USciences Online offers affordable science- and healthcare-focused degree programs that fit into your busy life. And we’ve partnered with Geisinger Commonwealth School of Medicine to develop in-demand programs that will impact the future of our industry—and your career.

• The Business of Medical Marijuana and the Cannabis Industry | Graduate Certificate
• Data Science | BS, Graduate Certificate
• Genomics | MS, Graduate Certificate
• Health Administration | MS, BS, Graduate Certificate
• Health Informatics | MS, Graduate Certificate
• Public Health | BS
• Medical Cannabis for Health Professionals | Graduate Certificate
• Medical Cannabis Retail Operations and Sales | Undergraduate Certificate

Learn more online.usciences.edu

43rd and Woodland: Podcast is Connecting Alumni and Students
Page 3
SEAN AHERN PharmD’19 and JARED HUNTER HumSci’16 sought out a way to engage young alumni and created 43rd and Woodland, a podcast focused on navigating career and life.

COVER STORY

Clash with Coronavirus: USciences Responds to Global Pandemic
Page 10
USciences alumni, students, faculty, and staff are doing their part to respond to Coronavirus (COVID-19) at work, at home and in their communities.

FEATURES

Faculty Under the Microscope
Page 6
A closer look at faculty researchers and the passion behind their fields of interest.

The Class of 2020 Virtual Ceremony
Page 8
USciences honored the Class of 2020 during the 199th Commencement Ceremony, the first ceremony to be hosted virtually, on May 20, 2020. The 550 graduates were recognized along with MICHAEL SMERCONISH, who received an honorary doctor of science degree.

Bright Spots: Teaching During COVID-19
Page 14
CHRISTINE FLANAGAN, professor of English, learned how distance can forge deeper connections following the transition to virtual classrooms.

The Psychology of Coronavirus
Page 16
Alysson E. Light, PhD, professor of psychology, writes about how COVID-19 has led some to express racial bias.

Alumni Spotlight
Page 22
Get to know more about LT. COL. ANDREW GAWLIKOWSKI PharmD’05, recipient of the 2019 Young Alumnus Award.
Dear Alumni and Friends,

First and foremost, I hope that you and your families are healthy and well. The coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic has certainly impacted us all in some way over the last few months, as it has everyone.

As we prepare to mark University of the Sciences’ bicentennial in 2021, this year will stand apart as one where we met difficult challenges and overcame unprecedented obstacles to continue the mission of our University. A global pandemic is upon us and both the University and the nation have taken measures not seen in our lifetimes. However, one thing I’ve noted from interacting with our USciences community during this time is that we, both individually and as a USciences family, have adapted to changing circumstances and have risen to the occasion, taking on COVID-19 and helping each other and our communities.

In the pages of this Bulletin, you’ll see many stories of how alumni, students, faculty, and staff have helped during these stressful times in their own ways. Be it creating hand sanitizer in their pharmacies, working on the front lines caring for patients, or donating what protective equipment they have to medical professionals in need, the character of the USciences family has shone through. We could not be more appreciative of the efforts of the many individuals who have demonstrated our USciences values.

I continue to marvel at the rapidity and care that our faculty and staff exhibited as we moved to online learning—similarly, our students have responded well, as we knew they would. You’ll find an essay from Christine Flanagan, professor of English, in this issue. She eloquently describes this transition and what she learned from her students.

We’ve seen an outpouring of support from our alumni as well who have supported our students through this difficult times with their support of the Student Emergency Fund. The fund has provided aid to 150 students from undergraduates to graduate students.

We celebrated the Class of 2020 in an unconventional virtual Commencement Ceremony this May. These students are bright and energized as they enter the workforce or pursue further education, ready to combat the next health crisis that may arise. You’ll find more about that ceremony and have a chance to meet some members of the graduating class in this issue, too.

In my time as President, I have never been prouder of our University than I have been with the response of our family in the face of this challenge. You have again shown resilience, flexibility, and support for one another. USciences is indeed a special place, and I am grateful to be a part of this community.

Let us all look to a better tomorrow together. Thank you and be well.

Sincerely,

Paul Katz, MD
President
It was a desire to experiment that led to 43rd and Woodland, a podcast curated to help students and alumni navigate career and life. The alumni behind this effort, SEAN AHERN PharmD’19 and JARED HUNTER HumSci’16 wanted this project to embody everything USciences represents by accessing the greater alumni community.

From career advice, tips about finances and student loans, to highlighting leadership skills, the duo aims to share inspiring stories. Following a warm reception from fellow alumni and students, the podcast has quickly become a way to link alumni who otherwise would not cross paths.

“We had the confidence to get started but knowing we have the support from the university is something we are really grateful for,” said Hunter. “It is reinforcement that any USciences alumnus has the ability to contribute in some way.”

“Our conversations led to offering alumni and students something tangible. It made sense at that moment to consider a podcast,” said Dr. Ahern. “It was a no-brainer because of the chemistry we already had together from our time as students. We thought a podcast was a trendy way to capture alumni interests.”
Hunter and Dr. Ahern met for the first time in 2013 when Hunter was assigned as Dr. Ahern’s residential advisor in Goodman Hall. While Dr. Ahern and Hunter stayed in touch now and then after Hunter graduated in 2016, they reunited for the first time in years at the Young Professionals Organization’s (YPO) kick-off meeting in January 2019.

YPO is an alumni affinity group affiliated with the University’s alumni office. The organization is committed to helping recent graduates and students in the early stages of their careers. The organization made it a priority to create a digital space for peer-to-peer engagement. With this in mind, Dr. Ahern and Hunter began to explore ideas on how to curate content centered around the YPO mission.

“We first thought of something to acknowledge our days in Goodman and our other favorite spots on campus like the quad,” said Dr. Ahern. “We had to sit back and consider the student experience, and then it clicked. 43rd and Woodland is the intersection that connects us to campus. It’s where we walk on and off campus to class and our homes and it’s a hang out for students because of the food trucks. On any given day, there are always students making memories and conversations there.”

The format of the podcast is positioned to fit into a busy lifestyle, whether in the office or on a commute. Trips back to campus are not always an option for those living out-of-state or out on rotations in their professional years, and a podcast is convenient for most. The goal is for alumni and students to maintain their connection to the university and to each other no matter where they are.

Research shows most podcast listeners are between the ages of 25 and 44. And nearly 45 percent of USciences alumni are in that age group.

In each episode, listeners hear from individuals who provide expertise on various professional and personal development topics.

The series began in October 2019 with Samarth Parikh PharmD’15 who offered insights on the leadership skills he has gained in the workplace and how he applies them to his career development at Janssen Pharmaceuticals.

“We are both fresh into this adulting stage of our lives and our thinking behind the topics we’ve covered so far is based on our own experiences. If we have questions, we know our peers do too and it is our goal to provide those answers to the USciences community,” Hunter said.

In a two-part series on money management featuring alumna, Fiona Bardhi Psy’16 opens up about her experience managing her own finances while she and her colleagues worked through the government shutdown in 2019. She shares the lessons she learned from navigating through difficult circumstances. The shutdown required a shift in Bardhi’s mindset when it came to spending. She focused on being proactive rather
than reactive and found creative alternatives from apps that offer cash-back on purchases and additional ways to earn revenue from online surveys to selling old artwork. In part two, students and alumni learn about setting up a plan for financial success both now and in the future.

In a recent episode, JENNA KWIECINSKI BMS’20, HumSci’20, JOHNSON LAM DPT’20, and TOM GREGORITIS PhB’20 spotlight the student experience and discuss how their time at the University prepared them to begin their careers.

“Reflecting on my experiences with my peers as I approach graduation was bittersweet and the podcast made me recognize and appreciate all of the opportunities that USciences has offered me,” Kwiecinski said. “I hope that my involvement shows alumni how great USciences continues to be and how the university continues to support its students.”

