Q: You have been a part of our College of Pharmacy family for just over a year now. What are some of your thoughts about what makes our college special?
Well, much like directions on a compass, there are really four aspects to our college that we focus on: we’re student-centered in everything we do; we are recognized as leaders in interprofessional education; we offer unparalleled research opportunities; and we provide truly unique, immersive, overseas learning experiences.

Q: What is one thing that you have learned about us as a college?
That the students really feel like they are part of our pharmacy family. I was thrilled to find out that when our students leave here, they are not just well prepared to practice pharmacy but feel that they were well taken care of during their time here by a stellar faculty body and dedicated professional staff.

Q: Work/life balance is so important; tell us what you like to do in your spare time.
I would like to play golf more; my golf game is terrible! I love to spend time with my grandchildren, and I am a voracious reader. I just had the opportunity to attend a lecture by the author Doris Kearns Goodwin at a recent pharmacy conference and just finished her book, Leadership in Turbulent Times, which focuses on presidents Theodore Roosevelt, Abraham Lincoln, Lyndon Johnson, and Franklin Roosevelt, and how they led in challenging times.

Q: What is on the horizon for pharmacy education that are you most excited about, and how will that affect our college?
Collaboration will continue to grow among health care providers, and pharmacists will have more impact on patient care than ever. We, as a college and a university, are really a step ahead of this trend and are already committed to graduating students within this changing health care practice model.
NEW HIRES

Clay Bolduc, Pharm.D. ’19
Assistant Clinical Professor, Pharmacy Practice
Kimberly Geraghty, Pharm.D.
Academic and Student Services Coordinator
Stephanie Nichols, Pharm.D., BCPS, BCPP, FCCP
Associate Professor, Pharmacy Practice

Katie Sawicki, Pharm.D. ’16
Assistant Clinical Professor, Pharmacy Practice
Sydney Springer, Pharm.D., BCPS, BCPP
Assistant Professor, Pharmacy Practice

PROMOTIONS

Renee Dana, B.A.
Academic and Student Services Coordinator
Emily Dornblaser, Pharm.D., M.S. ’15, BCPS
Assistant Dean for Interprofessional Education
Ronald Hills, Jr., B.S., Ph.D.
Graduate Program Coordinator

Kenneth McCall, B.S.Pharm., Pharm.D., BCPP, FAPhA
Professor
Daniel Mickool, B.S., M.S. ’12, Ed.D. ’17
Chair, Department of Social and Administrative Pharmacy

Leslie Ochs, B.S.Pharm., Ph.D., M.S.P.H.
Professor
Devon Sherwood, Pharm.D., BCPP
Associate Professor

TIMELINE 2018–2019

08/01/18
Former UConn School of Pharmacy Dean, Robert McCarthy, new Dean of UNE College of Pharmacy

10/16/18
Flu Shot Clinic in Conjunction with Shaw’s Oco Pharmacy

10/27/18
APhA-ASP/Walgreens Drug Take Back Day

11/12/18
Sanford School Department Health Screening with Students and Alums

New Department of Social and Administrative Pharmacy Created

01/01/19
Articulation Agreement with Saint Joseph’s College

“Hire a Vet” Veterans Open House

02/21/19
Articulation Agreement with University of Southern Maine

03/04/19
For NACDS RxIMPACT Day, Students Advocate for Pharmacy Services at U.S. Capitol

04/06/19
Know Your Medication Community Education Event

05/17/19
Class of 2019 Hooding Ceremony and Graduation
Katalin Gosling (COP ’22) has been selected as the winner for her presentation at the 2019 BioME Student Showcase, a life science research competition for high school and college students sponsored by the Bioscience Association of Maine. Gosling’s presentation explored an alternate route for delivering monoclonal antibodies (mAbs) to the central nervous system (CNS).

CNS disorders are the world’s leading cause of disability. For the most effective therapeutic outcomes, it is required that the drugs distribute within the CNS. In recent years, mAbs have gained increasing success against many tumors. However, there is a very low success rate for CNS therapeutics because of the inability of the drugs to cross the blood-brain barrier (BBB).

