled at Kamehameha Schools.

His first job after college was as director of baseball operations at UH Mānoa. It was a logical fit because he says he had a diverse athletic background coming out of Seattle. He trained with the USA Hockey development team when he was in high school, but chose to play baseball in college.

Moving to Hilo, he worked first as athletic director for the Boys and Girls Club of Hawai'i. Maintaining his personal passion for sports, he began Brazilian Jiu Jitsu (BJJ) about six years ago, under the direction of his personal friend BJ Penn and his two older brothers. Now he trains at BJ Penn's training and fitness center and runs the children's BJJ classes at the Penn Academy.

"It is great for me as my two children are in the class and my son is my highest ranked student with an orange belt and my daughter recently received her yellow belt," he says.

He began his professional development at UH Hilo in the Office of International Affairs and later as admissions officer. He has been an academic advisor for DKICP since 2010, a role he intends to keep in addition to his role as director because he enjoys the interaction with the students.

"It's a role I like, and we are still meeting the needs of students, which is all we really want to do," Masanda says. "Students have enough to worry about with classes and getting through this rigorous program."

Currently he spends as much time face-to-face with perspective students as possible, but hopes to try to step



up communication and take advantage of current students because "...students are our best recruiters," he says.

He arrives at his office in the center of the Building #1 in the modulars on DKICP campus before his three-person staff every day because he never wants to turn away a student. "All of our staff has the same mentality," he states, somewhat incredulously with a smile.

Other than making sure students' needs are met, Masanda says his priorities as director include plans to enhance the development of the student service staff through mentoring and to create an environment so that each staff person can cover for the other.

Each one of the staff in the Office Student Services appreciates his leadership style. "Daryl is the supervisor, coworker, mentor, and friend that everyone wishes to have," said student support specialist, Tracey Niimi. "Since stepping in as Interim Director, Daryl has definitely been more of a team leader than what would typically be thought of a 'boss.' The support and leadership he provides to our office as well as the students and faculty has been indispensable and we are fortunate to have him officially step in as the director."

Academic support specialist Cara Suefuji echoed his sentiment when she said, "We are extremely fortunate to have Daryl as the new Director of Student Services. I couldn't ask for a better boss or mentor."

Kristy Nakamura, who has been an admissions counselor in student services for four years, noted that the best thing about Daryl is that he treats his staff like partners. "He will never make you feel like you are alone and always keeps communication lines open. He's more than a supervisor and role model, he's also our family," she says.

Faculty Briefs

Julie Adrian, DVM, assistant professor, Department of Pharmacy Practice, was the lead author in “Developing pharmacy student communication skills through role-playing and active learning” accepted for publication in *American Journal of Pharmaceutical Education*. Coauthors



were **Paula Zeszotarski**, assessment coordinator, and **Carolyn Ma**, associate professor and co-chair, Department of Pharmacy Practice.



Leng Chee Chang, associate professor, Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences, received a grant for \$50,000 from the National Health Institutes’ (NIH) Research Centers in Minority Institutions Translational Research Network (RTRN) for her work on “Evaluation of Vernonia cinerea (Vc) in the Treatment of Cancer.”

Collaborators include **Supakit Wongwiwatthananukit**, associate professor in the Department of Pharmacy Practice and James Turkson, professor and program director from the Cancer Center at UH Mānoa.

Mahavir Chougule, assistant professor, Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences, has published: 1) “Designing Hybrid Onconase Nanocarriers for Mesothelioma Therapy: A Taguchi Orthogonal Array and Multivariate Component Driven Analysis” in *Molecular Pharmaceutics*, with co-authors Tekade RK, Youngren SR, Yang H, Haware R; 2) “Epithelial transport of Noscapine across cell monolayer and influence of absorption enhancers on in vitro permeation and bioavailability: implications for intestinal absorption” in *J Drug Target*, with co-authors Patel AR, Patlolla R, Jackson T, Singh M.; 3) “Theranostic tumor homing nanocarriers for the treatment of lung cancer” in *Nanomedicine* with co-authors Patel AR, Lim E, Francis KP, Safe S, Sachdeva M.; and 4) “EphA2 targeting pegylated nanocarrier drug delivery system for treatment of Lung Cancer” in *Pharm Res*. [Epub ahead of print] with co-authors Patel AR, and Singh M. He was also an author in a review article entitled “Nanocarrier mediated Delivery of siRNA/miRNA in Combination with Chemotherapeutic Agents for Cancer Therapy: Current Progress and Advances” in *Journal of Controlled Release*, with co-authors Gandhi NS and Tekade RK. Dr. Chougule also is serving as a collaborator on a project with the Cancer Center entitled “Novel Calpain-2



Inhibitor Therapy for Colitis and Colorectal Cancer” with Peter Hoffmann, associate professor from John A. Burns School of Medicine at UH Manoa (JABSOM) as principle investigator.

