

School of PHARMACY

Dean's Report 2018

siue.edu/pharmacy



SOUTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY
EDWARDSVILLE
SCHOOL OF PHARMACY

FROM THE DEANS

As I transition to other roles at SIUE, I would like to sincerely thank all our stakeholders (students, faculty, staff, alumni, the Pharmacy Advisory Board, and the community) for helping in the tremendous success of the School of Pharmacy.

Our achievements have been nothing short of amazing. These accomplishments have only been made possible because of the quality of the people that make up the School's family.

I am thankful for the sustained contributions and support of the School family during my tenure as your dean. I look forward to being part of this family as we propel our school to even greater heights.

To conclude and in keeping with my penchant for quotes, let us remember this African proverb as we continue our forward progress. "If you want to go fast, go alone. If you want to go far, go together."

Best regards,



Gireesh V. Gupchup, PhD, FAPhA



I am excited for the opportunity to serve as the interim dean for the SIUE School of Pharmacy for the upcoming year. I have been a member of the School since 2004, having participated in its inception and growth. In May, we celebrated the graduation of our first Master of Science in Pharmaceutical Sciences class and our 10th Doctor of Pharmacy class.

I begin the new academic year fortunate to build upon the many successes of my predecessor, Dr. Gireesh Gupchup, who fostered us through program expansion and maturation while guiding us through some tough financial times. Thanks to his leadership and the efforts of very talented faculty and staff members, the school will be launching a new curriculum in fall 2018, finalizing a new strategic plan, advancing global and corporate partnerships for both students and faculty, and embracing the strategic growth of the graduate program.

I am eager to continue this momentum in accordance with the School of Pharmacy's vision of being a national model for exceptional pharmacy education, patient-centered care and innovative research.

Respectfully,



Mark S. Luer, PharmD, FCCP
Interim Dean



ABOUT SIUE

SIUE awards degrees in undergraduate, graduate and doctoral programs encompassing the arts, sciences, nursing, education, health, human behavior, business and engineering. The Schools of Dental Medicine and Pharmacy award doctor's first-professional degrees in dental medicine (DMD) and pharmacy (PharmD). Doctoral programs are available in nursing practice and educational leadership. Cooperative PhD programs in history, engineering science, environmental resources and policy, and computer engineering are offered with SIU Carbondale.

ABOUT THE SCHOOL OF PHARMACY

The SIUE School of Pharmacy offers students an interprofessional, integrated and team-based learning approach to pharmacy practice and pharmaceutical science education. Students gain invaluable experience in real-world settings through the School's experiential approach to education—working side-by-side with faculty members and preceptors who have gained national recognition for industry experience, research innovations and educational leadership.



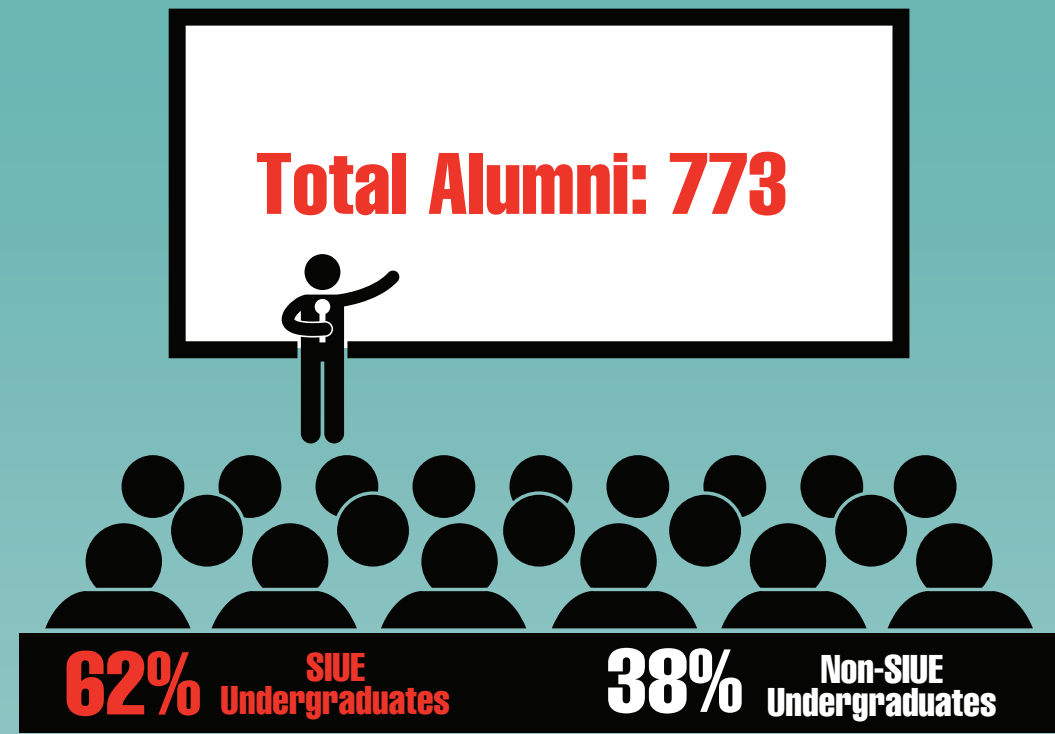
SCHOOL OF PHARMACY GOALS

- Advance innovative education, service and scholarship programs
- Promote faculty and staff development and support
- Foster prospective pharmacy students
- Expand and support professional growth of students and alumni
- Cultivate diversity and inclusiveness
- Identify, develop and sustain external relations and financial support

SCHOOL OF PHARMACY MISSION

The SIUE School of Pharmacy is an interdisciplinary educational community dedicated to the preparation of pharmacy professionals, scholars and leaders to improve the health and well-being of the region and beyond.

