

Interactions

UNIVERSITY OF THE
PACIFIC

Thomas J. Long
School of Pharmacy

From the
FRONTLINES
to the **CLASSROOM**

Veteran and active-duty
students bring diverse
experiences to Pacific
pg 7

Alumni transform
veteran care and elevate
pharmacists' roles
pg 11



“
"One of our greatest assets is our faculty and staff, who consistently dedicate their time, energy and creativity to helping students achieve their goals."

Dean Gundersen

Exceptional outcomes **SHOWCASE** our **STRENGTHS**

In June, our doctor of pharmacy (PharmD) program was granted a full eight-year accreditation by the Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education. This achievement reflects our commitment to excellence in pharmacy education. The accreditation is also a testament to the dedication and hard work of our faculty, staff and students. I am incredibly proud of the collaborative efforts that led us to this exceptional outcome.

Composing the self-study report and preparing for the accreditation site visit highlighted our core strengths. One of our greatest assets is our faculty and staff, who consistently dedicate their time, energy and creativity to helping students achieve their goals. This process also underscored our outstanding experiential learning programs. I am deeply grateful for the unwavering support of our preceptors and regional coordinators.

As we celebrate this achievement, we also look to the future with a sense of purpose. Together, we will continue to uphold the highest standards of pharmacy education, striving to prepare our students to be leaders who are passionate about meeting the evolving health care needs of our communities.

This has been a year of extraordinary achievements. Our PharmD Class of 2023 graduates earned the highest North American Pharmacist Licensure Examination pass rate in California, the highest in the West, and ranked third for the California Practice Standards and Jurisprudence Examination pass rate. I am immensely proud of our graduates for their dedication and hard work.

A heartfelt thanks to all who contributed to these tremendous accomplishments.

Sincerely,

Berit Gundersen '84, PharmD
Dean



Srikanth Kolluru, MSPharm, PhD, pictured with Dean Gundersen and students, joined the Pacific pharmacy family in June 2024 as associate dean of academic affairs. Dr. Kolluru's vision for student support initiatives, curriculum development and strategic partnerships greatly enrich the academic experience of our students.

Interactions

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Let's connect

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New pharmaceutical programs are tailored for industry success
pg 15





Annual Report
2024

Explore the Annual Report

The 2024 Annual Report includes updates on current students, recent graduates, scholarships and health care outreach. Plus, learn about the noteworthy accomplishments of our faculty and staff.

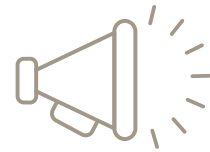


pacific.edu/pharmacy/annual-report

#1 **NAPLEX*
pass
rate in
California**

*North American
Pharmacist Licensure
Examination

#1 In the West among
all NAPLEX test-takers,
first time and repeat



90.5% First time
NAPLEX pass
rate for the
Class of 2023

8
years

The School's Doctor
of Pharmacy program
received a full eight-year
accreditation from the
Accreditation Council
for Pharmacy Education.

#3 **Third-highest number
of students matched
with PGY1 residencies
in California**

Top
10%

In 2023, Pacific
graduates were in the
top 10% nationally for the
NAPLEX pass rate



