

## DOCTOR OF PHARMACY

# Leadership Emphasis Program

## LEADING BOTH IN & OUT OF THE CLASSROOM

Chapman University School of Pharmacy's Doctor of Pharmacy Leadership Emphasis (LE) was established in 2021, and the inaugural cohort was selected in early 2022. This degree emphasis focuses on developing well-rounded student leaders both inside and outside the classroom. With a goal to equip candidates with personal and professional skill sets, they are positioned to become outstanding, lifelong leaders in healthcare.

Along with maintaining strong academic and professional standings, students selected for the LE coordinate various leadership development and community outreach events.

As a leader of IPhO, Megan collaborated the American Red Cross and other student organizations to host a blood drive for Orange County. It represented a new venture for IPhO, as it was the first time CUSP students had taken the lead in arranging a blood drive. This experience demonstrated the versatility of IPhO leaders as they extended their reach to make a meaningful contribution to the larger community. A total of 26 students and faculty donated blood.



## PHARMD LEADERSHIP EMPHASIS CANDIDATES '24:

Above, from left to right: Mariam Mekhael, Journey Cordero, Tali Faggiano, Rosa Le, Megan Shieh

## PHARMD LEADERSHIP EMPHASIS CANDIDATES '25:

Tupak Aguirre, Tinarena Awaradia, Jasmine Cho, Maraiah Andrea Colarines, Dalal Farah, Katherine Ghattas, Fatema Haider, Brenda Kilzi, Caitlyn Luong, Marina Naiem, Youssef Youssef

## PROGRAM FACULTY ADVISORS:

Laressa Bethishou, PharmD, APH, BCPS; Madeline Dintzner, PhD; Jelena Lewis, PharmD, APH; Reza Taheri, PharmD, MBA; Sharon Xavioer, PharmD, BCACP

## MENTORING THE NEXT GENERATION



AMCP and ACCP, two student organizations led by two LE candidates, Mariam and Tali, organized and facilitated a pharmacy-inspired event at a local high school. CUSP students practiced their leadership skills by creating interactive and informational activities to exemplify different areas and opportunities in pharmacy. One example included a "Compounding Pharmacy" table in which attendees crushed and ground distinct candies to mimic the compounding of various formulations.



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Attendees of the PacWest Assembly

## CREATING SPACE TO EXPLORE

Megan created our Rho Chi chapter's first Research Exploration Fair, an event where undergraduate and first-year pharmacy students could speak to students senior to them and faculty involved in research at Chapman.

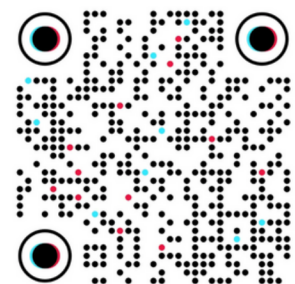
The primary objective of the Research Exploration Fair was to offer students a valuable opportunity to gain insight into the diverse array of research opportunities available on our campus and with our partners. Megan recognized the importance of exposing students to research beyond the confines of the traditional classroom setting, understanding that such exposure could spark curiosity, inspire innovation, and pave the way for future scientific exploration.

## FOSTERING BROTHERHOOD

Along with their dedicated fraternity board, Rosa and Journey organized and coordinated a highly anticipated inaugural Kappa Psi PacWest Spring Province Assembly. Proudly hosted by the Collegiate University Students of PacWest, this momentous conference served as a remarkable platform to foster the bonds of brotherhood among the attending members. It offered a unique opportunity for insightful discussions surrounding a wide array of topics, including the fraternity's ongoing initiatives, as well as its ambitious plans for the future. The event drew an impressive gathering of approximately 180 brothers hailing from diverse universities, all eager to partake in the enriching experience and contribute to the collective growth of the fraternity.

## USING TRENDS TO EDUCATE OUR COMMUNITIES

Mariam and Tali led the team of students who participated in CUSP's 2023 Script Your Future (SYF) challenge. The SYF campaign focuses on "re-scripting the future" by ensuring people take their medication correctly and thereby improve health. Tali and Mariam created TikTok videos to educate the public about the importance of medication adherence, proper medication disposal, and receiving recommended vaccines in accordance with CDC guidelines.



@cusp\_rxyourfuture

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Rosa and Journey, leaders of CUSP's Kappa Psi and APhA chapters, demonstrated exceptional leadership by taking the initiative to organize and lead a heartwarming volunteer event at the Atria Senior Living Retirement Center. CUSP students led a variety of activities for the residents, including step dances, Tai Chi, and word searches to promote the residents' well-being and encourage healthy lifestyles. During a game of Jeopardy, the future pharmacists educated residents about topics that were relevant to their demographics including diabetes and hypertension.



