

2017

College of Pharmacy Annual Report for FY2017

URI College of Pharmacy

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THE
UNIVERSITY
OF RHODE ISLAND
COLLEGE OF
PHARMACY

ANNUAL REPORT 2017



VISION

Excellence through leadership

MISSION

Create the future of health through pharmacy.

ORGANIZATIONAL VALUES

We value: service to the local, national, and global community; integrity and ethical behavior; innovation and collaboration in research; professional practice and education; personal growth through lifelong learning; diversity and respect for all individuals; cultural competence.

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DEAN'S MESSAGE

As you explore this most recent update on your College of Pharmacy, you may note a couple of themes emerging: growth and collaboration. Both have led to the increased success and impact of our students, graduates, faculty and staff.

Over the past two years we have welcomed 16 new faculty and professional staff to the College. Eight of these individuals filled new positions. In my long history here, I don't believe I've ever witnessed such an influx of new talent over such a short period of time. Our student population has reached new highs, in particular due to the popularity of our Bachelor of Science in Pharmaceutical Sciences program. Our research agenda continues to thrive and accelerate even in the midst of a challenging funding climate.

This growth is driven by the success of our collaborations. Two key University partners over the past year are the Academic Health Collaborative and the George & Anne Ryan Institute for Neuroscience. Each entity is only two years old, but they have quickly developed multimillion-dollar research and education portfolios. Pharmacy has been intimately involved in the success of both and has reaped the benefits of new opportunities for research funding and engagement of our students.

As 2018 begins, we count on this continued growth and collaboration to be transformative.

- E. Paul Larrat, Dean

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CONTRIBUTING PHOTOGRAPHERS
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ACADEMICS

As we prepare students to become future leaders in research, outreach, practice, and service, we create student experiences that enhance self-awareness and promote leadership, professionalism, and entrepreneurship.



Each year, our accomplished freshman class enters our Doctorate of Pharmacy program with a strong academic record and a commitment to bettering the lives of others through pharmacy.

The Simulation Lab now includes The TestChest, the most advanced pulmonary simulator in the world and the only one in the U.S.



Pharm.D. by the numbers | CLASS OF 2022



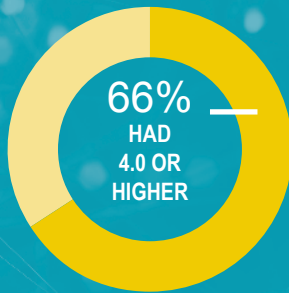
749
APPLICATIONS



134
ENROLLMENT



4.1
AVG. GPA



1311
AVG. SAT SCORE



STUDENTS ARE FROM:
13 STATES
7 FOREIGN COUNTRIES

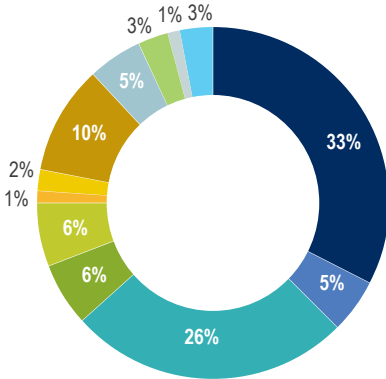


14:1
FACULTY TO STUDENT RATIO

CLASS OF 2017

CURRENT PLANS

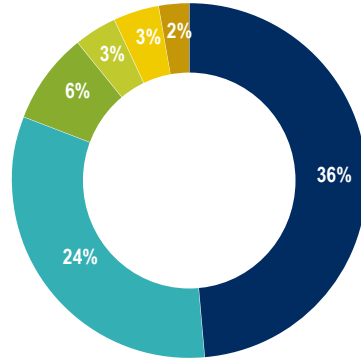
For employment after graduation



- 33% Chain community pharmacy
- 5% Independent community pharmacy
- 26% Hospital
- 6% Clinic-based pharmacy
- 6% Consultant
- 1% Home care
- 2% Nursing home/long-term care facility
- 10% Academia
- 5% Pharmaceutical industry
- 3% Managed care
- 1% Government or regulatory agency
- 3% Other pharmacy related field

CURRENT PLANS

For education after graduation



- 36% No plans for further education in the coming year
- 24% Pharmacy residency program
- 6% Fellowship
- 3% Master's degree
- 3% Pharmacy Ph.D. program
- 2% Advanced degree in another health field

In an American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy survey of graduating PharmD students: 99% of URI respondents felt prepared to enter pharmacy practice.

URI College of Pharmacy has been consistently ranked among the nation's top schools for post-graduate residency and fellowship matches. Following is a list of placements for our Class of 2017:

Arkansas Children's Hospital, Little Rock, AR
 Biogen/MCPHS, Cambridge, MA
 Brigham and Women's Hospital, Boston, MA
 Cambridge Health Alliance, Cambridge, MA
 Concord Hospital, Concord, NH
 Froedtert & MCW Froedtert Hospital, Milwaukee, WI
 Genesys Regional Medical Center, Grand Blanc, MI
 Henry Ford Hospital, Detroit, MI
 Interprofessional Fellowship in Advanced Clinical Simulation, VAMC, Providence, RI
 Long Island Jewish Medical Center, New Hyde Park, NY
 Maine Medical Center, Portland, ME
 Medical Affairs Fellow, Acorda Therapeutics/Rutgers, Ardsley, NY
 Memorial Hermann/Texas Medical Center, Houston, TX
 Mercer University College of Pharmacy, Atlanta, GA
 Neuroscience Field Medical Fellowship, Novartis/Rutgers, East Hanover, NJ
 New Mexico VA Health Care System, Albuquerque, NM
 Northeastern University/AmCare-Geriatrics, Boston, MA
 Pharmacy Professional Services Fellowship, CVS, Woonsocket, RI
 Providence Health and Services, Portland, OR

Providence Veterans Affairs Medical Center, Providence, RI
 South County Health, Wakefield, RI
 St. Vincent Anderson Regional Hospital, Anderson, IN
 Stony Brook University Medical Center, Stony Brook, NY
 Swedish Covenant Hospital, Chicago, IL
 UMass Memorial Medical Center, Worcester, MA
 Univ Buffalo School of Pharmacy/HealthNow Inc/Blue Cross, Buffalo, NY
 University of Toledo, Toledo, OH
 Upstate University Hospital—SUNY, Syracuse, NY
 VA Connecticut Healthcare System, West Haven, CT
 VA Connecticut Hospital, West Haven, CT
 VA Maine Healthcare System, Augusta, ME
 VA New Jersey Health Care System, East Orange, NJ
 VRX Pharmacy Services, Salt Lake City, UT
 Walgreens-University of Houston, Houston, TX
 Wentworth-Douglas Hospital, Dover, NH

Overall Success Rate: 73.8%
 compared to national match rate of 67%.

EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING HIGHLIGHTS

ADVANCED PHARMACY PRACTICE EXPERIENCE PRECEPTOR OF THE YEAR

Tara Higgins, RI Primary Care Physician Corporation



What are some benefits of being a preceptor?

It is an opportunity to give back to the profession in a unique way. You also get a lot of support from the students; they can take on projects you don't have time to accomplish. It's great for them to see how what they're doing contributes to your work.

What impresses you most about the URI students you work with?

Their professionalism is very apparent. The students come both looking and acting professional. Also, from a clinical standpoint, they tend to be very well prepared.

What has changed at the College since you were a student?

The simulation lab and the exposure they get to working in simulation environments is really interesting. I also think the evolution of the collaboration among the [pharmacy, nursing, and health sciences] colleges is exciting as we see more team-based care.

INTRODUCTORY PHARMACY PRACTICE EXPERIENCE PRECEPTOR OF THE YEAR

Julie Barber, Westerly Hospital



What do you enjoy most about being a preceptor?

It's great to be able to stay connected to the college. As a student at URI, I was fortunate to have engaged preceptors who were invested in my success. It feels rewarding to be able to do the same for others.

What do students in your rotation seem most surprised to learn?

I think students are most surprised to learn the vast role pharmacy plays within a hospital.

What is the best advice you give to your students?

I always encourage them to keep an open mind when thinking about potential future career paths. Even for our APPE students, it's never too late to reconsider what you want in the future. Also, come on time and have a positive attitude. It will get you further than you'd think.

"This has benefited my learning in so many ways that go above and beyond what I learned in a classroom. The best part of this experience for me was being in the physicians' offices and meeting face-to-face with patients about their conditions and medications. Home visits were also very eye-opening to me, giving me an extra skill set in talking to patients with empathy and care in that each patient truly is an individual and no two patients are the same."

— Diana Piccozi '17 on her ambulatory care rotation at Rhode Island Primary Care Physician Corporation

1092 Total rotations in 2016-17

696 Advanced Pharmacy Practice Experiences (APPE)

223 Introductory Pharmacy Practice Experiences (IPPE)

173 Service Learning Experiences

212 New preceptors added

99% of Class of 2017 had an APPE site visit by URI staff

INTERNATIONAL STUDY

STUDY ABROAD



Three Things I Learned Abroad

David Sabatino '21

Semester abroad in Rome, Italy

- 1) Daily life, such as hang-drying my clothes or finding out that businesses close for part of the day in Rome, taught me about conveniences I take for granted. At the same time, I was pleasantly surprised with the easy access to public transportation, which enabled me to explore the city.
- 2) I had to combine my elementary Italian and non-verbal signals to order food or ask for directions, but English-speaking locals always went out of their way to help or translate for me.
- 3) Traveling between countries taught me how to adapt to new cultures and differences in a short period of time. Every day, I am still able to apply this to my daily life.



22
STUDENTS IN
STUDY ABROAD
2017



9
COUNTRIES

ITALY, DENMARK, SWEDEN, GREECE, SPAIN, IRELAND,
SOUTH AFRICA, SOUTH KOREA, AND THE U.S.



WINTER J-TERM STUDY



Three Things I Learned Abroad

Elizabeth Alberg '19 (front, with Rhody) studied in Guatemala with students from the Academic Health Collaborative during J-Term.

- 1) Many health problems could be eliminated if people had clean water to drink. It is difficult to treat these patients when you cannot eliminate the problem causing their condition.
- 2) A lot of sick people are afraid of going to the hospital because they think they will die. One hospital I visited holds free clinics to provide health screenings and educate people that the hospital is not a scary place.
- 3) Many people cannot afford medications. A number of private hospitals rely on donations from people from around the world in order to function.

BACHELOR OF PHARMACEUTICAL SCIENCES INTERNSHIP ABROAD



Madison Adams and Shannon Tansey traveled to Latino, Italy in June for a two-month internship at BSP Pharmaceuticals.

What they learned:

I was in the research and development laboratory. I learned how to use different instruments in the pharma industry, as well as techniques that will be helpful toward my future career. Some tasks I learned included freeze drying, freeze-dry microscopy, and differential scanning calorimetry. – Shannon

I was placed in the quality control department. I got experience working with infrared spectroscopy, capillary electrophoresis, E1ISA Test, HPLC analysis, gas chromatography, and bioanalyzer machinery. – Madison

On the weekends:

We worked 9-5 days, four days. The company let us have Fridays off to allow us to travel on the weekends and explore Italy. – Shannon

Shannon and I traveled to Positano, Cinque Terre, Florence, Pompeii, and Napoli. This internship was a great chance for industry experience and to explore a new country. – Madison

Best part about interning abroad:

What I enjoyed most about the experience is how welcoming the company was and the lab experience I received. – Shannon

Our coworkers at BSP were so friendly and eager to share their knowledge with us. Working at BSP was not only a great opportunity to get new lab experiences and knowledge but also a great way to expand our horizons by meeting new people and seeing how the industry works in another country. We could not be more thankful for the opportunity. – Madison

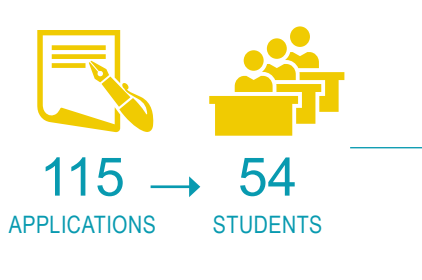


Top: Madison and Shannon pictured with Orazio Cultrera, BSP Pharmaceuticals plant director; Mary-Jane Kanaczet, URI College of Pharmacy Director of Continuing Education; and Giorgio Ciacciarelli, BSP Pharmaceuticals director of human resources and industrial relations. Bottom: Madison and Shannon enjoying time off in Rome.

“I learned how to use different instruments in the pharma industry, as well as techniques that will be helpful toward my future career.”