During her presentation, Gosling discussed a way because of the inability of the drugs to cross the blood-brain barrier (BBB). There is a very low success rate for CNS therapeutics due to the inability of the drugs to distribute within the CNS. In recent years, mAbs have gained increasing success against many tumors. However, there is a very low success rate for CNS therapeutics because of the inability of the drugs to cross the blood-brain barrier (BBB).

The judges were impressed with Gosling’s presentation style and her confidence in answering the questions. In addition to being selected for first place in the competition, Gosling was awarded $2,000.
The United States Patent and Trademark Office has issued a patent to Srinidi Mohan, Ph.D., associate professor in the College of Pharmacy, for his methods and diagnostics for cancer detection and treatment monitoring.

Mohan received the patent for his research, which uses a marker in the blood to detect the presence of highly aggressive tumors and to help track cancer growth.

Mohan found that the marker Nω-hydroxy-L-Arginine (NOHA) was both a sensitive and reliable indicator for estrogen receptor-negative (ER–) tumors, the most aggressive types of breast cancer.

“As committed as we are to excellence in teaching in both the classroom and practice site, we are equally dedicated to the generation of new knowledge from the work of our faculty and students,” commented Robert McCarthy, dean of the College of Pharmacy. “Srinidi Mohan is an exceptional teacher and scholar, and we are proud of this seminal accomplishment.”

According to the American Breast Cancer Foundation, estrogen-negative breast cancer is diagnosed in approximately 60,000 individuals each year in the United States, with young women and African Americans most at risk. As an aggressive tumor, estrogen-negative breast cancer provides no noticeable symptoms prior to tumor cyst development and has no readily available effective targeted therapy. Both early and advanced stage estrogen-negative breast tumors are treated predominantly by chemotherapy.

Currently, no reliable blood-based marker exists for estrogen-negative breast tumor prognosis and/or disease monitoring.

“The cancer can develop between screenings,” Mohan explained. “This method can help monitor disease progression, measure treatment outcomes, and help alleviate anxiety in patients by providing a cost-effective and less-invasive alternative to having monthly check-ups.”

Apart from poor prognosis and modest treatment options, patients with such aggressive breast cancer face twice the risk of mortality as compared to other tumor subtypes.

Karen Houseknecht, Ph.D., associate provost for Research and Scholarship, notes that research conducted at the University of New England is focused on solving real world problems facing patients and our communities.

“Identification of a novel biomarker that can be used for early detection of some of the most aggressive forms of breast cancer may prove to be a huge benefit in the early diagnosis and treatment of breast cancer,” she said. “We are proud to support this important, patient-centered work.”

As principal investigator, Mohan conducted the research with the support of funding from the UNE Office of Research and Scholarship, College of Pharmacy Dean’s Office, and the Maine Technology Institute (MTI), which provided funding in the form of tech start and seed grants. Mohan also received a $375,000 funding award from the Maine Cancer Foundation to advance the development of his early detection and disease monitoring method.

“We are proud to play a role in the development of the screening tool and eager to see it disseminated widely so that women and their providers can detect this potentially lethal form of breast cancer early enough to stop it in its tracks,” said Tara Hill, former executive director of Maine Cancer Foundation.

Further development of this novel technology is being conducted in collaboration with physicians and researchers at the Maine Medical Center Research Institute.
UNIVERSITY OF GRANADA STUDENT SPENDS SEMESTER AT UNE

The UNE College of Pharmacy has continued to strengthen its partnership with the University of Granada by welcoming student Ursula Mateos for her last semester of pharmacy school.

“I would like to send my sincere thanks for all the support you have extended to me during my time at UNE. Spending this semester here has been very enjoyable, and I have learned and grown a lot. It was such an incredible experience that I will never forget.”

GRANADA 2019

This Advanced Pharmacy Practice Experience (APPE) provides a Spanish language and cultural immersion experience as well as two courses at the University of Granada. Through lectures and experiential learning, students examine the Spanish healthcare system within the European and U.S. contexts and reflect upon the changing healthcare landscape in the U.S. and abroad.