The events highlighted (and many more) were made possible due to our Leadership Emphasis candidates' involvement in student organizations. Their board and committee positions are below.

**Journey Cordero:** APhA-ASP/CPhA President, PLS Vice President, Kappa Psi Secretary, APhA-ASP/CPhA P1 Liaison, CUSP Student Ambassador, APEx Liaison

**Tali Faggiano:** Rho Chi Vice President, ACCP/SCCP Vice President, CSHP/ASHP-SSHP Delegate, PLS Signature Event Coordinator, ACCP/SCCP P1 Liaison

**Rosa Le:** Kappa Psi Regent, VAPSA Secretary, Rho Chi

Treasurer, PLS Sergeant at Arms, CUSP Student Ambassador, APEx Liaison, Kappa Psi Chaplain

**Mariam Mekhael:** AMCP President, AMCP P1 Liaison, CUSP Student Ambassador, Assessment Committee

**Megan Shieh:** Rho Chi President, IPHO Vice President, CSHP/ASHP-SSHP Secretary, Phi Delta Chi Worthy Keeper of Finance, Academic Affairs Committee

In addition to the official leadership positions that our students currently serve in or have held in the past, they continue to impress through their professional recognition.



Megan, Tali, and Rosa were inducted into **Rho Chi**, the international pharmacy honor society. Only the top 17% of each CUSP cohort is invited to join. The three of them now serve as Rho Chi Tutors. Tali is also the Supplemental Instruction (SI) Supervisor, and she and Megan are SI Leaders.

Journey, Rosa, and Tali were inducted into Phi Lambda Sigma (PLS), the international pharmacy leadership society. Only 7 second-year students were invited to join CUSP's PLS chapter.

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In addition to spearheading community events, candidates in the program also participate in a wide range of research projects.



### **"IMPLEMENTATION OF PHARMACIST RUN ONE STOP SHOP TO IMPROVE VALUE-BASED CARE FOR DIABETES IN A PRIMARY CARE CLINIC: A PILOT STUDY"**

Rosa and Mariam are completing a Capstone research project with Drs. Jelena Lewis and Albert Bach. They designed and implemented a novel quality improvement clinic called One Stop Shop (OSS) at which patients can have all their missing diabetes quality measures satisfied (i.e., hemoglobin A1c, blood pressure, etc.). This project was presented at the 2023 ACCP Virtual Poster Symposium.

### **"THE IMPACT OF PHARMACIST TRANSITIONS OF CARE INTERVENTIONS IN IDENTIFYING MEDICATION ERRORS FOR PATIENTS DISCHARGING TO A SKILLED NURSING FACILITY"**

Tali is completing a Capstone research project with Dr. Laressa Bethishou. They assessed patient data and medical records to determine pharmacists' role in preventing errors and communicating with the healthcare team as patients transitioned to SNFs. This research was presented at the 2023 ACCP Virtual Poster Symposium, and will be presented again at the 2023 ACCP Annual Meeting. Tali and Dr. Bethishou are also working on a manuscript for publication.



### **"PHARMACOGENOMICS INTERACTIONS OF DRUGS USED FOR ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE"**

Megan's independent research project was conducted under the guidance of Dr. Moom Roosan. She researched the pharmacogenomics interaction between genes implicated in Alzheimer's Disease (AD) and drugs indicated for AD, namely acetylcholinesterase inhibitors and aducanumab. Her work exemplifies the dedication and passion that drives aspiring researchers in the field of pharmacy. Megan presented her poster at ASHP Midyear Clinical Meeting and Exhibition in December 2022.