A year of

EXCEPTIONAL OUTCOMES

55

PGY1 matches with
a 79% match rate for
the Class of 2024

10

PGY2 matches
with an 83%
match rate

5

Class of 2024
industry fellowship
placements

#3 **CPJE*
pass
rate**

*California Practice
Standards and
Jurisprudence
Examination

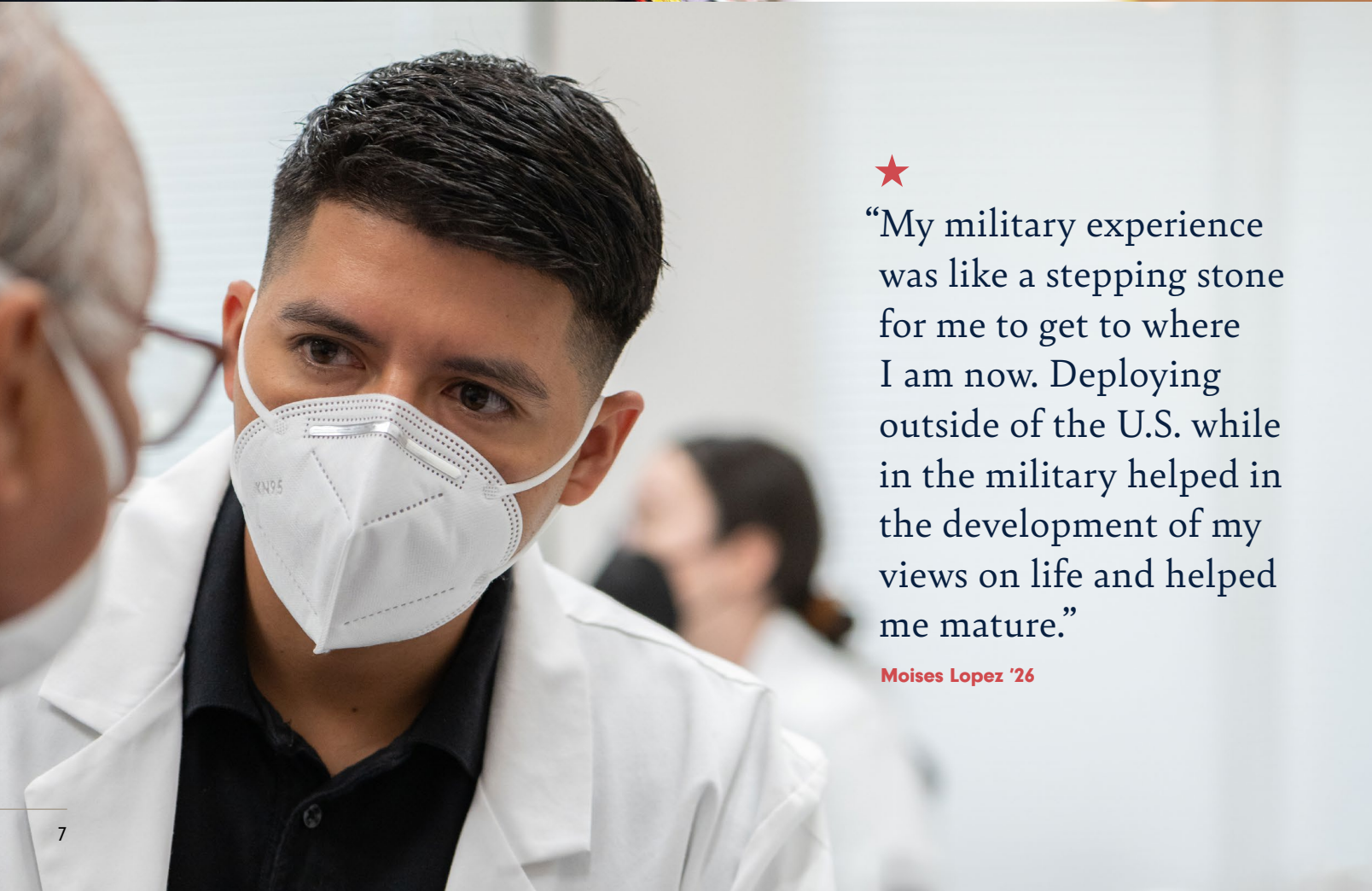
83%

Of the Class of 2023 graduates who
participated in Pacific's Rx for Success
program, a first-of-its-kind immersive
licensure prep program, **passed the
CPJE on the first attempt**

University of the Pacific received the
Hispanic-Serving Institution status from
the U.S. Department of Education

In February 2024, Pacific became the highest-ranked private university
in the nation, as rated by U.S. News & World Report, with the Hispanic-
Serving Institution status. To be eligible, Hispanic students must represent
at least 25% of the institution's undergraduate student body.

This prestigious designation allows Pacific to apply for special federal
grants, thereby expanding the University's ability to support current
students and increase access to higher education for those who represent
this key demographic in the Central Valley and in California.



★
“My military experience was like a stepping stone for me to get to where I am now. Deploying outside of the U.S. while in the military helped in the development of my views on life and helped me mature.”

Moises Lopez '26

From the FRONTLINES to the CLASSROOM

Veteran and active-duty students bring diverse experiences to Pacific

By Dua Her '09



Zala demonstrating on-the-job advanced training in Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri.



Pictured left to right: Devki Zala, Moises Lopez, Andrew Haydon, Tyrannie Cable, Dominic Capizzi.

★
 “I always worked in medicine, and I love connecting with my patients. Now I get the opportunity to share war stories at the pharmacy with older veterans. My time in the Navy taught me there is always a way to connect with patients.”

Tyrannie Cable '26

Moises Lopez '26, Marine Corp infantry rifleman veteran, faced a daunting challenge when a back surgery and subsequent other injuries left him with limited mobility. His rigorous recovery journey, combined with his military background, allows Lopez to share diverse perspectives and experiences that enrich Pacific's doctor of pharmacy (PharmD) program.

“I have been in the patient's shoes and have felt the stigma that doctors do not care,” said Lopez. “This stigma usually arises when patients do not get better after a doctor's visit, stemming from a misunderstanding and disconnect between the patient and health care provider. As a student pharmacist, I do my best to give every patient the proper time and patience, so their concerns are understood and addressed to ensure patient-centered care.”

Fellow PharmD student, **Dominic Capizzi '26** has been actively serving in the U.S. Army for the past 18 years. His military experience includes providing emergency room trauma medicine and treating casualties in Afghanistan and Kuwait. Capizzi also provided pharmacy-related humanitarian services in Vietnam, Cambodia, Indonesia and Timor-Leste. In his current role as sergeant first class, he is directly responsible for the training and well-being of 340 soldiers and indirectly responsible for more than 530 soldiers.

“During the COVID-19 pandemic, I worked in various hospitals in Philadelphia, handling hospital contract negotiations,” said Capizzi. “I collaborated with a tactical operations team on COVID response and learned about the different state regulations for hospital care.”

As a faculty member and veteran, **Andrew Haydon '12**, PharmD, associate clinical professor of pharmacy practice

and director of professional programs, brings a unique perspective to the profession. He joined the U.S. Air Force in 2002, immediately after earning his undergraduate degree, and served as a flight medic for 13 years. Dr. Haydon's deployments included service in Iraq, Afghanistan and Germany as well as Southeast Asia.

Before pursuing his PharmD at Pacific, Dr. Haydon's experiences allowed him to become skilled in administering drugs, drawing blood and stabilizing broken bones.

“I feel uniquely qualified to give students a perspective on what it means to serve in the military,” said Dr. Haydon. “By sharing this perspective, I can help students understand what is important to veterans and how to best interact with this patient population.”