The Office of Alumni Relations is shifting its focus to incorporate more digital engagement and digital content. Efforts like 43rd and Woodland have the power to transform how USciences graduates connect with the university moving forward. Director of Alumni Relations, CASEY RYAN said, “we feel fortunate for Sean and Jared’s willingness to use their voices to engage the greater community. I enjoy hearing the pride that their alumni guests have for the education they received here.”

The podcast is just the beginning of what USciences YPO hopes to accomplish.

“This is just one component of a major effort to engage and connect USciences alumni across the country,” added Hunter. “The podcast plays an important role because the work YPO aims to do is important. Whatever we do to contribute to that vehicle is our driving force.”

43rd and Woodland is available on Spotify, Apple Podcasts, Google Podcasts, and Anchor.

SEAN AND JARED’S TIPS FOR STARTING YOUR OWN PODCAST:

1) Don’t be intimidated! Creating a podcast is easy and free to do. You can use Skype to record, Audacity to edit, and Anchor to publish.

2) Know your audience. Decide on the listener demographic you intend to target.

3) Plan ahead. Map out your first 4–5 podcasts so you have a plan for future episodes.

4) Be adaptable. Having a script is good, but you don’t need to stick to it!

5) Last, but certainly the most important, have fun!

WHAT WE’RE LISTENING TO:

JARED: The West Wing Weekly, Office Ladies, and the 1600 Sessions—which is curated by the White House Historical Association. They discuss history through the lens of the White House.

SEAN: Freakonomics Radio, Jocko Podcast on leadership and discipline, and Business Casual discusses headline news with CEO’s, thought leaders, and business experts.
Faculty Under the Microscope: A Closer Look at USciences Faculty Research

By Colleen Chase

USciences faculty researchers are passionate about their areas of interest. In these interviews, faculty members discuss how they got involved in their research and what keeps them interested.

ANIL D’MELLO, PhD, received his degree from University of Pittsburgh and B.Pharm from the University of Bombay. Currently, he teaches Pharmacokinetics and his current research focuses on the treatment of phenylketonuria, a rare genetic condition that results in decreased metabolism of the amino acid phenylalanine. There is an urgent need to develop a more comprehensive therapy for these patients.

Q: What made you want to get into your specific field of study?
A: [In the lab], we are attempting to develop a treatment for Phenylketonuria; an inborn error of metabolism characterized by an inability to metabolize phenylalanine. If left untreated, the disease results in severe intellectual disability and neuropsychiatric disturbances. For a long time the only therapy available to these patients was ingestion of a low phenylalanine diet. The diet has poor taste, an unpleasant texture, and is also expensive. Therefore, non-compliance and the associated adverse consequences are big problems.

Q: What is the biggest change you’ve seen in the field throughout your time?
A: After a lull of about almost 50 years during which dietary therapy was the only treatment option for phenylketonuric patients, in the past 10 years two new exciting treatment options have been approved by the FDA for use in these patients.

Q: What keeps you passionate about this field?
A: The hope that maybe, just maybe, our team at USciences can be part of a larger effort to discover a therapy that benefits patients and improves their quality of life—that would be immensely rewarding.

ANNE GALGON, PT, PhD, is a certified neurologic clinical specialist with advanced training in vestibular rehabilitation. She gained clinical expertise in this specialty at Magee Rehabilitation Hospital, the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania, Moss Rehabilitation Hospital and several outpatient vestibular specialty practices.

Q: What made you want to get into your specific field of study?
A: The primary focus of my research is physical therapy clinical decision-making when managing individuals with vestibular and balance disorders. My work includes both qualitative research aimed at understanding clinical decision processes and quantitative research examining the adoption of diagnostic technology and whether technology assists clinical decision making and improved patient outcomes.

Q: What is your favorite part about it and what has it taught you?
A: My favorite part is working with physical therapists in my research. Their clinical experience provides a wealth of knowledge about physical
MICHELLE KANTHER, PhD, is an assistant professor of biological sciences and primary faculty for SEA-GENES (Science Education Alliance—Gene-function Exploration by a Network of Emerging Scientists), a mid-level research program for students.

Q: What made you want to get into your specific field of study?

A: My background is in genetics and molecular biology. I have always been fascinated by the fact that a single base pair change in the DNA can have fairly dramatic effects on an organismal level, while other times significant changes in the DNA have no effect at all. Four seemingly simple nucleotides act to code for all of the things an organism needs to develop and survive.

Molecular biology has provided me with the opportunity and tools to investigate the importance of specific genes on whole animal development. Now, I get to share this passion with my students through my lecture and lab courses.

Q: What keeps you passionate about this field?

A: Working in a very supportive and collaborative environment with others who are passionate about similar things has kept me inspired to learn more and do more. As an example, this year I had the opportunity to teach in the amazing HHMI SEA-PHAGES program with C. Nicole Sunnen, PhD. Despite having had no background in Phage biology, I really wanted to gain experience in teaching hands-on research-based labs. Since coming to USciences, I have gained a deep appreciation for the value these courses bring to our students’ USciences experience. With the help of Dr. Sunnen and a very talented Ph.D. student, Norman Fultang, I was able to not only gain insight into the program but also help students become better scientists and ignite their passion for research. My experience with the SEA-PHAGES program inspired me, along with Dr. Sunnen, to apply for the HHMI’s SEA-GENES program, which we were recently selected to participate in! The SEA-GENES program is an research-based laboratory program for undergraduate students. Students will learn and utilize molecular techniques to investigate the function of some of those phage genes whose function is currently unknown. I feel fortunate to have the opportunity to apply for and teach in this program. Teaching SEA-GENES will allow me to combine my passion for teaching and molecular biology to gain insight into a new research area.

Q: What’s your favorite part of being in the USciences community?

A: I enjoy observing the growth and success of students as they progress through the physical therapy program. I am excited to see new students who have committed to the physical therapy profession when I teach them in the neurosciences in the P1 fall semester. I am also excited and proud to watch their professionalism and success when they complete their capstone projects in P3 spring semester. I love to hear from them when they successfully pass their licensing exam and attain their first job.
USciences honored the Class of 2020 during the 199th Commencement Ceremony, the first ceremony to be hosted virtually, on May 20, 2020.

“You are a unique group of students who are living through a most unusual time,” said Dr. PAUL KATZ as he presided over the ceremony live. “Although I won’t be able to shake your hands and congratulate you now on this great accomplishment today, I am proud of how far you have come and I know that you can achieve any goal you choose.”

The 550 graduates were recognized along with MICHAEL SMERCONISH, who received an honorary doctor of science degree. Smerconish, host of a daily radio program and CNN’s “Smerconish,” sought to inspire graduates with a message about the importance of combating the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic and future medical and scientific events that will impact the public.

“Armed with the skill set that comes from studies at the University of Sciences, many of you will become involved on the front line in this and future threats to public health,” said Smerconish. “It’s not enough that this be some of your vocational pursuit. It must also be all of your civic duty.”

“Be vocal. Be active. Stand up for science,” he continued.

KARLA MILETIC, the class valedictorian, told fellow graduates to continue learning and staying curious.

“If we want to be ready for when it is our time to shine, we need to constantly keep on learning, educating ourselves, reading, questioning, in order to evolve and be the best at whatever it is we choose to do,” said Miletic.
SPOTLIGHT ON THE CLASS OF 2020:

SAHAS CHANDRAGIRI  
Degree: BS in Biomedical Sciences  
Hometown: Clarks Summit, PA  
Future Plans: Cooper Medical School of Rowan University  

“Since USciences is such a small school, my pre-med advisors were able to give me individualized attention, help me choose my classes, and give me ideas for volunteer opportunities or skills that will help an application to med school,” said Chandragiri. He will be getting ready to start his journey to becoming a physician this fall and is ready for the unexpected challenge that lies before him. The COVID-19 pandemic has made many prospective doctors realize not only the massive responsibility but the essentialness of the profession.

