

5 | Indra K. Reddy

Founding Dean

19 YEARS OF DEDICATED SELFLESS SERVICE

ANNUAL REPORT **2023**

# FROM THE DEAN

*Howdy!*

Inspired by our namesake Irma Lerma Rangel, our School strives to reimagine pharmacy and transform lives. Her powerful legacy reminds us of the profound impact we can make on the world. In this issue, you will read more about that impact. Specifically, you will learn about our advances in many areas, from our continually evolving research enterprise, to our work in the communities we love and stories about our excellent students, faculty and alumni.



I would also like to take this opportunity to personally introduce myself as the Acting Dean of Irma Lerma Rangel School of Pharmacy. My journey within the Rangel School of Pharmacy began in 2015 when I assumed the role of Vice Dean. Prior to that, I had the privilege of serving as a distinguished visiting professor and a member of the Dean's Advisory Council from the School's inception. My dedication to the Aggie community has been fortified over the years, wherein I have contributed as a Regents Professor and a devoted researcher.

As a registered pharmacist, I am deeply passionate about enhanced therapeutic outcomes for our patients with transformative research, scholarship, and education. My vantage point as both a pharmacist and a former FDA executive equips me with unique insights into our field's intricacies of practice and basic sciences. I am honored to lead this School during this new chapter.

Acknowledging the significant legacy left by my predecessor, Dr. Reddy, I am fully aware of the substantial shoes we must fill. In times of transition, it is imperative not only to maintain stability but to propel ourselves forward.

I am committed to our pharmacy family or pharmily as we call ourselves here, and to continuing our mission of graduating competent, caring pharmacists. I invite you to take a closer look at who we are, what we do and where we are heading.

Warm regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mansoor Khan".

Mansoor A. Khan, R.Ph., Ph.D.  
Regents Professor and Acting Dean

## ADMINISTRATION

Mansoor Khan  
*Acting Dean*

Allison Rice-Ficht  
*Interim Vice Dean*

Asim Abu-Baker  
*Associate Dean for Clinical & Professional Affairs*

Chendil Damodaran  
*Associate Dean for Research & Innovation*

Kim Tanzer  
*Associate Dean for Academic Affairs*

Garry Castellanos  
*Assistant Dean for Finance & Administration*

Amanda Galindo  
*Assistant Dean for Student Affairs*

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Simi Gunaseelan  
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Carolynn Mathews  
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Charlie Suarez  
*Director of Business Operations & Support Services*

Yinan Wei  
*Interim Director of Graduate Studies*



6

# THE ANNUAL REPORT

2022-2023



12



25

## 4 SCHOOL UPDATES

### 6 ON THE COVER: *A Legacy of Excellence*

### 11 RESEARCH: *Soaring to New Heights* *Advancing 3D Printed Pediatric Medication* *Return of the Research Colloquium*

### 17 STUDENTS: *From PharmD to MD* *Disaster Day* *We are First-Gen* *At the Capitol* *The Match*

### 25 COMMUNITY: *Operation Border Health Preparedness* *Ask an Aggie Pharmacist: Adverse Drug Reactions*

### 29 FACULTY & STAFF: *Awards & Achievements*

### 35 ALUMNI

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TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY

Irma Lerma Rangel

School of Pharmacy

# OUR STORY

- We are proud to be the first professional program south of San Antonio, pioneering pharmacy education in the region.
- Our range of programs includes the Doctor of Pharmacy (PharmD), PharmD/MBA dual-degree and a PhD in Pharmaceutical Sciences.
- With campuses in Kingsville and College Station, we are one 'pharmily' with one accreditation, one curriculum and one school.
- Our low cost of attendance is making pharmacy education accessible for all.
- Esteemed faculty leads cutting-edge research in critical areas such as cardiovascular research, cancer, infectious disease, obesity, diabetes and colitis, spearheading innovative therapies, effective formulations, advanced drug delivery systems and pharmaceutical product quality.
- The school is recognized for its research achievements, ranking #31 in total research funding, #30 for federal grant funding, and #30 for NIH funding according to 2021-2022 AACP research rankings.
- Our dedicated faculty boasts 18 members who have secured research projects totaling \$10,312,127 in the academic year 2021-22.
- Our PharmD program is #1 for Best Return on Investment in the nation, as recognized by the College Affordability Guide.
- Our preceptor network is one of the largest in the nation, consisting of 1,920 pharmacists and healthcare professionals.
- 2023 ASHP Residency Match rates are impressive: PGY1 - 86% and PGY2 - 71%, with eight students securing nationally competitive APPE rotation placements.
- Our commitment to timeliness is evident as 94% of enrolled students graduate on time.
- Per U.S. News & World Report of 2020, we proudly rank #46 among the top 50 colleges in the nation. A new report will come out in 2024, and we are bound to fare even better.
- Our Kingsville campus houses a state-of-the-art pharmaceutical research facility for drug discovery with preclinical sciences, while the College Station campus features a pharmaceutical research facility for formulation design and development with leading-edge manufacturing.
- Since 2010, 1,195 former students (PharmD graduates) have become licensed pharmacists, serving within their communities by contributing to various healthcare settings.
- Our commitment to excellence is evident through our full accreditation by the American Council of Pharmacy Education (ACPE) and recognition as exemplary for four accreditation standards.
- Inspired by our namesake Irma Lerma Rangel, our School strives to reimagine pharmacy and transform lives. Her powerful legacy reminds us of the profound impact we can make on the world.
- Our faculty are fellows of leading pharmacy organizations such as AAPS, APhA and TSHP, and have won several prestigious awards, including the AAPS's highest honor – the 2023 Distinguished Pharmaceutical Scientist Award.
- We have established over 320 affiliation agreements with pharmacy practice/clinical sites, ensuring comprehensive experiential learning opportunities for our students.

*Reimagining Pharmacy – Transforming Lives*

# SCHOOL UPDATES

## Pharmacy Dean Transitioning to New Role, Acting Dean Appointed

*Indra Reddy, dean of the School of Pharmacy since 2004, will remain with the university and Mansoor Khan will serve as acting dean.*

Texas A&M University has appointed Regents Professor of Pharmaceutical Sciences and Presidential Impact Fellow, Mansoor Khan, PhD, RPh, as acting dean of the Texas A&M University Irma Lerma Rangel School of Pharmacy. Khan will fill the role as Indra K. Reddy, PhD, the school's dean since 2004, transitions into a new role as the Interim Chief Operating Officer and Senior Vice President of Texas A&M Health.

Khan has been serving as the vice dean of the Rangel School of Pharmacy since he came to Texas A&M in 2015. He served as the interim department head of pharmaceutical sciences and has received the esteemed distinctions of being named both a Regents Professor and a Presidential Impact Fellow.

In 2023 he was awarded the Distinguished Pharmaceutical Scientist Award recipient, the highest honor given by the American Association of Pharmaceutical Scientists and the Michael J. Pikal NIPTE Distinguished Scholar in Pharmaceutical Processing award, the highest recognition awarded by National Institute for Pharmaceutical Technology and Education.

He is a registered pharmacist and earned his bachelor's degree in pharmacy from Kakatiya University, India. He went on to earn a master's degree in pharmaceutical technology at Andhra University, India, and a second master's in pharmaceuticals at Idaho State University. He earned his doctorate in 1992 in pharmaceuticals and biopharmaceuticals from St. John's University.

## Self Study Update

The School of Pharmacy's Self-Study Steering Committee is currently making steady progress towards completing the self-study and assembling the necessary documents for the accreditation on-site visit scheduled for November 2023. The committee consists of co-chairs of six sub-committees that are thematically grouped, one faculty representative, Dr. Andrea Mora, one staff representative, Ms. Amanda Galvan, and the Self-study co-chairs, Dr. Kim Tanzer, Associate Dean for Academic Affairs, and Dr. Simi Gunaseelan, Director of Assessment.

The sub-committee co-chairs have been collaborating with their respective committees, which include faculty, students, preceptors, residents, and other external stakeholders, to create the content for the Self-Study. Since the March Self-Study Retreat, the co-chairs have been working with their committees to update the drafts for the standards. The school also held a school-wide retreat in July to finalize the work. The Self-Study will be shared with all stakeholders, including our faculty, staff, students, alumni and preceptors for review and feedback.



A LEGACY OF

# Excellence

INDRA REDDY STEPS AWAY AFTER 19 YEARS AS DEAN

When Indra K. Reddy, Ph.D. stands before a group of first-generation students, his enthusiasm is evident. He begins his message with a story, how a boy from a small town in India just wanted to read in a library. As a first-generation student, he faced many adversities which he said, 'pushed him to the limit,' but he kept focus, worked hard and never looked back. That dream led him to follow a path that would include universities, becoming an accomplished researcher and eventual dean at one of the nation's top-ranked schools of pharmacy.