Susan Jarvi, professor and director of the Pre-Pharmacy Program, was a panelist in a special community forum updating the public on Rat Lungworm Disease, held at the DKICP modular classroom August 25. Other panelists included William Pettis, dean of oriental medicine at Hawai’i College of Oriental Medicine and director of HICOM Natural Health Clinic; Steven Jacquier, researcher and retired faculty member from Alaska; and Marlena Dixon, State Health Department Disease Outbreak Control Division. The forum was sponsored by the American Association of University Women, Hilo Branch.



Deborah Juarez, associate professor, Department of Pharmacy Practice, was lead or co-author on several recently published manuscripts in peer-reviewed journals: 1) “Potentially

Preventable Hospitalizations for Congestive Heart Failure among Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders in Hawai’i” in the *Journal of Minority and Immigrant Health*; 2) “Characteristics and Description of a Multidisciplinary Health Care Approach for Micronesians with Diabetes” in the *Hawaii Journal of Medicine and Public Health*; 3) “Obstacles to breast and cervical cancer screening among women still unscreened late in the recommended intervals” in *Women’s Health Issues*; 4) “Failure to Reach Target Glycated A1C Levels Among Patients with Diabetes Who are Adherent to their Anti-Diabetes Medication” in *Population Health Management*. Co-authors included **Carolyn Ma** and **Audrey Kumasaka**, student pharmacist. Dr. Juarez also was awarded a grant from the Hawaii Community Foundation to study patterns of e-cigarette usage among young adults.

Carolyn Ma, associate professor and co-chair, Department of Pharmacy Practice, was the lead author on a chapter entitled “Career in Pharmacy: Areas and Opportunities,” to be published in the book *Pharmacy for the Curious, Why Study Pharmacy?*, accepted for publication in University of Canberra Press. Co-authors were assistant professors **Roy Goo** and **Sheri Tokumaru**.





Russell Molyneux, affiliate faculty, edited a special issue of the *Journal of Agricultural and Food Chemistry* consisting of selected presentations from the 9th International Symposium on Poisonous Plants, held in Inner Mongolia, and authored the introduction entitled "Global Perspectives on Poisonous

Plants."

Karen Pellegrin, director of continuing education and strategic planning, gave two invited talks: 1) a webinar entitled "Innovative Approaches to Improve Transitions of Care: An Update from the Pharm2Pharm Initiative" to the Academy of Managed Care Pharmacy on September 17. Coauthors were Reece Uyeno and Francis Chan. And 2) a Quality Forum Lecture Series entitled "Understanding a CMMI Health Care Innovation Award based in Hawai'i" to the Pharmacy Quality Alliance on August 28. Co authors were Reece Uyeno, Kevin Glick, Francis Chan. Dr. Pellegrin also was the invited AACP representative on the Pharmacy HIT Collaborative Advisory Group and was interviewed by *Pharmacy Today* for article on reducing readmissions.



Mimi Pezzuto, lecturer in the Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences, presented a lecture on the history of pharmacy at the Rotary Club of South Hilo in July.

Dianqing Sun, associate professor, Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences, gave a talk entitled "Natural product-inspired novel antibacterial agents" at the 10th Sino-US Chemistry and Chemical Biology Professor Conference in Jinan, China, June 15-17, 2014. Dr. Sun also presented a seminar in School of Pharmacy, East China University of Science and Technology, Shanghai, China, July 1, 2014. In addition, Dr. Sun was recently invited to serve on a NIH/NIAID special emphasis panel for reviewing grant proposals.



Ph.D. student updates

Mayuramas "Jan" Sang-Ngern, a PhD candidate studying with **Dr. Leng Chee Chang**, was given the 2014 Jerry McLaughlin Student Travel Award to attend the American Society of Pharmacognosy conference that was held in Oxford, Mississippi August 2-6. She presented a poster on research entitled "Evaluation of potential anticancer agents derived from *physalis peruviana* (Poha)" which also was published in the journal, *Planta Medica*.