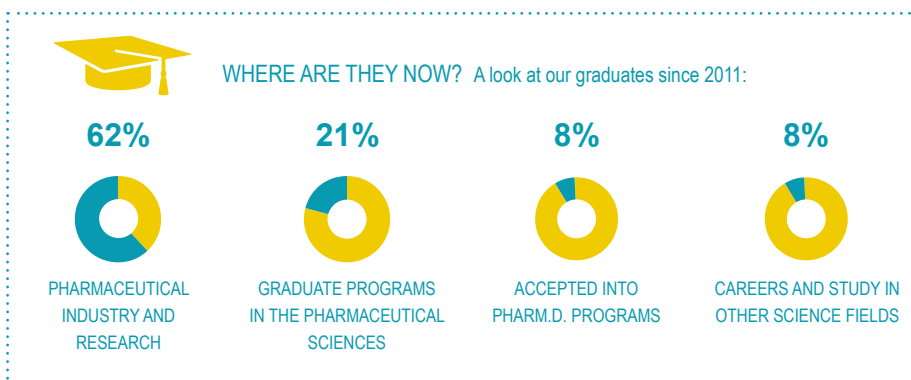
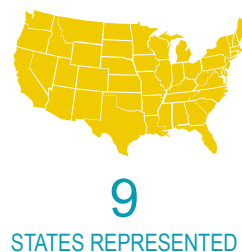
B.S.P.S. by the numbers

Since recruiting its first freshman class in Fall 2010, the **Bachelor of Science in Pharmaceutical Sciences** program has grown quickly, filling an important niche in the education of the next generation of pharmaceutical scientists.



3.5
AVERAGE GPA

1145
AVERAGE SAT
COMBINED
SCORE



THE BSPS ALUMNI MENTORSHIP

PROGRAM completed its second full year in May 2017. This year, the program more than doubled in size, with 16 mentors working with students to provide job shadowing experiences, informational interviews, or career guidance. See the list on page 26.



Photo by Images by Jess.

"I found a great mentor and friend through the alumni mentorship program. Hearing about my mentor's career path over many casual meetings and phone calls gave me a firsthand understanding of the many opportunities a degree from the College of Pharmacy can give you. My mentor was vital to my job search process, helping me with interview tips and offering contacts and references. I hope I can one day help others the way he has assisted me."

– Patrick Dumas '17, on his mentor Richard Bianco

GRADUATE STUDENTS by the numbers

Our graduate programs in the pharmaceutical sciences are nationally known for providing the highest caliber of M.S. and Ph.D. candidates opportunities to further their research in a highly collaborative, interdisciplinary environment, working with top experts in their fields.



CURRENT NUMBER OF STUDENTS

Ph.D.	M.S.	AREAS OF GRADUATE STUDY
13	2	PHARMACEUTICS AND PHARMACOKINETICS
7	4	PHARMACOLOGY
10	1	MEDICINAL CHEMISTRY AND PHARMACOGNOSY
9	5	HEALTH OUTCOMES

CLASS OF 2017

This year, the University conferred five M.S. and the following five Ph.D. degrees in the pharmaceutical sciences:

Chinmay G. Deshpande

Adherence and Cost in NOACS; Cynthia Willey-Temkin, Major Professor

Ajinkya Marutrao Pawar

Resistance and Statin Protective Effects; Aisling McCaffrey, Major Professor

Joseph M. Schrader

Clozapine's Action at Dopamine Receptors; Abraham Kovoor, Major Professor

Jiadong Sun

Bioactive Complex Carbohydrates; David Rowley, Major Professor

Zhengxi Wei

Cadmium and Breast Cancer Progression; Zahir Shaikh, Major Professor

RESEARCH

We value innovation in biomedical and pharmaceutical research. The College is committed to collaborative partnerships that explore solutions to our most pressing health care problems and enhance opportunities for faculty and student excellence in scholarship and creative work.



RESEARCH FUNDING

PROPOSALS FUNDED IN 2016-17

Pharmacotherapy / \$301,466

Toxicology / \$3,347,243

Drug Delivery / \$111,414

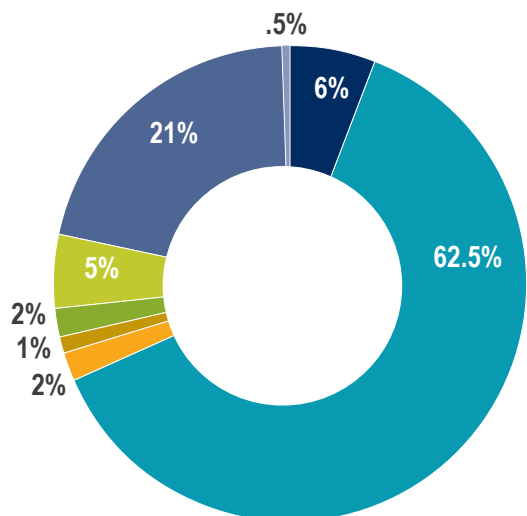
Drug Discovery / \$53,500

Health Policy and Outcomes / \$97,747

Pharmaceutical Chemistry / \$281,951

Pharmacology / \$1,140,932

Other / \$31,094





FACULTY RESEARCH AREAS

27% Pharmacotherapy / Community Medicine, Antimicrobials, Geriatrics, Infectious Disease, Cardiovascular, Ophthalmology, Neuropharmacology, Neurodegenerative Diseases, Nanomedicine, Immunotherapy

7% Toxicology / Neurotoxicology, Nephrotoxicity, Metabolism

9% Clinical Studies / Outcomes Research, Design and Analysis, Community Medicine, Neuropharmacology

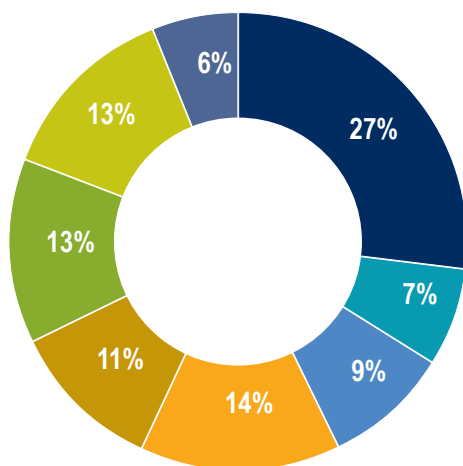
14% Drug Delivery / Nanoparticles, Powders, Formulation, Transdermals

11% Drug Discovery / Natural Products, Antimicrobials, Antineoplastics, Tissue Engineering