After 19 years as its leader, Dean Reddy has joined the Texas A&M Health Science Center as its Interim Chief Operating Officer and Vice President. As he steps away from the pharmacy school he has called home for the two decades, we look back on his tenure and how he formed the School according to his vision.

## THE BEGINNING

The School of Pharmacy, under the steady and unwavering leadership of Dean Reddy, established itself as the first professional program located south of San Antonio, Texas.

He was essential in the development of its curriculum, hiring of faculty and staff and the creation of a culture that would put excellence at its forefront. One of Reddy's most notable achievements was the cultivation of a faculty renowned for its expertise and dedication to student success. He fostered an environment that encouraged research, innovation and collaboration, ensuring that students received a world-class education.

The program also sought to address a critical need for pharmacists in the region of South Texas it was established in. Students from across South Texas began attending the School, many of them first-generation students themselves, becoming the first doctors in their families.

## **BOLD MOVES, BIG RESULTS**

To Reddy, challenges were not a “no,” but simply a redirection. This enabled him to expand to a second location in College Station, launch a new PhD degree program in pharmaceutical sciences, expand the School’s statewide footprint, rank in the Top 50 schools of pharmacy and most recently, significantly increased its research awards.

## **A LASTING IMPACT**

After 19 years as a pharmacy leader, Reddy has joined the Texas A&M Health Science Center as its Interim Chief Operating Officer and Vice President.

“My passion for advocating for pharmacists as essential and indispensable members of the professional healthcare team remains steadfast. Together with physicians, dentists, nurses, and public health advocates, we will continue to work for the greater good of our patients and our state,” said Reddy.

As the university embarks on the search for a new dean to carry forward the legacy of Dr. Reddy, the institution is both grateful for his years of service and excited about the future. His departure may signal the end of an era, but it also marks the beginning of a new chapter for the School of Pharmacy, filled with opportunities for growth and continued success.

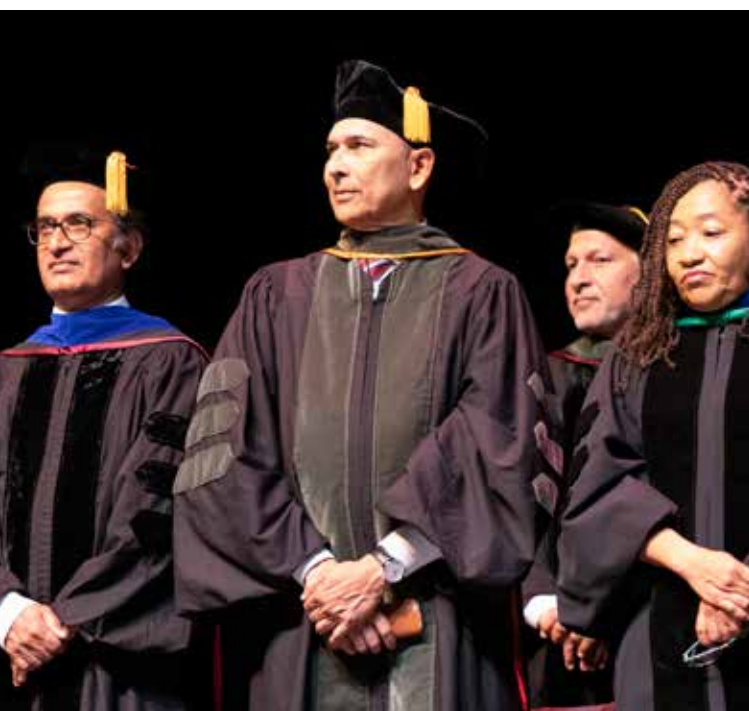
“The Pharmily extends its heartfelt appreciation to Dr. Reddy for his outstanding contributions to the School of Pharmacy during his 19 years as the founding dean. His legacy will continue to inspire and shape the future of pharmacy education and research at the university and beyond,” Acting Dean of the School of Pharmacy, Mansoor Khan, Ph.D. said.

Reddy’s remarkable 19-year journey as the Dean of Pharmacy at Texas A&M has left an indelible mark on the institution, its students, and the field of pharmacy itself. His legacy of excellence, mentorship and innovation will continue to shine brightly, guiding future generations towards a brighter and more compassionate future in the world of pharmacy.

“As he embarks on new adventures, we can only look back with admiration and gratitude for his dedicated commitment to the pursuit of knowledge and the betterment of society,” Khan said.







# MILESTONES

DURING DEAN REDDY'S TENURE

## 2004

Indra Reddy, Ph.D. begins his tenure as the school's first dean. Under his leadership the first professional program south of San Antonio was established.

## 2010

Reddy hands diplomas to the first cohort of graduates, and then each subsequent class, totaling 1,303 pharmacy graduates.

## 2012

The school enters the U.S. News & World Report Ranking as one of the Top 50 schools of pharmacy.

## 2013

Reddy earns "Recognition of Leadership & Outstanding Service," a Resolution by the Board of Regents for Texas A&M University System.

## 2014

The School's growth was undeniable, prompting its expansion to the College Station campus in 2014, where it welcomed its inaugural cohort who graduated in 2018.

Reddy earns the Outstanding Pharmacy Alumnus Award from the University of Florida College of Pharmacy, his alma mater.

## 2015

Reddy earns a Ten Year Outstanding Service Award from the Texas A&M University Health Science Center.

## 2021

A new degree program, a PhD in Pharmaceutical Sciences is launched.

In both 2021 and 2022, INSIGHT Into Diversity Magazine awards the school a Health Professions Higher Education Excellence in Diversity (HEED) Award

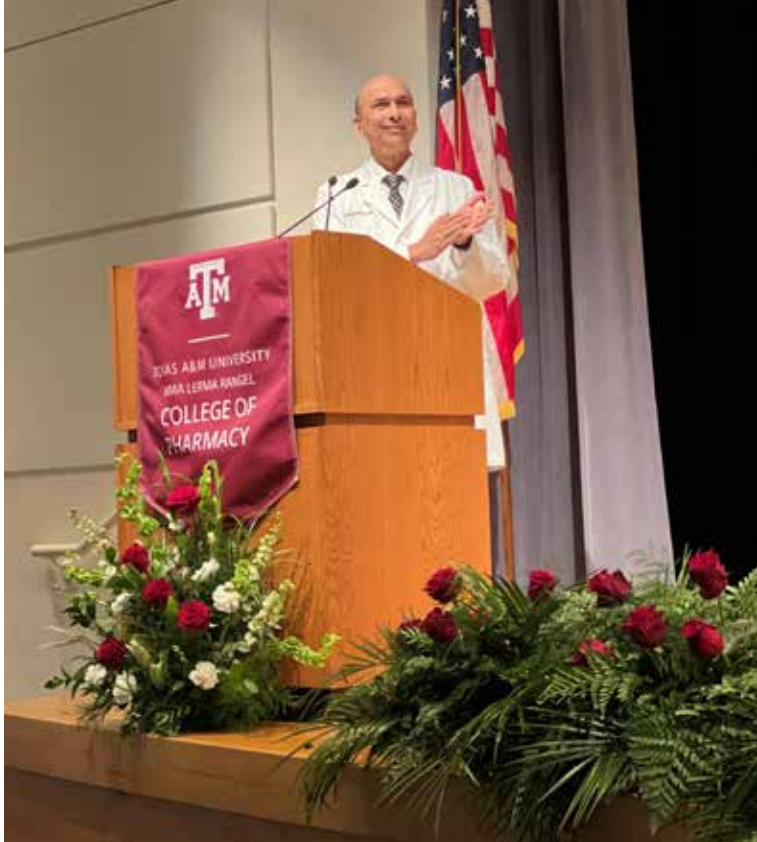
## 2022

A new record is set as the school surpasses the \$10 million mark in research funding. The school ranks #31 in total research funding, #30 for federal grant funding and #30 for NIH funding according to 2021-2022 AACP research rankings.



# THANK YOU,





# DEAN REDDY



# Soaring to New Heights: School of Pharmacy Rises in AACP Research Ranking

*The School Achieves Record-breaking Year with \$10,312,127 in Grants Awarded.*



The Texas A&M University Irma Lerma School of Pharmacy has soared 12 spots to claim the 31st position in the national rankings for total research funding during the academic year 2021-22, as announced by the American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy (AACP). This year's ranking considered a total of 113 pharmacy schools in the United States that reported extramural research funding.