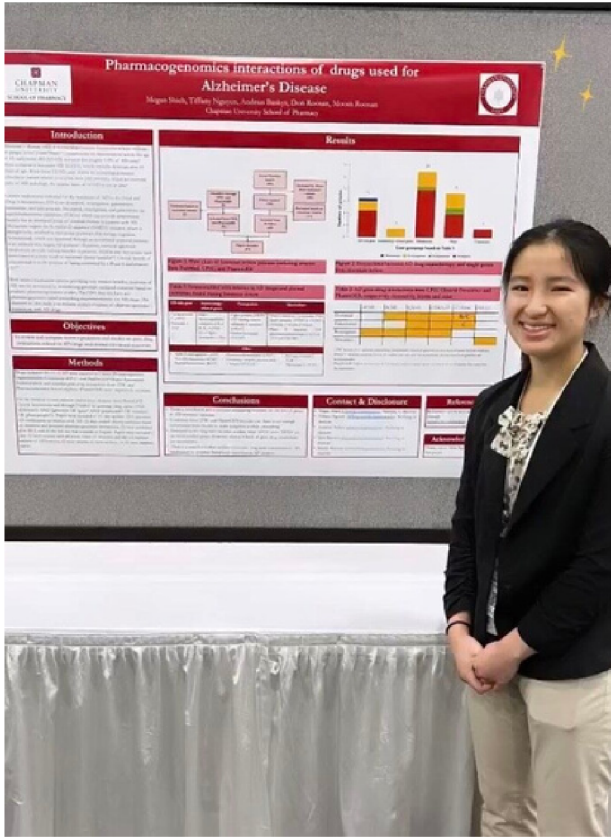


### **"THE EVOLUTION OF LEADERSHIP IN THE EDUCATION, TRAINING, AND PRACTICE OF PHARMACISTS IN THE TWENTY-FIRST CENTURY: AN INTEGRATIVE REVIEW"**

Journey and her research team, Dr. Taheri, Dr. Dintzner, and another second-year student, are evaluating the evolution of pharmacy leadership. This Capstone research project focuses on how the role of pharmacists as leaders in interprofessional healthcare teams has grown, and how the pandemic may have influenced similar changes. The research team is hoping to present at the 2023 ASHP Midyear Clinical Meeting and Exhibition. A virtual poster is unavailable at this time.

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### **"PHARMACY-BASED IMMUNIZERS' COMFORT VACCINATING PEDIATRIC PATIENTS"**

Rosa was a member of CUSP's 2022 CAPSLEAD team. Together they investigated the barriers affecting a California pharmacist's comfort level in vaccinating individuals between the ages of 3 and 17. The team of eight presented at CSHP Seminar 2022 and WPE 2023.

### **"IMPACT OF SUPPLEMENTAL INSTRUCTION ON ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE OF STUDENTS IN A DOCTOR OF PHARMACY PROGRAM"**

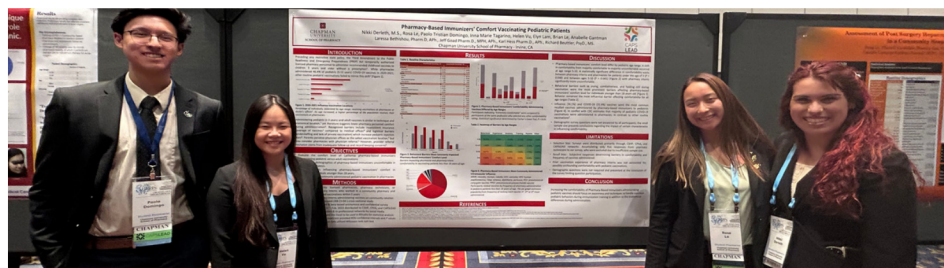
Tali is working on another research project alongside Drs. Reza Taheri, Richard Beuttler, Mason Myers, and Jenna Stewart. This research focuses on the association between improvement in students' final course grades and attendance at live SI sessions. The team is currently writing a manuscript for publication.

### **"OUTPATIENT ANTIBIOTIC PRESCRIBING PRACTICES FOR URINARY TRACT INFECTIONS: UNCOVERING AREAS FOR IMPROVEMENT BASED ON FIVE DS (DIAGNOSIS, DRUG, DOSE, DURATION, AND DE-ESCALATION)"**

Megan's Capstone research project is being conducted alongside Dr. Amy Kang and five other students. They are collecting and analyzing data related to outpatient antibiotic prescribing practices for urinary tract infections, with the goal of identifying how to improve antibiotic prescribing practices for this disease state. This is a long-term project that requires further research, but a poster presentation can be expected in the future.

Chapman University School of Pharmacy is proud to offer a Doctor of Pharmacy with Leadership Emphasis. This unique program presents students with incredible opportunities to stand out, grow as leaders, and advance the profession of pharmacy in immeasurable ways. Thank you to the faculty and staff members who developed this program, and to the students who have helped bring it to life.

To learn more about the Doctor of Pharmacy, Leadership Emphasis, scan this code.



Notes: Not all students in featured photos are part of the program, but each photo's occurrence was made possible by a student in the Leadership Emphasis Program. Special thank you to Tali Faggiano for inspiring this brochure and providing the content used.