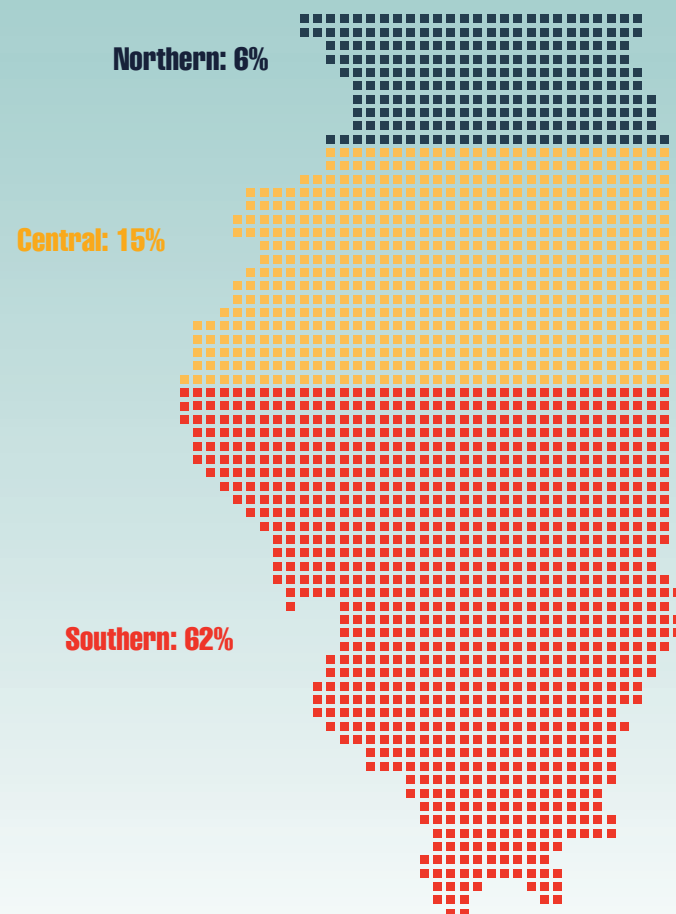




Graduation Rate:
91% on-time
96% overall

Residence

83% of students are Illinois residents
17% of students are out-of-state residents



95.7% NAPLEX pass rate for first-time test-takers (2009-2017 average)

93.4% Illinois MPJE pass rates for first-time test-takers (2009-2017 average)

3.62 Matriculation Average Cumulative GPA (Class of 2022)

60.3 Average PCAT (Class of 2022)

BEST WISHES AND RETIREMENTS



Erin (Timpe) Behnen, Pharm D, BCPS, Professor, Department of Pharmacy Practice
 A staple of the School of Pharmacy faculty since 2005, Behnen accepted a position as associate dean for academic affairs and assessment at Belmont University College of Pharmacy in Nashville, Tenn. During her time at SIUE, she spearheaded the development of the Drug Information and Wellness Center. Her clinical interests include drug information and health education of patients with chronic diseases, specifically hypertension, cardiovascular risk, diabetes and osteoporosis.



Gireesh Gupchup, PhD, FAPhA, Dean and Professor, Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences
 After over seven years as dean of the School of Pharmacy, Gupchup stepped down from his position in June. A driving force behind the School's rise to regional, national and international prestige, Gupchup was selected for the American Pharmacists Association Academy of Student Pharmacists' Outstanding Dean Award in 2017. He will continue to serve SIUE as the director of university-community initiatives and professor in the Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences.



Connie Stamper-Carr, Director of Student Services
 July 31 marked the end of Stamper-Carr's career at SIUE and a new journey as a retiree. She dedicated her career to serving students along the paths of their educational journey at SIUE. With an unmatched enthusiasm and willingness to help, students frequently referred to her as their mentor, counselor, guiding hand, teacher, mother, shoulder to cry on, friend, and the heart and soul of the School of Pharmacy. The annual "Connie Stamper-Carr Endowed PharmD Scholarship" was established to honor her passion for the growth and development of student pharmacists.



Cindy Wuller, Capstone Coordinator and Clinical Professor, Department of Pharmacy Practice
 After over 9 years at the School of Pharmacy and an astounding career as a hospital pharmacist and educator, Wuller retired on December 31. Prior to joining the SIUE faculty, she served as an associate professor, coordinator of the pharmaceutical care laboratory, and director of experiential education and continuing education at the St. Louis College of Pharmacy. Throughout her career, her research interests included self-care initiatives, sterile pharmaceutical compounding and the scholarship of teaching and learning.

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Hannah Seeger, Student, SIUE School of Pharmacy

Travis Willeford, PharmD '09, Staff Pharmacist, CVS Caremark Corporation, Springfield, Ill.

Harry Zollars, PharmD '13, Pharmacy Manager, Sullivan Drugs, Staunton, Ill.



Students Gain Global Experience in Haiti

In February, School of Pharmacy fourth-year students Danica Balbach and Taylor Kirby completed the first Population Health Advanced Practice Pharmacy Experience in Haiti. The students spent one week in Jacmel, a port town on the south coast of Haiti, where they assisted a pharmacist, a nurse practitioner, nurses and other volunteers to provide primary care and pharmacy services.