The School of Pharmacy received \$5,090,368 in annual research funding in 2021, which doubled to an impressive \$10,312,127 in 2022. With regards to federal grants alone, the School of Pharmacy made its way into the top 30. Currently, it holds the 30th position with \$9,269,981 in funding from federal sources. Notably, among Texas pharmacy schools, the School of Pharmacy stands out with the highest funding density with \$149,132.48 in funding per faculty member.

Dr. Indra Reddy, Interim Chief Operating Officer and Vice President of Texas A&M Health, expressed his admiration for the School's consistent commitment to excellence in teaching, mentoring and fostering an environment that encourages scholarly exploration.

"For years, our school has been at the forefront of pushing the boundaries of pharmaceutical science, seeking innovative solutions to address the complex healthcare challenges of our time. This remarkable achievement is a testament to the unwavering dedication of our faculty members, researchers and students who have cultivated a nurturing environment that fosters curiosity, promotes collaboration on a national and international scale and encourages interdisciplinary research," he stated.

The School of Pharmacy now holds the second position among its peer institutions in Texas, a feat that highlights its growing influence and reputation in the field according to Reddy.

Dr. Chendil Damodaran, the associate dean of research and innovation and professor of pharmaceutical sciences, emphasized that this achievement was the result of a well-planned strategy implemented to enhance the research enterprise of the School.

# AACP RESEARCH RANKINGS

AY 2021-2022



# #31

NATIONAL RESEARCH  
RANKING



# #30

NATIONALLY IN NIH  
RESEARCH FUNDING



# #30

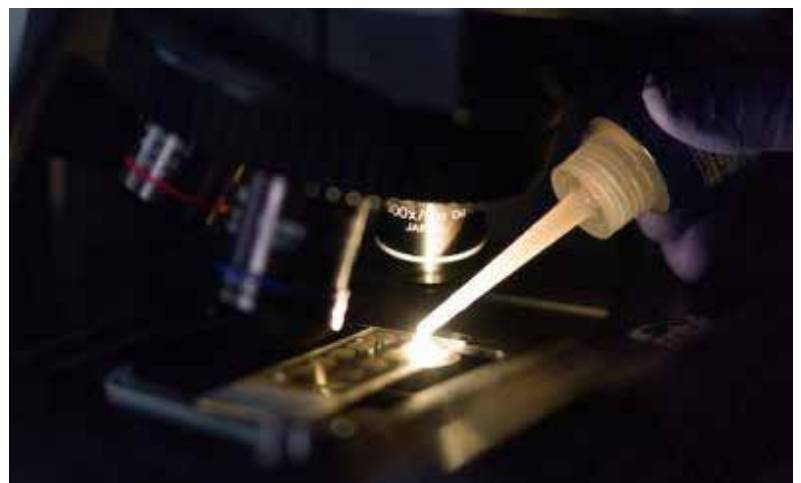
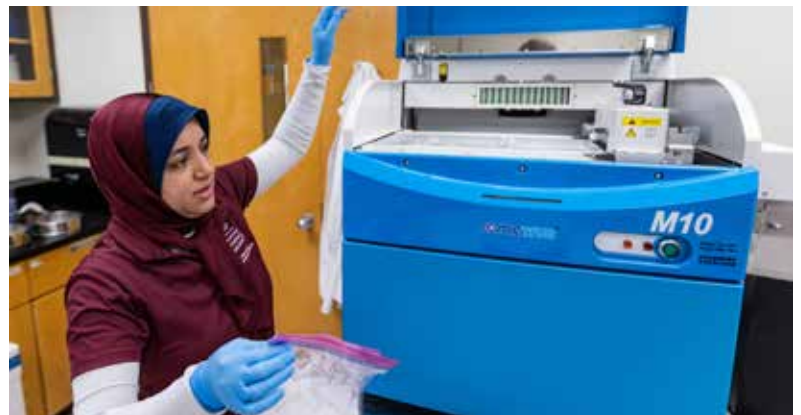
FEDERAL RESEARCH  
FUNDING

"Under the guidance of Dean Reddy, the research office and department heads, several initiatives were put into action to secure extramural funding," Damodaran said.

Damodaran praised the commendable dedication exhibited by the staff, faculty and administrators.

"This milestone is a culmination of the collective efforts of our entire School of Pharmacy community. The Texas A&M School of Pharmacy's rise in the AACP research ranking is a testament to its commitment to advancing pharmaceutical science and addressing healthcare challenges through cutting-edge research, collaborative efforts and an environment that fosters academic exploration," he said.

AACP is the national organization representing pharmacy education in the United States. Ranked among the most prestigious professional organizations in the field, AACP's research ranking serves as a definitive measure of a school's research productivity and impact. AACP publishes funded research grant data annually on its website.



# School of Pharmacy receives nearly \$3 million to advance 3D printed pediatric medications

*The five-year grant from the National Institutes of Health will support infrastructure to investigate and advance 3D printed pediatric medications in hospitals*

Researchers from the Texas A&M University Irma Lerma Rangel School of Pharmacy have been awarded a five-year, \$2.82 million grant from the National Institutes of Health (NIH) to utilize 3D printing machines for pediatric medications.

Principal investigator, Mansoor A. Khan, PhD, who is acting dean, Regents Professor of pharmaceutical sciences, and a Presidential Impact Fellow, along with multiple principal investigator, Ziyaur Rahman, PhD, professor of pharmaceutical sciences, will work to engineer dose-flexible antiviral products that are readily deployable in hospitals for pediatric medication needs.

The grant, entitled "Dose Flexible Combination 3D-Printed Delivery Systems for Antiviral Therapy in Children" is the first RO1 grant of its kind, according to former Dean of the Rangel School of Pharmacy Indra K. Reddy, PhD.

"We are very optimistic that the 3D printing machines can actually be deployed in children's hospitals with a clear pathway to compound very high quality and validated medications," Reddy said.

This is the first time a multidisciplinary approach is being taken to deliver 3D printed medications for children. "It requires engineering the design and development of pediatric dosage forms, followed by pharmacokinetics and efficacy studies before deployment in children's hospitals," Rahman said.

"Many products are available for adults, not children, as it is not a great and profitable business for firms to make pediatric medications for few cases. Instead, a prescriber or pharmacist is forced to manipulate adult dosage forms to prepare pediatric dosages," Khan said.

According to Khan, these manipulations can easily lead to instability or other issues of compromised quality.

"Our children deserve better medications, and we are committed to providing it for them with advanced technologies," he said.

Prior to joining the Rangel School of Pharmacy, Khan worked for the U.S. Food and Drug Administration where he served as lead reviewer for the only 3D printed tablet dosage forms approved by the Center for Drug Evaluation and Research.

"That approved product was for a geriatric purpose. We realized it could be valuable for the pediatric population, too, as they need dosage flexibility because of changing age and growth. We teamed up as pharmacists, engineers, doctors, molecular biologists and biostatisticians to develop this rewarding proposal," Khan explained.

The project will draw from a pool of investigators from different academic units at Texas A&M University.

Co-investigators include:

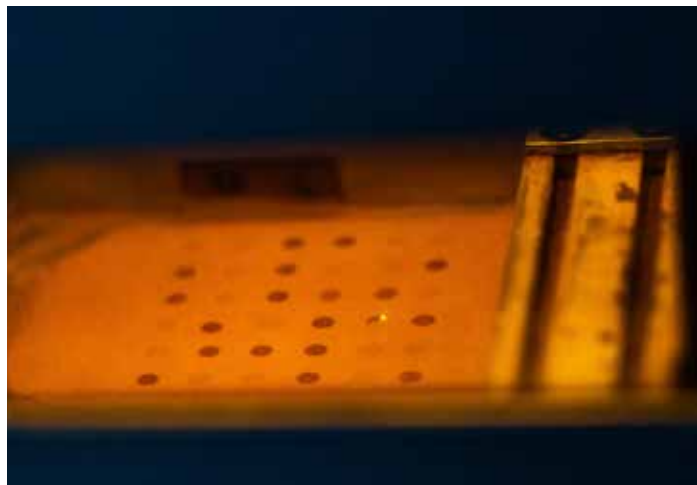
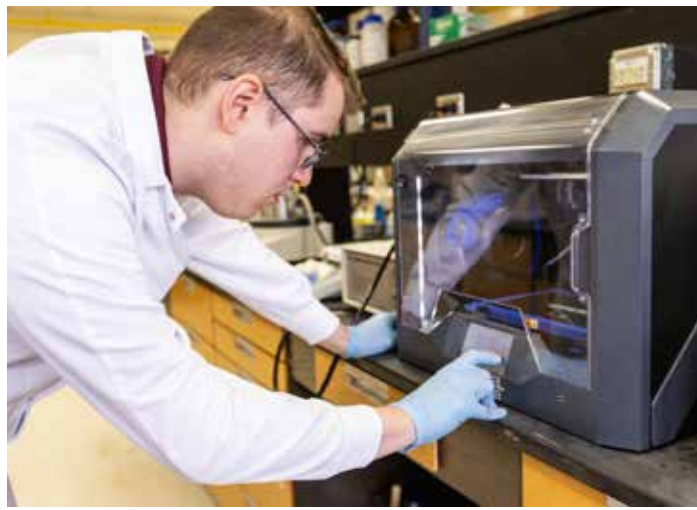
Matthew Kuttolamadom, PhD, associate professor, School of Engineering.

