



# The Fellowship Chronicles

Official Newsletter of the Rutgers Institute for Pharmaceutical Industry Fellowships

## 2013 ASHP MIDYEAR CLINICAL MEETING: A SUCCESS!!



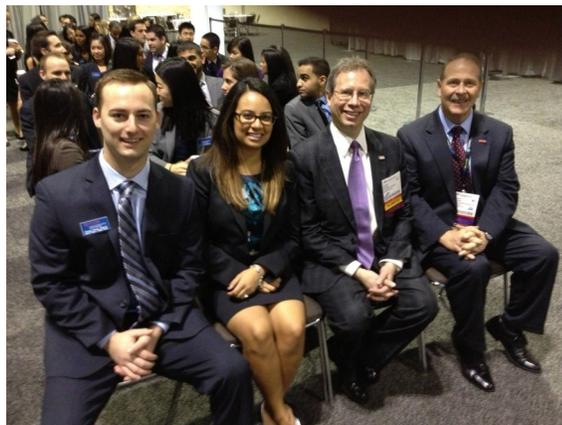
Midyear 2013 in Orlando, Florida, was such an exciting and busy week for all the fellows. Every year we reach new horizons and this year was no exception. A few remarkable additions this year included a new computerized sign up system, a QR code to facilitate the sign up process, a large conference room for eagerly waiting candidates, and a new RPIF family company: Catalent (PharmD, PhD fellow). Moreover, there was a new user-friendly application portal launched with a backend that allowed companies to review applications in real time.

As interest in the program continues to grow, so does the number of candidates interviewing. A BIG THANKS to all the companies, ASHP Midyear Committee, Lead Contacts, Technology/Website Committee, Co-Chiefs, Dr. Barone & Toscani, and to every single fellow! A lot of hard work was dedicated to making this event a great success! We could not have done it without all your efforts and tremendous support!

### Highlights

- ⇒ 427 Candidates interviewed at ASHP Midyear for 61 positions
- ⇒ 7:1 Ratio of Applicants to Fellowship positions
- ⇒ 61 positions were filled
  - 49 two-year fellowships and 12 one-year fellowships)
- ⇒ 14 Fellows (23%) come from Rutgers EMSOP
- ⇒ 47 Fellows (78%) come from 30 Other Pharmacy Schools
  - Other schools with the most acceptances are:
  - 7 Fellows (11%): USP
  - 4 Fellows (7%) MCPHS
  - 3 Fellows (5%): UCONN
  - 2 Fellows (3%): LIU, PITT, UB, and U of P

Returning fellows 39 + New fellows 61  
= 100 Total Fellows for 2014-2015



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## FELLOW SPOTLIGHT

**Victoria Vazquez, Pharm.D., 1st year Medical Strategy Fellow at BMS**

Nearly one year ago, the Industry Pharmacists Organization (IPhO) was created in order to raise awareness of the indelible value of industry pharmacists, provide resources and coaching services to members, and organize networking opportunities to facilitate best practice sharing. Within this broader organization, the IPhO National Fellows Council (INFC) was formed in an effort to connect fellows of all programs across the nation and advocate for our career development. This newly shaped INFC sponsored its first event at the 2013 ASHP Midyear Clinical Meeting. Our event consisted of a panel highlighting the experiences of six INFC fellows from various fellowship programs and was followed by a networking session. The panel members discussed the challenges and obstacles experienced thus far in their fellowships, the importance of preceptor and mentor relationships, as well as the need to differentiate oneself from co-workers in order to highlight the value that PharmD fellows can bring to the team. With the support of fellows and the incorporation of feedback, the INFC hopes to sponsor several networking and professional events for all fellows at future conferences. We hope to see you there!



## ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

**Ralu Vlad, Pharm.D., Former Hoffman-La Roche Fellow**

**Stuart Rhodes, Pharm.D., 1st year Medical Strategy Fellow at BMS**



Following completion of her PharmD at the Ernest Mario School of Pharmacy at Rutgers, Ralu Vlad's interest in non-traditional pharmacy careers and passion for drug development led her to pursue a clinical research fellowship with Hoffman-La Roche Inc. Immediately following her fellowship, Ralu joined Novartis Pharmaceuticals as a Senior Clinical Research Scientist in oncology, where she managed medical affairs clinical trials for marketed products and compounds in development. Ralu then joined Bristol-Myers Squibb to work in Medical Strategy where she helped launch Sprycel in the US and helped prepare Erbitux for upcoming launches in lung and head and neck cancers. Ralu then transitioned into role of Global Medical Director for Yervoy (ipilimumab) and helped drive the development of the lifecycle indications. Ralu's interest in developing novel drugs and her experiences in clinical research and drug commercialization have driven her to seek a non-traditional career path in order to further deepen her knowledge of the drug development process. Ralu has continued to fulfill the role of a distinguished RPIF alumnus as she recently transitioned to Director and US Liaison for Oncology Regulatory Strategy working on the Immuno-Oncology portfolio. Throughout her career, Ralu recognized the significant role a number of great preceptors and mentors have played in her success. Knowing this, it has always been about "when" she would become a preceptor, not "if." After moving to her global medical role at Bristol-Myers Squibb, Ralu started the Global/US Medical Strategy fellowship in collaboration with Allison Hunt in order to have a more active role in shaping the careers of her fellows. Ralu's advice to current and future fellows is to find what brings meaning to your everyday work, and to forge your own pathway to success, rather than following the path of those who came before you. For those early in their careers, remain open to opportunities presented, as each opportunity will teach you many things and open up doors to other possibilities.

**Connect with Dr. Vlad:**





## WEST COAST LIAISON: INAUGURAL WEST COAST NETWORKING SESSION

**Sonali Patel**, Pharm.D., 2nd year Regulatory Fellow at Genentech

The RPIF program has made an exciting leap across the country to the San Francisco Bay Area with the establishment of the Genentech regulatory affairs fellowship in fall of 2012. With the expanded functional area recruitment of fellows at Genentech, RPIF's presence continues to grow on the west coast. In order to bridge the two coasts, the co-chiefs, NJ home office and I have implemented solutions such as webcasts of professional development days, proactive coordination of major events, and the creation of local networking opportunities. This allows west coast fellows to have the same access to high quality experiences, mentorship, and networking opportunities that are hallmarks of the RPIF program.

During a recent visit to the Bay Area, Dean Barone, Dr. Toscani and I hosted an RPIF networking session to continue to foster the fellowship family by strengthening ties with local former fellows and connecting them with current fellows. The event was a great success with multiple fellowship class years in attendance and grand views of the Bay Bridge. Much like the shimmering Bay Bridge connecting San Francisco to the Bay Area, these events and activities form connections within the fellowship and paint a bright future for RPIF coast-to-coast.



## ALUMNI RELATIONS COMMITTEE

**Srimoyee Chakraborty**, Pharm.D., 1st year Medical Education Fellow at Janssen

As the fellowship continues to grow, we are very focused on keeping our alumni engaged and up-to-date. Recently, the Alumni Relations Committee (ARC) has been collaborating with the University Outreach Committee (UOC), Organization Outreach Committee (OOC), West Coast Liaison (WCL), and others. Thanks to these RPIF committees, we are reaching out to alumni in fun and innovative ways! The WCL and West Coast fellows organized a fun night of networking with alumni, current fellows, Dean Barone, and Dr. Toscani at the Sens Restaurant in San Francisco, California. The UOC and ARC are working together to invite alumni to university visits based on geographic location. The OOC has teamed up with ARC to plan an alumni panel discussion at the West Coast Pharmacy Exchange meeting in California held by CPhA. These are both great ways for potential candidates to meet alumni and gain insight from their experiences within the fellowship! We hope that all of these events go well and look forward to more committee collaborations to engage alumni in the future!



# SCHOLARLY ACTIVITIES UPDATE

By: Anna Deng, Pharm.D., Scholarly Activities Liaison

We are jumpstarting 2014 with 1 poster at the ASCO Genitourinary Cancers Symposium, 4 posters at the APhA 2014 Annual Meeting & Exposition, as well as a record number of 14 posters at the DIA Medical and Scientific Communication 2014 Annual Forum. Congratulations to all of our Rutgers fellow authors and thank you to our faculty advisors for your support! **Paint it Red!**