Pacific's PharmD curriculum incorporates experiential experiences that expose students to different training and work environments at the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs.

“Training at the VA and related coursework enhance the students' clinical skills, medication management abilities and interdisciplinary collaboration,” said **Srikanth Kolluru**, MSPHarm, PhD, associate dean of academic affairs. “Students learn evidence-based practice and gain specialized knowledge in VA health care policies, preparing them to deliver patient-centered care with empathy and professionalism. They also develop ethical decision-making, cultural competence and leadership skills, essential for navigating pharmacy practice and contributing to quality improvement initiatives in health care settings.”

Tyrannie Cable '26 began her service as a Navy medic at the age of 17. Throughout her nine-year service, Cable was

stationed in California and Florida as well as in Africa and Europe. One of the few people cross-trained in labor and delivery, she quickly learned the importance of flexibility.

“There was a situation where we had seven people delivering at once, and I could be anywhere,” said Cable. “Being extremely adaptable is one of the biggest things I've learned in the military because every day is completely different.”

The challenges **Devki Zala '26** faced in the Army apply to her personal and professional life. Currently serving in the reserves as a chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear weapon specialist, Zala is responsible for training her unit on how to defend and respond to a wide range of situations from a gas attack or chemical spill to bomb disposal or a plague.

“I chose Pacific because of the accelerated three-year PharmD program which allows us to gain hands-on experience by working alongside health care professionals,” said Zala. “My military background allows me to bring discipline, teamwork and time management skills to my everyday class experience. Since we excel in high-pressure situations, foster resilience and exhibit strong teamwork, we have the skill set to positively impact patient care.”

By incorporating diverse viewpoints, health care providers can develop more personalized and culturally sensitive care plans, improving patient outcomes and satisfaction.

“Choosing to serve in the military is a noble profession, as is the field of pharmacy,” said Dr. Haydon. “This profession needs more veterans. We need more pharmacists dedicated to the profession and willing to put in the work to unify and elevate the field so we can continue to provide the best possible care for our patients.” ★

Alumni **TRANSFORM VETERAN CARE** and elevate pharmacists' roles

By Anne Marie H. Bergthold

For decades, Pacific alumni have been at the forefront of patient care for veterans through their roles with the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs.



Pictured left to right: Patricia Chun, Anthony P. Morreale, Poonam Tzorfas

In the VA system, physicians make diagnoses, but pharmacists have the authority and autonomy to provide comprehensive medication therapy management, including writing prescriptions and ordering lab work. Additionally, over half of more than 11,000 VA pharmacists serve in advanced practice roles, which are known as clinical pharmacist practitioners (CPP). Pharmacists at the VA practice at the top of their license in a wide range of specialties including acute care, antimicrobial stewardship, emergency medicine, mental health, oncology, opioid safety, substance abuse and transitions of care.

"The VA offers a wide range of both direct patient care and indirect patient care opportunities for pharmacists," said **Patricia Chun '99**, PharmD, BCPS, who has more than 20 years of experience with the VA. "One can transition into a variety of patient care settings, such as disease state management in an ambulatory care clinic or serving as a vital member of an acute care team."

“

"There is an opportunity for just about any practice area you would want to get involved in within the VA."

Anthony P. Morreale '83, PharmD, MBA, CPEL, BCPS, FASHP

The Veterans Health Administration is the largest integrated health care system in the United States, providing care to more than 9 million veterans at 172 medical centers and more than 1,100 outpatient sites in all 50 states, the District of Columbia and U.S. territories.

"The flexibility of being able to move anywhere in the country, or to transition from one disease state to another or one practice area to another without having to switch employers, is tremendous," said **Anthony P. Morreale '83**, PharmD, MBA, CPEL, BCPS, FASHP. "In my case, I've had about 10 different jobs within the VA over my career."

Dr. Morreale served in various roles at the VA San Diego Healthcare System from 1985 until 2010, when he was selected for the newly created Clinical Pharmacy Practice Office (CPPO) for the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs. He currently serves as associate chief consultant for clinical pharmacy, policy and pay for VA National Pharmacy Benefits Management in Washington, D.C.

In 2016, CPPO was awarded a multi-year \$120 million grant by the Veterans Health Administration Office of Rural Health (ORH) to increase the number of clinical pharmacists engaged with patient-aligned care teams, pain management and mental health. The transformative grant added 175 advanced practice pharmacist positions, underscoring the value of pharmacists serving as medication experts on dynamic, collaborative teams.

One of Dr. Morreale's goals is to utilize pharmacists to expand health care access for veterans, with an emphasis on reaching high-risk individuals. In 2018, he helped establish the VA's first centralized anticoagulation hub that delivers pharmacist-managed anticoagulants to veterans in rural communities, and in 2020, his team was awarded another multi-year \$10 million grant by ORH to expand the hub nationwide. In 2019, his team received a multi-year \$25 million grant from ORH to expand clinical pharmacy services for substance abuse disorders.

Access to care is a critical issue, especially in areas where provider shortages are widespread. As a result, CPPO has focused on several key areas to expand CPP presence, including mental health, pain management and substance use disorders. As a result of these initiatives there has been a 50%, 174% and 37% increase in clinical pharmacist practitioners respectively.

Fellow alumnus Dr. Chun has impacted patient care through her dual role at the VA Long Beach Healthcare System.