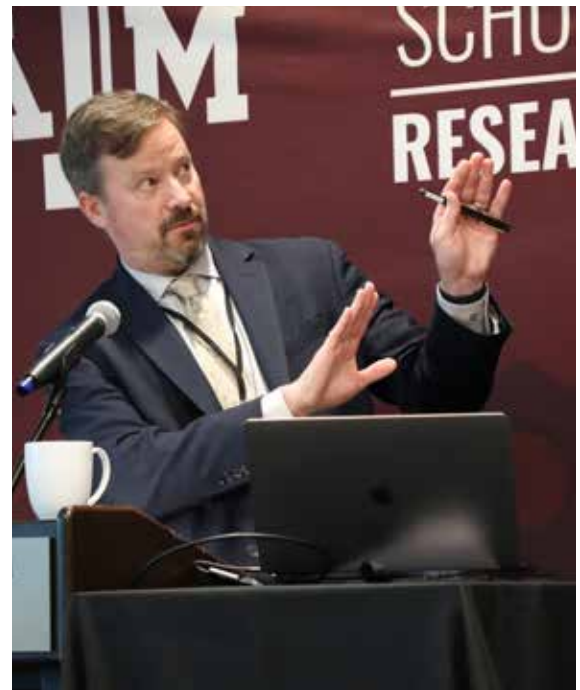
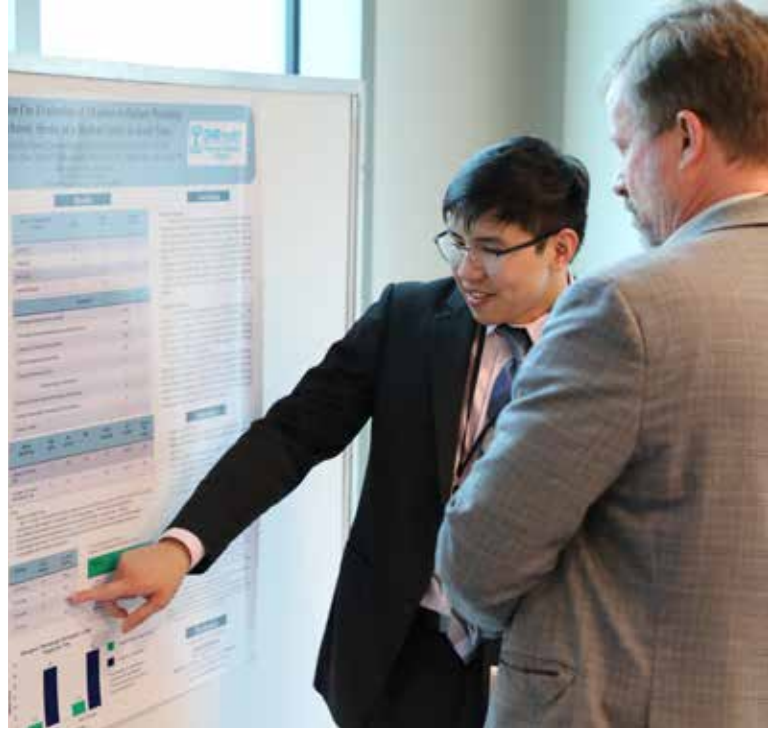
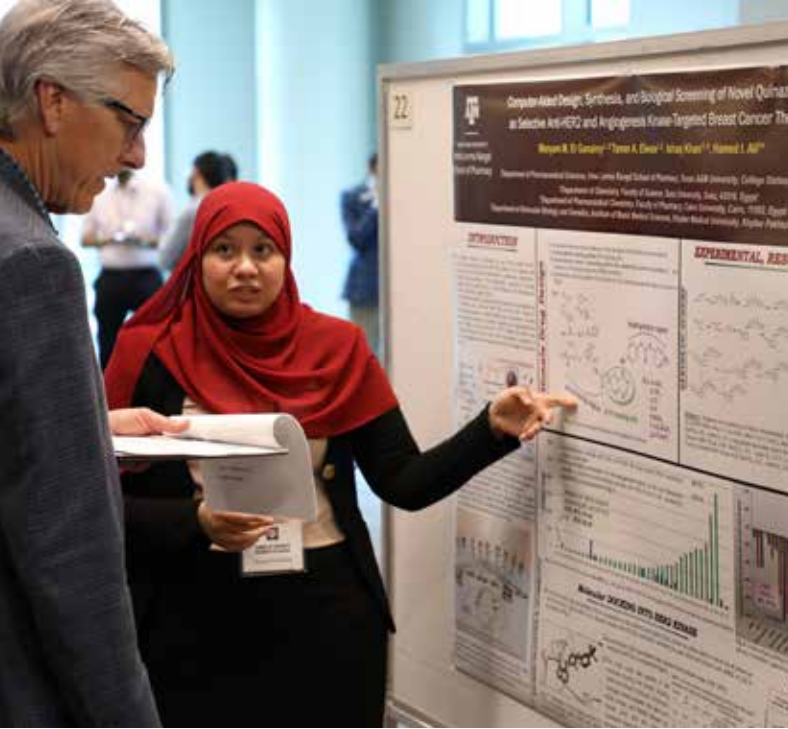
Samikannu Thangavel, PhD, associate professor, Rangel School of Pharmacy.

Jennifer Fridley, DVM, clinical assistant professor and director of Veterinary Medical Park, School of Veterinary Medicine.

Quan Zhou, PhD, assistant professor, College of Arts and Sciences.

Khan and Rahman also have an active two-year NIH—R56 grant on 3D printing of medications.







## Return of the Research Colloquium

The Texas A&M University Irma Lerma Rangel School of Pharmacy hosted a pharmacy-specific Research Colloquium at the Texas A&M Hotel & Conference Center in College Station on March 30-31. This is the first colloquium at the school since 2016.

During day one of the colloquium, students, faculty and research scientists from across the School of Pharmacy presented their abstracts with poster presentations. Judges from across Texas A&M University were on hand to identify winners.

During the second day of the colloquium, a variety of invited speakers took to the podium to present to the group of attendees. Lance McMahon, Ph.D., Senior Vice President for Research at the Texas Tech University Health Science Center delivered the keynote address entitled "Pharmacognosy: An Enduring Pharmaceutical Science."

External guest speakers also shared their expertise. Robert O. (Bill) Williams III, Ph.D., Division Head and Professor of Molecular Pharmaceutics and Drug Delivery from the University of Texas at Austin delivered a presentation "Leveraging Thin-film Freezing as a Particle Engineering Platform- Stabilizing and Delivering Antivirals, Antibodies and Vaccines."

Rajender R. Aparasu, PhD, Musty and Sanober Lokhandwala Endowed Professor and Chair of the Department of Pharmaceutical Health Outcomes and Policy from the University of Houston gave a presentation entitled "Population-based Safety Research in Geriatrics."

"Based on the feedback that I received so far, it is clear that our presenters received valuable feedback from both our judges, who are all leaders in their respective fields, and the attendees about their research. The poster session already seems to have sown the seeds of new collaborations, which I hope will result in the cross-pollination of research ideas and projects across the colleges resulting in many new projects and grants," said Chendil Damodoaran, Ph.D., Associate Dean of Research and Innovation.

To view the submitted abstracts, please visit:  
<https://pharmacy.tamu.edu/research/research-colloquium.html>



## From PharmD to MD: New Pharmacy Graduate To Attend Medical School To Continue To Serve The Underserved

Graduate school is a challenge that not many attempt, especially a professional degree program in the medical field. However, for one South Texan, one professional degree is not enough. In fact, after graduating in May from the Texas A&M University Irma Lerma Rangel School of Pharmacy, just two short months later his journey to become a medical doctor will begin.

Enrique Arredondo is a proud son, eldest brother and as of May 20, 2023, a Doctor of Pharmacy.

Growing up, Arredondo saw that pharmacists were very accessible and it drew him to the profession. Not only did he want to become an accessible healthcare provider, he wanted to do so in the Rio Grande Valley community he called home, lovingly referred to as “the valley.”

“They were very accessible, and I saw the impact they have on our communities, so that was the driving factor in the decision to become a pharmacist.”