<b>DIA Medical and Scientific Communication 2014 Annual Forum</b>		
Tuesday, March 11 (5:00pm – 6:00pm) Resident & Fellow Poster Session		
<b>Authors</b>	<b>Poster Title</b>	<b>ID /Poster #</b>
William Jackson, Boas Nahm, Michael Toscani	<a href="#"><u>Analysis of social media interactions between pharmaceutical companies and consumers: the power of the ‘Like’</u></a>	56718 / 2
Kevin Chan, Mark Rametta, Michael Toscani, Juan C. Nadal	<a href="#"><u>Current Practices and Perception of MSL On-Boarding Therapeutic Training in the Pharmaceutical Industry</u></a>	56757 / 9
Sagar Shah, Jamie An, Rupal Patel	<a href="#"><u>The Impact of Surveillance Initiatives by the Office of Prescription Drug Promotion on the Number and Types of Violations</u></a>	56764 / 12
Karen Chen, Sanjay Rajendera, Michael Toscani, Evelyn Hermes-DeSantis, Joseph Barone	<a href="#"><u>Cross-regional understanding of medical information expectations of cancer-related physicians and pharmacists</u></a>	56769 / 13
Anna Deng, Emily Prince, Michael Toscani	<a href="#"><u>Mobile health applications to optimize chronic disease management and outcomes: Rheumatoid Arthritis</u></a>	56777 / 15
Emily Prince, Anna Deng, Michael Toscani	<a href="#"><u>Mobile health applications to optimize chronic disease management and outcomes: Hypertension</u></a>	56778 / 16
Marisa Ross, Jia-Huey Hue, Alexander Danyluk, Evelyn Hermes-DeSantis	<b>Exploring the impact of mobile technologies on the format and delivery of medical information provided by pharmaceutical companies</b>	56785 / 18
Joanne Nguyen, Kimberly Colligan, Matthew Garrison, Joanne Jani, Erin Carducci, Marjorie Gatlin	<a href="#"><u>Healthcare professional perceptions and expectations for scientific content at a medical convention booth</u></a>	56780 / 19
Brett Hensley, Seema Patel, Evelyn Hermes-DeSantis, Darren Piscitelli	<a href="#"><u>Evaluation of consumer medication information leaflets provided at community and hospital outpatient pharmacies</u></a>	56781 / 20
Dhaval B. Patel, Michael Toscani	<a href="#"><u>Current practices of crisis management in medical information centers</u></a>	56783 / 21
Caitlin Lentz, Christie Celli, Thomas Faria	<a href="#"><u>Assessing and Addressing the Training Needs of Medical Information Professionals Worldwide</u></a>	56779 / 23
Nicholas Bires, Victoria Vazquez, Tracey Canova, William Jackson, Ijeoma Nwosu	<a href="#"><u>Prospective Tracking of Drug Information Resource Updates Following FDA Approved Labeling Changes</u></a>	56627 / 30
Ashley Doyle, Michael Toscani	<a href="#"><u>Current Landscape of Investigator Sponsored Study (ISS) Strategies and Its Impact on Study Publication Rates: An Investigator Perspective</u></a>	56732 / 33
<b>Wednesday, March 12 (11:30am-1:00pm) Professional Poster Session</b>		
Nicholas Bires, Ijeoma Nwosu	<b>Global Pilot Program to Evaluate Medical Information Call Center Quality</b>	56787 / 24

# SCHOLARLY ACTIVITIES UPDATE

**2014 ASCO Genitourinary Cancers Symposium**  
 Saturday, February 1, 2014 (6:45am – 7:55am; 11:30am – 12:30pm), Golden Gate Hall – Renal Cancer Poster Session C

Authors	Poster Title	Poster #
Rana R. McKay, Gustavo Enrique Rodriguez, Xun Lin, Ronit Simantov, Toni K. Choueiri	<b>Impact of angiotensin system inhibitors (ASI) on outcomes in patients (pts) with metastatic renal cell carcinoma (mRCC): Results from a pooled clinical trials database.</b>	437

**APhA Annual Meeting & Exposition – Poster Session**  
 Monday, March 31 (12:30pm – 2:30pm), Convention Center, West Hall B4

Authors	Poster Title
Kunal Kanani, Vrunda Patel, Lucio Volino, Michael Toscani	<b>Factors influencing Over the Counter analgesic drug recommendations made by pharmacists in the United States</b>
Jonathan Nguyen, Manan Shah, Michael Toscani	<b>Identifying whether a discussion is needed on generic-to-generic switching of narrow therapeutic index drugs: a literature review</b>
Danny Gonzalez, Bernadette Chan, Kate Gorcyca, Raj Patel	<b>Criteria for Developing the Ideal Diabetes Mobile Application: Examining Patient, Provider, and Regulatory Perspectives</b>
Beth Drimalla, Andrea Wagner, Lucio Volino, Michael Toscani, Donna Feudo	<a href="#"><u>New Jersey Prescription Monitoring Program - pharmacists' perception and commentary</u></a>

### Special Publication

Shah A and Messaoudi L. [Insight into the Rutgers Pharmaceutical Industry Fellowship Program](#). *Regulatory Rapporteur*. Nov 2013: 22-24. Content provided by fellows: **Caitlin Lentz** and **Jay Bordoloi**.





# PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT SERIES (PDS)



By: **Ripal Shah**, Pharm.D. and **Victoria Vazquez**, Pharm.D., PDS Co-Chairs

Recent professional development days (PDDs) have provided exciting and interactive opportunities for fellows to learn about the various opportunities available within the pharmaceutical industry, as well as the importance of appropriate etiquette both within and outside of the workplace. With one CE course presented in the fall, several of the spring PDDs were held at partner companies to provide additional CE credits. The first onsite PDD this spring was held at Bayer, which discussed women's healthcare including treatment paradigms, legislative issues, as well as innovative therapies. A melanoma-focused CE, sponsored by Merck, described the gaps in current standard of care treatment and the recent legislation changes that aim to improve access and expedite approval of these oncology medications. We continued our relationship with American Cancer Society volunteer patients who attend PDD to discuss their disease and treatment. Sanofi hosted the final onsite CE this fellowship year, which educated attendees on the emerging landscape of hypercholestermia and the impact of the Affordable Care Act on treatment approaches. The continued dedication and hard work that has been put into the successful execution of not only the CEs but all of the PDD presentations, has allowed for a robust and educational professional development experience thus far. We look forward to the remaining presentations for this fellowship year!





## ORGANIZATIONAL OUTREACH COMMITTEE (OOC)



By: **Justin Balint**, Pharm.D. and **Nicholas Bires**, Pharm.D., CDC Committee Chairs

The Organizational Outreach Committee (OOC) has finalized spring recruitment plans to participate in 5 national, regional, and local conventions. For a second straight year, RPIF strategically focused on key recruitment opportunities at the American Pharmacists Association Annual Meeting. This included Fellows showcasing research in the poster session, a residency showcase, a student and alumni reception, and industry focused student track programming presented by Fellows. The committee has also planned an educational program titled “Finding Your Path in Industry- Pharmaceutical Industry Fellowships to Launch Your Career” at the California Pharmacists Association Annual Meeting and will feature Fellowship alumni working in California during a panel discussion on the industry and fellowships. Please see below for a full list of spring 2014 residency showcases and events.

<b>Student National Pharmaceutical Association (SNPhA) Region I &amp; II:</b> <i>Richmond, VA (2/28-3/2)</i>	<b>APhA Annual Meeting:</b> <i>Orlando, FL (3/28-3/31)</i>  Poster Forum Residency Showcase Student Reception Student Track Program	<b>California Pharmacists Association:</b> <i>Palm Springs, CA (4/24-4/27)</i>  Student Track Program w/ Alumni Panel
<b>Student National Pharmaceutical Association (SNPhA) Region III, IV, &amp; V:</b> <i>Columbus, OH (3/14-3/16)</i>	<b>Texas Society of Health System Pharmacists:</b> <i>Houston, TX (4/11-4/13)</i>	



## PUBLIC HEALTH RESIDENCY: HEALTH DISPARITIES IN MISSISSIPPI

By: **Diane Nguyen**, Pharm.D., PGY2 Public Health Resident

Mississippi has long been the state with one of the highest rates of obesity, approaching 35%, which often results in non-communicable diseases, like diabetes. The ten U.S. states with the highest rates of diabetes are all in the south with Mississippi leading the pack. If current trends continue, it is projected that one third of Mississippians will have diabetes by 2030, leading to tremendous increases in cost of care and devastating impact on the public’s health and state’s economy. In collaboration with the Mississippi Public Health Institute and University of Mississippi School of Pharmacy, I traveled throughout the state to visit various models of practice specifically addressing these disparities, several of which are projects currently funded through BMS Foundation Together on Diabetes program. Patients face unique challenges in accessing care, and providers in delivering that care, throughout the very rural and remote Mississippi Delta. It was clear, however, that many ripe opportunities exist for pharmacists to play a prominent role in these efforts. Check out the poster on the intersection of public health and pharmacy for more information at the 9<sup>th</sup> Annual PharmD Fellow and Resident Symposium at BMS- Lawrenceville on April, 21 2014.