BRIDGET HOUGHTON  
Degree: Doctor of Occupational Therapy  
Hometown: Newtown Square, PA  
Future Plans: Working with adult patients in a rehab or community setting  

During one of her fieldwork exercises, Dr. Houghton worked on the brain injury unit at Good Shepherd Penn Partners Specialty Hospital with a patient who was feeling unmotivated to participate due to the nature of their injury. Taking lessons from the classroom, she contacted the patient’s family to get more information about the patient prior to their injury, learning that the patient used to work as a seamstress. When Dr. Houghton brought sewing into their therapy sessions, the patient began to flourish.  

“It was during that session that I gained more confidence in myself to deliver the type of care that I had learned during my time at University of the Sciences.” Dr. Houghton explains.

MICHAEL FOX  
Degree: Doctor of Pharmacy  
Hometown: Windsor, PA  
Future Plans: Masonic Villages Pharmacy  

Entering the healthcare field right out of college can be intimidating enough, let alone in the middle of a pandemic, but Fox is confident his time at USciences has equipped him for every challenge he will go on to face.

“USciences has prepared me to be a self-taught and life-long learner,” he explained. “The skills I have learned in both research and advocating for yourself during college can be applied to the current environment. Being able to read and interpret emerging studies and guidelines for the treatment of COVID-19 helps me appropriately apply this information to my patients.”

ALYSSA PETROSKI  
Degree: BS in Physics  
Hometown: Brookhaven, PA  
Future Plans: Systems Engineer, Perspecta  

Research experience gained during her first few years at USciences landed Petroski a physics internship at Jefferson Lab, part of the Department of Energy National Laboratory. “It was my dream to work at a national lab and acceleratory facility since I was in high school, so I was very proud to be accepted and complete that program,” she said. 

Petroski encourages other students to speak up and share their ideas: “You never know how impactful your contributions could be until you say something.”
USciences alumni, students, faculty, and staff are impacting coronavirus (COVID-19) in many ways. From the front lines in hospitals to serving their communities and on the home front where they are using their skills and talents virtually, those in the University community are fighting this global pandemic.

Each of these stories shows the strength and resilience of the USciences community during this difficult time.

Philadelphia College of Pharmacy Students Get Help from Alumni Donors

MARQUES WILLIAMS PharmD’20 was set to complete his Advanced Pharmacy Practice Experience (APPE) rotation at Cooper University Healthcare in Camden, NJ, but when COVID-19 forced him to find a new location, he was offered a rotation at The Johns Hopkins Hospital in Baltimore, MD. While elated for the opportunity, this change meant Williams would have an added cost to relocate and find housing at the last minute. USciences donors stepped up to help.

“I was informed that I would receive full reimbursement for housing expenses” Williams shares. “It felt like a great weight was lifted off my shoulders.”

Philadelphia College of Pharmacy Students Get Help from Alumni Donors

PharmD’20 was set to complete his Advanced Pharmacy Practice Experience (APPE) rotation at Cooper University Healthcare in Camden, NJ, but when COVID-19 forced him to find a new location, he was offered a rotation at The Johns Hopkins Hospital in Baltimore, MD. While elated for the opportunity, this change meant Williams would have an added cost to relocate and find housing at the last minute. USciences donors stepped up to help.

“I was informed that I would receive full reimbursement for housing expenses” Williams shares. “It felt like a great weight was lifted off my shoulders.”

Johns Hopkins, recognized nationally for its excellence, offered Williams and his classmates the ability to develop their full potential.

“This token sparked a desire within me to provide the same opportunity to student pharmacists in the future” he shares. “To all those who contributed in whatever capacity they were able to, I want to thank you. Everyone involved throughout this process truly had an impact on the next generation of PCP pharmacists.”

usciences.edu/APPERotation

Emergency Physician Inspired by Fellow Healthcare Workers

JULIE TONDT BC’14, MD, a resident physician in the Emergency Medicine Department at Eastern Virginia Medical School, has been inspired by the healthcare workers that she works with every day.

“From the emergency department to the ICU, the front lines of the COVID-19 pandemic are filled with amazing doctors, nurses, physician assistants, nurse practitioners, therapists, and countless other medical/hospital staff,” said Dr. Tondt.

Having the ability to make a difference and help people is the reason many individuals decide to start a career in healthcare or science. The ambitions of these individuals to make a positive impact during these unparalleled times is remarkable.

“Although the days ahead are full of uncertainty as we as a nation and a planet face the COVID-19 pandemic, one may find comfort in knowing the medical community will be here to provide care to those who are in need,” said Dr. Tondt. “Not all heroes wear capes, but many heroes wear scrubs.”

usciences.edu/Tondt
Occupational Therapy Alum Continues to Help Kids During COVID-19

DANIEL DUBINSKY MOT’13, a pediatric Occupational Therapist working with kids in all age groups tapped into his telehealth experience during COVID-19 and found a creative solution to connect with students and parents. Through his YouTube channel – Dan the OT Man – he offers daily live streams and videos for various ages and skill levels. Dubinsky’s “OT with Dan” series is a 30-day course that allows parents to create a self-regulation resource at home with their children. PAULA KRAMER, PhD, OTR/L, FAOTA, whom he names as a personal mentor and inspiration, is featured in an interview about how parents can support their children’s needs at home during this time of social distancing.

“I’m seeing so many questions from parents and since this is a time that’s new for all of us, it’s hard to know what to do and how to act, especially if we have children with their own individual needs that we try to balance with our own,” he said. “I’m hoping the videos, activities, and information can act as a resource to support families.”

USciences Donates More than 60,000 Pieces of Personal Protective Equipment

During the COVID-19 pandemic, USciences faculty and staff have collected personal protective equipment (PPE) from across campus to donate to healthcare institutions in Philadelphia. With the help of the Philadelphia Office of Emergency Management, donated PPE was picked up on April 3, 2020, to be distributed across the city to those working on the front lines in healthcare.

USciences collected over 69,000 pieces of PPE including gloves, N95 masks, protective suits, and more from across campus.

COVID-19 Highlights the Importance of Telemedicine

As many businesses have moved to a virtual environment to practice social distancing during the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic, EDGARDO A. MERCADANTE P’79, HonDSc’17 has seen a new focus on telehealth as healthcare providers seek to offer the same care to patients without in-person visits.

“As a modality, it has become an awakening,” said Mercadante. “It has completely disrupted the care delivery channels and I think it is here to stay.”

Mercadante, founder and CEO of MediTelecare, a dynamic telehealth/telemedicine company, said up until a few months ago, when he would talk to someone about telehealth it would often require a few minutes explanation, but today, he is seeing a greater understanding and more acceptance that it is a good way to provide care.

“We have just grown tremendously over the last two years,” said Mercadante. “Now because of this crisis, the cynicism of the concept has been removed and it is accepted more.” As with any new channel of care, Mercadante said telehealth provides patients with another choice for care delivery.

Alumna Leads Delaware County COVID-19 Response

Liaising with government officials, coordinating Coronavirus (COVID-19) response and testing sites, ROSEMARIE HALT P’89, MPH’12 has taken on many new responsibilities since she was tapped to coordinate the public health response for Delaware County, Pennsylvania.

“Initially it was trying to navigate this crisis and find out the most critical things that needed to be addressed,” said Halt. “Now we are thinking through priorities and determining next steps for schools, employers, and supporting the healthcare system.”

As the number of COVID-19 cases was climbing in Delaware County, the county government was in need of someone to coordinate public health efforts, but no official office was previously established for these responsibilities. Halt, a proud resident and active community member was an obvious choice. In the last few months, she has worked to be the intermediary between Delaware County and Chester County’s Office of Public Health as well as with the Pennsylvania Department of Health.