Serving the underserved is at the heart of the mission of the Rangel School of Pharmacy. It opened its doors in Kingsville, Texas, in 2006 to tackle the shortage of pharmacists in the region. That alignment with Arredondo’s own goals, mixed with the school’s unique location, made the Rangel School of Pharmacy an obvious choice for him.

“The main campus is in Kingsville, and the reason it was created in Kingsville was to serve south Texas,” he said. “It was very similar to my hometown which is further south, Edinburg, Texas.”

Having felt at home and confident as a professional pharmacy student there, he excelled. He was involved in COVID-19 research, gave poster presentations at the Texas Society of Health System Pharmacists (TSHP) meetings and in just his second year, he rotated through the number one hospital in the nation, the Mayo Clinic.

“As a first-year, in a humble way, I was ambitious,” Arredondo said. “I just happened to come across the application and thought it would be a great opportunity. I never would have thought someone from the South Texas region would get the opportunity to go to the Mayo clinic. It just sort of happened and it was blessing in disguise. It really opened my eyes as to what resources they have for patients and the big lag between local, rural hospitals down here in the valley compared to an institute like that.”

Throughout his entire four years in pharmacy school, he selflessly served volunteering his time and expertise. Volunteering meant counseling patients, translating for patients from English to Spanish, performing blood pressure screenings, blood sugar screenings and vaccination clinics. Over the course of his pharmacy schooling, he performed an estimated 250 screenings, a number he said would’ve been higher had COVID-19 not shut down many activities during its peak.

While doing his rotations as a fourth-year student in the Rio Grande Valley at places like DHR Health, the VA Coastal Bend Outpatient Clinic, South Texas Health System McAllen and H-E-B, he was reminded of why he wanted to join the profession in the first place. During a rotation at an H-E-B in Mission, Texas he saw many patients that spoke only Spanish. Arredondo, who is bilingual, was able to help.

“I was in Mission, which is closer to the border, so a lot of the patients were Spanish speaking that didn’t have insurance, and the questions that they would ask, even though it sounded simple, it was very impactful to them and to their health for the long term,” he said.



"There was a definite need. I would say there needs to be a difference in the patient-to-pharmacist ratio here in valley," he added.

That experience, along with his mentor, Clinical Assistant Professor of Pharmacy Practice Juan Castro, M.D., influenced him. After seeing so many patients that needed help, he began to consider becoming the doctor that they needed. Though unsure, he started to complete applications to medical schools.

Arredondo's driving factor to pursue a medical degree was an unfortunate and scary medical experience for his father. A heart issue needed immediate care, and yet instead of receiving that in the valley, his father was sent hours away.



"It opened my eyes in terms of care here in the valley," he said. "They found an aortic dissection with him, there were no surgeons here in the valley that could do those types of surgeries, so they had to transport him to Houston. So right away in the Rio Grande Valley, for the higher, specialized care, patients need to get transported four or five hours out."

"You hear about it, but once you go through that experience, it just opens your eyes, and you realize a higher level of care is still needed in the valley, and that's insane because we have a large population," he continued. "That is why I want to help medical services in the valley grow, so that we don't need to transport out."



Arredondo says his father is doing much better now, and he, along with the rest of the family, were excited to watch Arredondo graduate from the Rangel School of Pharmacy and become the first doctor in the family.

On July 31, 2023, he began school at UT Southwestern in Dallas, where he plans to focus on interventional cardiology and non-invasive surgery vasculature.

While there, after receiving his pharmacy license, he hopes to find the time to work as a part-time pharmacist.

One day in the future he will return to Edinburg with both a PharmD and MD, where he will use his degrees and his hands and heart to do what he set out to, to serve the underserved and bring more medical care to South Texas.



"Hopefully I can become a bridge to help the valley grow, become more innovative, have better technology, better resources so hopefully we get to a point where we don't need to transport patients away," Arredondo said. "Being able to make the valley a place with a higher level of care is very important to me."

## Disaster Day prepares next generation of emergency medical responders

As the world has seen an increase in mass disasters—from the earthquakes in Turkey and Syria to man-made disasters such as the train derailment and chemical spill in Ohio—having health care professionals trained to respond to these emergencies has become even more critical. For 15 years, the Texas A&M University Health Science Center has been at the forefront of this training with its annual Disaster Day simulation. On Friday, March 3, the student-led event welcomed more than 700 Texas A&M students, over 85 faculty and staff, and countless emergency response professionals to participate in the day-long disaster simulation.



The event is held at Texas A&M Engineering Extension Service's (TEEX) Disaster City®. Students from Texas A&M schools of dentistry, medicine, nursing, pharmacy and public health, as well as athletic training, psychology and veterinary medicine students and the Corps of Cadets participated in this year's drill.

"This year marks a milestone in the history of this event. As we celebrate 15 years, we have elevated our efforts to further enrich the student experience, which will ultimately serve patients across the state of Texas," said Christine Kaunas, MPH, executive director for Interprofessional Education & Research at Texas A&M Health. "Not only are students practicing collaboratively to improve patient outcomes and learning critical disaster response skills, but they are doing so while faced with a high level of fidelity to a real event."

Each year, a new scenario is selected and kept secret until the day of the event to provide the realism of an unexpected situation. This year's simulated disaster was a hurricane, and students engaged in triage at the disaster site, patient care at the mock field hospital, mental health care and needs assessment at an evacuation shelter, and disaster management and simulation oversight at Disaster City's Emergency Operations Training Center.

During the simulation, students take on the role of patients or providers. Students who participate as patients receive makeup, known as moulage, to mimic injuries based on the current scenario. As the drill begins, patients act out the case that they are assigned, while students acting as physicians and nurses do field assessments, then transfer patients to a field hospital for more diagnosis and treatment. Pharmacy students work with providers to determine the medications needed, and psychology students provide the mental health care required of disaster victims. Athletic training and dentistry students provide specialized care in orthopedic and soft tissue trauma, and head and neck injuries, respectively. Public health students manage the disaster to deploy resources and address outbreaks that occur during disasters.



"I was raised by my grandmother who never completed middle school and neither of my parents had graduated high school. As a First-Generation college student, allow me to provide a little bit of background about myself. I moved out at 15 years old and graduated high school against the odds. I became a licensed pharmacy technician after completing a 10-month program and worked pharmacy for several years before I decided to finally go back to school. I juggled between being a full-time student, employee and mother, but I completed my pharmacy pre-req's and earned my associate's degree in Chemistry. Now, I am successfully in my 3rd year of pharmacy school and am just so thankful for holding this opportunity. I want to encourage people who doubt themselves, people who think they're too old to start college, or who already have families with children, etc. that it is NEVER too late! I believe to my absolute core that with a strong mind, drive, determination and perseverance, the sky is the limit!"

*Candy Mckeever-Ramos* | Class of 2024  
First-Generation College Student



"I was born in Pakistan and I am the youngest of four siblings. My parents brought us to the United States when I was five years old. Neither of my parents graduated high school but they motivated me to focus on my education. Growing up I was always interested in how the human body works and so I pursued a Bachelors degree in Biomedical Sciences to learn about my interests. After earning my degree I wanted to advance myself in the field of Pharmacy because I was fascinated by how medications can improve the quality and quantity of life for people. Being a first generation student, I utilized the resources available to guide me on the right path to pursue my passion of Pharmacy. I am extremely motivated to do well and succeed in my career because my parents have made sacrifices for me to ensure that I achieve the highest level of education. I would advise other first-generation students to work hard and stay motivated to surpass their goals to make themselves and their families proud of their accomplishments."

*Monis Aslam* | Class of 2024  
First-Generation College Student

# WE ARE FIRST GENERATION

## AGGIES AT THE CAPITOL

On February 28, 2023, students, faculty and alumni representing the Texas A&M School of Pharmacy participated in Texas Pharmacy Day at the Capitol in Austin. The group began with a legislative briefing in the Capitol auditorium and participated in day-long activities in promoting and advancing the profession, including meeting with State Legislators.



"I personally attended because my profession needs me to speak up on issues that impact our patients and our ability to deliver care. The Texas Pharmacy Association has done a great job unifying pharmacists to achieve key legislation for our profession, and I think it's important for pharmacists to show up and support them in this effort," said Dr. Asim Abu-Baker, clinical professor and associate dean for clinical and professional affairs.

According to Abu-Baker, it is important for students to attend this event so they can see for themselves and realize that it is possible to positively impact the profession.

"Students should take advantage of this opportunity and use it to learn how to continue this engagement when they are pharmacists," Abu-Baker said.

"I would've never expected to have an opportunity to do something like this during my time in pharmacy school. It was a rewarding feeling being able to be in the Capitol building surrounded by our state's legislators," said Kyle Diblasi, a third-year professional pharmacy student.