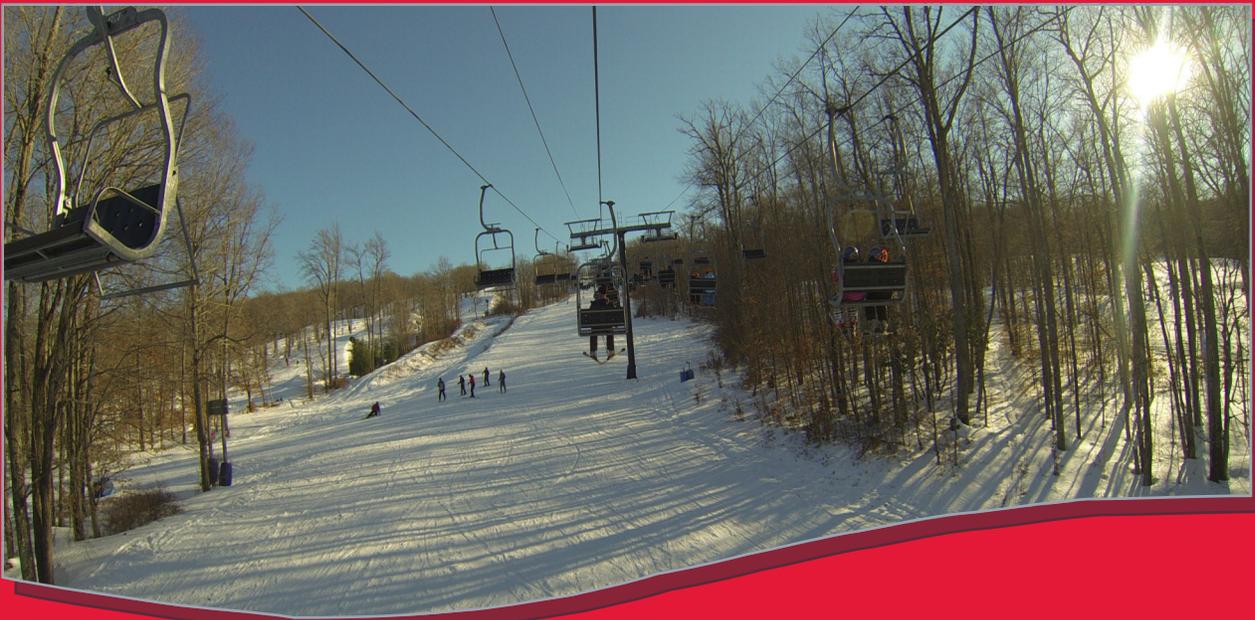


## COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

By: **Lara Dennie**, Pharm.D. and **Stefani Slog**, Pharm.D., Committee Co-Chairs



The Community Development Committee had a great end to the 2013 year, and an even better start to 2014. Fellows gathered at Howl at the Moon and Universal City Walk in Orlando, FL to kick off ASHP Mid-Year. In January, the fellows supported a great cause by dressing down and raising \$250 to donate to UNICEF to provide measles and polio vaccines and anti-malarial medications to children in need. Fellows and alumni gathered to enjoy a fun filled winter weekend in the Poconos of PA this past February for the annual Fellow Ski Trip. In the spring, CDC is excited to host an Olympic event to raise money for the Make a Wish Foundation. Look out for these details as well as other events in the upcoming months!



# ANNOUNCEMENTS



**New 2014-2015 RPIF Co-chiefs:  
Keith Fairall & Victoria Vazquez**



**Congratulations to  
Sri Chakraborty & Veejaye Sinha  
on their recent engagement!**



**Check out the new *Scholarly Activity Wall of Fame* by the Pharmacy Administration Office!**

Check the web for important forms and guides:

<http://pharmafellows.rutgers.edu/>  
[ifellows@pharmacy.rutgers.edu](mailto:ifellows@pharmacy.rutgers.edu)



Phone: 848.445.6498

Fax: 732.445.7553

Institute for Pharmaceutical Industry Fellowships  
Ernest Mario School of Pharmacy  
Rutgers, The State University of NJ  
William Levine Hall  
160 Frelinghuysen Road  
Piscataway, NJ 08854-8020

## CONTACT THE NEWSLETTER COMMITTEE:



**Dr. Brett Hensley  
Newsletter Co-Chair**  
bhensle@its.jnj.com  
Office: 609.730.2911



**Dr. Stuart Rhodes  
Newsletter Co-Chair**  
stuart.rhodes@bms.com  
Office: 609.252.5855

**Newsletter Member:**

Dr. Kyechin Chen  
kyechin.chen@bayer.com