The School partnered with Hands Helping Haiti (HHH), a not-for-profit organization that helped establish a locally-run school outside the city of Jacmel. Twice a year they host a community medical clinic in the school.

Through local translators, the students interviewed patients, recommended appropriate treatment and counseled them on their

medications. They saw 345 patients in three and half days in clinic.

“I was most excited for the opportunity to work with translators,” Balbach said. “It adds another level of difficulty to the patient interview, but we all worked together to make sure everyone received the care they needed.”

With limited supplies, lab tests and medication options, the students had to be resourceful. They treated many people affected by stomach worms and scabies, as well as diseases that are common in the United States, including high blood pressure, diabetes and allergies.

“**I’m so proud of what we were able to accomplish in our short time in clinic, the patients we were able to see, and the experience I was able to gain.**”

Taylor Kirby, PharmD '18

Clinical Training Center Prepares Students for Real-World Scenarios

Students in the School of Pharmacy can now utilize a new facility that will assist them in refining their verbal, written and clinical skills in order to become highly educated healthcare professionals. An existing office suite was renovated to create the Clinical Training Center (CTC).

“The CTC is a place for students to practice skills learned in their didactic courses and integrate the material from across all disciplines,” said Jingyang Fan, PharmD, assistant dean of academic affairs and clinical associate professor of pharmacy practice.

The CTC consists of five encounter rooms, each of which is equipped with a computer, phone and camera. Students can use the computer to access electronic health records and drug information, and write notes for documentation of care. Students can also interact with patients or other healthcare providers over the phone, in person or via video conference in these encounter rooms. They may self-evaluate their performances by viewing their video playback, as well as provide feedback to their peers.

“Our faculty design the lab sessions, provide examples for the skill development, and train standardized patients,” said Fan.

Additionally, faculty are able to review the recordings from skills-based exams and provide feedback to students on their performance. The rooms may also be used for interprofessional activities with other health professional students.



Graduates Among First from New Master's Program

With internationally recognized faculty ensuring overall quality, the School of Pharmacy’s research program has advanced rapidly with numerous federal grants, and infrastructure additions and improvements. The School’s new master’s in pharmaceutical sciences capitalizes on that expertise and infrastructure to offer students an excellent range of career options.

Those opportunities greatly appealed to Stephen Kukielski and Deniz Demirer, who were among the first graduating cohort. For Demirer, the new program was exactly what she was seeking to return to the pharmaceutical industry.

“I have a degree in pharmacy from Turkey, and I practiced there for three years before coming to the United States,” Demirer said. “When I came to Edwardsville 10 years ago, I wanted to pursue a master’s degree in pharmacy, but there were no programs in the area. I was excited for SIUE to begin offering one.”

SIUE is the only school in Illinois and the metro St. Louis area to offer a master’s in pharmaceutical sciences.

Kukielski knew he wanted to pursue a master’s and work in the pharmaceutical industry after earning his bachelor’s degree in chemistry from SIUE in 2016. The School’s new program appealed to him, particularly after learning more about research opportunities from Bill Neumann, PhD, graduate program director and associate professor of pharmaceutical sciences.

“I had a sense of ownership and conducted impactful research that often times only PhD candidates are involved in,” Kukielski said. “Working on Alzheimer’s research with Dr. Neumann was the highlight of my master’s career.”

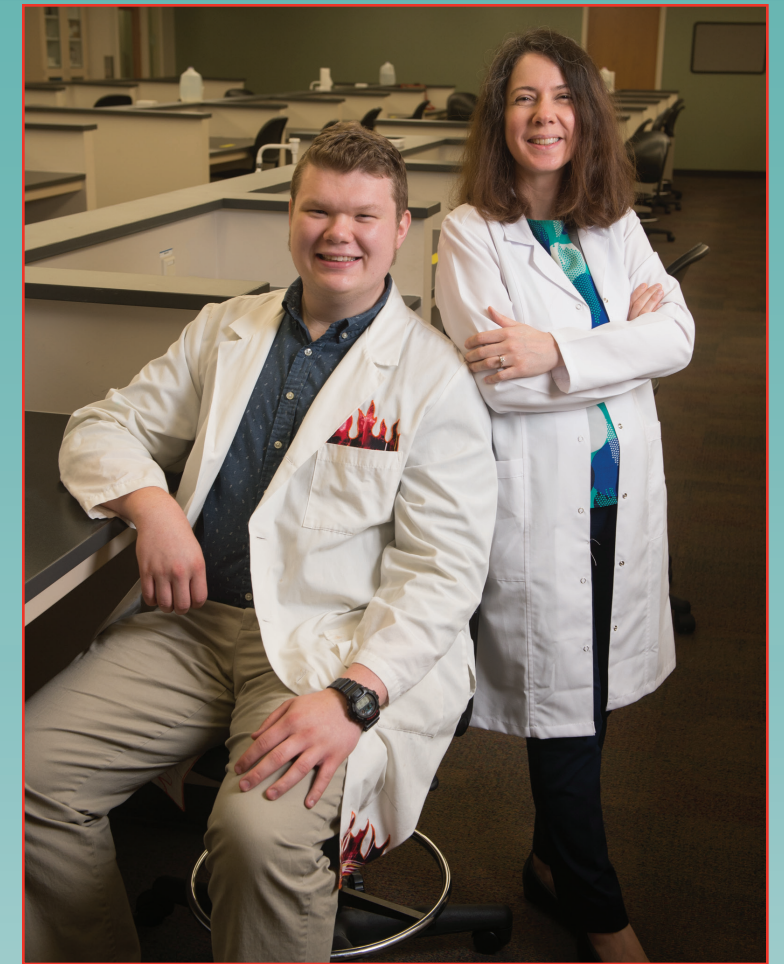
Neumann is part of a research team, led by Ken Witt, PhD, professor of pharmaceutical sciences, focused on developing a drug for the treatment of Alzheimer’s. The project is funded by a \$2.65 million RO1 grant from the National Institute of Aging, a division of the National Institutes of Health.