"Just because we are students and not actual pharmacists, we still can have a huge impact on making changes in our field. Legislators are willing to listen to us and hear our stories," Diblasi said.

"Networking is one of the biggest aspects of advancing in our field and an event where hundreds of pharmacists convene at one location for a common goal fits the bill perfectly. On top of that, it's an opportunity to make a difference in laws that protect us as pharmacist and even strengthen our scope of practice," he added.

"It is very important for lawmakers to see their pharmacists and pharmacy students engaged in legislation that impacts them. Through this effort we were able to reach many legislators," Abu-Baker said.





TEXAS A&M

Pharmacy

# MATCH DAY 2023 RESULTS

**23**

STUDENTS  
MATCHED



**86%**

PGY1 MATCH RATE

**71%**

PGY2 MATCH RATE



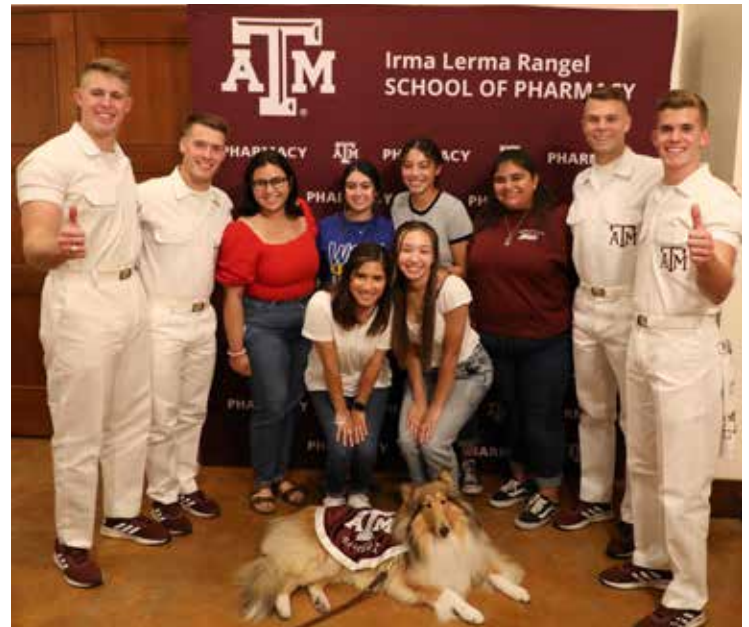
**13**

MATCHED  
IN TEXAS

## WHAT IS A PHARMACY RESIDENCY:

A residency is a pharmacy practice training program in which the pharmacy school graduate can perform as a licensed practitioner while training under the supervision of an experienced preceptor. Pharmacy residents gain valuable experience by directly providing care to patients in a variety of settings. Pharmacy school graduates who participate in residency training gain a competitive advantage in the job market, as well as develop a wide network of professional contacts.

# OUR YEAR IN PHOTOS







## Health profession students prepare for emergencies while serving South Texas

*Students took part in Operation Border Health Preparedness, an emergency preparedness drill that also provides free health care to South Texas communities*

Texas A&M University Health Science Center (Texas A&M Health) participated once again in Operation Border Health Preparedness, an emergency preparedness exercise that was held in the Rio Grande Valley region of South Texas July 24-28, 2023. The annual event is led by the Texas Department of State Health Services in coordination with local, county and city health departments, human service organizations, Texas Military Forces, medical schools and universities as well as out-of-state agencies. In addition to serving as an emergency preparedness training, the event brings free health care to areas of South Texas where access to care can be challenging.

This is the 24th year Operation Border Health Preparedness has been conducted and the fifth year Texas A&M Health has participated. Students, faculty and staff from the Texas A&M schools of medicine, nursing, pharmacy and public health took part in this year's event, along with nutrition, clinical psychology and veterinarian students at Texas A&M. Last year's clinics provided more than 30,000 services to just under 6,400 people.

Members of the Rio Grande Valley community benefit greatly from this operation, not only because their community is preparing for the worst-case scenario, but also because they receive free health care. Clinics were set up in five cities this year—Brownsville, Laredo, Raymondville, Rio Grande City and San Juan—and provided numerous services, including free physicals, screenings, dental care, immunizations, vision exams and free eyeglasses. The Raymondville site also provided veterinary services for cats and dogs. In this medically underserved region, this event is many residents' sole opportunity to receive care. Some participants even camp overnight at the sites to secure a spot in line.

More than 100 Texas A&M Health students traveled from multiple locations to volunteer in the exercise. The drill allowed them to serve the Valley while practicing the unique clinical, non-clinical and interprofessional skills required in an emergency scenario, working alongside health care providers and public health professionals in different sectors.



The Office Interprofessional Education and Research at Texas A&M Health, which is led by Christine Kaunas, EdD, MPH, coordinates the health science center's involvement in the operation each year. Kaunas says this is a unique and valuable educational opportunity for all involved.

"Students get a first-hand look at what their role might be when, not if, a disaster strikes," Kaunas said. "They engage in collaborative practice alongside the Texas State Guard and public health professionals, all while serving the people of the Rio Grande Valley, where there is great need for improved access and care. We have worked hard over the last five years to develop relationships with the amazing and various partners of this large-scale exercise, and we are fortunate to be part of the Operation Border Health Preparedness community."

The School of Pharmacy had the largest participation from Texas A&M Health this year, with second- and third-year pharmacy students working in multiple capacities. Some worked with health care providers in the medical clinics, counseling patients and helping the providers select the best medication for the patients. Others assisted Texas A&M Health Coastal Bend Health Education Center and Texas A&M Healthy South Texas personnel in the , which identifies opportunities for patients to get the prescription medications they need when cost is a barrier. Students also had the opportunity to work in the dental clinic, an experience third-year pharmacy student Jessica Sierra said opened her eyes to the various arenas where pharmacists can apply their skills.

"This is my first time participating in this event. I didn't know all of this was offered for pharmacy students. This experience helped me, and other health care professionals here, understand that pharmacists are involved in a lot of areas people don't realize. Here in the dental care clinic, I'm helping with data and consulting when medications like antibiotics are prescribed after a procedure," said Sierra, who is from Edinburg, Texas, a city in the Rio Grande Valley.

For people like Sierra, the event is not just a learning experience; it's also an opportunity to "pass it back" to the communities they're from, said Asim Abu-Baker, associate dean for clinical and professional affairs at the School of Pharmacy.

**"The experience has been great in terms of working side-by-side with health professionals to serve the population here in San Juan," Abu-Baker said. "A lot of the pharmacy students participating at this event are actually from the Rio Grande Valley. Historically we've had students who have come to Operation Border Health Preparedness as kids to get their glasses or their physicals, and so it's nice for them to come back and serve the same community."**



## Medication side effects: What to do if you have an adverse drug reaction

*From minor to life-threatening, know what to look for and what to do if you suspect a medication side effect*

Medications improve and extend life for millions of people, with some even considering them miraculous. Yet, despite their numerous benefits, the risk remains for side effects, also known as adverse drug reactions (ADRs), that can range from mild to life-threatening.

According to the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA), there are more than 2.2 million serious ADRs in hospitalized patients, causing over 106,000 deaths annually. If these estimates are accurate, then ADRs are the fourth leading cause of death—ahead of pulmonary disease, diabetes, AIDS, pneumonia, accidents and automobile deaths.

We spoke with co-founder of the American Society of Pharmacovigilance, Sara Rogers, PharmD, clinical assistant professor at the Texas A&M Irma Lerma Rangel School of Pharmacy, to learn more about the signs to look for and actions to take in the case of an ADR.

### Anaphylaxis comes to mind as what would be a major adverse reaction. What are some others?

Anaphylaxis is a severe, potentially life-threatening allergic reaction. It is one of many adverse drug reactions a patient can have, which is defined as “harm directly caused by a drug at normal doses.”

An adverse drug event, on the other hand, broadly encompasses harm that occurs during medical care that is directly caused by the drug due to medication errors, adverse drug reactions, allergic reactions and overdoses, to name a few. A medication error is the “inappropriate use of a drug that may or may not result in harm” and may occur during prescribing, transcribing, dispensing, administering, adherence or monitoring of a drug. Organizations like the Institute of Safe Medicine Practices (ISMP) focus exclusively on preventing medication errors, in part, by setting best practices to prevent errors.