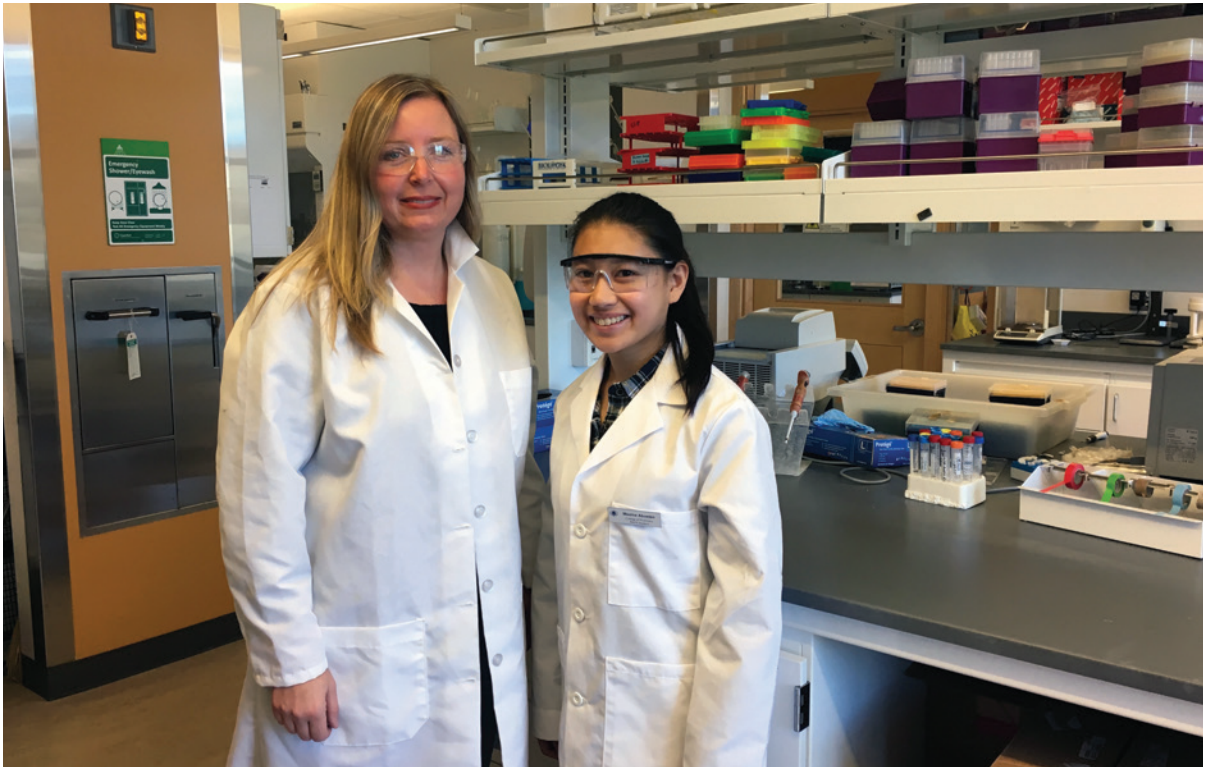
13% Health Policy and Outcomes / Outcomes Research, Adherence, Community Medicine, Drug Safety, Benefit Management

13% Pharmaceutical Chemistry / Drug Formulation and Delivery, Drug Metabolism, Natural Products, Drug Discovery

6% Pharmacology / Natural Products, Modeling, Metabolism



These percentages are approximations, based on major research focus areas of our faculty.



Associate Professor Angela Slitt and BSPPS student Maxine Abustan '18 are among the interdisciplinary team of researchers investigating water contaminants. Photo courtesy of Angela Slitt.

EVERYDAY IMPACT

Pharmacy faculty and students are collaborators in an \$8 million federal grant to research potential contaminants in drinking water.

An interdisciplinary team including Professor Bongsup Cho and Associate Professor Angela Slitt is part of an \$8 million federal grant at URI to research fluorinated pollutants in our water supply. The chemicals, used in household items from nonstick cookware to food packaging, could be contaminating drinking water—and have been linked to kidney and testicular cancers, thyroid disease, colitis and suppression of the immune system. The five-year grant establishes URI as part of a national network of Superfund Research Program centers and is led by principal investigator Rainer Lohmann, a professor at the Graduate School of Oceanography. While Cho will lead an intensive training program for graduate and post-doctoral students working on the project, Slitt's goal is to understand how various polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFASs) might disrupt the

body's metabolism in ways that can lead to obesity and to explore whether exposure to the chemicals early in life through breast feeding is a risk factor for potential adverse health problems, such as fatty liver disease and disruption of metabolic hormones. "The goal of our project is to connect findings in human-derived cells and animal models with human clinical studies being conducted by our collaborators at Harvard to better understand potential health risks associated with exposure to PFASs," says Slitt.

The five-year, \$8 million grant establishes URI as part of a national network of Superfund Research Program centers.

MIGHTY MINDS

The founders of start-up Alcinous Pharmaceuticals are graduate students by day, executives by night.

Three Ph.D. students at the University of Rhode Island's College of Pharmacy have started a company that harnesses big data in a novel approach to drug development. Nicholas DaSilva, Kenneth Rose, and Benjamin Barlock founded Alcinous Pharmaceuticals late last year. (The name comes from King Alcinous—meaning “mighty mind”—in Homer’s *Odyssey*.) David Worthen, a former College of Pharmacy faculty member, is chief operations officer. Last fall, the team also sought advice from Frank S. Menniti, chief science officer of the pharmaceutical company MindImmune Therapeutics, which is based at URI in partnership with the Ryan Institute for Neuroscience, before taking the leap.

Alcinous is looking to develop new drug therapies for breast and ovarian cancers caused by the BRCA1 and BRCA2 gene mutations, targeting Poly ADP-Ribose Polymerase inhibitors—drugs that are typically a third

line of defense, given their severe side effects. Using free computational software on the Internet to sort through 40 million possibilities to find highly specific and uninvestigated protein-binding targets, Alcinous believes it can develop PARP inhibitor compounds that are safe and highly effective, with fewer side effects.

While still in the pre-clinical research phase, Alcinous is courting private investors to help the company advance to in-depth clinical research, as well as Rhode Island innovation grants and other incentives for biotechnology entrepreneurs. If success is initially elusive, they hope to “fail fast and fail hard” and keep going.

“If one of these targets doesn’t work,” Rose said of the five compounds they are currently exploring, “we have 39 million, 995 thousand to go.”

Nicholas DaSilva, Kenneth Rose, and Benjamin Barlock (from left) received a **\$50,000 Innovation Voucher** in October, 2017 from the Rhode Island Commerce Corporation. Photo by Nora Lewis.