"In my role as medication safety officer I am able to implement changes to improve patient safety through critically assessing various points within the medication-use process, whether it lies within prescribing, dispensing or administering medications," she said. "I also have the privilege of serving as residency program director. I am passionate about education and mentorship and am so grateful that I can incorporate this into my job. My goal is to provide the residents with the skills and tools to be successful in whatever career path they pursue."

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"The VA's core values of integrity, commitment, advocacy, respect and excellence (I CARE) says it all. If one wants the opportunity to practice these every day, the VA is where you want to be."

Poonam Tzorfas '95, PharmD, MBA, BCGP

The opportunity to serve veterans continues to inspire **Poonam Tzorfas '95**, PharmD, MBA, BCGP, 30 years after she was first introduced to the VA as a student. She finds her role as chief of pharmacy services at the VA San Diego Healthcare System incredibly rewarding.

"The VA's core values of integrity, commitment, advocacy, respect and excellence (I CARE) says it all," Dr. Tzorfas said. "If one wants the opportunity to practice these every day, the VA is where you want to be. Veterans deserve the highest quality care for the sacrifices they and their families have made for the freedom we enjoy." ★



Left: The Boyce family in 1975 celebrating Dr. Boyce's undergraduate graduation from University of Utah College of Pharmacy. From left to right: His father, Glenn; his sister, Judy; Dr. Boyce; and his mother, Jean.

"I'm an immigrant to this country,"

said Dr. Boyce. "I was born in Canada. We came to California in 1963 with \$2,000, all our belongings in a 4-foot by 8-foot trailer and no job lined up."

The support of his sister, parents and wife, **Clemmie King**, in his pursuit of higher education and throughout his nearly 50-year career in academia inspired him to establish an endowed scholarship. This Powell-matched scholarship supports doctor of pharmacy (PharmD) students, with a preference given to first-generation college students.

Dr. Boyce earned his bachelor of science in pharmacy and his PharmD from University of Utah. As a student, he learned the importance of caring for the individual.

"When I worked in a rheumatology clinic, I had people come in that had really bad arthritis," he said. "I would see what they went through in their day-to-day lives. To watch these patients grapple with the frustrating nature of their disease and see how I could — and could not — help them, put the impact of the pharmacy profession into perspective."

To this day, Dr. Boyce has a handmade quilt given to him in 1976 by one of the clinic's patients.



Dr. Boyce joined the Pacific faculty in 2006 and served as associate dean of academic affairs until 2021. He retired in January 2024. During his career, which spanned four universities, he served on national panels for the American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy and the American College of Clinical Pharmacy. On several occasions, he was selected to lead the development of white papers that have made significant contributions to the advancement of pharmacy education nationally.

One of his proudest accomplishments is developing the PharmD elective course Social Determinants in Health Care, which was first offered in 2021. Drawing on the challenges and discrimination faced by his own family, Dr. Boyce developed the course to give future pharmacists a heightened awareness of health care disparities.

"Physical aspects, ethnicity, race, sexual orientation, gender preference and gender identity, as well as the family you were born into and where you live — all of these factors can impact the level of care you receive," he said.

Reflecting on his career, he expressed his overwhelming gratitude for the support he received from his family and colleagues. He hopes the students who receive the Boyce Family Endowed Scholarship will recognize and honor the individuals who have championed and supported them throughout their academic journey. ■

Endowed scholarships equal enduring impact

When you support an endowed scholarship, your gift will support students year after year. Endowments use a sustainable model; the principal amount is invested, which generates an amount to be awarded annually as scholarships.

Make a gift to an endowed scholarship that resonates with you. The School has more than 70 endowed scholarships for PharmD students and nine endowed scholarships for Pharmaceutical and Chemical Sciences Program students.

Endowed scholarship **HONORS FAMILY** support

By Anne Marie H. Bergthold

First-generation

college student **Eric G. Boyce, PharmD, professor emeritus**, learned the power of perseverance from his family.

The Boyce Family Endowed Scholarship honors this legacy.

Give now



bit.ly/supportpharmacy

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“

“If you are interested in developing drug molecules for different diseases or helping patients, this is the right opportunity for you. It’s a great pathway into the industry and to get professional training in a health care environment.”

Vijay K. Tammara, PhD, FAAPS

NEW academic PROGRAMS are TAILORED FOR industry SUCCESS

By Dua Her '09

Aspiring pharmaceutical professionals with a passion for research and the desire to make an impact on society can learn to navigate the rapidly growing pharmaceutical industry through two new academic programs at Pacific. The newly launched bachelor of science in pharmaceutical science and master of science in regulatory science degree programs prepare students for careers as scientists and specialists in the design, development and production of new drugs.



The bachelor of science in pharmaceutical science is focused on job placement immediately following graduation. Students will have the advantage of gaining extensive hands-on training through laboratory research and experiential learning. In addition, they will secure internship placements in the final semester with the help of dedicated faculty advisors.

“This new degree program is really different from the others in California in our focus on creating pathways for our graduates to go straight into industry jobs after four years,” said Dean **Berit Gundersen '84**, PharmD.

Graduates can find rewarding careers with pharmaceutical manufacturing companies, diagnostic laboratories and biotechnology firms. This program also creates a pathway to graduate programs in pharmaceutical or regulatory science.

Pacific’s new regulatory science graduate program prepares students to lead pharmaceutical and biotechnology organizations to ensure new pharmaceuticals, devices and health care products comply with all regulations in domestic and global markets. A regulatory scientist’s comprehensive knowledge of science is a valuable asset for corporate teams navigating the complex drug development process.