### What can be done if someone has an adverse reaction to a drug?

Adverse reactions to a drug can happen at any time. They can occur when you first take a medicine, with changes in dosage, or if you stop taking the medicine suddenly or too soon. If you begin to take other prescriptions or non-prescription

## What are signs that someone is having a bad or unintended reaction to a drug?

Side effects can differ for each individual depending on the medical condition. A person’s age, weight, gender, ethnicity and other factors can play a role as well. Many different signs and symptoms are possible and could indicate that someone is having a bad or unintended reaction to a drug. This can vary substantially between medications. A few examples of adverse drug reactions are:

- Incontinence
- Dizziness
- Hypertension
- Movement disorder
- Cough
- Tremor
- Arrhythmia
- Rash
- Nausea
- Involuntary movements

*The FDA maintains a database that contains side effects for thousands of drugs and can be accessed online.*



*Dr. Sara Rogers serves as Clinical Assistant Professor of Precision Medicine and Ambulatory Care at the Rangel School of Pharmacy and Clinical Specialist at Texas A&M Physicians Clinic. She co-founded the American Society of Pharmacovigilance, where she led the Society’s clinical, research and educational initiatives.*

products, interactions among the medicines may cause side effects as well. Adverse reactions can also occur when using medical devices, dietary supplements, infant formula, cosmetics and biologic products such as vaccines, blood and blood components, gene therapy, tissues, allergens and somatic cells.

If you think you or someone in your family has experienced a serious reaction to a medical product, you are encouraged to take the FDA's MedWatch reporting form to your doctor. Your health care provider can provide clinical information based on your medical record that can help the FDA evaluate your report. You may also complete the online reporting form yourself.

If you are about to start a new medication and are concerned about potential side effects, ask your doctor or pharmacist about symptoms to look out for and what to do if they occur. Always ask if there are any patient education printouts you can review.

### **How might an adverse reaction be treated?**

Treatment for an adverse reaction will depend on many factors, but below are a few commonly encountered drug-related side effects and suggestions for their management as examples.

Allergic reactions potentially could occur with any medication. Symptoms range from a mild rash to a severe anaphylactic reaction (including facial and throat swelling, difficulty breathing and a widespread rash). Take an antihistamine and see a doctor straight away if you think you are having an allergic reaction to a medicine. Seek emergency help if the reaction is severe.

Bruising and bleeding are common with medicines that "thin the blood" such as aspirin, clopidogrel, enoxaparin and warfarin. This is also common with NSAIDs, steroids (such as prednisone) and certain medicines used to treat cancer. Try to avoid bumping yourself into furniture. Remove any trip hazards, such as loose rugs. Seek emergency help if you have a wound that bleeds profusely or doesn't stop bleeding within 15 minutes.

Tendonitis or tendon rupture is most commonly reported with fluoroquinolone antibiotics (for example, ciprofloxacin, norfloxacin, ofloxacin, levofloxacin). Discontinue the antibiotic immediately if you experience pain or swelling in a tendon and report this information to your doctor. Avoid all fluoroquinolones in the future if you develop a tendon problem while taking a fluoroquinolone.

### **What role does pharmacogenomics play in limiting the chances of bad reactions to drugs?**

Pharmacogenetics is the study of how your genes influence your reaction to drugs. Genetic factors account for 20 to 95 percent of variability in patients' response to treatment. This field of pharmacogenomics is rapidly evolving, and testing for liver enzyme variations is becoming more widespread. For example, codeine requires metabolism through a protein coding gene called CYP2D6 for conversion to one of its active metabolites, morphine. An estimated 5 to 10 percent of people are poor metabolizers, which means that in these people, very little codeine is converted to morphine which results in insufficient pain relief. However, 1 to 2 percent of people are ultra-rapid metabolizers and more codeine is converted into morphine than normal, resulting in a higher risk of toxic reactions including respiratory depression.

Advancements in pharmacogenetics has the potential to not only drastically improve effectiveness of pharmaceutical therapy but could also reduce the number of adverse drug reactions.

# Faculty & Staff Awards

## Pharmacy Graduate Resident Award

Dr. Arnaldo Gonzalez 1

## Faculty Preceptor of the Year Award

Dr. Pooja Patel 2

## Early Career Faculty Research Award

Dr. Hamed Ali-Ismael 3

## Mid-to-Senior Career Faculty Research Award

Dr. Lin Zhu 4

## Preceptor of the Year Award

Dr. Aparna Reddy 5

## Staff Member of the Year Award

Ms. Amanda Galvan 6

Ms. Beth Johnson 7

Mrs. Shelia Robinson 8

## Teacher of the Year Award

P1 - Dr. Andrew Tenpas 9

P2 - Dr. Jongwha Chang 10

P3 - Dr. Simi Gunaseelan 11

## Teaching Team of the Year Award:

Cardiovascular Diseases Course

Dr. Heather Hay 12, Dr. Dai Lu 13, Dr. Fatima Alshbool 14, Dr. Fadi Khasawneh 15, Dr. Jaye Weston 16

## Teaching Team of the Year Award:

Mental & Behavioral Health Disorders Course

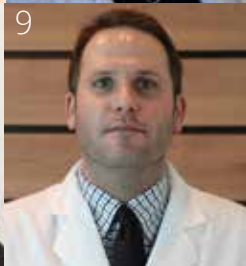
Dr. Joy Alonzo 17, Dr. Hamed Ali 3, Dr. Mahua Choudhury 18, Dr. Anne-Cecile Mingle 19

## Mansoor and Rehana Khan Postdoctoral Fellow Research Achievement Award

Dr. Shahnaz Qadri 20

## Mansoor and Rehana Khan Graduate Student Excellence Award

Nada Helal 21



## Remington Honor Medal



Henri R. Manasse Jr. Ph.D., ScD (Hon.), FFIP, was officially recognized in March at the American Pharmacists Association (APhA) Annual Meeting & Exposition in Phoenix, Arizona as the recipient of the Remington Honor Medal, the highest honor bestowed by APhA and one of the pharmacy profession's most prestigious awards.

Manasse has served in many roles throughout his accomplished career and is currently a professor and dean emeritus of the University of Illinois at Chicago, College of Pharmacy. Manasse is also an adjunct clinical professor of pharmacy practice at the Texas A&M University Irma Lerma Rangel School of Pharmacy.

Manasse previously served for 14 years as executive vice president and CEO at the American Society of Health-System Pharmacists following more than 30 years of experience in numerous other positions within academia and public policy.

American Society of Health-System Pharmacists (ASHP) CEO Paul W. Abramowitz, spoke to Manasse's accomplishments at the ceremony, and said he's delighted on Manasse's behalf and honored to celebrate his predecessor's many contributions to the profession.

"Dr. Manasse's contributions to pharmacy have had an immense influence in elevating how pharmacists define their role in society and how they are educated and trained for that role," Abramowitz said. "He has also greatly deepened the understanding and appreciation of the capabilities of pharmacists among healthcare leaders, government officials, and other influential individuals outside of pharmacy."

## FELLOWSHIP OF THE AMERICAN HEART ASSOCIATION



Dr. Fadi Khasawneh, Associate Professor and Department Head of Pharmaceutical Sciences, has been elected Fellowship of the American Heart Association (FAHA) conferred by the Council on Arteriosclerosis, Thrombosis and Vascular Biology (ATVB), one of the world's most eminent organizations of cardiovascular and stroke professionals.

Fellowship recognizes and awards premium professional members for excellence, innovation and sustained contributions in the areas of scholarship, practice, education and volunteer service within the AHA/ASA. Fellowships are open to physicians, scientists, nurses and other healthcare professionals with a major and productive interest in cardiovascular diseases and stroke.



## **CHANCELLOR'S INNOVATION AWARD**

Texas A&M School of Pharmacy faculty member and inventor Dr. Mahua Choudhury was honored at the 2023 Patent and Chancellor's Innovation Awards April 14 in College Station. The awards luncheon was hosted by the Texas A&M University System Technology Commercialization Office, recognizing inventors who received patents in 2022.

Choudhury, Associate Professor, Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences, was issued a patent for her invention of a hydrogel condom, intended to prevent the spread of HIV, as well as her patent for a test to detect preeclampsia early in pregnancy using biomarkers.

Her research has been funded by several internal and external funding sources including Bill and Melinda Gates Grant Challenge Award, Discovery Foundation, National Science Foundation, Texas A&M Health Science Center Novel, High-impact Research Projects and many more.



## **ASCEND: RESEARCH LEADERSHIP FELLOWSHIP**

Dr. Sai Koka, Associate Professor of Pharmaceutical Sciences, has been selected as an awardee for the ASCEND: Research Leadership Fellowship (RLF) at Texas A&M University. The intent of the RLF is two-fold: (a) the development of a diverse community of next-generation research leaders and, (b) the submission of interdisciplinary grant proposals. Fellows participate in informational and experiential components, namely leadership-training workshops, fellowship-community events, and the submission of interdisciplinary proposals. Fellows are awarded \$75,000 for one year.