GHANA 2019

The Cross Cultural Health Immersion to Ghana, Africa, integrates Western health practices with traditional medicine that is integral in providing culturally competent health care to all groups.

Shelby Close (COP, ’20) and Negeri Clark (COP, ’20), took responsibility for setting up the clinic every day and breaking it down, and they counseled hundreds of patients on their medications. They were the glue keeping the pharmacy portion of the clinic together.

RYAN WARREN, PHARM.D. ’15, THAILAND PRECEPTOR

I had the pleasure of precepting students from the Class of 2019 for their Thailand elective APPE in November 2018. Four years earlier, I was in their shoes, and I was on this APPE as a student; this was a full-circle experience.

For my half of the rotation, we went to multiple regional hospitals and clinics, attended university lectures, visited the National Institute of Health, learned about emergency preparedness for pandemics, toured a medication manufacturing facility, studied vaccine development, assisted with medication therapy management sessions, and learned about consumer protection activities. One of the highlights that stood out to me was visiting the medication manufacturing facility. The manufacturing facility focused on the production of large-scale herbal preparations as well as the research and clinical trials associated with these products. We also visited multiple temples and floating shopping markets, visited an elephant hospital, drove to the highest peak in Thailand, did a cave excursion, and we were there for the beginning of the Floating Lantern Festival.

As a student on this elective APPE, I had such a positive learning experience that I jumped at the opportunity to go back as a preceptor.

It is very rewarding to be fully immersed in another country’s healthcare system and be able to learn about medicine and disease states that are unfamiliar to me.

I’m thankful to the College of Pharmacy for supporting alumni to attend and precept the international Thailand elective APPE.

GUVENCH RESEARCH LAB WELCOMES INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

Mariem Ghoula completed her B.S. in biochemistry at Université Paris Diderot. Sarah Maskri completed her B.S. in chemistry at the University of Montpellier. Both students are currently enrolled in the In Silico Drug Design master’s degree program at Université Paris Diderot.

At UNE, Ghoula worked on computer simulations of proteoglycans (PGs) along with Elizabeth Whitmore, a current Ph.D. candidate studying under Olgun Guvench, M.D., Ph.D., associate professor and chair of Pharmaceutical Sciences.

Maskri contributed to a collaborative drug discovery project with Cassia Mizuno, Ph.D., associate professor in the College of Pharmacy, and Guvench, in which they modified green-tea extracts into anti-cancer molecules.
HART VOLUNTEERS

Many people consider their pets to be part of the family and will do whatever it takes to make sure they are well. That sentiment is helping to fuel the growing field of veterinary pharmacy.

Evan Carrell, Marlee Smith, and Emily Poirer, Pharm.D. candidates in the Class of 2022, are learning about veterinary pharmacy firsthand by volunteering at the HART Animal Shelter in Cumberland, an all-volunteer operation that houses up to 100 cats at a time. The students are getting great hands-on experience while giving back to their community. They typically spend a few hours, once a week, making their rounds at the shelter. They are taking what they learn in the classroom and applying it at HART.

Carrell commented, “This is broadening our minds as far as what paths can we go down in the future.”

The students are learning about the different kinds of medications that animals receive and the reactions cats have to them.

DEMPSEY CENTER

Our Class of 2021 raised $10,000 for the Dempsey Center through their annual charity gala, the largest donation ever given to a charitable organization from a student organization on UNE’s Portland Campus. Students had the chance to meet Patrick Dempsey and present the donation in person at the Dempsey Center.

The Dempsey Center provides support for people who have battled and survived cancer. Founded by actor Patrick Dempsey, native of Lewiston, Maine, the center offers services such as counseling, support groups for patients and their families, and therapies to complement medical treatments, such as massage and acupuncture.

Each year, students in their second year host a gala for the charity of their choice. They chose the Dempsey Center as their beneficiary this year after participating in and fundraising for the Dempsey Challenge, the center’s annual run, walk, and cycling fundraiser.