“I felt like there was a great need in my community and it was something that I could do that would help a lot of people,” said Halt.
Professor Discusses COVID-19 Projection Models

MICHAEL ROBERT PhD, Assistant Professor of Mathematics, was featured on KYW Newsradio’s “In Depth: Coronavirus Podcast” to discuss projection models used to plan for COVID-19, how they are used, and how they can be beneficial in discussions about reopening the United States.

Dr. Robert explained the two different types of projection models that are commonly used: mathematical models and statistical models. Both types of models are built on a basic framework and complexities can be added, he said. In the case of COVID-19, the framework is the virus, and complexities include those who test positive but are asymptomatic.

Models, while very valuable in many situations, can be dangerous if not interpreted or understood properly, Dr. Robert said, urging others to recognize the fluidity of data during an infectious disease situation and, therefore, the fluidity of projection models.

“We won’t really know what could happen and what is really happening until after it’s over.” Dr. Robert said. “We can hypothesize many different scenarios, but the only thing we’re going to know in the end is what has happened.”

usciences.edu/ProjectionModels

Alumnus Leads Local Health System’s Response to COVID-19

TIM BOWERS
MT’02, MPH’08, Director of Infection Prevention for ChristianaCare, has helped to prepare the health system to receive coronavirus (COVID-19) patients as the pandemic hit Delaware.

Bowers is responsible for overseeing the logistics of preventing infections in patients, including MRSA, while also preventing disease like the flu from spreading within and through the health system, which includes three hospitals and care clinic sites throughout Delaware, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, and Maryland.

A proud USciences alumnus, Bowers said, “My undergraduate work in Medical Technology taught me what to do and my graduate work in Health Policy taught me how to do it.” This has been vital to his work in patient safety and of particular importance over the last five months.

usciences.edu/Bowers

Physical Therapy Alumna Transitions Care to Telehealth

BRIE LIGOTSKI DPT’18 working as a physical therapist at Kaiser Permanente outpatient medical center in Stockton, CA, typically treats 10 to 12 neurologic patients five days per week.

When COVID-19 appeared in her community, Dr. Ligotski’s work transitioned to telehealth. The adjustment allowed little time for preparation, but she had to determine how to continue caring for her patients, many of whom benefit greatly from in-person sessions. By carefully evaluating her schedule, she was able to determine which of her patients were able to transition to telehealth, and which would need to continue in-person treatments.

For telehealth treatments, Dr. Ligotski uses phone calls and videos to connect with her patients, and is relying on patients’ caregivers for help. “I’ve had to problem-solve a lot with my patients and their caregivers on ways to mimic as best they can at home things that we would do in the clinic together” she said.

usciences.edu/Ligotski

Pharmacy Alumnus Helps Patients in the Fight Against COVID-19

MARC STORB PharmD’19 is on his critical care rotation during his Post-Graduate Year-1 Pharmacy Residency at AtlantiCare Regional Medical Center in New Jersey, which has about 50 intensive care beds between both campuses.

Dr. Storb’s daily activities include rounding with the Intensive Care Unit Team, managing critical care protocols, and attending all Medical Emergency Team Calls and codes in the hospital.

“One of the most rewarding aspects of my rotation is optimizing medication regimens and recommending additional medications when necessary for patients with COVID-19,” he said. “The ICU team trusts me as the drug expert and regularly presents me with challenging questions, requiring me to do research and read about COVID-19 on a daily basis.”

usciences.edu/Storb
USciences Alumnus Works to get PPE to Healthcare Workers in New York

USciences alumnus MAYANK PARIKH PharmD’13, owner of Super Health Pharmacy, helped Rhonda Roland Shearer provide free personal protective equipment (PPE) to healthcare workers in New York.

Shearer, known for helping the New York community after the 9/11 terror attacks, said, “This is a complete Groundhog Day.” Her project, Cut Red Tape 4 Heroes, connects her with a network of suppliers and resources, Dr. Parikh being one of them. Their efforts were chronicled in a recent article in The Washington Post.

During the COVID-19 crisis, Dr. Parikh has been very involved in the Staten Island community. He has worked closely with elected officials, non-profits, hospitals, and nursing homes in the area in order to provide excellent care to those in need. Through word of mouth, he was connected with Shearer and has since become one of the key sponsors of Cut Red Tape 4 Heroes and Shearer’s mission. “She is a powerhouse of energy,” Dr. Parikh shares, “You rarely come across people like that in a lifetime.”

usciences.edu/Parikh20

USciences Students Gain Telehealth Experience During COVID-19 Clinical Rotations

COVID-19 has meant that many patients and their care teams are meeting on telehealth calls rather than at the bedside. To learn the essential skills for this new modality of care, USciences students took on telehealth rotations this semester and were exposed to new ideas and challenges that arise when treating patients from afar.

“Telemedicine also requires a certain level of trust with the provider,” said KARISSA CHOW PharmD’20. “The patient has to be willing, to be honest, and open when the discussion is over the phone or via video.”

In addition to relying on trust between patient and provider, technological advances are also a factor in determining the success of telemedicine, said WHITNEY LY PharmD’20.

“The robust technology that is constantly evolving allows health care providers to truly provide care for patients in the comfort of their own homes,” Ly said. “Health care providers are able to reach a bigger population especially those who do not have means of transportation or who physically cannot get to an office.”

usciences.edu/Telehealth20

Alumni Support Student Emergency Fund

In the wake of COVID-19, alumni donors stepped up to aid more than 150 students impacted by the pandemic. The Student Emergency Fund topped more than $100,000 through the assistance of 275 donors. The aid supports first-year through graduate students in need of immediate financial support.

Please donate to continue helping our USciences students in need!
usciences.edu/give

USciences Student and Alumni Helping Community Together

PAUL FIMOGNARI PharmD’20 was on rotation this spring at the Compounding Pharmacist in West Chester, PA, the first compounding-only pharmacy in the state and operated by alumni KEVIN HENNESSEY PharmD’08 and MARK PIMLEY P’84. While learning how to compound various creams, gels, and other medications, Fimognari also learned how to make hand sanitizer amidst the COVID-19 crisis. Compounding Pharmacists made the sanitizer to distribute for free to local first responders.
usciences.edu/Compounding20
After the COVID-19 pandemic launched students and faculty into virtual classrooms, one USciences professor learned how distance can forge deeper connections.

MARCH 12: I cancel our quiz and distribute a revised syllabus. From home, students will complete the remaining text readings, take quizzes, join discussion boards, and complete a final project. I outline the university’s plan for the next month and promise my students: We can do this.

Four weeks later, the COVID-19 statistics worldwide are grim. We will not be back in the classroom this spring. I can’t teach online, I think. There’s no human interaction.

I teach an upper-level Humanities course called “Creativity.” We identify and re-frame problems, generate and test ideas, tell compelling stories, and communicate ideas. We read from domains of fine arts, neuroscience, psychology, and business. We experiment with creative assessments, logic problems, and goofy games. Once, we played 1:1 rounds of Rock/Paper/Scissors until a single person defeated everyone in the room. We were breathless from laughter and cheering. “Why are you smiling,” I asked, “when all of us lost the game?” We talk about failure.

APRIL 6: Week four teaching online. I am not smiling. My husband, sick with COVID-19 symptoms, can’t get a test. Two of my students test positive. Two other students report parents who are critically ill, on ventilators. At home, I am a third-grade teacher to my son. This is not fair to kids, he says. I can’t visit my parents. News reports catapult me into a startling zone of panic.