DKICP welcomes changes to faculty, staff

The following people were either added to the DKICP 'ohana this fall, or had a change of status: Elizabeth Ackerman, assistant professor, Department of Pharmacy Practice; Kris Aoki, institutional support fiscal specialist; George Karvas, instructor, Department of Pharmacy Practice; Caroline Lorenzo, office assistant, Department of Pharmacy Practice; Christina Method, assistant clinical education coordinator, Department of Pharmacy Practice; Christina Mnatzaganian, tenure-track position as Assistant Professor, Department of Pharmacy Practice; Sean O'Neill, professional program coordinator, continuing education; Justin Reinicke, instrument specialist working out of Waiakea Research Station; Helen Wong Smith, information resource coordinator, Pharmacy & Health Sciences Information Resource Coordinator; Wesley Sumida, Instructor, Department of Pharmacy Practice; Wesley Tanoue, information technology specialist; Keoni Wood, information technology specialist; and Michelle Zacchetti, assistant professor, Department of Pharmacy Practice based on Oahu.



Preceptor Spotlight: Walt Kunimitsu, Home Infusion Pharmacist at Pharmacare

My name is Walt Kunimitsu, and I have been a home infusion pharmacist for 20 years. I graduated from Creighton University School of Pharmacy in 1994 and shortly thereafter, was hired by Pharmacare Home Infusion. At that time, home infusion was still in its infancy, but there were already a lot of home care companies in Hawaii. It was a growing industry as physicians were beginning to learn about IV therapy in the home setting and insurance companies were willing to cover more therapies at home.

At Pharmacare, I focus my attention on Home IV antibiotics and TPN (Total Parenteral Nutrition). The home

infusion pharmacy strives to provide patients with the most cost-effective management of resources (pump, nursing services, etc.) while being properly managed at home with his or her caregivers. Many IV medications on the market challenge the home infusion pharmacy to provide a high quality of patient-centered care.

Being a preceptor is valuable to me. I feel that I am able to give back and strengthen the field of pharmacy. Educating students is rewarding because I get to pass on the knowledge and experience that I have gathered over the years. By the same token, I am able to learn new methods and trends that universities are teaching. The homecare rotation that I have constructed focuses on teaching students the responsibilities of a homecare pharmacist. The candidates are taught to access patient needs, go over clinical documentation, monitor labs and follow patient outcomes. By the end of their rotation they have an idea if homecare is the field they'd like to pursue. I have designed the rotation so that students can apply didactic knowledge and pair it with real life situations that influence patient therapy. I am fortunate to be a preceptor, and I enjoy teaching future peers, not to mention making lasting friendships with the next generation of pharmacists.

MSCP students based on Oahu come to Hilo for training in family medicine

Kristine McCoy, M.D. (left) supervised practicum training for Justin Matsuura PhD and Timothy Scott Burch PsyD at Hawai'i Island Family Health Center this summer. Along with Jennifer Averyt, PhD and Janalle Kaloi-Chen, PsyD, Matsuura and Burch were the first students enrolled in DKICP's Masters in Clinical Psychopharmacology program to participate in practicum training in Hilo.



Faculty Seminar Series



Dr. Shugeng Cao

Dr. Shugeng Cao, assistant professor at the Cancer Center at the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa, presented his research seminar entitled "*Natural Products and Drug Discovery from the Tropics*" on May 21 on the DKICP modular campus at UH Hilo.

Rotation Report: Traci Kusaka, Class of 2015

On the first day of rotation at the Narcotics Enforcement Division (NED), I knew the following six weeks would be a journey to remember. After meeting my preceptor and the rest of the staff, I was told that I would be heading out with several NED agents to make an arrest, due to fraudulent prescriptions. I did not think much of the situation until the lead agent told me that I needed to strap on a (bullet proof) vest. Once I was strapped in and everyone else was ready, three agents and I left the office to arrest the suspect.

What was more interesting about this arrest was the fact that this suspect/patient had been flagged by my first block rotation preceptor. She had checked the Hawaii Prescription Drug Monitoring Program (PDMP) and noticed overlapping dates for fills of the same controlled medication at different pharmacies. My preceptor notified NED personnel, and an investigation had begun. The NED agent came to the pharmacy twice over a couple weeks to get an official statement and collect evidence from my preceptor. Then the following week, I started at the NED.

