

Undergraduate/Graduate Student Awards

AFPC/MERCK CANADA INC. POSTGRADUATE PHARMACY FELLOWSHIP AWARD

Ms. Courtney Lawrence

University of Manitoba

Ms. Courtney Lawrence completed her BSc in Pharmacy at the University of Manitoba in 2018. During her undergraduate program, she pursued many opportunities to participate in both basic and applied research, ultimately developing an interest in antibiotic pharmacotherapy and pharmacokinetics-pharmacodynamics. After graduation she began work as a community pharmacist and in September 2018 she enrolled in a full-time MSc in Pharmacy at the University of Manitoba under the supervision of Dr. Sheryl Zelenitsky.



Her research includes a clinical pharmacokinetic study that will optimize antimicrobial therapy in the treatment of serious, often life-threatening infections in hemodialysis patients. Ms. Lawrence hopes to extend her research experience to future goals of improving antimicrobial stewardship in other high-risk populations as a mechanism to combat antibiotic resistance and improve patient outcomes.

AFPC/CANADIAN FOUNDATION FOR PHARMACY GRADUATE STUDENT AWARD FOR PHARMACY PRACTICE RESEARCH

Ms. Shahrzad Salmasi

University of British Columbia

Ms. Shahrzad Salmasi completed her Bachelor of Pharmacy (Hons) in 2016 at Monash University (second best pharmacy school globally, 2019 QS ranking). She then moved to Canada and received her MSc degree in Pharmaceutical Sciences at the University of British Columbia in 2018 with focus on patient education. Her thesis involved assessment of atrial fibrillation patients' education needs from patients' and clinicians' perspective and using her findings in designing a theory-driven, evidence-based education program for these patients. She is currently a PhD student at the Faculty of Pharmaceutical Sciences, University of British Columbia under the supervision of Dr. Peter Loewen and Dr. Mary De Vera, focusing on atrial fibrillation patients' adherence to oral anticoagulants.



Shahrzad has received numerous awards including the UBC International doctoral fellowship, CIHR drug safety and effectiveness award, Impact BC scholarship in healthcare research and development, teaching assistant appreciation award, CIHR travel award, the Faculty of Pharmaceutical Sciences outstanding services award, and the Douglas and Jean Bailey Scholarship. Shahrzad strives to combine her clinical expertise and research skills to make an impact on both patients' lives and that of future clinicians, particularly pharmacists.



Undergraduate/Graduate Student Awards — cont'd

AFPC / COUNCIL FOR CONTINUING PHARMACEUTICAL EDUCATION GRADUATE STUDENT RESEARCH AWARD



Ms. Amani Hamad

University of Manitoba

Ms. Amani Hamad is a PhD candidate at the College of Pharmacy, University of Manitoba, working under the supervision of Dr. I fan Kuo and Dr. Silvia Alessi-Severini. She completed her pharmacy BSc in 2007 and MSc in 2009 from the University of Jordan. She practiced as a Drug and Poison Information Specialist for five years before she moved to Manitoba to pursue a PhD degree.

Amani is specializing in Pharmacoepidemiology research: studying medication use and effects in large populations. Her research focuses on evaluating the long-term safety of medications used in early life by utilizing administrative databases in Manitoba. She published findings from her thesis research in well-regarded, peer-reviewed journals and received several awards to recognize her academic achievement and her success in producing and sharing research findings.

AFPC / COUNCIL FOR CONTINUING PHARMACEUTICAL EDUCATION STUDENT RESEARCH POSTER AWARD



Ms. Valérie Long

Université de Montréal

After receiving her B.Sc. in Biopharmaceutical Sciences in 2017 at the Université de Montréal, Valérie Long started her master's degree in Dr. Céline Fiset's lab, at the Research Center of the Montreal Heart Institute and the Faculty of Pharmacy of the Université de Montréal. She is currently studying the role of female sex hormones on the regulation and the function of the sinoatrial node, the natural pacemaker of the heart. More precisely, Valérie's project is seeking to determine the mechanisms underlying the estrogens-induced increased heart rate. At the end of the summer, she will complete her M.Sc. and will pursue her work on cardiac automaticity as a Ph.D. student.