We have a final project in “Creativity.” We can do this. Students must choose two problems to analyze and present creative approaches to problem-solving. In addition to course texts, they will include data from one final class activity: Each student must send a survey to 20 people who know them well. Friends. Mentors. Family. After all the surveys are completed, I will return the results to the students to use in the final projects.

The survey is one question: Tell me a story about this person when they were at their best.

Here is the background: In the realm of creativity—which is, essentially, problem-solving—some find it useful to identify blind spots: areas where we least understand ourselves, particularly our deficiencies. Once revealed, we can adjust or minimize these traits as we face various challenges.

We also have blind spots about our strengths, says bestselling author and Wharton professor Adam Grant. Grant calls these “bright spots.” I am gathering data on bright spots: the strengths each student has that elude their awareness.

APRIL 15: I haven’t seen my students in five weeks. I am depressed. I feel disconnected from everything. When my students struggle, I see their discomfort as temporary. I know their Future Self will appreciate, even celebrate, these tough times. It seems as if I can’t do this for myself.
The survey deadline is here; time to collate the responses and hand them off to the students. I open up the survey website. Each student has received at least twenty responses to my question, many of them lengthy and detailed stories. *When his mother had chemotherapy this year... She gave a eulogy... She listened to me...*

Eight hundred and sixty-eight people have responded. *After his father died... He brought me ice cream...*

I export the survey responses into separate documents, one for each student. Story after extraordinary story.

In an email to my students, I explain how they must analyze the survey responses to discover patterns and trends. *Find your bright spots and understand how they may be used in problem-solving.*

I feel an unfamiliar pressure in my chest—not panic, not anxiety. I think of students, all dispersed, safe or unsafe, disconnected from school routines, overwhelmed, and worried about the future. I’m just about ready to send the email and survey results. In a moment, each PDF will travel across a network to Texas or New Jersey or Montgomery County, where my students will click open a file, where black lines and letters will appear on a white screen, and people who know them will say, *I saw you when you were at your best.*

I quickly add a line to my email: *If it’s easy, would you record a video as you read your surveys?*

**MAY 1:** Final projects are complete. My students write thoughtfully about problem-solving and failure. They write a lot about listening, paying attention, and how discomfort looks different in the rear-view mirror. Their insights are specific, subtle, and intelligent.

Many attach videos of them reading their survey results. *He helped change my flat tire.* I watch their faces: a small smile, a shifting brow, eyes blinking with emotion. *She always answers the phone.* I lean toward my laptop and listen carefully. *He always remembers to bring me a banana split.*

I think a good teacher helps students learn to look beyond the superficial and into the scarier, more complex arena of uncertainty. Problems surround us. I don’t talk about how I face my overwhelming fears. These weeks have felt like I am unsuccessfully balancing a huge and heavy tray full of fragile items.

Behind my smile and my revised syllabus, I, like you, am afraid and uncertain.

I’ve learned a few things these past months, found a bright spot or two of my own. *I can’t teach online.* Really? The online classroom made me a stronger, more thoughtful teacher. *There’s no human interaction.* Ridiculous. I saw endless facets of my students’ personal and intellectual character. I already knew that classroom walls were artificial. Why else would I have invited eight hundred and sixty-eight other voices into my classroom? How did I know what you needed to learn—and that it was something that I could never teach you?

My fears about online teaching have wholly subsided. What I learn about you, and how I continue to learn from you, exists no matter what our classroom looks like.

Now, I think, you just might see me when I’m at my best. 😊.
The other day after class, a student pulled me aside to tell me about a recent experience. She is Chinese, and while getting on our public transit in Philadelphia, a group of people started harassing her, accusing her of carrying Coronavirus and ordering her off the trolley. Another person quickly came to her defense, but she was taken aback—she’s been studying in the U. S. for years, but this was her first experience of explicit racism.

My student is not alone—there have been many other stories of Asian and Asian American people experiencing prejudice connected to coronavirus. What is it about the current situation that is leading people to express such ugly bias?

These cases of racial prejudice and discrimination can be understood using a psychological theory involving the behavioral immune system. This theory is rooted in evolutionary psychology and is based on the fact that infectious diseases represent one of the greatest threats to human survival. Because of this constant threat of disease, human beings, and other mammals have evolved a wide variety of adaptations to cope with all of the pathogens they might be exposed to.

You’re probably most familiar with our physiological immune system, which deploys immune cells and proteins to fight off our microscopic invaders. But, psychologists think that we’ve also evolved a tendency to react to signs of disease in ways that help us avoid contamination and disease. One example is the feeling of disgust we experience when we smell something rotten. When we encounter something putrid, we close our mouth, hold our nose, and move away, so we’re less likely to be infected by the microbes that are decomposing whatever is the source of the smell. This is a very beneficial response, but the behavioral immune system may motivate other behaviors that have less desirable social consequences.

In particular, evidence suggests that concerns about disease make us more likely to hold xenophobic attitudes. This reaction may reflect the same sort of evolved behavioral immune response. Around the world, populations differ in their relative immunity to various diseases, which is often a result of our immune systems being exposed to certain diseases and subsequently developing antibodies to fight them off. This means that we often have immunity to the infectious diseases

This article originally appeared on Character and Context, the blog site of the Society for Personality and Social Psychology

By: Alysson E. Light, PhD
carried by people who live near us and are at a lower risk of becoming sick from them. But, we are less likely to have immunity to diseases carried by people who live far away from us. As a result, when we’re concerned about disease, people from other places and other groups start to seem like potential threats, so we may start to fear and avoid them.

Importantly, the fact that this behavior is potentially an evolved adaptation does not make these behaviors morally right or socially acceptable. For that matter, in our current, global society, these reactions may not even be rational. Avoiding contact with Asian people because of a coronavirus outbreak in a remote Chinese province ignores the fact that race is a pretty poor signal of risk for carrying the disease given that the overwhelming majority of Asian people living in and visiting the U.S. have not had any exposure to the disease.

It is not uncommon for behaviors that stem from evolved adaptations to be out of sync with our contemporary world. Consider our love of sugary, fatty foods. In situations in which food supplies are scarce and inconsistent, high fat/high sugar foods provide a lot of calories in a small package, and if calories are hard to come by—as they were throughout most of human evolution—seeking out such foods is a good strategy to make sure you have enough calories to survive. But translate that preference into our current world with its abundant Snickers bars and Cool Ranch Doritos, and you have a recipe for obesity and related health consequences.

Nevertheless, understanding the impact of the behavioral immune system on prejudice could help us fight against it. For example, studies by Julie Huang and her colleagues found that making people feel more protected from disease—for example, by reminding them that they have gotten a flu shot or by having them wash their hands—lowered the effects of fears related to disease and increased their feelings of positivity toward people from other groups. So getting a flu shot may inoculate us to prejudice, in addition to making sure we don’t catch and spread the flu!