Kukielski and Demirer credit the faculty for providing them the experiences and tools necessary to pursue careers in research. Kukielski graduated in May with a concentration in medicinal chemistry. He accepted a research analyst position at Jost Chemical, a St. Louis-based manufacturer of specialty chemicals for nutritional, pharmaceutical/biotech and specialty markets.

Demirer earned a master’s with a concentration in pharmacology in August. She plans to stay in the area and put her knowledge and skills to work in an industrial pharmaceutical lab.

“**By studying the pharmaceutical sciences, students concentrate on their chosen discipline in the laboratory, and receive exposure to a number of other important areas in both the classroom and by participation in research.**”

**Bill Neumann, PhD,
Graduate Program Director and Associate Professor, Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences**





Herndon Honored by American Pain Society

Though pain and suffering are part of life, Chris Herndon, PharmD, professor of pharmacy practice, has dedicated his career to easing the afflictions of others. That is one reason why the American Pain Society (APS) awarded the 2018 Distinguished Service Award to him.

“It was from my mentor, Walter Forman, a pioneer in the modern palliative care movement, that I learned the importance of relieving suffering as being our most vital job in addressing pain and symptoms, regardless of the setting in which you encounter the patient,” Herndon said.

“Dr. Herndon has a long and remarkable track record in the area of pain management work,” said Gireesh Gupchup, PhD, former dean of the School of Pharmacy. “He is committed and tireless in his efforts to help alleviate the pain of others and in teaching students how to be caring, knowledgeable and adept in the field of pain management.”

Herndon’s career includes practices in outpatient oncology, hospice, outpatient palliative care, industry, academia, and now in a chronic non-cancer pain service within a primary care residency program.

“A philosophy of care has remained my highest priority,” he said.

Herndon is also the principal investigator for the National Institutes of Health Center of Excellence in Pain Education at SIUE. He has led the effort to revise the APS’ *Principles of Analgesic Use* book. He serves on the board of directors for the Midwest Pain Society, the Clinical Practice Guidelines Committee for the American Pain Society, the Section Advisory Group on Pain and Palliative Care for the American Society of Health-System Pharmacists, among others.

APS is a multidisciplinary community that brings together a diverse group of scientists, clinicians, and other professionals to increase the knowledge of pain and transform public policy and clinical practice to reduce pain-related suffering. Each year, APS rewards excellence in the field of pain management, and promotes pain research by presenting awards and grants to people making a difference in pain medicine.



“I see this award as a great responsibility to continue to help those who are hurting and to teach students how to do the same.”

Chris Herndon, PharmD, Professor, Department of Pharmacy Practice

Illinois Pharmacists Association Honors School of Pharmacy Faculty and Alumni

School of Pharmacy faculty and alumni received multiple accolades during the 2017 Illinois Pharmacists Association (IPhA) conference in St. Louis.

- Educator of the Year: Miranda Wilhelm, PharmD, clinical associate professor of pharmacy practice
- Distinguished Young Pharmacist: Harry Zollars, PharmD ’13
- Cardinal Health Generation Rx Champions Award: Jessica Kerr, PharmD, assistant chair and professor of pharmacy practice

Kerr’s award recognized her outstanding commitment to raising awareness of the dangers of prescription drug misuse. She also was sworn in as president of the IPhA. “We have had quite a bit of legislation this year,” Kerr said. “The biggest in terms of time and effort was HB3479, trying to amend the public aid code to establish reasonable reimbursement for pharmacy providers, and we have been quite successful in moving that forward.”

Kerr has been diligent in selecting committee members this year, and in particular, activating the public relations committee to help educate the populace on pharmacy’s expanding role in healthcare.

The Illinois Pharmacists Association (IPhA) is dedicated to enhancing the professional competency of pharmacists, advancing the standards of pharmacy practice, improving pharmacists’ effectiveness in assuring rational drug use in society, and leading in the resolution of public policy issues affecting pharmacists.



Vogler Receives ICHP President’s Award

Carrie Vogler, PharmD, clinical associate professor of pharmacy practice, was honored with the Illinois Council of Health-System Pharmacists (ICHP) President’s Award.

The award recognizes an ICHP member for contributions to the council that are considered above and beyond the normal for a volunteer member.

“I want all pharmacists and pharmacy technicians to strive to work at the top of their clinical abilities to elevate the patient care that is provided.” Vogler said. “Volunteering for ICHP has allowed me to better understand what pharmacists and technicians need in our state, and by helping them through education and networking, patient care improves.”

Vogler was acknowledged for her initiative to launch a “Pharmacy Cares” campaign after recognizing that the public is not always aware of what health system pharmacists and technicians do to improve patient care. Vogler encouraged members to share their own stories and write a note to their patients to let them know that they are thought of.