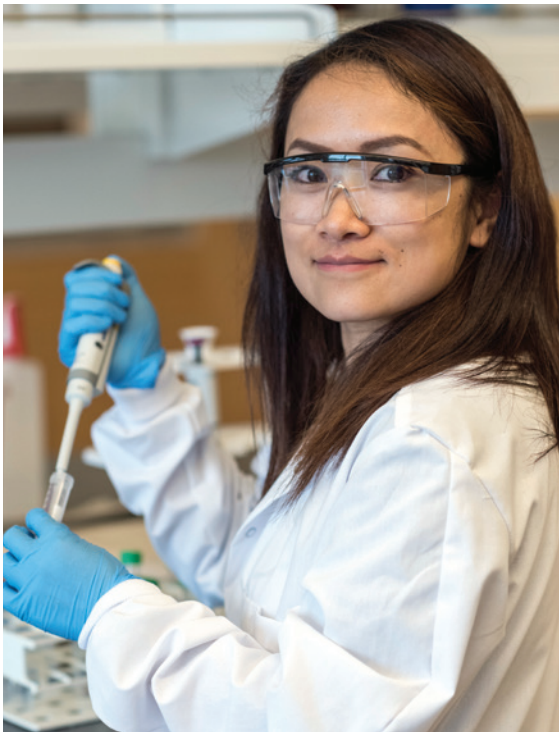


Photo by Michael Salerno

FACULTY SPOTLIGHT

New faculty member Jie Shen was honored as Emerging Researcher of the Year by the International Pharmaceutical Excipients Council Foundation. The award recognizes “demonstrated interest in and dedication to the area of excipients in terms of published manuscripts and scientific/technological research.”

Shen joined URI in Fall 2016 as an assistant professor of biomedical and pharmaceutical sciences and chemical engineering. Her current research focuses on developing and manufacturing advanced drug delivery systems, including an eye cancer treatment funded by RI-INBRE. “The recognition is a great start to my career at URI,” says Shen. “I’m also excited that part of the award will be used to provide training opportunities for graduate and undergraduate students.”

Prior to joining URI, Shen was an assistant research professor at the University of Connecticut.

A YEAR IN RESEARCH

Visit uri.edu/pharmacy/news for a complete overview of recent innovations in pharmacy practice and scientific discovery. Here are a few highlights from 2016-17:

Associate Professor Jessica Goren demonstrated in studies conducted at the Veterans Affairs Hospital in Bedford, Massachusetts, that veterans with treatment-resistant schizophrenia have better outcomes when treated with clozapine. *August 2016*

Bingfang Yan, professor of biomedical and pharmaceutical sciences, and graduate student Yuanjun Shen reported findings on complications with HIV regimens that also contain standard Hepatitis C drug sofosbuvir. *December 2016*

Assistant Professor Deyu Li is part of a \$154,000 Champlin Foundation grant to provide undergraduate students with hands-on experience in both the practical and theoretical aspects of growing, imaging and analyzing cells. *December 2016*

Clinical Associate Professor Anita Jacobson initiated a first-of-its-kind collaboration with community pharmacies to offer on-site antibiotic treatment after a tick bite to reduce chances of developing Lyme disease. *July 2017*

Clinical Professor Kerry LaPlante was named to the Fellows of the Infectious Disease Society of America in recognition of her leadership in antimicrobial stewardship. *September 2017*

In AY 2016-2017, the College added 16 new faculty and professional staff, including eight new positions.



FUTURE FORWARD

The 7,000 square-foot cGMP (current good manufacturing practice) facility features state-of-the-art classified clean rooms for research and development of pharmaceutical products, plus a stability and analytical testing lab. In addition to providing hands-on learning to students, the facility will allow for partnerships with private enterprises in the community.



COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Through student organizations, outreach initiatives, volunteer service, and professional development, our students and faculty are committed to building community partnerships and being advocates for health.



Nearly 50 students attended the 2016 ASHP Midyear Clinical Meeting and Exhibition in Las Vegas.



Photos courtesy of College

“The Outreach rotation has given me confidence. Each day was a new and different learning experience in breaking down cultural and communication barriers to relay health care knowledge in an effective way. You truly build deep relationships with patients and learn the many different ways a pharmacist can impact lives in the community.”

– Diana Rebello



EXPERIENTIAL OUTREACH ROTATION 2016 by the numbers



8,450

ANNUAL NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS



150+

STATEWIDE LOCATIONS



460

PRESENTATIONS



20

ADVANCED PRACTICE PHARM.D. CANDIDATES



18

BROWN BAG SESSIONS



4,000

PARTICIPANTS FOR HEALTH FAIRS AND
BLOOD PRESSURE SCREENINGS

OFFICE OF CONTINUING PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT, YEAR HIGHLIGHTS

The College held its **59th Annual Heber W. Youngken Jr. Pharmacy Clinic** in November 2016, bringing pharmacists and educators together for a continuing education summit and scholarship presentation. The program included sessions on non-prescription medicines, glucose-lowering agents to reduce cardiovascular risk, special topics in women's health, and Rhode Island pharmacy law.

Faculty trained 50 pharmacists from Magellan Rx, Lifespan, and other health care organizations during **American Pharmacists Association's Delivering Medication Therapy Management (MTM) Services**, an interactive certificate training in monitoring and improving medication use for patients with complex medication regimens.

The **32nd Annual Seminar by the Sea** brought hundreds of health professionals together for an intensive three-day program on "Targeted Practice: Tailored Approaches, Specialty Drugs, and the Expanding Role of Pharmacy." Professor Kerry LaPlante, Clinical Associate Professor Erica Estus, and Professor Norma Owens coordinated an interprofessional pre-conference session on antimicrobial stewardship in geriatric and long-term care populations in collaboration with David Dosa, M.D. and Haley Morrill.

The three-day **5th Annual Transporters in Drug Discovery and Development** workshop in July, led by Associate Professor Angela Slitt with support from the Continuing Professional Development office, welcomed more than 80 scientists from leading government, industry, and academic institutions around the world for an interactive workshop on the field of transporters and their impact on drug absorption and disposition.



Scientists from around the globe convened at the College of Pharmacy in July for "Transporters in Drug Discovery and Development: Driving Knowledge from Laboratory to Label." Photo courtesy of CPD.

STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS

Our students are active in student organizations that provide ongoing opportunities for professional development and community outreach, from flu clinics and high school career days, to fundraising initiatives that support local, national, and global health organizations.



17
STUDENT
ORGANIZATIONS



83%
PARTICIPATION
(CLASS OF 2017)



FLU CLINIC

Class of 2017 Pharm.D. students Justin Ma, Kamah Saygbe, and Jannat Saini were among the immunizers at the annual College of Pharmacy flu clinic last October, coordinated by Clinical Associate Professor Ginger Lemay. Students administered over 150 vaccines—including influenza, pneumococcal, and Tdap—to nearly 200 URI students, faculty, and staff at no cost, with vaccines provided by RiteAid Pharmacy. Volunteers from APhA-ASP were also on hand to assist with patient screening forms.



ON A MISSION

College of Pharmacy faculty Christine Eisenhower and Margaret Charpentier led students in Timmy Global Health missions to Guatemala and Ecuador (pictured) in 2017. Students on both missions helped provide care for approximately 500 patients throughout the week, working with faculty and health professionals at triage, medical, and pharmacy stations to help fill prescriptions and answer drug information questions.