“Regulatory scientists have a deep understanding of the science, whether it is chemistry or pharmacology, and how to apply standard operating procedures that are established by the Food and Drug Administration or by individual organizations to ensure the drug product’s identity, strength, quality and purity,” said **Vijay K. Tammara**, PhD, FAAPS, adjunct professor of pharmaceutical sciences.

For many newly approved drugs, the FDA’s Center for Drugs and Biologics prepares a Summary Basis of Approval to inform the public about the drug’s safety and efficacy. Through a multidisciplinary course, students will review and analyze

these reports to gain an understanding of the intricacies of the process and the diverse expertise required to guide new drugs or medical devices from concept to market.

“Students will also complete a semester-long internship to gain hands-on experience, including developing FDA submission protocols with industry experts,” said **Bhaskara R. Jasti ’95**, MPharm, PhD, FAAPS, professor of pharmaceutical sciences and associate dean of graduate education and research. “Our goal is to train students to understand the legal regulations and how they can be interpreted to meet the industry guidelines.”

With more than 30 years of experience in global regulatory affairs, drug development and clinical strategy, Dr. Tammara believes a career in regulatory science can be rewarding for anyone.

“If you are interested in developing drug molecules for different diseases or helping patients, this is the right opportunity for you. It’s a great pathway into the industry and to get professional training in a health care environment,” said Dr. Tammara. ■

Dive deeper

Learn more about our new academic programs.

pacific.edu/pharmacy/academics





ALUMNUS of the YEAR

John F. "Jack"
Schlegel
'67, PharmD, MSEd, CAE

By Anne Marie H. Bergthold
Photo by Nancy Guth

A motto instilled in him by his father guided **John F. "Jack" Schlegel '67**, PharmD, MSEd, CAE throughout his career and served him well as chief executive officer of three major national associations.

"My philosophy has always been to say, 'Yes' when asked to do something, and then go home and figure out how to accomplish the challenge before you."

John F. "Jack" Schlegel '67,
PharmD, MSEd, CAE

He earned a bachelor of science in pharmacy from University of the Pacific in 1967. Two impactful events happened during his time at Pacific — he joined the Phi Delta Chi pharmacy fraternity and he met his wife, **Priscilla**.

Recently, the philanthropic couple invested in the future of pharmacy by establishing endowed scholarships for

Pacific Pharmacy Alumni Association Board of Directors

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Annie Ho '12

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Jessica Ocegueda '20

Osagie Omoruyi '19

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Edlen Wong '07

If you are interested in joining the Pacific Pharmacy Alumni Association Board of Directors, please contact Susan Webster, executive director, at swebster@pacific.edu

Network with alumni

We'd love for you to join us at a regional event or a reception during a professional conference! Check the calendar for a full list of upcoming events.

View events



bit.ly/pharmacy-events

Pacific doctor of pharmacy (PharmD) students. The endowments have been matched through the generosity of Robert C. and Jeannette Powell, who established the Powell Fund Match.

Dr. Schlegel earned his PharmD and his master of science in education from University of Southern California (USC). Upon graduation, he was asked to serve as a faculty member and chief pharmacist at USC. Shortly thereafter, Priscilla began a 33-year career at the RAND Corp., a nonprofit global policy think tank. Dr. Schlegel's position at USC was the beginning of a unique career in pharmacy.

Eight years after joining the faculty at USC, he was recruited to join the staff of the American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy in Washington, D.C., where he eventually became CEO. Dr. Schlegel went on to serve as CEO of the American Pharmacists Association and the Academy of Facial Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery. These roles gave him keen insights into health care and

public policy, on which he has published more than 100 articles and made hundreds of presentations.

In 1994, he founded Schlegel & Associates, a consulting and training firm that assists association boards, volunteer leaders and staff in improving leadership and governance for the purpose of achieving high performance. As president of Schlegel & Associates, he has worked with more than 300 associations, universities and organizations.

In 2008, Dr. Schlegel, along with fellow brothers of the Alpha Psi chapter of Phi Delta Chi, **Edward Larimer '69**, RPh and **Ralph L. Saroyan '64**, RPh, founded the Alpha Psi Education, Scholarship and Leadership Foundation, a nonprofit organization whose mission is to support leadership development in student pharmacists and new practitioners.

"Successful leaders become change agents and health care is one of the most dynamic fields in today's world," Dr. Schlegel said.

"Great leaders are people who recognize that the most important outcomes are achieved by teams of people with diverse backgrounds and diverse thoughts."

Dr. Schlegel was named the 2024 Pacific Pharmacy Alumni Association Alumnus of the Year in recognition of his contributions to the pharmacy profession and his support of Pacific.

"I am deeply honored, and it is truly humbling," he said. "So many graduates from this pharmacy school have made wonderful contributions to the profession, to health care and to their communities."

Dr. Schlegel and his wife have been residents of Sarasota, Florida since 1998, where they are patrons of the arts and frequent attendees of orchestra concerts, opera and live theater. ■



Virginia Chan awarded Order of Pacific

In May 2024, **Virginia (Chang) Chan '77**, PharmD received the Order of Pacific, the University's highest honor. This award recognizes her decades of service to Pacific, including serving on the Board of Regents for three terms.

Dr. Chan and her husband, Regent **Tony Chan '77**, PharmD, have generously supported the enhancement of numerous learning and residential spaces. They have also established endowed scholarships. Their philanthropy has had a transformative impact across Pacific's three campuses.