Promotions

Congratulations to the following School of Pharmacy faculty members on their recent promotions:



Lakesha Butler, PharmD, was promoted to clinical professor, of pharmacy practice. Additionally, she was inducted into the Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi, the nation’s oldest and most selective all-discipline collegiate honor society.



Andrea Wooley, PharmD, was promoted to clinical associate professor of pharmacy practice.



Cathy Santanello, PhD, was promoted to professor of pharmaceutical sciences.

School Hosts First All Alumni and Friends Anniversary Gala

The School of Pharmacy paid tribute to the extraordinary impact of retiring Director of Student Services Connie Stamper-Carr and honored former Dean Gireesh Gupchup, PhD, at the first Special All-Alumni and Friends Anniversary Gala held July 14 at the Hilton St. Louis at the Ballpark. The event additionally celebrated the School's 10 graduating classes and the Class of 2013's five-year reunion.

The gala's approximately 130 attendees included alumni, current students, faculty, staff, members of the Pharmacy Advisory Board and friends.

"We were overjoyed with the gala's success," said planning committee co-chair Maggie (Rodeffer) Krumwiede, PharmD '09. "Many individuals were able to show their love and support for Connie. She has been a vital part of the School."

Planning for the event began in April 2017 when nine alumni formed a planning committee to conduct the "Campaign 4 Connie" (C4C). The C4C's mission was to raise \$25,000 to establish an endowed scholarship in Stamper-Carr's honor. They planned the gala to formally recognize her and dedicate her scholarship, and to honor Gupchup's influential tenure as dean.

"Both Connie and Gireesh tirelessly devoted themselves to the betterment of the School and the well-being of the students, faculty, staff and alumni," said planning committee co-chair Kelly (Perez) Kleeman, PharmD '09. "We could not be happier that so many came together to celebrate their legacies."

"Gireesh lives and breathes for the success of the SIUE School of Pharmacy," Krumwiede said. "He has taken such great care and gone to great lengths to ensure each individual within the School feels welcome and feels that they, too, have contributed to the School's success."

Alumni Council President Harry Zollars, PharmD '13, said one big idea turned into an incredible evening of celebration. "The whole night, the scholarship in Connie's name, commemorating Gireesh's legacy, celebrating our future with Interim Dean Mark Luer, was started and carried by the work of alumni who reached out to the School and were determined to make a difference," Zollars explained. "I'm extremely proud of the work everyone put into the gala and weekend events, and I am excited for the bright futures of our alumni and School."

"The level of community engagement expressed by alumni, faculty, board members, staff and friends through their volunteer and financial support of the endowed scholarship, gala and weekend reunion was truly remarkable," said Patti McDonald, senior director of development. "We are also grateful to our event sponsors for generously supporting the success of this iconic and unforgettable celebration for the entire SIUE School of Pharmacy community."



DONOR LIST

It has been an exciting year for the SIUE School of Pharmacy community. We are grateful to each of the following donors for your generous support during FY18. You are highly valued partners in the continued success of our students and alumni, and with the positive impact our School is having on the health and well-being of our region, nation and globe.

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Dr. Travis N. Willeford '09
Dr. Harry M. Zollars '13

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Dr. Lindsay M. Schroeder '13 '17
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Kwon Looks to Close the Loop on Diabetes Treatment

For approximately 7.5 million Americans with diabetes, insulin delivered through an insulin pump or daily injections is essential to sustain life.

“When I started research on diabetes in 1992, my father was diabetic and needed insulin shots daily for type 2 diabetes,” said Guim Kwon, PhD, professor of pharmaceutical sciences.

Since then, Kwon, along with four siblings and two uncles, has also been diagnosed with the disease.

A new cutting-edge treatment under development for diabetes is a closed-loop artificial pancreas system (APS), an externally worn medical device. The APS includes a continuous glucose monitoring sensor, insulin pump, and controller that determines insulin doses needed to maintain optimal blood glucose levels (BGL). Despite recent advances, more refined and versatile algorithms that can cope with variable insulin requirements are needed to produce a complete closed-loop APS.

Kwon is working in collaboration with co-investigators in the School of Engineering; Hoo Sang Ko, PhD, associate professor of industrial engineering, and H. Felix Lee, PhD, professor of industrial engineering, to develop control algorithms for the APS design.

“To this end, we will perform a feasibility study of developing an accurate and adaptable BGL prediction artificial neural network model using a rat APS,” Kwon said.

Kwon’s project “Prediction of blood glucose levels using artificial neural network in diabetic rats,” won the 2019 Annette and Henry Baich Research Award from the SIUE Graduate School. The Baich Award is given annually to the most outstanding Seed grants for Transitional and Exploratory Projects (STEP). STEP funding is awarded on a competitive basis to SIUE faculty and staff to support research and creative activities.

Kwon currently has two other major projects. The first is to investigate the link between obesity and type 2 diabetes, focusing on the defects of insulin-secreting pancreatic beta cells under nutrient overload associated with obesity. The second is to study a biocompatible material to encapsulate islets or islet transplantation for a treatment of type 1 diabetes.



“The findings would significantly impact designing a complete closed-loop artificial pancreas system for humans in the future.”