SUMMER SCHOOL



Pharm.D. student Anne Dionne devoted her summer to helping a local anti-substance abuse coalition in her hometown of Laconia, New Hampshire, and working alongside police officer Eric Adams, New England's — and possibly the nation's — only Prevention, Enforcement and Treatment officer. (His work was featured in an article in *The New York Times Magazine* in July.)

Dionne first became interested in addiction and public health after taking URI Honors Program courses on the opioid abuse epidemic, inequality in America, and public health. She volunteered with Adams every week while working at a local hospital, and volunteering at a recovery center as well as with the nonprofit anti-addiction coalition Stand Up Laconia.

With Adams, Dionne was able to see addiction up close and from diverse perspectives: She sat down with inmates at the county jail to discuss their struggles with addiction and need for recovery services; called recovering addicts to check on their progress; and accompanied Adams on his rounds throughout Laconia. While she said Adams' work has strong support from Laconia public safety departments, community organizations, the public and

lawmakers, she noted that state lawmakers initially balked at funding a new correctional facility that provides counseling, education and support programs for inmates struggling with addiction. Persistent education and awareness efforts changed the lawmakers' minds.

"I learned how difficult it must be to remain positive about becoming sober when faced with several months and even years of being imprisoned with little hope of entering a treatment program upon release," Dionne said. "I understand better why people start abusing drugs and some of the barriers to recovery." She added, "This experience has deepened my interest in public health."

(This story is excerpted from "URI pharmacy student spends summer on the front lines of addiction crisis," URI Today, September 2017)



FACE TIME

Students, faculty, and pharmacy advocates gathered at the Rhode Island State House on April 5, 2017 for the 14th Annual Face of Pharmacy Day. Each year, the event is an opportunity to educate legislators on the impact of pharmacy services in the state and highlight the issues that need their support. "This is a great day to 'see' us in action and also listen to our pharmacy leadership and political advocates speak to acknowledge the importance of what we do and the [need for] advocacy," said Pharmacy alum and former Rhode Island Pharmacists Association president Lynn Pezzullo '91.

Left: State House photo by Images by Jess.
Right: Crime Lab photo by Michael Cevoli

IN THE CRIME LAB

The interdisciplinary Rhode Island State Crime Laboratory has been part of the College of Pharmacy since 1970. Under the leadership of Director Dennis Hilliard '80 (pictured), who is an adjunct professor of biomedical sciences and Pharmacy alum, the lab provides analysis of firearms, trace evidence, and latent prints for investigations of local, state, and federal crimes, including arson, theft, assault, and homicide.

2016 by the Numbers



910

New and
re-submitted cases



4,402

Exhibits submitted to
lab for analysis



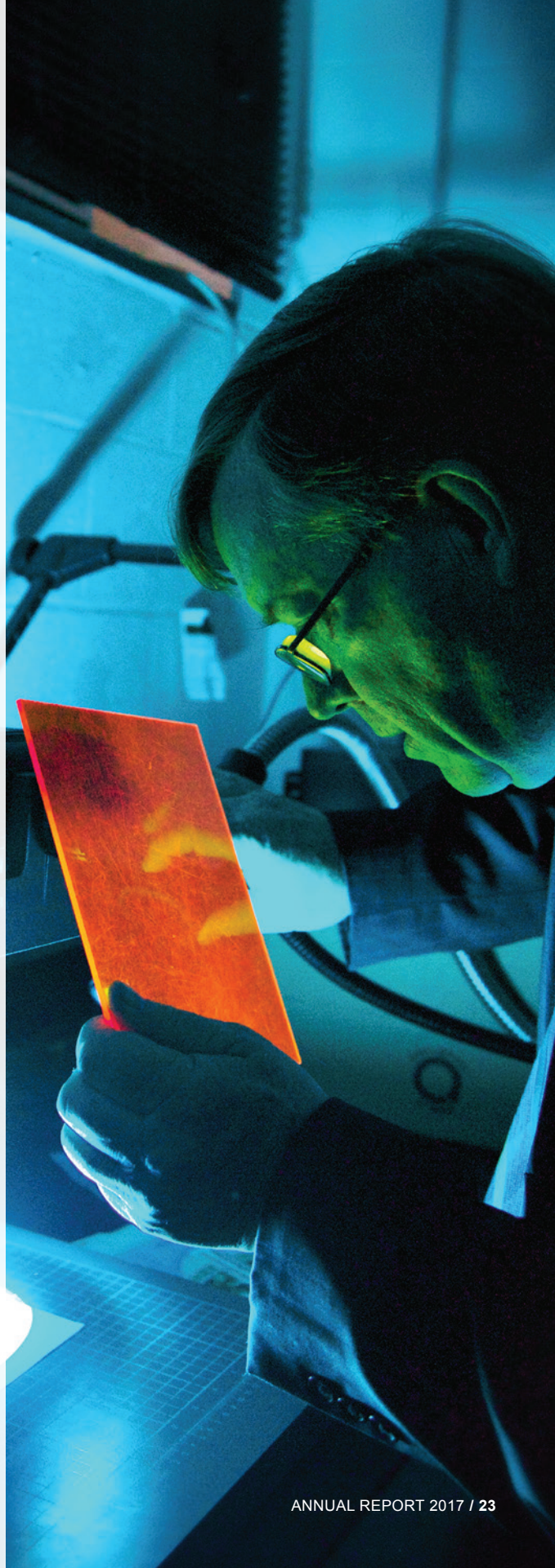
72

Public lectures,
interviews and tours



36

Law enforcement officers
trained by laboratory
and law enforcement
personnel in Crime
Scene Investigation:
Scientific Evidence, a two
semester course, with four
undergraduate credits
awarded each semester.



GIVING

“This building is where we’ve learned all that we know. It is where we’ve grown to be independent learners, leaders, and role models. It’s where we learn how to treat patients with empathy and respect. This building deserves a name that captures how much it means to us. It should embody the level of professionalism that we aim to carry out, the mutual respect we have for each other, and the dedication we have. It should have a name that embodies the pride we have in our profession, and the high standards that we hold ourselves to, in and out of the classroom. ‘Avedisian’ does just that.”

– Kaitlyn Krajanowski '18
in her dedication ceremony speech



Paramaz Avedisian '54
photo courtesy of the
Avedisian family



Photo by Nora Lewis

A LEGACY OF HELPING OTHERS

With its renaming, the College of Pharmacy building honors the life and service of Paramaz Avedisian '54.