Although early in her career, Valérie has already participated in several national and international scientific meetings. For the quality of her work, she received excellence awards as well as major studentships. During her undergraduate studies, Valérie completed an internship, which earned her a publication as first author. Also, her first results obtained during her master's degree are published in *Cardiovascular Research*.

Undergraduate/Graduate Student Awards – cont'd

AFPC / COUNCIL FOR CONTINUING PHARMACEUTICAL EDUCATION STUDENT RESEARCH POSTER AWARD

Ms. Giovanna Madeiros Schver

University of Toronto

Giovanna Schver has a Bachelor of Pharmacy recognized by the Pharmacy Examining Board of Canada (PEBC), a Master's degree in Therapeutic Innovation, and she is currently a Ph.D. candidate in pharmaceutical sciences, under the guidance of Dr. Ping I. Lee at the University of Toronto. Her thesis project focuses on Solid Dispersions in Medium-Insoluble Hydrogels for Enhancing the Solubility and Bioavailability of Poorly Soluble Drugs. The success of her study will enable the application of this approach to various poorly water-soluble drugs that could benefit patients' lives.



Throughout her career, Giovanna has worked with the varied aspects of drug development such as pharmacology, toxicology, pharmacokinetics, drug quality control, and formulation, both independently and as a team member, which led to 10 publications in peer-reviewed journals and 10 poster presentations in national and international conferences. She is also a highly active student, serving as the Chair-Elect of the UofT American Association of Pharmaceutical Sciences (AAPS) Student Chapter and, in the past, as the president of the pharmaceutical sciences association (PSGSA) (2017-2018) at Leslie Dan Faculty of Pharmacy. She has been the recipient of 13 awards including the prestigious Emerging Leaders in the Americas Program (ELAP) provided by Global Affairs Canada.

AFPC / COUNCIL FOR CONTINUING PHARMACEUTICAL EDUCATION STUDENT RESEARCH POSTER AWARD

Ms. Wajd Alkabbani

University of Manitoba

Ms. Wajd Alkabbani graduated with a Bachelor of Pharmacy degree from Kuwait University in 2015. She has recently obtained her master's degree in pharmacy in May 2019 from the University of Manitoba under the supervision of Dr. Christine Leong.

Wajd's research interest is in the field of pharmacoepidemiology. For her MSc thesis, Wajd used administrative healthcare data to conduct a drug utilization study to evaluate the use of pharmaceutical cannabinoid agents in the province. The project aimed to assess the annual trends, sociodemographic and clinical determinants, and persistence of use of these agents.

Wajd has recently joined the lab of Dr. John-Michael Gamble in the School of Pharmacy at the University of Waterloo to pursue her PhD degree.



AFPC-WHIT MATTHEWS UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT POSTER AWARD

AFPC-WHIT MATTHEWS GRADUATE STUDENT POSTER AWARD

Sponsored by:
Council for Continuing Pharmaceutical
Education

Faculty Awards

AFPC / JANSSEN AWARD FOR INNOVATION IN EDUCATION



Ms. Marie Rocchi

University of Toronto

Marie has been a faculty member at the Faculty of Pharmacy, University of Toronto since 1999 when she was hired to create what is now the International Pharmacy Graduate Program. She has taught undergraduate students since 2006; subjects include Informatics, Medication Therapy Management and Health Systems. She believes that, when courses are well designed, the use of technology is a motivating factor for learners, which can optimize their learning and engagement.

Marie has been the Instructional Designer (ID) for AFPC's Informatics for Pharmacy Students initiative since 2011, and developed a competency based, peer reviewed, open access, online e-Resource that has been adopted in all Faculties of Pharmacy across Canada, cited by US educators as "best practice" in online education. Most recently, she researched and developed two Interprofessional Chapters designed for medical, nursing and pharmacy students on e-MedRec and e-Prescribing.

She is the instructional designer for "Code Orange, a Defence Canada project preparing health, psychosocial, and communications first responders for CBRNE events (chemical, biological, radio-nuclear and explosive) and served as Director of Education of the International Medical Graduate program, a collaborative of Ontario's six medical schools from 2011 to 2014, and led its pre-residency program's transition from a classroom based to a blended model.