Guim Kwon, PhD, Professor, Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences



Gable Appointed Pharmacy Consultant on Two-Year \$20 Million Grant

According to the Centers for Disease Control, the Midwest had the highest increase of emergency department (ED) visits for opioid overdoses in any region, from July 2016 through September 2017. Missouri had a 21 percent increase in opioid overdose ED visits over that 15-month period.

“In Missouri, we are losing three individuals every day to opioid overdose deaths,” said Angeline Stanislaus, MD, chief medical director of adult services, Missouri Department of Mental Health (DMH).

To combat the growing opioid crisis, the DMH is leading the Missouri Opioid State Targeted Response (Opioid STR), a two-year, \$20 million project funded by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration. Opioid STR is expanding access to integrated prevention, treatment and recovery support services throughout the state.

Administration, implementation and evaluation activities for Opioid STR are provided by the Missouri Institute of Mental Health (MIMH) at the University of Missouri-St. Louis, as well as healthcare agencies, additional academic institutions, and content experts throughout the state. As the pharmacy consultant for this project, Kelly Gable, PharmD, associate professor of pharmacy practice, leads a collaboration with the St. Louis College of Pharmacy faculty and the MIMH on overdose prevention and naloxone training initiatives.

Naloxone, also known as Narcan, is a medication that counters the effects of opioid overdose. The drug works by counteracting life-threatening depression of the central nervous system and respiratory system, allowing an overdose victim to breathe normally again after overdosing. Naloxone only works if a person has opioids in their system; the medication has no effect if opioids are absent.

Though traditionally administered in EDs, naloxone can be safely administered by others with minimal training. The state of Missouri issued a standing order in 2017 that any person who asks for naloxone from a pharmacy for themselves or to help a person experiencing an opioid overdose can purchase naloxone, with or without a prescription.

Gable’s team has provided trainings on how to dispense and administer naloxone to community pharmacists across the state, presented at meetings and conferences, conducted a webinar in collaboration with the Missouri Board of Pharmacy, and developed numerous brochures and handouts on overdose education and naloxone distribution practices.

“For the first year of Opioid STR, we reached 833 pharmacists, pharmacy technicians, pharmacy managers and pharmacy students through the Community Pharmacy Naloxone Expansion Team,” Gable said.

In year two of the grant, the team will continue to educate Missouri pharmacists, encouraging and empowering them to fight against the opioid overdose epidemic.

“With community pharmacists being one of the most accessible health care professionals to the public, they are uniquely positioned to greatly reduce opioid overdose-related deaths.”

Kelly Gable, PharmD, Associate Professor, Department of Pharmacy Practice



Oliver D. Mafla-Mills, PharmD '14
United States Coast Guard, active duty 2003-2007

Current position: Director of Scientific Affairs, *Pharmacy Times* Continuing Education

What led you from military to pharmacy school: I was getting out of the military, and I had a good friend who worked as a pharmacy technician in a grocery store pharmacy. I would ask him questions and remember thinking how interesting pharmacology was. I decided to pursue an education in pharmacy, and a few months after leaving the Coast Guard, I actually took over my friend's position at the grocery store pharmacy!

Why SIUE: As an Illinois resident, I was eligible for the Illinois Veteran Grant. Between that and the GI Bill, I had all of my pharmacy tuition covered. I also had support of my friends and family nearby.

Favorite School of Pharmacy memory: My fondest memory was addressing the faculty and my peers at our graduation banquet. It was a great honor to show my appreciation to my peers and faculty.

How the military prepared you for your career: The military instilled discipline that I may not have had otherwise. I feel my military experience puts things into perspective, and I am able to put in the effort at work without frustration or complaint.



Brandi (Myers) Strader, PharmD '09

Current position: Director of Pharmacy and Residency Director at HSHS St. John's Hospital Pharmacy in Springfield, Ill.

Professional goals: My goals are to continue to expand and integrate pharmacy services and support. As a new leader myself, I wish to continue to learn and grow into a well-rounded leader with whom others decide to work.

Most challenging aspect of your career: Medication shortages are my biggest challenge in this role, along with the constant changes in healthcare reimbursements.

Favorite School of Pharmacy memory: As a member of the first graduating class, the close relationships I fostered with my professors and mentors was exceptional. I will never forget what each of them did to inspire me down my current path.

How the School of Pharmacy equipped you for your career: My preceptors often pushed me out of my comfort zone to explore a new avenue that I was not prepared for on my own.

How you spend your free time: I spend time with my husband and sons. We enjoy boating, fishing and any outside sporting activity. We travel to see our family often and love spending time with them.



Alumna Builds on School's Foundation

As a senior in high school, Kelly (Perez) Kleeman, PharmD '09, received encouragement to explore a career in the sciences from a family friend who happened to be a science teacher. Given her personality and the shortage of pharmacists at that time, Kleeman, of Collinsville, applied for and was accepted to another pharmacy school. Her mother suggested she also consider SIUE.

After attending an SIUE visit day and learning that a pharmacy school was soon to open, Kleeman changed her course. She applied to SIUE where she was named a Chancellor's Scholar, became the first pre-pharmacy student association president and was accepted into the inaugural class of the SIUE School of Pharmacy.

"Looking back, I guess I took a gamble on a brand new pharmacy school, but it never felt like a gamble because the people were fantastic," Kleeman said. "It was the culture of SIUE and the culture being built at the School of Pharmacy that made my decision for me. I am grateful they thought I would be a good fit."

Kleeman recalls having a sense that administration, faculty, staff and students were all part of a team investing in the School. She takes great pride in the School's accomplishments and attributes its growth, as well as her own career success, to the people.