RURAL HEALTH OUTREACH

Our pharmacy students are learning and providing services through the rural health immersion program. Pictured here are Hillary Mishcon, Danielle Simeone, and Alyssa White, Pharm.D. candidates in the Class of 2021. They partnered with the University of New England College of Osteopathic Medicine to provide health screenings and participate in community service activities in Franklin County, Maine. In addition to health screenings, the students participated in a Stop the Bleed training at a lumber company and made dinners at a local homeless shelter.

The rural health care immersion is offered through UNE’s Care of Underserved Pathways (CUP) Area Health Education Center (AHEC) Scholars program.

“The rural health immersion has been one of the most rewarding experiences of my time in pharmacy school,” said Mishcon. “It was a great opportunity to get some hands-on experience utilizing the skills learned in the classroom as well as build relationships with students from other health care programs.”

SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

Maine Society of Health-Systems Pharmacists

Drew Cloutier, Pharm.D. ’19; Lindsey Parmelee Pharm.D. ’19; and Kyle Williams (COP, ’20) have been awarded scholarships from the Maine Society of Health-Systems Pharmacists (MSHP), the largest organization in Maine for clinical pharmacists.

Eighty-two students applied for the five scholarships that were awarded.

Parmelee was also a recipient of the American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy (AACP) Walmart Scholars Program, along with her mentor Gurkishan S. Chadha, M.Sc., Ph.D., assistant clinical professor in the Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences.

Designed to further strengthen the skills of top pharmacy students, this competitive program was developed specifically for students planning to pursue a career in academic pharmacy.

Parmelee was matched with Portsmouth Regional Hospital’s post-graduate residency program in New Hampshire, where she will earn her teaching certificate.

National Community Pharmacists Association

Travis Frost, Pharm.D. ’19, was awarded a scholarship by the National Community Pharmacists Association (NCPA).

Frost received the Partners in Pharmacy Scholarship at the NCPA annual meeting in Boston, Massachusetts, in October 2018.

Frost has volunteered for numerous organizations, including Partners for World Health and Maine Medical Center Children’s Hospital. He also worked with families of children who are battling serious illnesses at the Ronald McDonald House and with Alzheimer’s patients living at Hospice House.

Frost’s mentor, Dan Mickool, R.Ph., M.S., Ed.D., director, Continuing Education, College of Pharmacy, calls Frost an outstanding student.

Equally important, Travis maintains a healthy work-life balance and is well regarded among his peers, all while fostering leadership and service in an exemplary manner,” Mickool said.
NEW TRACKS OF STUDY

PHARMACEUTICAL SCIENCES TRACK OFFERED TO PHARM.D. STUDENTS

Tracks help students acquire new sets of specialized skills along with a Pharm.D. degree and allow students to customize their learning experience to their own particular interests.

"It helps them get really excited about their course of study," said Srinidi Mohan, Ph.D., track coordinator. "It gives them a broader perspective of the link between pharmaceutical sciences and pharmacy."

Students will earn a certificate if they successfully complete two elective courses offered by the department and receive a chair-approved letter of support (LOS) written by a department faculty member.

Examples of LOSs that would be deemed approvable include, but are not limited to, (1) a detailed description of a research project outside the scope of the two elective courses and under the guidance of department faculty and (2) a detailed description of substantial contributions to provide supplemental instruction teaching for a core course taught by department faculty.

"The track takes students above and beyond their basic course work," Mohan explained. "It gives them greater knowledge and experience, which they can put to use in whatever career path they choose. As advisors, department faculty can help them as mentors."

WELLNESS AND INTEGRATIVE MEDICINE TRACK

The Wellness and Integrative Medicine track seeks to give pharmacy graduates advanced training and knowledge in evidence-based treatments that incorporate the whole patient’s wellbeing into the plan of treatment.

"Graduates from this track are poised to answer questions and make recommendations about evidence-based treatments, which extend beyond traditional medication therapies," stated Sarah Vincent, Pharm.D., track coordinator. "Botanicals, supplements, nutrition, stress management, and lifestyle choices all influence health and wellness, and this track is specially designed for emerging pharmacists to be leaders of integrated health care."