## **NATIONAL COMMITTEE ON CHALLENGES IN IBD**

Dr. Narendra Kumar, Associate Professor of Pharmaceutical Sciences has been appointed to the National Committee on "Challenges in Inflammatory Bowel Disease (IBD) and the Novel Technologies Workgroup," sponsored by the Crohn's & Colitis Foundation of America (CCFA) and led by the Meyerhoff Inflammatory Bowel Disease Center at the Johns Hopkins University. The committee includes IBD patients, clinical experts, venture capitalist, bioengineers, and CCFA-awardee IBD-experts from around the country. The group works to identify the areas of pressing unmet clinical need and set the funding priorities for new bioengineering technological advances in IBD.



## ALKEK EARLY CAREER INVESTIGATOR AWARD



Dr. Sara Rogers, Clinical Assistant Professor of Pharmacy Practice, has been selected as a recipient of a 2023 Alkek Early Career Investigator Fellowship Award.

The Texas A&M Health Institute of Biosciences and

Technology (IBT) received funding from the Albert & Margaret Alkek Foundation to establish the Alkek Early Career Investigator Fellows Program. It enables the institute to recruit talented young scientists and accelerate the competitiveness of Alkek Fellows for securing federal grant support for their research.

Dr. Rogers was praised for her efforts to develop infrastructure and necessary resources to enable healthcare providers to integrate pharmacogenomics insights into clinical practice.

The award will consist of \$50,000 for one year. The award is renewable for one additional year, pending submission of a progress report and adequate justification for additional funding.

## PROVOST TEACHING EXCELLENCE AWARD



In February, ten faculty members from across Texas A&M University were recognized for their provision of meaningful learning experiences, embrace of effective teaching approaches and prioritized valuation of stu-

dent-centered learning as Provost Academic Professional Track Faculty Teaching Excellence Award recipients.

This year, the new Provost Academic Professional Track Faculty Teaching Excellence Awardee from the School of Pharmacy is Dr. Delaney Ivy. Dr. Ivy currently serves as Clinical Assistant Professor of Pharmacy Practice and Academic Training Program Director in Temple, Texas.

Established in 2019, the Provost Academic Professional Track (APT) Faculty Teaching Excellence Award encourages, recognizes and rewards faculty recipients for exceptional teaching practices that create meaningful learning experiences for students. The award illustrates both the impact of an effective teaching approach and the value of student-centered learning. Thanks to the ongoing support of Faculty Affairs, recipients receive a \$5,000 cash stipend to support teaching innovations, teaching-related projects, and teaching activities that enhance student learning. Recipients will hold this award title for life.

# Khan Earns Two National Distinctions

Mansoor Khan, RPh, Ph.D., has been announced as the 2023 Distinguished Pharmaceutical Scientist Award recipient, the highest honor given by the American Association of Pharmaceutical Scientists (AAPS). He was also named the 2023 Michael J. Pikal NIPTE Distinguished Scholar, a prestigious award from National Institute for Pharmaceutical Technology and Education (NIPTE).

## AAPS Distinguished Pharmaceutical Scientist

The AAPS Distinguished Pharmaceutical Scientist Award is a lifetime achievement intended to recognize an individual who has made substantial contributions to the pharmaceutical sciences that have had a lasting impact. The focus of those achievements is research and advancement of science.

“Dr. Khan has made remarkable contributions to drug product development, quality research and regulatory approvals,” said Indra Reddy, PhD, Interim Chief Operating Officer of Texas A&M Health. “His expertise in pediatric dosage forms, 3D printing, complex generics and drug delivery is commendable. Texas A&M University and the School of Pharmacy take pride in his impressive trajectory of accomplishments. Undoubtedly, he is the most deserving recipient of the highest recognition bestowed by the AAPS.”

This is first time someone from Texas A&M University has earned this distinction. It is also the first time a pharmacy school professor in the state of Texas wins this award.

“I am pleasantly surprised and humbled to be among those who I always dreamed to emulate,” Khan said. “While I receive this award as a ‘cheerleader,’ I know deep down that there are many who contributed to this success. Our research on emerging technologies with 3D printing of medications, complex generics, and Quality by Design with Process Analytical Technologies required us to train our students and junior scientists, and to collaborate with engineers, medical and life scientists, chemists, biostatisticians and veterinarians. I feel fortunate to have availability of these collaborators who helped us achieve the award.”

Khan says he will continue to focus on training students and ramping up the efforts of junior scientists and collaborators.

“We also want our patients to benefit from our discoveries. Research shouldn’t be just about grants and publications. It should prepare the next generation of scientists that learn to work in a multidisciplinary environment and solve the real-world problems by providing the right medications in the right delivery systems at the right time,” Khan added.

Khan will be recognized during the 2023 PharmSci 360, Oct. 22-25, in Orlando, FL.

## 2023 Michael J. Pikal NIPTE Distinguished Scholar in Pharmaceutical Processing

The Michael J. Pikal NIPTE Distinguished Scholar in Pharmaceutical Processing Award is the highest recognition awarded by NIPTE on a biannual basis. Given for outstanding scientific achievements in pharmaceutical science and technology, Khan is being recognized for his high-impact pharmaceutical processing innovations.

“This highly prestigious award is given to only one scientist in two years after a thorough vetting by a committee comprised of national experts,” Khan said. “I am fortunate that Texas A&M has a very comprehensive infrastructure with abilities to collaborate with engineering, medicine, veter-



inary medicine and my colleagues in the pharmacy school to help develop 3D printed products for the pediatric population. I am excited that the NIH, FDA, pharma industry, Texas A&M Health and Driscoll Children's Hospital supported us and continue to support us for this award-winning research," he said.

The award will be presented to Khan at the 2023 National Institute for Pharmaceutical Technology and Education (NIPTE) Research Conference this fall.

Khan is Regents Professor, acting dean and the director of the formulations design and development core laboratory at the Texas A&M University Irma Lerma Rangel School of Pharmacy. His research interests include formulations design and development, biopharmaceutics and 3D printing.

"These prestigious recognitions are a shining testament to the exceptional talent that thrives within our academic community here at the School of Pharmacy and I am so proud to witness the remarkable impact our faculty continues to make in their respective fields," Reddy said.

He is recognized for his wide-ranging and international impact on the pharmaceutical sciences. His work is broad, spanning education, research and development and other areas. He is also recognized for working closely with regulatory authorities.

Khan is a Fellow of the AAPS and also received the 2022 International Pharmaceutical Excipient Council's highest recognition, the Ralph Shangraw Memorial Award. Most recently he was voted the 2023 Graduate Faculty of the Year by doctoral students at the School of Pharmacy.

# Alumni Class Notes

## **Koren Dunn '22**

Is an Academic Fellow of 2023-2024 at the University of Houston College of Pharmacy.



## **Kevin Ferrall '16**

Accepted Pharmacist in Charge Position for Portland, TX in July 2023.

## **Sheridan Pilcher '22**

Accepted compounding pharmacist position in Montana.

## **Elizabeth Nkwocha '16**

Recently promoted to supervisor clinical pharmacist for CVS Health Clinical Services Operations.

## **Brady McNulty '14**

Graduated with a BS and MS in Cybersecurity from Western Governors University and now works as a cybersecurity engineer and internal threat analyst for CVS Health.

## RECENT CLASS STATS *class of 2022*



# 91%

GRADS LICENSED TO  
PRACTICE PHARMACY IN U.S.

# 87%

OF GRADS LICENSED TO  
PRACTICE IN TEXAS



# 87%

GRADS EMPLOYED  
IN TEXAS OR IN A RESIDENCY  
PROGRAM

# 38%

PRACTICING PHARMACY IN  
SOUTH TEXAS

## Outstanding Early Career Alumni Award:

*Dr. Jessica T. Babic*

An Aggie Pharmacist from the Class of 2013, she completed her PGY-1 residency at Harris Health System, followed by a two-year Infectious Diseases Pharmacotherapy Fellowship with CHI St. Luke's Health Baylor St. Luke's Medical Center and the University of Houston in Houston, Texas.

After her infectious Diseases fellowship graduation, she joined the clinical pharmacy team at Memorial Hermann Southeast as an Infectious Diseases Clinical Pharmacist. She spent two years starting up their microbial stewardship program and precepting students from Texas A&M as well as residents from other universities.

In 2021, she took the initiative to start up a PGY2 Infectious Diseases Pharmacy Residency Program at Memorial Hermann Texas Medical Center and currently serves as the residency program director.



*Dr. Jessica Babic '13 receives her award from Dr. Indra Reddy at the School's annual award banquet hosted in College Station, Texas.*

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TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY  
Irma Lerma Rangel  
School of Pharmacy



The Irma Lerma Rangel School of Pharmacy is committed to the educational pursuit and success of each student and support from alumni and friends of the institution is imperative in this promise.

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