"Ultimately, what the faculty instilled in us was a sense of empathy, which is not easy to do with young 21- and 22-year-olds," Kleeman said. "They did that so flawlessly without us even realizing it. I still carry that empathy with me today."



After earning her degree, Kleeman completed a residency at the Jesse Brown VA Medical Center in Chicago. She spent several years as a clinical pharmacist in the hospital setting before relocating to the Boulder, Colo., area and joining Novartis. Kleeman currently is the scientific communications director, providing strategic, operational and communications support on national strategy development, therapeutic training, communications, project prioritization, initiative planning and metric tracking.

Though she is removed from patient care in this role, Kleeman strives to keep patients at the heart of her work by thinking of family members and former patients who will benefit from the developing treatments.

"I'm proud of the work we do," Kleeman said. "My education is definitely the foundation of my work, and it all comes down to empathy."

Attention Alumni

Where are you now? The School of Pharmacy would love to know! Please take a few minutes to tell us about yourself!

siue.edu/pharmacy/alumniupdate

Schools Hosted Free Health Clinics

In March and April, 72 students and 16 faculty members from the Schools of Pharmacy; Nursing; Dental Medicine; Education, Health and Human Behavior; and the College of Arts and Sciences hosted free community health clinics in Fairmont City and Cobden.

Both communities have a large Hispanic population. Fairmont City's population is 82.4 percent Hispanic, and 66 percent are non-English speakers. In Cobden, the population is 27 percent Hispanic, and 23 percent are non-English speakers.

"This is the first time that the range of different professions have provided services to an underserved Hispanic community, while also learning to collaborate as a team," said project director Terri Poirier, PharmD, MPH, professor of pharmacy practice and senior scholar in the School of Pharmacy. "It was exciting to bring different professional students together to learn about meeting community health needs, while also learning about different professional roles."

Services provided included diabetes, hearing, and height, weight and body mass screenings, as well as cholesterol tests/checks/measurements, blood pressure measurements, diabetes A1C measurements and diabetes foot inspections. Additionally, nutrition, health education and dental oral screenings were offered.

The project received \$10,300 in funding through SIUE's Excellence in Education program that supports innovative projects in undergraduate education.

The high-impact community engagement practice allowed the various academic programs to implement a co-curricular, experiential learning model for interprofessional education and provided students the opportunity to work with Spanish-speaking interpreters.



SNPhA Collaborates to Impact Hearing-Impaired

The Student National Pharmaceutical Association (SNPhA) partnered with the IMPACT Center for Independent Living (CIL) in Alton to provide screenings at a health fair in April. Under the direct supervision of Lakesha Butler, PharmD, clinical professor of pharmacy practice and SNPhA faculty advisor, SNPhA students provided blood pressure screenings and diabetes risk assessments for patients with physical disabilities, most of whom were hearing-impaired.

One of 22 CILs in Illinois, IMPACT helps people with disabilities participate fully and equally in their communities and achieve maximum independence at home, work, school and every part of life.

"This event provided hands-on exposure to underserved and diverse patients in the community who are often overlooked and mistreated, as evidenced by their poorer health outcomes," Butler said. "Patients with physical disabilities, particularly hearing impairment, need healthcare providers to be sensitive to their needs without bias. These future pharmacists walked away from this experience with more empathy, compassion and cultural sensitivity."

Rebeca Mier y Leon, P2 student and SNPhA president, said she benefited from the experience.

"I am sure I will encounter patients with disabilities throughout my career," Mier y Leon said. "I want to give all my patients the best possible care regardless of a disability and having this experience will help with that."



School Collaborates to Stop Electronic Cigarette Use

According to the National Institutes of Health 2017 Monitoring the Future survey, the use of electronic cigarettes, also known as e-cigarettes, vapes or JUULS, is on the rise for middle school and high school students. Approximately one out of every three high school seniors and one out of ten 8th grade students reported using electronic cigarettes within the past year.

To address this growing concern, the School of Pharmacy collaborated with Freeburg High School and Freeburg Elementary School to create a peer education program entitled Students Teaching Other Peers (STOP). The initiative was conducted by Sarah Henderson, PharmD '18, as her capstone project, under the guidance of Jessica Kerr, PharmD, assistant chair and professor in the Department of Pharmacy Practice.

Five seventh-graders and 14 high school students with an interest in healthcare applied and were accepted to be peer mentors. They received five weeks of training by Kerr and Henderson on the different areas of healthcare while highlighting pharmacy as a career choice, the neurobiology of addiction specifically focusing on nicotine, and the dangers of electronic cigarettes. Peer mentors also met for round-table discussions with local pharmacists who specialize in nuclear medicine, pediatrics, ambulatory care, academia, hospice/palliative care and community pharmacy.

The peer mentors developed a bingo game to teach kids about the dangers of electronic cigarettes, the role of pharmacists in preventing nicotine addiction, cessation options and other health concerns. They played the game with approximately 250 middle school students in March.

Pre- and post-tests were administered to evaluate effectiveness of the bingo game. Post-test scores were 20 percent higher than pretest scores when analyzing the students' knowledge on the dangers of electronic cigarettes and how pharmacists play an important role in the healthcare system.

Due to the level of impact among middle schoolers, Freeburg Elementary School administrators requested the peer mentors extend the project to also include 100 students in fifth grade.