In October, the dedication of Paramaz Avedisian '54 Hall marked a transformative \$5 million gift to the College from Edward Avedisian in honor of his late brother.

Paramaz Avedisian is remembered for his patient advocacy and charity to others, borne from the help he himself received from mentor Tom Simpson. After Paramaz's father passed away while Paramaz was in college, Simpson — who owned Simpson's Pharmacy, where Paramaz worked — paid the remainder of Paramaz's tuition. Paramaz in turn paid that gift forward, tutoring a legally deaf classmate who was struggling in class, the beginning of a lifetime of giving back. He went on to achieve great professional success as owner of Wheaton Pharmacy in Washington, D.C., for 30 years, and touched the lives of countless others. His legacy continues with his brother's philanthropy to URI, including a gift that established the Paramaz Avedisian Pharmacy Scholarship.

The \$5 million gift will support education and innovation projects at the College of Pharmacy, including a new Paramaz Avedisian '54 Endowed Chair in Medicinal Organic Chemistry. "Edward's gift will have far-reaching effects on our students and faculty," said URI President David Dooley at the dedication ceremony. "We will be better positioned to improve education and research at the College of Pharmacy for generations of students, all while keeping the memory of Paramaz — his scholarship and humanitarianism — at the forefront of our minds."

TIME + TALENT

Our College of Pharmacy community is indebted to a vast network of alumni, parents, partners, and friends who dedicate their time and expertise to support our mission.

BSPS ALUMNI MENTORS

Matthew Alcusky '14
John Belviso '78
Marc Bernarducci '95
Richard Bianco '86
Jeffrey Cehelsky '87
Angella Franklin '98
James Fratantonio '14
Susan Johnson '81
David Ludwig '80
John Mastrianni '83
Andrea Panaggio '83
Robyn Peters '86
Lynn Pezzullo '91
Jean-Marie Pflomm '96
Carl Symecko '94
Joe Tuazon '03
Chris Yun '88

FRIENDS OF THE YOUNGKEN GARDEN

Muriel Benjamin '74
Joan Lausier '67
Amey Larrat
Yuzuru and Hiroko Shimizu
Robin Rodgers
Richard Youngken

2016-2017 PRECEPTORS

Renee Abjornson '05
Shawn Ackerman
David Ahern
Monica Akus '97
Kelsey Albuquerque '14
Brian Allanbrook
Joshua Alonzo '07
Shivani Amin
Kristyn Anderson
Elisabeth Anderson '14
Valerie Anselmo
Nicole Asal
Aisha Ashraf '06

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Jose Badillo
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William Barbaria
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Jennifer Boyle
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Willis (Bill) Breen
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Chelsey Campbell
Paul Capuano '82
Tonya Carlton
Robert Carroll
Kayla Cartwright '14
Amber Castle '07
Divinia Castro
Michelle Cavanna
Marion Ceanga
Vivianne Celario
Scott Cerce
John Cerini
Susan Chan
Michele Chantra
Kevin Charnigo
Maggie Charpentier '87
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Nicole Clark
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Stephen Cofone '81
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Nan Conte
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Thomas Cory
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Janice Couture
Robert Crain
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MaryAnne Cronin
Donna Cupelli
Traci Curran
Mark Curtis '90
Timothy Cutler
Jennifer Cyr
George D'Agostino
Sara D'Anna
Denise de Villers Lopes
Jeffrey Del Ricci Jr. '07
Marco DelBove '10
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Heather Delucia
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Darlene Gray	Keith Lewis '76	Deborah Newell
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Robert Greene	Jennifer Lind	Nancy Nystrom
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Renee Hoyceanyls	Jeffrey McCarthy	Jayne Pawasauskas '98
Anne Hume	Heather McCarthy	Melissa Peckham
Lena Hussien	Megan McCaskill '01	Geoffrey Peterson '08

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Leslie Pires '00
Lisa Pistorino
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Maggie Randazzo
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Diana Reeves-Walker
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Amanda Rosen
Kimberly Rota Melosky
Linda Rowe-Varone '92
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Alison Schiesl '07
Amy Schuck
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William Schwetz
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Patrick Seckler
Navindra Seeram
Brian Seyboth '10

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Purvi Shah
Akant Shah
Yasheka Sharma
Ann-Marie Shea '94
Stacie Siedzik
Jennifer Silvia
Lindsey Sipala '08
Patrick Skeffington '82
Kathryn Smith
Jennifer Smola '12
Kristina Soares
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Dev Tailor
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Kevin Thomas
Amanda Tommasiello
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Nancy Tortolani '81
Robert Tortolani '79
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Jesse Wisniewski
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Daniel Woodcock
Jeffrey Zaleski
Wesley Zemrak '07
Jillian Zile
Dorothy Zissler

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John Zevzavadjian '88



GIVING BACK

This year, the Heber W. Youngken Jr. Medicinal Garden turned 60 years old, and from its restful birch grove to its lush summer blooms, it has thrived in the hands of the dedicated year-round volunteers who tend to its 500 decorative and 200 healing plants. Former Associate Dean Joan Lausier '67 is among the longtime friends who make our garden grow.

What are your favorite plants? The marshmallow, and the peonies are beautiful. Cinnamon tree, lemongrass, all those fragrances.

Least favorite? I absolutely do not like evening primrose. It drops so much seed everywhere you go. I call it "the g.d. evening primrose."

Which do you find the most unusual? The monk's hood or the blood root. There are a lot of beautiful, unusual plants.

Is it hard to keep the collection thriving in Rhode Island? You can grow a lot of things you don't realize you can grow. This summer, there was a banana tree on the patio making bananas—amazing. We also get one or two pineapples a year; the tree was a baby when we first put it out there.

What's the secret to gardening? Paying attention. You can grow anything, but you need to pay attention to the requirements of the plant. Make sure the plants have something to eat and the right water and light. Sometimes you have to be creative — I grow potatoes in a bag. People who say they can't grow anything can. [Gardening] is very good for the soul.



2017 GIVING: COLLEGE OF PHARMACY

DONATIONS BY DONOR TYPE

Foundations / \$152,384

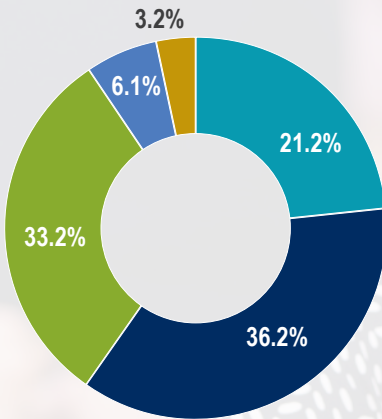
Alumni / \$140,018

Corporate donors / \$89,302

Friends / \$26,240

Other / \$13,381

PARTICIPATION BY DONOR TYPE



Foundations / 36.2%

Alumni / 33.2%

Corporate donors / 21.2%

Friends / 6.1%

Other / 3.2%

2017 FISCAL YEAR

TOTAL GIVING - \$421,324

TOTAL DONOR COUNT - 446

TOTAL GIVING TO ANNUAL FUND - \$94,446

TOTAL NEW PLEDGES - \$5,073,620

Totals reflect gifts received by June 30, 2017



TREASURE

We are sincerely grateful to all of our alumni, parents, friends, faculty, staff, and corporate and foundation partners who enhance the mission of our College through their generosity. This list reflects outright gifts and pledge payments made from July 1, 2016 through June 30, 2017.