"Virginia Chan embodies the Pacific spirit of service," said President **Christopher Callahan**. "I am deeply grateful for her leadership over the years, from serving as co-chair of our hugely successful Leading with Purpose campaign to providing immeasurable guidance as a regent. Her immense contributions have made a meaningful difference in the lives of our students."

In 2023, the Chan Family was awarded the University's highest alumni honor, the Medallion of Excellence. Twelve family members have attended Pacific, including the couple's two children, **Jonathan Chan '09**, PharmD and **Megan Chan '13**, PharmD.

1970s



Tony Chan '77, PharmD returned to Pacific's Board of Regents in July 2023 having previously served from 2005 to 2014.



Keith Yoshizuka '76, PharmD, MBA, JD, FCSHP presented "2024 Pharmacy Law Update" at the California Society of Health-System Pharmacists (CSHP) Seminar, Oct. 12-15, 2023, in Long Beach. Dr. Yoshizuka is a professor emeritus of Touro University California College of Pharmacy, where he served as assistant dean for administration until his retirement in July 2022. Currently, he is enjoying retirement in Honolulu.

1980



Robert P. Nickell '81, BS Pharm was elected to the National Council for Prescription Drug Programs Foundation Board in May 2024. Dr. Nickell's many entrepreneurial endeavors include founder of SportPharm, which specializes in custom pain relief solutions for athletes, and chief executive officer of Nubatori RX, an FDA Registered Outsourcing Facility located in Southern California.



Anthony P. Morreale '83, PharmD, MBA, CPEL, BCPS, FASHP presented twice at the American Pharmacists Association Annual Meeting & Exposition, March 22-25, 2024, in Orlando. He presented at the Federal Pharmacy Forum on "Retain Your Talent: Strategies to Support and Retain the Pharmacy Workforce" and was part of a panel program "Salute to Your Federal Pharmacy Innovators" with other federal leaders. Dr. Morreale has been recognized as a Fellow and Certified Pharmacy Executive Leader by the American Society of Health-System Pharmacists. He holds Board Certification as a Pharmacotherapy Specialist from the Board of Pharmacy Specialties and an MBA from Webster University.



Carlton Lee '85, PharmD was promoted to full professor of pediatrics at Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine in Baltimore in January 2024.



Satinder Sandhu '85, PharmD was appointed by Gov. Gavin Newsom to the California State Board of Pharmacy. Dr. Sandhu works as a health care supervisor for Walgreens. He lives in Davis with his wife, Laura Sandhu '86, an alumna of the Conservatory of Music. She directs and performs with community singing groups and has a spiritual counseling practice. They have two adult daughters.



Elizabeth Johnson '87, PharmD was elected as the 2024-25 president of the American Pharmacists Association Foundation, a nonprofit organization that aims to improve health by inspiring philanthropy, research and innovation that advances pharmacists' patient care services. Dr. Johnson is owner and principal of Elizabeth Johnson Consulting and has served on Pacific's Board of Regents since July 2022.



Christopher Allen Woo '88, PharmD, FCPHA was awarded the California Pharmacists Association (CPhA) Bowl of Hygeia.

1990s



Tony J. Park '96, PharmD, JD co-presented "California Pharmacy Law Update: 2024, Q1" at the CPhA Western Pharmacy Exchange, April 19-21, 2024, in Las Vegas.



Marisella Guerrero '98, PharmD presented "Impact of Explicit and Implicit Bias in Health Care" at the 2024 CPhA Western Pharmacy Exchange.



Pasit Phiasivongsa '98, '02, PhD was appointed chief technical officer in May 2024 of Nurix Therapeutics, a clinical stage biopharmaceutical company developing targeted protein modulation drugs designed to treat patients with cancer and inflammatory diseases.



Kevin Host '99, PharmD was named chair of the National Association of Chain Drug Stores Board of Directors in April 2024. Dr. Host has served as senior vice president of pharmacy at Walmart in Bentonville, Ark., since September 2021.

2000s

Jeff Jolliff '04, PharmD, MBA, BCPS, BCACP, AAHVP et al. published "Isavuconazole in the Treatment of Chronic Forms of Coccidioidomycosis" in Clinical Infectious Diseases, June 15, 2023.



Lt. Col. Jason S. Kim '04, PharmD assumed command of the 2nd Medical Recruiting Battalion of the U.S. Army on June 15, 2023. This mission includes recruiting all medical officer specialties involved in the care of soldiers, from researchers to physicians, plus chaplains.



Christina Ashjian Garabedian '07, '10, PharmD was named Woman of the Year for the 30th Congressional District by Rep. Adam Schiff on July 25, 2023.

Jered Arquette '08, PharmD, BCPS-AQ ID, **Nancy Nghiem '24**, PharmD and **Yvonne Mai '13, '15**, PharmD, MS, BCGP, BCACP, presented "Glycemic Control in the Trauma Intensive Care Unit and Associated Mortality" at the 2023 CSHP Seminar.



Jonathan Chan '09, PharmD married Xia Sun on June 8, 2024, in Malibu.

2010s



Janjri Desai '11, PharmD, MBA, BCPS, DPLA was elected as director of the CSHP 2024 Board of Directors for the 2024-27 term. She currently serves as executive director of pharmacy services at Stanford Health Care.



Kevin Komoto is president-elect of the California Pharmacists Association

In April 2024, **Kevin Komoto '08**, PharmD, MBA started his term as president-elect of the California Pharmacists Association, becoming the 18th Pacifican elected to this position. He embraces the challenge of executing a strategy that has the potential to significantly alter the trajectory of the pharmacy profession.