"I did not anticipate the outstanding effect we had on middle school children and couldn't be happier with how we directly impacted our community with such a relevant topic," Henderson said.

“Our intention was to help students make a more conscientious decision before putting their future at risk. The peer mentor students really made a difference.”

Sarah Henderson, PharmD '18

According to the National Institutes of Health, approximately one out of every three high school seniors and one out of 10 eighth grade students reported using electronic cigarettes within the past year. These youth are at an increased risk for using combustible cigarettes within one year. Additionally, use of nicotine or tobacco before age 25 can alter decision-making capabilities and result in long-term addiction to nicotine and other addictive substances.



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Patents

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Grants and Contracts Received

Nie, D., **Neumann, W.L., Crider, A.M.**, TMEM97/Sigma 2 Receptor Modulators as Cancer Therapeutics, SIU SOM/SIUE/SIUC Collaborative Grant Program, Jan 1-Dec 31, 2018, \$20,000.

Witt, K.A., Sandoval, K.A., Kontoyianni, M., Neumann, W.L., Crider, A.M., Kolling, W.M., McPherson, T.M. Lead Optimization of Somatostatin-Based Therapeutic for Alzheimer's Disease. NIH, R01AG042455 A1, 2015-2020, \$2,650,659.

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Witt, K.A., Sandoval, K.E. Impact on Blood-Brain Barrier Tight Junctions. NIH, 2015-2019, \$397,375.

Siganga, W. CE Education for Specialty Pharmacy-Pharmacists, Kloud Script, Inc., \$9,400.

Siganga, W. Society for Palliative Care Pharmacists, \$1,200.

Siganga, W. Society for Palliative Care Pharmacists-Summer Symposium, \$1,200.

Smith, T., **Frueh, J.**, Golden, M., Mirocha, N. Interprofessional Student Hotspotting Learning Collaborative Hub Grant. Camden Coalition of Healthcare Providers. (SIU-SOM); 9/17 - 3/19; \$50,000.

Herndon, C.M., Gable, K. (CoPIs) Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, iCARE: Initiative to Create Awareness, Recognition, and Education (iCARE) on suicide prevention. 1 U79 SM062499-01; 2015 - 2018; \$299,442.

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Rosselli, J., Weil, D., **Lynch, C., Deshpande, M., Kerr, J.L.** Diabetes Research Capacity Development. PCORI Pipeline to Proposal Tier I. October 2017 - September 2018 (SIHF), \$50,000.

Lubsch, L. Cystic Fibrosis Foundation Implementation of Outpatient Clinical Pharmacy Services: Award for a Pharmacist and/or Pharmacy Technician. Noyes B, Co-sponsor. Funded September 2017, (Cardinal Glennon Hospital), \$50,000.

Fiedler, D., **Lynch, J.C., Deshpande, M.** Development of Research Infrastructure for Behavioral Health Care. PCORI Pipeline to Proposals Tier 3. (SIHF), Sept 2017-Aug 2018, \$50,000.

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White, K., **Butler, L.M.**, Rouka, T., Alford, L., Wesley, C., Carr, T. SIUE Interprofessional WE Care Clinic- Addressing Health Disparities in East St. Louis. Nurse Education, Practice, Quality and Retention (NEPQR)- Interprofessional Collaborative Practice Grant, US Department of Health and Human Services, Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA); 2015-2018, \$1,452,898

Kirby, T., Elmore, K., **Kerr, J.L.** Locked In to Stay Out. Prescription Drug Abuse Awareness Prevention. NABP/ACCP District IV Grant. \$3,000.

Siganga, W. SIU Medicine CME Pain Management Conference, \$150.

McPherson, T.M., Nieto, M., Kolling, W. Design and Synthesis of Novel Surfactants for Enhancing Drug Delivery. SIUE-STEP Grant, \$12,656.

McPherson, T.M., Nieto, M., Kolling, W.M. Refractive Index Detector, SIUE Research Equipment and Tools, \$11,619.

Poirier, T., Wilhelm, M., Lynch, C., Nieto, M., Popkess, A., Perez, A., Stonecypher, T., Panico, J., Zuercher, J., Ma, A., Carruthers, H. Community Health Clinics for Underserved Populations: A Co-curricular Interprofessional Experience for Health Professional Students. Southern Illinois University Edwardsville Excellence in Undergraduate Education Grant. November 2017, \$10,288.

Deshpande, M. Moy Foundation Grant for SIU-SOM & UIS collaboration: Assessing health and geographic disparities in asthma and COPD: A GIS approach, 2017, \$9,678.

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Pharmacy Graduates Exceed State, National Averages in Board Pass Rates

The School of Pharmacy class of 2017 has succeeded both state and national averages, boasting a first-attempt board pass rate of 92.86 percent on the North American Pharmacist Licensure Exam (NAPLEX). The graduates' combined score was the highest board pass rate of any program in Illinois or Missouri and exceeded the 2017 state and national averages of 84.52 percent and 87.95 percent, respectively. The NAPLEX results place SIUE in the top 30 percent of all pharmacy programs in the country.



Graduates Attain 84 Percent Residency Match Rate

The School of Pharmacy has a strong history of successfully matching graduates with residency positions, landing in the top 10 percent of schools across the nation. This year, 84 percent of its graduates pursuing residencies obtained a match, exceeding the national average of 66 percent. Residencies provide postgraduate training, allowing the resident to provide direct patient care and practice management under the supervision of an experienced preceptor.



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