Both the general anxious reaction to coronavirus, and its impact on racial bias, are cases of our minds trying to keep us healthy and safe, but ultimately leading us to focus on the wrong things. Hopefully, the coronavirus infection will soon run its course. But until then, we should be vigilant that the natural fear this virus evokes doesn’t get the better of us and lead us to behave in ways that harm more than they help.
Student Athletes Help Feed Thousands of Families

Student-athletes from USciences joined students from Geisinger Commonwealth School of Medicine (GCSOM), Keystone College, Marywood University, Lackawanna College, and University of Scranton at GCSOM, creating a living case study centered on how food insecurity impacts the community. The students also spent the afternoon packaging 25,000 meals that will be distributed to families in the Scranton School District.

usciences.edu/FoodInsecurity

USciences Students Host First TEDxUSciences Conference

Each with their own big ideas, eight speakers graced the first TEDxUSciences stage on Sunday, September 22, 2019 in the Science and Technology Center to share their thoughts on everything from working to end poverty, finding your purpose in life, the need for safe injection sites, to recovering from substance use disorders. The inaugural TEDxUSciences was established and organized by a group of USciences students who wanted to see this conference come to the University.

usciences.edu/Tedx20

USciences Launches Certificate Specializing in Spanish for Healthcare

A new certificate in Spanish for Healthcare Professionals offered to undergraduates at University of the Sciences started this year. The program focuses on both the linguistic and cultural competencies that health professionals need to better care for Hispanics and Latino populations. The certificate includes intermediate Spanish language courses, Spanish conversation and composition, a course on Spanish for healthcare professionals, and a humanities course about medicine and Hispanics. The certificate is open to USciences students for the 2019-20 academic year, and then the courses will be opened up to external audiences interested in the program in the fall of 2020.

usciences.edu/SpanishHealthcare

Allen Misher Pays Visit to Namesake College that Continues to Expand

On October 10, 2019, Allen Misher P’59, PhD, HonDSc’95 paid a visit to the arts and sciences college that was named in his honor to see first-hand how it has broadened its programs to continue teaching those interested in humanities and science. When Dr. Misher created the college, his goal was to broaden the education of University of the Sciences graduates; years later, that same goal continues to be achieved with new programs, degrees, and certificates being announced.

usciences.edu/AllenMisher
W.W. Smith Charitable Trust Representatives Meet USciences Scholarship Recipients

W.W. Smith Charitable Trust provides funding for undergraduate student scholarships amounting to $71,000 in aid to support 17 undergraduate students. Officials from the trust met with the students and learned about how it supports their success on November 12, 2019, during a reception on campus.

usciences.edu/WWSmithCT20

Students Get Hands-On Experience in New Pediatric Occupational Therapy Lab

The Department of Occupational Therapy opened the first pediatric occupational therapy laboratory on campus made possible by more than $30,000 in grant funding from, among other resources, the Christian R. & Mary F. Lindback Foundation and the McLean Contributionship. Judy Parker Kent OTD, EdS, MS, OTR/L, FAOTA unveiled the Sensational Kids lab, which will be an integral part of an occupational therapy student’s education. First-year students will be introduced to the space in their Interventions I class; from there, it will be used to learn about treatment plans, evaluating patients, case-based reasoning and developing a treatment plan as students approach their clinical rotations in their final year.

usciences.edu/OTPediatricLab

USciences Serves in Honor of Martin Luther King Jr. Day

In recognition of Martin Luther King Jr. Day of Service, more than 270 USciences students joined faculty and staff volunteering at a variety of service activities on January 20, 2020. The day was an opportunity to connect with the greater community and give back to those in need. Students volunteered with veterans at the Philadelphia’s VA Medical Center and at the Veterans Community Living Center, partnered with Cardz for Kidz to support children who have suffered trauma, and worked on the Range of Motion Project’s “Components for a Cause” which sends prosthetic limb parts to patients without care in Guatemala, Mexico, Ecuador, and the U.S. USciences also hosted two free public events for the holiday including health screenings for community members, and an interactive community day for area children.

usciences.edu/MLK20
Misher Visiting Professor Encourages Students to Tell Stories on Immigrants and Outsiders

At the Misher Festival of Fine Arts, LAILA LALAMI, PhD, the 2020 Misher Visiting Professor of Humanities and Honors Colloquium Speaker, spoke about how her experience growing up in Morocco and then immigrating to the United States and earning citizenship has impacted her writing style. Dr. Lalami spoke about her award-winning novels, including The Moor's Account, Secret Son, and Hope and Other Dangerous Pursuits, but spent most of the time talking about her latest The Other Americans and her forthcoming novel Conditional Citizens.

usciences.edu/LailaLalami

USciences Celebrates 199th Founders’ Day

Honoring the founding of USciences 199 years ago, the University honored its rich history of innovation and entrepreneurship in healthcare, science, and education at Founders’ Day on February 13, 2020. Faculty, donned in their regalia, were joined by students and staff as the University honored LUCY MALMBERG P’72 HonDSc’20, with an honorary doctor of science degree. ABHINAV ILLENDULA BMS’20, NICHOLAS COPE PhD’20 (Biochemistry), ANIL D’MELLO PhD, MARK BULLOCK, associate dean of students, and KAITLYN MARTIN, program coordinator for student accommodations were also honored with awards of merit.

usciences.edu/Founders20

USciences, Cabrini Sign Articulation Agreement

University of the Sciences and Cabrini University have signed two articulation agreements allowing students who graduate from Cabrini to transition into USciences’ Doctor of Pharmacy (PharmD) Program. Eligible students will study at Cabrini University for three years and then have the option to apply and transfer to the USciences’ PharmD program. A second agreement was signed to allow students who complete a four-year degree from Cabrini in either Biology or Chemistry to transition into the USciences PharmD degree program, where they can complete the requirements of the professional curriculum.

usciences.edu/CabriniAgreement
Former Drexel Associate Head Coach Michael Connors Hired as Head Men’s Basketball Coach

Michael Connors, who possesses over 30 years of coaching experience at the Division I level, has been hired as the new head men’s basketball coach at University of the Sciences.

“University of the Sciences is an outstanding institution, and I look forward to having our student-athletes represent us well in the classroom, on the court and in the community.” Connors shares.

usciences.edu/MichaelConnors

Hartzell Three-Peats as Coach of the Year; Player of the year Ye Joined by Vitelli and Huber on All-CACC Team

Head Coach Jackie Hartzell three-peated as Central Atlantic Collegiate Conference (CACC) Coach of the Year, while junior Irisa Ye became the fourth student-athlete in program history to be voted CACC Player of the Year.

usciences.edu/CoachoftheYear

A Message from the Athletic Director:

The last couple of months have been a whirlwind of emotions and self-reflection. The decisions made by the NCAA and member conferences to cancel the spring sports season in mid-March were absolutely the right decisions in order to protect the health and well-being of student-athletes, coaches, and athletic administration.

Our hearts bleed for all of the student-athletes and coaches whose seasons were cut short, as well as our women’s basketball team who were making a fourth consecutive appearance in the NCAA Tournament. These individuals dedicated countless hours of time both on and off the playing surface to perform at the highest levels. Given the unique circumstances and cancellations due to COVID-19, the NCAA has identified and implemented policies regarding eligibility for 2020 spring sport student-athletes.

The NCAA and its member conferences are working daily to design plans for the upcoming 2020-2021 academic year in order to protect the health and safety of student-athletes and athletic administration. One of the recommendations being discussed is reducing the amount of minimum and maximum allowable athletic contests. The Central Athletic Collegiate Conference is meeting bi-weekly to discuss and implement an action plan. These plans will be contingent on the guidelines by State and institutional decision makers.

In conclusion, thank you to the University of the Sciences leadership team, who are working tirelessly to formulate the best course of action in protecting our students, faculty, and staff.

Marc Caserio, EdD
Athletic Director
Alumni Spotlight

Get to know more about Lt. Col. Andrew Gawlikowski PharmD’05 recipient of the 2019 Young Alumnus Award, who serves at the rank of Lieutenant Colonel in the US Air Force and currently serves as Chief in the Expeditionary Planning and Concepts Branch in Washington, D.C. He has previously been stationed at Travis Air Force Base, CA and Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst, NJ. He has served two tours as a Pharmacy Advisor in Afghanistan.

I was born... In 1980

I wanted to grow up to be... In the military and serve. Jumping out of airplanes, shooting the bad guys, etc.

People would be surprised to know that I... Am the father of four daughters whom I love dearly. All princesses all the time.

I like to collect... Weapons.

My favorite memory at USciences/PCPS is... I was not doing well in my studies and my mentor pulled me under his wing and assisted me with focusing on my strengths while acknowledging my weaknesses. Not an easy task, but a life skill.

The last book I read cover to cover is... American Ulysses. One of the greatest underrated presidents this nation has had.