This track provides pharmacy graduates with skills and knowledge in an emerging field of pharmacy within community and ambulatory care practice sites. Graduates will be prepared to coach patients on lifestyle modifications and proper utilization of nutraceutical products available within the community pharmacy setting.

Students within this track will take three elective courses on this topic and complete an Advanced Pharmacy Practice Experience (APPE) in their fourth year with a focus on Wellness and Integrative Medicine.
The 2018-2019 school year was momentous for the College of Pharmacy — Pharmacy Student Association (CoP-PSA). CoP-PSA acts as a governing body to students at the College of Pharmacy. We gather the opinions, ideas, and concerns of all students and student organizations to help the College of Pharmacy continue to evolve.

Our main goal this year was to work on standardizing CoP-PSA involvement within the College.

For the first time this year, we mounted a hallway whiteboard in the college to provide a visual overview of all student events happening throughout the semester.

Also, PSA began developing a handbook on class elections. We are now responsible for organizing and running each class election for the class advisor.

In addition, we also took on the assignment of recruiting students and promoting the first ever UNE-CoP “Know Your Medication Event.” CoP-PSA will continue to play a valuable role in the College of Pharmacy as a bridge between students, student organizations, and the University.

Kelly Banks, B.S., (COP , ’20)
President, Pharmacy Student Association (2018-2019)
University of New England

Kelly Banks PSA President

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President, Pharmacy Student Association (2018-2019)
University of New England

SNAPSHOTS OF COLLEGE LIFE

The College of Pharmacy has upped their Social Media game this year on Instagram, including takeovers by students.

Kelly Banks PSA President

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University of New England
WHY I GIVE
ANGIE FORBES, PHARM.D. ’15

Originally from Newport, Vermont, Dr. Angie Forbes completed the undergraduate pre-pharmacy program in 2013, doctorate of pharmacy in 2015, and is currently a clinical staff pharmacist in Lebanon, New Hampshire.

Opportunities for involvement and leadership allowed her to develop skills beyond the academic program that contributed to her professional growth. “I was a member of a few different organizations, but being a part of the Lambda Kappa Sigma Alpha Psi charter class was one of my favorite memberships.

“UNE as a whole really promoted leadership and involvement, which shaped who I was as a student and gave me many skills I carry with me into my career,” reflected Forbes.

These opportunities inspired Forbes to give back. Her service begins in her workplace where she precepts students and PGY-1 residents. “Helping to mold student and resident practice and see growth during rotations is just so cool. My UNE preceptors made a positive impact on me, and I hope to emulate that type of mentorship.”

Staying connected with the place where she earned her degree is important to Forbes. She participates in the annual White Coat sponsorship program, connecting donors with students through encouraging words and congratulations at the ceremony. “Sponsoring a coat allows me to participate from afar and is a way to stay connected to a ceremony that I remember so dearly,” she said. Gifts to the college do not have to be a lot; every little bit helps, and the connection with UNE lasts forever.”

The University of New England College of Pharmacy is grateful for and proud to recognize the many alumni and friends who support students with their gifts to UNE.

Includes gifts received June 1, 2018 - May 31, 2019

Corey Christie, Pharm.D. ’16
Angie M. Forbes, Pharm.D. ’15
Terri Foster, Pharm.D. ’13
Kayla A. Harris, Pharm.D. ’18
Amanda Hude, Pharm.D. ’16
Eric M. Kany, Pharm.D. ’17

College of Pharmacy Alumni

Charles Larkin, Pharm.D. ’16
Michael McMahon, Pharm.D. ’18
Rachel Mayer Naida, Pharm.D. ’13
Tyler Roux, Pharm.D. ’18
Danielle M. Thiele, Pharm.D. ’18
Marcus Zavala, Pharm.D. ’17

College of Pharmacy Friends

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Jonathan Blake
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Dr. Douglas H. and Dorothy B. Kay Endowed Scholarship
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