She developed a pan-Canadian online course, "Orientation to the Canadian Healthcare System, Culture and Context" for internationally educated health care professionals and developed an innovative suite of virtual cases on "alternative careers" (called Career Options) for a Health Canada funded project. Recently, she led the academic renewal of the International Pharmacy Graduate Program (which she founded in 1999) including the transition to a blended delivery approach.

Faculty Awards – cont'd

AFPC NEW INVESTIGATOR RESEARCH AWARD

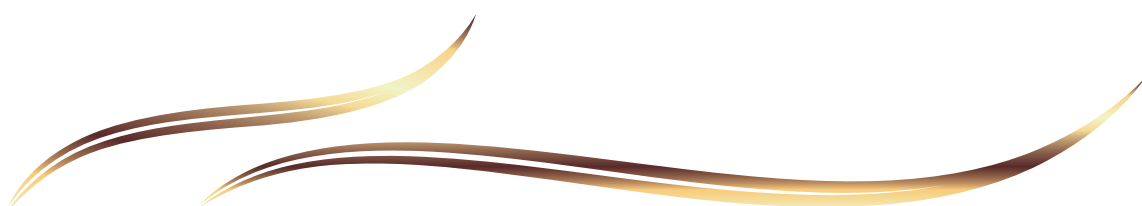
Dr. Mary De Vera

University of British Columbia

Mary De Vera is an Assistant Professor at UBC's Faculty of Pharmaceutical Sciences where she holds a Tier 2 Canada Research Chair in Medication Adherence, Utilization, and Outcomes. She obtained her PhD from UBC's School of Population & Public Health, specializing in pharmacoepidemiology, and completed post-doctoral fellowships in perinatal pharmacoepidemiology at the University of Montreal's Faculty of Pharmaceutical Sciences and pharmaceutical outcomes research at UBC's Faculty of Pharmaceutical Sciences.



The theme of Mary's research is "Medication Matters" and her goal is to support appropriate and safe medication use and optimize patient outcomes among 1 out of 3 Canadians with chronic disease relying on pharmacotherapy. With this, she conducts patient-oriented research evaluating adherence interventions as well as population-based research using administrative databases in British Columbia to assess patterns of medication use and associated outcomes.



Faculty Awards — cont'd

AFPC / PFIZER RESEARCH CAREER AWARD



Dr. Ping Lee

University of Toronto

Dr. Ping I. Lee is a Professor of Pharmaceutical Sciences at the Leslie Dan Faculty of Pharmacy, University of Toronto, who also served as the inaugural GlaxoSmithKline Chair from 2004 to 2014. He received a BSc in Chemical Engineering from National Taiwan University and a PhD in Physical Chemistry from Michigan State University. He began his career in the industry and held senior research and management positions in drug delivery and pharmaceutical R&D at several major pharmaceutical companies in the US for a total of 25 years: Ciba-Geigy, SmithKline and Schering-Plough. In between, he also served as tenured Full Professor in the Faculty of Pharmacy, University of Toronto from 1988 to 1993. Prior to returning to Toronto in July 2004 for the GlaxoSmithKline Chair, he was Senior Director of Pharmaceutical R&D at Schering-Plough Research Institute in Kenilworth, NJ.

Dr. Lee is one of the pioneers in the field of controlled release drug delivery systems. His earlier pivotal work on the mathematical modeling of polymeric drug delivery systems based on hydrogels and polymer matrices had a major impact on the fundamental understanding of the complex drug release mechanisms and provided working equations to guide the rational design of controlled-release products. His recent research tackles the challenge of low bioavailability of oral medications which are poorly water-soluble. He continues to further the understanding of mechanisms of drug release from amorphous solid dispersions (ASDs), an important strategy in enhancing the solubility and bioavailability of poorly soluble drugs.

Throughout his combined 20 years tenure at the University of Toronto, Dr. Lee conducted research funded by CIHR, NSERC as well as industrial sources and trained 23 graduate students and postdoctoral fellows. He has 91 scientific publications, 44 patents/patent applications including 23 issued patents, and 82 invited lectures. He was a founding Chair of the AAPS Modified Release Focus Group (2002-2004) and a member of the Scientific Advisory Committee on Pharmaceutical Sciences & Clinical Pharmacology for Health Canada (2012 - 2014). He currently serves on the Editorial Boards of several high impact pharmaceutical research journals. He is a Fellow of AAAS (American Association for the Advancement of Science; elected 1996) and AAPS (American Association of Pharmaceutical Scientists; elected 2013).