"We're at one of the most exciting, pivotal points for the profession," said Dr. Komoto. "If we set up the right type of institutions to ensure exceptional training in emergent practice settings, we can enhance the number of access points for patients to get pharmacist services."

Dr. Komoto supports the association's long-term objective of increasing the number of advanced practice roles available to pharmacists across a range of practice settings.

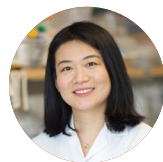
A second-generation pharmacist, Dr. Komoto is the chief operations officer of Komoto Healthcare. His father, Brian Komoto, PharmD, established a community pharmacy in Delano in 1981, which has since grown to encompass five companies operating under Komoto Healthcare. In 2024, Komoto Healthcare launched a PGY1 pharmacy residency in partnership with the School.



Michael J. Freudiger '11, PharmD, APh, BCPS, BCSCP received the Steven C. Feldman Compounding Award from CPhA. At the ASHP Midyear Clinical Meeting & Exhibition in Anaheim in December 2023, Dr. Freudiger presented at a symposium highlighting the status of compounding technologies, with a focused discussion of IV robotics. He was also the course designer and primary lecturer for the first national certificate program on compounding hazardous drugs in Saudi Arabia, approved by the Saudi Commission for Health Specialties. In December 2023, he presented in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, and a sterile compounding course in Abha, Saudi Arabia. In January 2024, his lecture "A Comprehensive Guide to USP 797 Requirements" with the IVPN Academy had more than 4,300 attendees representing countries from North America to the Middle East. This past March and May, he lectured at the Shaukat Khanum Memorial Cancer Hospital and Research Center in Lahore, Pakistan, to help teach the principles, practices and safety of sterile compounding. In May, he presented at the International Conference of Pharmacy Doctors, held in Chennai, India, to explain the pharmacist's responsibilities in sterile compounding.



Annie Ho '12, PharmD and her husband, Ezra Roati, welcomed daughter Dahlia Roati on Feb. 20, 2024. Dahlia joins big brother, Julian, age 2.



Xiaoyuan Han '14, PhD, assistant professor of biomedical sciences at the Arthur A. Dugoni School of Dentistry, received a \$702,288 R16 grant from the National Institutes of Health for a four-year project where she will develop a single-cell atlas of the premalignant immune microenvironment in oral dysplasia and identify immune features that predict the malignant transformation to oral cavity squamous cell carcinoma.



Anthony Sinconis '14, PharmD and Brittany were married in North Cascades National Park in Washington in September 2023. Dr. Sinconis was also promoted to director of quality/supervising pharmacist at Nubrotori RX in Torrance in August 2023.



Irene (Andrada) Solorio '15, PharmD and her husband, Emiliano Solorio '14, welcomed their daughter, Pia, in January 2024.



Zhu Zhou '14, PhD presented "Quantifying the Effects of Age on Cannabidiol Dispositions" and "Introduction: From Data to Drugs," as well as co-chaired the session "When AI Meets Drug Development" at the American Society for Clinical Pharmacology & Therapeutics Annual Meeting, March 28-29, 2024. Dr. Zhou was also promoted to associate professor of chemistry at York College, City University of New York in August 2023. Dr. Zhou serves as editor-in-training at Clinical and Translational Science, and was selected as a member of the National Institutes of Health Drug Discovery and Molecular Pharmacology B study section.



April Nguyen '16, PharmD, RAC, MPH earned her master of public health from Southern New Hampshire University. Dr. Nguyen accepted a position as senior global regulatory affairs manager at MMS Holdings in September 2023 and remains committed to mentoring students interested in industry pharmacy. In October, she celebrated American Pharmacists Month by translating a coloring book about pharmacists into Vietnamese to expand community awareness.



Joshua Lin '18, PharmD accepted a position as director of medical affairs strategy and scientific engagement at Syndax Pharmaceuticals in May 2024.



Christina Nyaung '18, PharmD matched with a PGY1 residency at Kaiser Permanente - San Rafael.



Yingbo Huang '19, MS, PhD earned his doctor of philosophy in experimental and clinical pharmacology from University of Minnesota in March 2024 and started a position as a research fellow at the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute and Harvard Medical School in Boston in May 2024.



Nayoung Kang '19, PharmD, BCIDP, BCPS presented "Coming Soon to a Hospital Near You! - Challenges with Inpatient Administration of N-Acetylcysteine, Insulin, and Bezlotoxumab" at the 2023 CSHP Seminar. Dr. Kang is a clinical pharmacist specialist — infectious diseases at Providence St. Joseph Hospital in Orange.

2020s



Ashley Guanzon '21, PharmD accepted a position as pharmacy program coordinator of antimicrobial stewardship at Cedars-Sinai Medical Center in Los Angeles in July 2023.



Yesenia Gutierrez '21, PharmD et al. published "Impact of a Clinical Pharmacy Program on Post-Transplant Hyperglycemic Hospitalizations" in Journal of Contemporary Pharmacy Practice in March 2024. Dr. Gutierrez is a specialty clinical pharmacist at UC Davis Health in Sacramento.



Rachel Khuc '21, PharmD, BCPS, BCEMP accepted a position as emergency medicine clinical pharmacist at Santa Clara Valley Medical Center in San Jose in July 2023.