The last book I read that I would recommend to others is... Gates of Fire, about the battle of Thermopylae, the stand of the 300, and how comradery is so important in this world.

The first album I bought with my own cash was... Led Zeppelin: 4

I like to watch... “The Office” but only with my wife.

The most challenging thing about my job is... Strategic messaging to senior military leaders. Sending the right message at the right time. The dynamics of medicine in warfare do not change, but the implications of staging and where to abate the fight does.

When people tell me they want to get more involved with the University... Go for it. Community involvement and volunteerism are excellent in making an outstanding citizen.

My most treasured possession is... My daughters.

My real-life hero is... George Washington. Great leader, man of faith, and brought our nation together.

I overuse the word(s) or phrase(s)... Roger or Roger that

The most famous person I've met is... Andy Reid. While at USciences, I was a ball boy for the Eagles during the 2002 season.

For me, USciences is... Hard work but great results. 🤟
From the Alumni Association President’s Pen

Dear Alumni and Friends,

During our last Alumni Association meeting, we discussed some exciting plans for the 2021 USciences Bicentennial Celebration. One underlying concept that came through is honoring the value of USciences and the alumni community. Alumni members across all generations from our golden graduates to our new graduates agree that their education at USciences provided them with tools for a successful career.

This concept of the value of a USciences education started with my own reflections, on my experiences as a USciences student. I came to USciences twice—first for my pharmacy degree, and second for my master's degree in public health. Both experiences certainly taught me the academic material I needed for my personal career path. But truthfully, I could do that in any number of local institutions. What stands out to me as the secret sauce of a USciences education is everyone’s passion for excellence and determination to succeed.

As the President of the Alumni Association, I have had the pleasure of speaking with many alumni members. What they have shared about their experience, is the dedication of the faculty who often continue to mentor students post-graduation. I have heard about the historic past of USciences and how that high bar of excellence is passed down through the alumni to each other in their workplaces, professional associations, and alumni gatherings. Of course, the close friendships formed from the athletic programs, club organizations, greek life, and many other extracurricular activities add to the secret sauce of USciences.

Perhaps the true ingredient of USciences’ secret sauce is from its founding in Carpenters’ Hall in 1821 where 68 Philadelphia apothecaries met to improve standards, train apprentices, and elevate teaching, research, and service. It was a bold step as our nation was still in its infancy. Many obstacles stood in the way, including public health outbreaks, financial instability in the country, and internal battles in medical communities between surgeons, apothecaries, and the move from dispensaries to the emerging hospitals. They never faltered because of the collective determination to succeed.

As alumni, we will certainly face many challenges ahead. Certainly, our positions in the healthcare system will put us in the front line of the current public health concerns. I have no doubt my fellow USciences alumni are up for the challenge. I hope that we also keep in mind that our University has a vital role to play in the next 200 years of our professions, and like our founders, we will need the determination to continue to foster excellence at USciences.

Regards,

Rosemarie O’Malley Halt
Alumni President
Alumni Events

Alumni Reunion

Saturday, October 12, 2019, Philadelphia, PA

Hundreds of USciences alumni returned to campus on October 12, 2019, to pay a visit to their alma mater and celebrate their connection to the University. During the event, several alumni and friends were honored at the annual alumni reception, the Golden Graduate reception, and in the Athletics Hall of Fame induction ceremony. Additionally, Pi Lambda Phi (PiLam) at USciences celebrated its 50th anniversary with a reception.

The Annual Alumnus Award: William Ellis P’85
The 2019 Ivor Griffith Service Award: Pat Walsh MT’83, BW’01
The Young Alumnus Award: Maj. Andrew Gawlikowski PharmD’10
Honorary Alumnus Award: Estelle Sherrod, Assistant to the Dean of Philadelphia College of Pharmacy
The Samuel P. Wetherill Prize, for the class with the largest percent increase in participation in gifts to the Annual Fund: Class of 2014.
The Marshall Prize, for the class who achieved the highest increase in contributions to the Annual Fund: Class of 1974.
Athletics Hall of Fame 2019 Inductees: Amanda (Bedway) Adams PharmD’10 (Women’s Tennis 2004-08); Michelle Bauer PharmD’10 (Rifle 2004-08); Louis L. Hegyes (Former Director of Admission/Head Cross Country and Softball Coach); Megan (Trimble) Sheridan PharmD’08 (Softball 2004-07); and Tyler Weisel PharmD’10 (Men’s Tennis 2004-08)

Bicentennial Brick Donor Event

Saturday, September 14, 2019, Philadelphia, PA

USciences donors were invited to campus to see their personalized brick on The Bicentennial Walkway connecting the McNeil Science and Technology Center and the Wilson Student Center. The walkway is a special effort to honor and memorialize the individuals who shaped our University over the past 200 years.
Visit usciences.edu/alumni/getinvolved or contact the Alumni Relations Office at alumnirelations@usciences.edu or 888-857-6264.

**Young (and Young at Heart) Alumni Happy Hour**

**Thursday, September 12, 2019, Philadelphia, PA**

The Young Professionals Organization and Office of Alumni Relations hosted a happy hour for fellow alumni to meet and mingle at the alumni-owned Urban Village Brewing Company in Philadelphia.

**American Physical Therapy Association Combined Sections Meeting**

**Friday, February 14, 2020, Denver, CO**

Nearly 50 alumni, students, faculty, and guests came to gather for a dinner get together at La Loma during the APTA Combined Sections Meeting. A donation from Genesis HealthCare helped to support student attendance at the meeting.

Patrick Carr DPT’21; Phylis Foster and Shana Mora of Genesis HealthCare; Stephanie Engeleit DPT’22; and Mabry Brintzenhoff DPT’22 share a photo.

**YPO Young Alumni Virtual Happy Hour**

**Friday, May 8, 2020**

The Young Professionals Organization hosted a virtual happy hour for the Class of 2020 and young alumni. The annual event to welcome recent graduates to their first official alumni event went virtual in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. President Paul Katz joined the call to wish the new alumni good luck.

Social networking events such as these are made possible by alumni contributions. Your generosity to the Annual Fund is the core of USciences. Without your contributions, we simply could not provide the breadth of enriching programs and experiences that have become the trademark of USciences, allowing our amazing students to thrive. Thank you for your continued generous support.
1953

1963
FREDERICK J. GOLDSTEIN P’63, MSc’65, PhD’68, FCP Serves on the National Board of Osteopathic Medicine (NBOME) to write and review board questions. In recognition of the significant increase in available prescription drugs over the last few decades, he was appointed to the newly formed NBOME Task Force on Pharmacology to consider the appropriate level of coverage for future physicians. In this direct regard, he wrote an article, “Depth of Clinical Pharmacology in Undergraduate Medical Education” which was published Oct 1, 2019, in the Journal of the American Osteopathic Association.

1966
JOHN FRANCESCHINI P’66, MBA’70 (Drexel University) had his play Angel At My Door produced at Simpson College, Iowa in November 2019.

1972
THOMAS J. DOUGHERTY PhD’73 taught in the 4th annual International Course on Antibiotics and Resistance at the BioMerieux Center in Annecy, France. This is the fourth time he has participated in the course, both as a presenter and scientific advisor. He also serves on the scientific board of Carb-X, an antibiotic funding group, and on the editorial board of the journal Antimicrobial Agents and Chemotherapy. He is currently conducting research on antibiotic resistance in Pseudomonas aeruginosa in the Dept. of Microbiology, Harvard Medical School, Boston.

1977
BRUCE CLUTCHER P’77 retired in April from Cerner Corporation after 36 years of service with Shared Medical Systems (SMS)/ Siemens Healthcare/Cerner Corporation. He retired as a Senior Solution Architect in the ClientWorks Solution Management organization representing the above companies as a clinical software engineer, consultant and analyst. After graduating from PCPS he continued his education receiving a Certificate in Computer Programming from the Computer Learning Center. Prior to joining SMS Bruce worked as a staff pharmacist at the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania for five years. Bruce and his wife live in Palmyra, PA.