Faculty Awards – cont'd

AFPC NATIONAL AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN EDUCATION

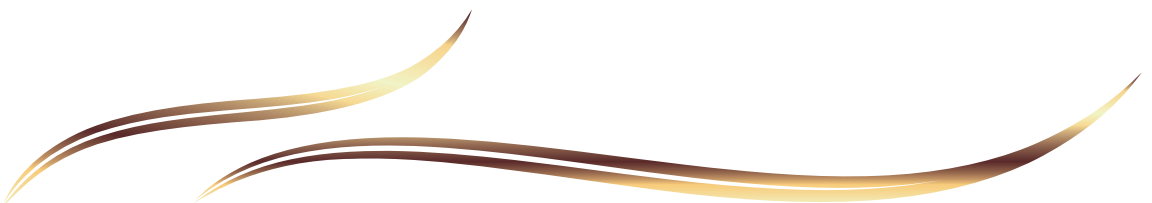
Dr. Jamie Kellar

University of Toronto

Dr. Jamie Kellar is an Assistant Professor – Teaching Stream and Acting Director of the Doctor of Pharmacy Program at the Leslie Dan Faculty of Pharmacy, University of Toronto. She received an Honors Bachelor of Science degree in Human Kinetics (BScHK) from the University of Guelph, followed by a Bachelor of Science in Pharmacy (BScPhm) and Doctor of Pharmacy (PharmD) degree, both from the University of Toronto. Currently, she is a PhD candidate in the School of Health Professions Education, Maastricht University, Netherlands, where she is using Foucauldian Critical Discourse Analysis to study Pharmacist Professional Identity. In addition to her education, she is a licensed pharmacist in Ontario. Professor Kellar's practice area is in the field of mental health.



At the Leslie Dan Faculty of Pharmacy, Jamie teaches a variety of courses including the pharmacotherapy of neuropsychiatry and a mental health and addiction elective course. She has also taught medication therapy management and health systems. Jamie is actively involved in numerous student initiatives, including serving as the Faculty Advisor for the Initiative for Mental Health Awareness in Pharmacy (IMHAP) club. In this role, Jamie provides talks on various mental health topics throughout the year and leads “Mental Health and Chill” movie nights each semester for students, faculty and staff. The movie nights screen films and documentaries on mental health topics and are followed by a facilitated discussion. The sessions aim to increase dialogue and reduce stigma associated with mental illness.



Special Recognition Award

AFPC HONOURED LIFE MEMBERSHIP



Dr. Jean Lefebvre

Université Laval

Dr. Jean Lefebvre obtained his PhD at Université Laval after completing a fellowship in clinical pharmacology at Vanderbilt University, Tennessee, USA. During his career as a hospital pharmacist at the CHU de Québec, he was involved in various clinical research projects in the field of hypertension and cardiovascular disease, publishing several articles and participating in various national and international meetings.

Dr. Lefebvre is currently Professor at the Faculty of Pharmacy of Université Laval. His scholarly activities focus on pharmaceutical care and pharmacy practice. He will conclude his term as Dean of the Faculty of Pharmacy in June 2019. During his eight-year deanship, a new entry-to-practice competency-based Doctor of Pharmacy (Pharm D) program, employing simulation as a pedagogical method, has been implemented. The existing Advanced Pharmacotherapy Master's Degree has been reshaped according to the same approach. Two new study programs in Pharmacy Management have been developed for licensed pharmacists either working in a hospital setting or in the community. A graduate study program on Specialized Pharmaceutical Care has also been developed and soon will be launched creating a potential pathway for the recognition of specialization in Pharmacy.

Dr. Lefebvre serves on several commissions and boards including Pharmacists Without Borders Canada and the Association of Faculties of Pharmacy of Canada. He is a founding member of the Quebec Historical Society of Pharmacy and President of the International Association of Francophone Deans of Pharmacy (CIDPharmEF). Dr. Lefebvre is proud to be a pharmacist and, above all, he feels privileged to be involved in the training of future leaders in the profession.