Elizabeth Lindemann '21, PharmD was promoted to manager clinical study lead at Regeneron in New York in July 2023.



Michelle She '21, PharmD accepted a position as an oncology/bone marrow transplant pharmacist at Cedars-Sinai in Los Angeles in August 2023.



Alison Truong '21, PharmD accepted a position as program manager of pharmaceutical integrated technologies at VA San Diego Healthcare System in August 2023.



**Yvonne Mai named
CSHP-Central Valley
Pharmacist of the Year**

In recognition of her contributions to professional advocacy and her commitment to the Central Valley chapter of the California Society of Health-System Pharmacists, **Yvonne Mai '13, '15**, PharmD, MS, BCGP, BCACP, associate professor of pharmacy practice and regional coordinator for Stockton, was named the 2024 Kelli Haase Memorial Pharmacist of the Year. Dr. Mai has served her chapter in many roles, including president, and currently serves as continuing education coordinator and delegate.

Dr. Mai is passionate about using research to highlight the role of pharmacists within the health care system and was recently selected as an Editorial Advisory Board member for the Journal of the American Pharmacists Association.

"Pharmacists' roles are constantly expanding and research into our impact as we practice at the top of our license is essential to demonstrating value," said Dr. Mai.

She is currently conducting research on the impact of pharmacist-led transition of care services for cardiac patients.

A world traveler, her goal is to visit 50 countries. Last year, she took a two-week trip to Argentina and Chile, which included trekking for five days in Patagonia.

Andrew Boghossian '22, PharmD matched with a PGY1 residency at Dignity Health St. Joseph's Medical Center in Stockton.



Irene Chia '22, PharmD accepted a position as pharmacy supervisor at Kaiser Permanente in San Diego in July 2023.



Marika Gonzales '22, PharmD, BCPS accepted a position as a clinical pharmacist at UC Davis Health in July 2023.



Gwyneth Hunger '22, PharmD started a medical affairs and scientific communications fellowship at ECIR Medical Communications in May 2024.



Sandy Li '22, PharmD accepted a position as assistant professor at Touro University California in July 2023.



Ricky Philipossian '22, PharmD completed his post-doctoral clinical development fellowship at Pfizer and accepted a position as a clinical scientist, oncology, at Bristol Myers Squibb in Princeton, N.J., in May 2024.



Michelle Tang '22, PharmD matched with a PGY1 residency at the San Francisco VA Health Care System.



Samantha Teshima '22, PharmD completed a PGY2 specialty pharmacy practice residency at Kaiser Permanente. Dr. Teshima was elected as the new practitioner director for the CSHP 2024 Board of Directors and co-presented "Preceptor Pearls Round II: A Roundtable Discussion on the Challenges, Successes, and Advise of Preceptorship" and "New Practitioner Growing Pains Round II" at the 2023 CSHP Seminar. Dr. Teshima was also elected as president of the CPhA Contra Costa Chapter and co-presented "Strategies for Success: What's Next After Graduation?" at the 2024 CPhA Western Pharmacy Exchange.



Kelsey Wong '22, PharmD completed a PGY1 residency at VA Greater Los Angeles, where she had the privilege of serving as chief pharmacy resident, and earned a teaching certificate through a partnership with University of Southern California. Dr. Wong accepted a position as a clinical pharmacist for the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs in San Diego in September 2023 and is currently serving as co-chair for the organization's Pharmacy Recognition and Rewards Committee.



Ashley Beyer '23, PharmD completed a PGY1 residency and matched with a PGY2 ambulatory care residency at Kaiser Permanente Northwest in Portland.



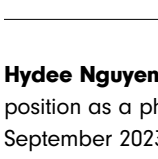
Allyson Chan '23, PharmD completed a PGY1 residency and matched with a PGY2 cardiology residency at Loma Linda University.



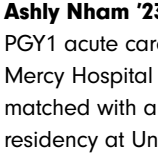
Klaire Liu '23, PharmD completed a PGY1 residency and matched with a PGY2 palliative care and pain management residency at the San Francisco VA Health Care System.



Klara Kim '23, PharmD completed a PGY1 residency at VA Greater Los Angeles Healthcare System and matched with a PGY2 oncology residency at City of Hope National Medical Center in Duarte.



Hydee Nguyen '23, PharmD accepted a position as a pharmacist at Safeway in September 2023.



Ashly Nham '23, PharmD completed a PGY1 acute care residency at Scripps Mercy Hospital in San Diego and matched with a PGY2 infectious diseases residency at University of California, Davis Medical Center in Sacramento.



Christine Phan '23, PharmD completed a PGY1 residency at VA Palo Alto and matched with a PGY2 neurology residency at the VA Greater Los Angeles Healthcare System.



Catherine Vo '23, PharmD completed a PGY1 residency at VA Puget Sound Health Care System Medical Center in Seattle and matched with a PGY2 oncology residency at VA San Diego Healthcare System in San Diego.

Starting with this issue, this publication will not longer include an "In memoriam" list.

Be in the next issue

Did you start a new job or get a promotion?
Tie the knot or welcome a new addition to your family?

Are you in a leadership role for a professional organization?

Share your news



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UNIVERSITY OF THE
PACIFIC

Thomas J. Long
School of Pharmacy

3601 Pacific Avenue
Stockton, CA 95211

On May 18, doctor of pharmacy graduates from the Class of 2024 had the opportunity to be hooded by a Pacific legacy family member during the Diploma and Hooding Ceremony.