1985
SANDRA LOTTES PharmD’85 was named the Vice President & Head of Clinical Research of FSD Pharma’s BioSciences Division. Dr. Lottes was most recently serving as vice president of global clinical development and operations at United Biosource Corporation.

1988
ARTHUR FRATAMICO P’88 was named to the Sun BioPharma Board of Directors. Fratamico has 25 years of experience in the biopharmaceutical industry; he is now the sixth member of the board. Fratamico is the chief business officer of Galera Therapeutics.

1992
GRETCHEN WELBY P’92 became the newest member of the Scranton School Board, making her the record 7th woman on the panel. After graduating from USciences, Welby went on to earn her masters in health administration in Scranton and a doctor of pharmacy in Philadelphia. She now works as the academic director for the Physician Assistant Program at Marywood University

1997
SAMUEL R. WETHERILL P’97, PharmD has been appointed Vice President, Pharmacy Services, at ChristianaCare, a health system based in Delaware. In October 2019 University of the Sciences named Samuel R. Wetherill IV P’97, PharmD to its Board of Trustees.

2003
ANDREA SULECKI PhB’03 was recently promoted to Senior Vice President of Operational Risk Management at Citi Financial Services in March 2019.

2005
RAMZI BENAMAR MBA’05 has been appointed as the Chief Financial Officer of DBV Technologies, a clinical-stage biopharmaceutical company. He comes to the role from Spark Therapeutics where he served as vice president and head of financial planning and analysis.

2012
MARGARET SALAMA ABDELMASSIH PharmD’12 welcomed baby girl Eliana Abdelmassih with husband Robein Abdelmassih.

2013
CATHERINE E. BURDALSKI PharmD’13 was awarded Maryland Health-System Pharmacist of the Year in 2019 by MSHP for her contributions in oncology, smoking cessation, and research with a significant impact to Maryland citizens and pharmacy practice. Catherine currently works at Johns Hopkins Bayview Medical Center as a clinical pharmacy specialist in oncology.

2014
RYAN COURTNEY PharmD’14 has been appointed Clinical Pharmacy Supervisor at ChristianaCare’s Helen F. Graham Cancer Center.
IN MEMORIAM

Debra Ann Littlejohn P’82
August 16, 2019

William H. Long P’56
October 3, 2019

Frank Anthony Mazza P’62
October 14, 2019

James R. Horton P’60
October 24, 2019

Harvey A. Silk P’50
November 25, 2019

Anthony F. Capriotti P’50
November 27, 2019

Richard Mass P’59
December 16, 2019
Kalman W. Stein P’51
December 25, 2019

Morton S. Corman P’43, MS’1950
January 3, 2020
Donald Koehler P’54
February 3, 2020

Thomas S. Youngblood DPT’02
February 28, 2020
David S. Tice P’63
March 11, 2020

Henry Charles Walsh P’61
March 11, 2020
Lucille Ann (Geis) Townsend P’81
March 26, 2020

MURRAY ZANGER, PhD, Professor Emeritus in the Department of Chemistry & Biochemistry, passed away on May 13. Dr. Zanger had a long and memorable career at USciences and is remembered as a mentor who was committed to the educational and professional success of his students and for his many contributions to elevating research at the University.
We want to hear from you!
The Bulletin welcomes feedback from its readers on articles, the events that take place on campus, or even about the University itself. Send them via fax, e-mail, or mail to:

JENNA PIZZI
Editor, Bulletin

Phone: 888-857-6264
Fax: 215-596-7596
E-mail: a.pizzi@usciences.edu

Mail:
Letters to the Editor
c/o Bulletin
University of the Sciences
600 South 43rd Street
Philadelphia, PA 19104

Tell us about your new job, promotion, accomplishments, engagement, marriage, or new additions such as births or adoptions.

• Online: usciences.edu/alumni
• By phone toll-free: 888-857-6264
• By mail: Office of Alumni Relations
University of the Sciences
600 South 43rd Street
Philadelphia, PA 19104-4495

Sending a photo? A few randomly selected photos will appear in each issue. Make sure to identify each individual in your photo to ensure accurate identification in captions.

Please print all information.

Name
Class
Address
City
State Zip
Work Phone
Home Phone
E-mail

Information Change?  Yes  No

DEGREE/PROGRAM ABBREVIATIONS

BAC  Bacteriology
BC  Biochemistry
BI  Biology
BInf  Bioinformatics
BMS  Biomedical Science
BW  Biomedical Writing
C  Chemistry
CB  Cell Biology
CS  Computer Science
DPT  Doctor of Physical Therapy
DrOT  Doctor of Occupational Therapy
ES  Environmental Science
ESWM  Exercise Science and Wellness Management
HonAlm  Honorary Alumnus/a
HonDSc  Honorary Degree (Science)
HPsy  Health Psychology
HS  Health Science
HumSci  Humanities and Science
IndP  Industrial Pharmacy
MB  Microbiology
MBA  Master of Business Administration
MedC  Medicinal Chemistry
Misher  Misher Studies
MOT  Master of Occupational Therapy
MPh  Master of Public Health
MPT  Master of Physical Therapy
MS  Master of Science
MSPAS  Master of Science in Physician Assistant Studies
MT  Medical Technology
Neuro  Neuroscience
OrgC  Organic Chemistry
P  Bachelor of Science in Pharmacy
PA  Physician Assistant
PhD  Pharmacy Administration
PharmD  Doctor of Pharmacy
PHB  Pharmaceutical and Healthcare Business
PhC  Pharmaceutical Chemistry
PhCog  Pharmacognosy
PhD  Doctor of Philosophy
PhG  Graduate in Pharmacy (equivalent to P that is used today)
PhSci  Pharmaceutical Sciences
PhTech  Pharmaceutical Technology
PH/TX  Pharmacology and Toxicology
PHYS  Physics
PM  Pharmaceutical Marketing
PMM  Pharmaceutical and Management
PrePro  Pre-Professional
Psy  Psychology
STC  Certificate in Science Teaching
TX  Toxicology
Donations to **USciences’ Student Emergency Fund** have supported the most vulnerable students during the Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic.

Your donations help…

- Students struggling with food insecurity
- Supporting student rent or supplies for online learning
- Students experiencing emotional and psychological stress
- Students who are impacted by job loss
- Students with loved ones who have tested positive for COVID-19 or dealing with loss

The emergency fund is making an impact on our students within days, sometimes even hours, from the time of their request so that they can get the assistance they need. This support now will pay off in the long run in allowing them to focus and prioritize their studies.

“The emergency funding that I received will be instrumental in finishing my education. This relief has alleviated my concerns to keep myself afloat, thank you.” — USciences Student

Please donate to continue helping our USciences students in need! Make your gift online at: usciences.edu/give
Stay Connected with USciences!

Don’t wait for The Bulletin…get the latest University news and happenings 24/7. And when you do, don’t forget to like us, favorite us, or retweet us!

Alumni Relations: usciences.edu/alumni

Bulletin: usciences.edu/bulletin

Athletics: devils athletics.com

Giving: usciences.edu/give

twitter.com/USciences
youtube.com/USciences
facebook.com/USciencesAlumni
nexus.usciences.edu
linkedin.com
“University of the Sciences”
usciences.edu/allnews

Connect with alumni and students at nexus.usciences.edu

VISIT USCIENCES SPIRIT SHOP

From hats to hoodies, the USciences Spirit Shop is open for all your clothing needs. Shop online and customize colors as well as University, college, and athletic logos for a variety of apparel needs.

spiritshop.usciences.edu