\$500,000 and above

Edward Avedisian
Pamela Avedisian

\$75,000 - \$499,999

van Beuren Charitable Foundation

\$25,000 – \$74,999

Rhode Island Foundation
Jay Simon '68
Verdure Sciences

\$10,000 – \$24,999

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Steve DeJong
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Bristol-Myers Squibb
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Susan Kaplan '78
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Sanofi-Aventis US
Norman Saute '49
Brian Sawchuk '71
Susan Sawchuk '71
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Solvo Biotechnology
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John Stoukides '85
United Way
Janice Violante
Cheryl Zevzavadjian '87
John Zevzavadjian '88

\$500 – \$999

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Amanda Barner '11
Benjamin Barner '10
Richard Basiaga
Mark Beckenbach '75
Cecilia Caldwell '81
Mario Casinelli '53
Veronica Casinelli
Chih-Wu Chang '76
Pei-Tei Chang '76

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Anthony Coniglio '82
Diane Coniglio '82
Amanda Copans '00
Dean Copans '99
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Deborah Dallaire
Paul Desjardins '72
Catherine Desjardins
Ewa Dzwierzynski '96
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Sungja Kang '89
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George Kenson '72
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McKesson Corporation
Merck Company
Louise Pastore '83
Christopher Riel '82
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Lionel Savaria '86
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Sunovion
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Cynthia Anderson '73
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Joseph Anthony '55
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Linda Barrett '73

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Tracy Benson '88
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Lora Bettencourt '71
Amy Bixler '99
Myrna Bizer
Paul Bizer
Jeffrey Bratberg
Patricia Bratberg
Dugald Brown '77
Alton Campbell
Henry Carnevale '57
Judith Carroll '91
David Catalano '89
Andrew Charpentier '87
Margaret Charpentier '87
Michael Christe '89
Joseph Cimalore '14
Evelyn Cofone '94
Stephen Cofone '81
Michael Colasanti '77
Patti Connery '78
Robert Corbett '56
Janet Costa '68
Richard Costa '68
Kathleen Curry-Beaulieu
Gordon Daglieri '66
Marcia Daglieri '67
Kwame Dapaah-Afryie
Ruth Dapaah-Afryie '99
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Stephen Devine '86
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Megan Elias '12
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Robert Finke '16
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Nancy Landi Orabona
Heather Larch '99
Frank Laurito '59
Joan Lausier '67
Audrey Lawton
William Lawton
Michele LeBlanc '93
Virginia Lemay '00
Laura Leso '94
Sonia Lin
Wayne Lowell
Betsey Luscinski '83
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Celia MacDonnell '75
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William Rosen
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Douglas Sarapin '66
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Michael Sherry '98
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Danny Simard '79
Michael Simeone '76
Jason Simeone '08
William Simonson '69
Alan St Amand '71
Mary St Amand '79
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Aleksy Szachnowicz
Taylor's Drug Store

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Deborah Thomas
Sarah Thompson
Hubertina Vasavada '69
Ravindra Vasavada '71
Don Williams
Merry-Jane Wolborsky '84
Jean Woodward '79
Lucille Yacino
Richard Yacino '62
Elena Zour '85

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Hyeseon Levitsky '96
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Iris Longo
Gregory Low '99

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Catherine McClain '86
Walter McClain '12
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Debra Mergner
Stuart Meridan '42
Larry Meyerson '57
Paula Meyerson
Jessica Miller '00
M Andrea Monckeberg '88
Karen Morisseau '83
Philippe Morisseau '83
Neil Murray
Patricia Murray
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Judith Nasca
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Bruce Nearing '79
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These pages reflect gifts and pledge payments made to the College of Pharmacy during the 2017 Fiscal Year.



IN MEMORIAM

Faculty, family and friends honored the life and memory of Andrea F. Luisi '90, Pharm.D. '94 on August 2 at a dedication of a memorial bench in the Heber W. Youngken Jr. Medicinal Garden. Andrea was an accomplished pharmacist and a clinical faculty member at the College from 1996 to 2003. Most recently, she was a clinical pharmacist at Senior Whole Health in Bridgewater, Massachusetts, where she served as a preceptor to our Pharm.D. students on their Advanced Practice rotations. Andrea will be remembered for her intellect, accomplishments and grace, and for her devotion to her family and friends. We are honored that this memorial bench in our garden, where so many of our students gather to read, connect and enjoy life, will be a lasting tribute to her warmth and kindness.

– Norma Owens, Associate Dean

Pictured: The Luisi family and memorial plaque. Photos courtesy of College

ACADEMIC HEALTH COLLABORATIVE

by the numbers

The University of Rhode Island created the Academic Health Collaborative in spring 2016 to enhance the quality and effectiveness of programs that educate and prepare graduates in the health fields.



3

COLLEGES

Nursing, Health Sciences, Pharmacy



4,530

UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS

nearly one third of all URI
undergraduates



495

GRADUATE STUDENTS



170

FULL-TIME FACULTY AND STAFF



6

SPARK GRANTS

awarded to **24 faculty members** across several colleges and programs



5

BIG IDEAS GRANTS

awarded to **33 faculty members** across several colleges and programs

AMONG THE FIRST YEAR INITIATIVES ARE:

Establish an agreement with Rhode Island Executive Office of Health and Human Services to support health-care work force development and provide expanded services to Medicaid

Implemented Collaborative Rhode Island: State University-Medicaid Partnership to evaluate health-care payment and service delivery reform models, with URI researchers and colleagues at Brown University evaluating processes, systems and outcomes, identifying obstacles and successes and helping the state to create effective and efficient models.

Received a \$700,000 grant from the State of Rhode Island to evaluate the planning and implementation of a federally funded program that tests models for innovative health care reform.

THE
UNIVERSITY
OF RHODE ISLAND

COLLEGE OF
PHARMACY

College of Pharmacy
Avedsian Hall
7 Greenhouse Road
Kingston, RI 02881

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