Over the following weeks at NED, my preceptor got me involved in the activities around the office. For example, I helped with Medical Marijuana certification, practitioners' NED registration, witnessed the processing and testing of marijuana and heroin, and observed clinic inspections and investigations. Upon request, I designed a flyer to advertise the Hawaii Prescription Drug Monitoring Program (PDMP) which is now being mailed to all those who newly register and renew their NED registration. Also upon request, I developed two documents that will be used to log, and keep track of, the identification of "Spice" (synthetic cannabinoid) drugs in Hawai'i. My main project was to develop an e-mail-based NED Alert System. Previous NED alerts would be sent to pharmacies via fax, but it was time consuming and inefficient. Therefore I was asked to obtain e-mail addresses, if available, from Hawai'i pharmacies. Yes, that meant having to call a lot of pharmacies.

I was invited to two educational events and two training events conducted by NED staff. The first educational event was a public presentation about drug abuse in Hawaii. The second event was a presentation for the staff at Halawa Correctional Facility. One of the NED agents went over procedures that are to be followed if/when any prison contraband is found. This information was meant to help the correction officers gather evidence so

that when the NED is called, everything is in place for the investigating agent. Both presentations were very informational and I appreciate the invitations.

The first training event I was invited to was for Honolulu Police Department (HPD) officers on how to deal with clandestine lab facilities. The HPD officers and several NED agents suited up in Saranex suits and self-contained breathing apparatuses (SCBAs). The police officers were instructed on how to recognize a clandestine lab, recognize hazardous material, take samples, and decontaminate. The second training event was for NED agents on how to neutralize an "active shooter" situation. The session mainly focused on tactical maneuvering throughout a facility that may be chaotic and densely populated, and finding the shooter as quick as possible while being as cautious as possible.

On the pharmacy side of things, there are at least two to four investigations going on every week regarding prescription medications. I have seen refills being added, quantity changes, multi-doctoring, and copying of prescriptions and filling them at different pharmacies. This rotation ultimately demonstrates how important it is to be vigilant while filling controlled substances and to use the PDMP to help assess if one should fill a prescription or not, regardless of how busy your pharmacy may be. If an agent asks the pharmacist if he/she checked PDMP before filling the prescription and they say, "No. I was busy," they will be held accountable for that fill. Not only in regards to filling, but also transferring a prescription, to do everything legally necessary to complete the transfer. The small details matter.

This was a once-in-a-lifetime experience, and I am very glad that I decided to go on this rotation. I would like to thank the Special Agent who served as my preceptor, and all of the NED staff, for taking me on as the NED APPE elective student and allowing me to get involved as much as possible.



Alumni Update: Dr. Megan Ching, Class of 2012

Home Sweet Home. That's how I felt when I returned to Hawai'i after completing my undergraduate studies in California. So much so, there was just one graduate education program I was interested in - the Daniel K. Inouye College of Pharmacy at the University Of Hawai'i at Hilo. There is something very special about the Hawaiian Islands and I hold in my heart extreme gratitude to have been given the privilege of receiving my education at such an exceptional school.

Life after pharmacy school has been pretty amazing. I graduated from the Class of 2012 and completed my PGY-1 Ambulatory Care Residency with Kaiser Permanente Northwest in 2013. Following residency, I was hired at Kaiser as an Ambulatory Care Clinical Pharmacist in Portland, Oregon.

As cheesy as it may sound, I truly love my job. I am part of a primary care medical home healthcare team that I learn from daily and who appreciates and recognizes the value of clinical pharmacists. In my main role, I help to provide population based care for chronic disease state medication management through the utilization of collaborative drug therapy management protocols. I have also recently been given the opportunity to be part of a new complex care medical home team comprised of primary care providers, pharmacists, community navigators, nurses, and social workers who coordinate and provide comprehensive care to patients with complex care needs. Lastly, one of my favorite roles is being a preceptor to both students and residents. Precepting has been rewarding in many ways and has



deepened my appreciation for all the support that I have received in the past five years.

Looking back at my journey through pharmacy school, it seems like just yesterday that I was studying for weekly therapeutics exams, agonizing over whether or not to do a residency, stressing about where I would start my pharmacy career, and searching for a restaurant (other than Ken's Restaurant) open past 8 pm for dinner. I know at times the journey gets grueling, stressful, and seemingly endless, yet I encourage you to keep pressing on because it is ALL worth it! I hope that you enjoy and appreciate your individual pharmacy journeys and wish you all the best!

STAY IN TOUCH

Note to all DKICP alumni.
Please send updates to
pharmacy@hawaii.edu

Kāwili Lā'au

The Daniel K. Inouye College of Pharmacy
University of Hawai'i at Hilo
200 W. Kāwili St.
Hilo, HI 96720

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