CALENDAR

Upcoming Alumni Events

OCTOBER

11–12

Reunion @ Fall Fest
October 11–12, 2019
Various Locations
Philadelphia

Please visit, usciences.edu/reunion for more information including hotel room blocks, schedule of events, and logistics.

Questions? Contact alumnirelations@usciences.edu or 215-596-8570.

Pi Lambda Phi 50th Reunion Celebration
October 12, 2019
6:00–10:00 p.m.
Athletic/Recreation Center (ARC), Multipurpose Room
Philadelphia

All Pi Lambda Phi brothers, friends, and supporters are invited to celebrate 50 years of Pilam on campus.

NOVEMBER

4

PCP/USciences Alumni Reception at AAPS
November 4, 2019
6:00–8:00 p.m.
San Antonio

USciences is returning to host an alumni reception at American Association of Pharmaceutical Scientists. The reception is free, but we do appreciate your prior registration.

DECEMBER

9

PCP/USciences Alumni Reception at ASHP
December 9, 2019
6:00–8:00 p.m.
Las Vegas

Network and mingle with fellow alumni, peers, faculty members, and friends at our annual reception. There is no cost to attend the reception, but registration is requested. All alumni in the area are invited, whether or not you are attending the American Society of Health-System Pharmacists’ Mid Year Clinical Meeting.

FEBRUARY

13

Founders Day Ceremony and Reception
February 13, 2020
1:45–3:30 p.m.
STC 145/Atrium
Philadelphia

Founders’ Day recalls the University’s establishment on February 23, 1821. The University honors an individual who exemplifies the virtues of Philadelphia College of Pharmacy and USciences with an honorary doctor of science degree.

14

USciences Alumni Reception at APTA
February 14, 2020
Denver

Join our annual gathering to meet up with fellow alumni, peers, faculty members, and friends. There is no cost to attend the reception, but registration is requested. We invite all alumni in Denver, whether they are area residents or just attending American Physical Therapy Association’s Combined Sections Meeting.

21–22

PCP/USciences Alumni Reception at APhA and Joint PPA & PCP Reception at APhA
March 21 and 22, 2020
National Harbor, MD (Washington, DC)

Join pharmacy alumni at the annual PCP/USciences Alumni Reception at the American Pharmacists Association annual meeting.

23

Alumni Dinner at American Chemical Society National Meeting
March 23, 2020
Maggiano’s Little Italy
Philadelphia

Alumni attending the American Chemical Society National Meeting are invited to meet up with fellow alumni, peers, faculty, and friends at our alumni dinner.

27

USciences Alumni Reception at AOTA
March 27, 2020
Boston

Alumni attending American Occupational Therapy Association Annual Conference and those who live in the Boston area are invited to attend our annual gathering. Meet up with fellow alumni, peers, faculty members, and friends and learn more about campus updates. The reception is free, but registration is requested.

usciences.edu/Reunion

Save the Date: Kickoff USciences Bicentennial Celebration at Reunion 2020
October 9–11, 2020, with our annual, exciting alumni celebration on October 10.

Questions? Contact alumnirelations@usciences.edu or 215-596-8570.
At Home: A Look Inside the Newest Residence Hall
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Take a look inside the Living & Learning Commons, USciences’ new state-of-the-art residence hall at 46th St. and Woodland Ave.

COVER STORY

Alumnae Strive to Make OT Services Accessible for All Families
Page 13
Brittany Smith MOT’12 and Janaki Patel MOT’12, founders of Jump Ahead Pediatrics, work to make sure children from all income levels in New Jersey can access quality occupational and speech therapy.

FEATURES

Proven Everywhere You Are: Introducing USciences’ New Online Education Division
Page 3
A Q&A with Ron Kishen, VP of USciences Online, the University’s new division dedicated to bringing healthcare and science education online.

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

The Science Behind Our Desire to Help Others
Page 8
USciences faculty break down the science of giving, the psychology behind our philanthropy, and why we make donations again and again.

One Alumna Helps Another Get Back on Her Feet
Page 10
Melissa Akacha PharmD’04 connected with another alumna, who was homeless after falling on hard times, and helped to turn her life around.

Early Graduate Honored for Civil War Bravery
Page 12
Joseph Kirby Corson, an 1858 graduate, received the Medal of Honor for his bravery and gallantry at Bristoe Station, Virginia. Few pharmacists in the history of the medal have won such distinction.

Scholarship Pays It Forward
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In 1920, a $50 scholarship changed the future for Pauline Tabachnick P’21. Her family honors her legacy with scholarships for current students.

Decades Apart, Grandmother and Granddaughter Share a Career Path and Legacy
Page 19
Dominique Fields P’95, PharmD’99 followed the example of her grandmother by choosing a career in pharmacy and her alma mater.
From the President

Dear Alumni and Friends,

We often hear from alumni and students that a USciences education is rigorous, which may be true, but for many it is a proving ground that provides for successful outcomes and careers. Our alumni and students take these experiences into their healthcare and science fields and are well prepared for the road ahead.

In this issue of the Bulletin, we will explore stories of grit, determination, and the resilient spirit that we often find in our alumni.

In our cover story, you’ll learn about Janki Patel and Brittany Smith, who graduated in 2012 from the masters of occupational therapy program. The alumnae have dedicated themselves to providing affordable care to pediatric clients seeking occupational and speech therapy services in New Jersey. In doing so, they ensure that families can get the care they need, no matter their income.

This determination to help others even in the most dire situations is nothing new. In another story, we mark the 150th anniversary of the Civil War, sharing the story of Joseph Kirby Corson, an 1858 graduate, who went on to serve with the 6th Pennsylvania Infantry Reserves and was one of the few pharmacists in history to be awarded the Medal of Honor for his bravery in battle.

For most alumni entering the healthcare fields, they have a desire to help others. Melissa Akacha, a pharmacist from the class of 2014, helped a woman who was living in her car and in return found a beautiful friendship with Lynn Schultzman, a pharmacist from the class of 1972.

You’ll find many other stories in this vein throughout these pages. As we lead the University into the future, we seek to ensure these same values of determination and kindness are reflected in the next generation of graduates.

The University is looking ahead to the upcoming Bicentennial Celebration, and many fun-filled events are being planned for 2021. As we honor our legacy, we must also honor the values of the founders of the University, who sought to innovate education for healthcare providers. In doing so, we have established a new division of the University, USciences Online, which will bring the healthcare and science focused education that USciences offers to students at our University City campus, to students no matter where they live. You can read more about this division and Ron Kishen, the man tapped to lead this effort, in this issue.

As always, I thank you for your continued interest and ongoing support of USciences!

Sincerely,

Paul Katz, MD
President
In the spring of 2019, USciences established a new division, USciences Online, devoted to developing online courses and bringing the excellent education delivered on campus to students everywhere.

USciences brought on Ron Kishen to lead the division following a nationwide search. Kishen is an accomplished businessman with vast experience in online education, having worked as senior vice president at University of Phoenix and Kaplan University.

The Bulletin sat down with Kishen:

Q: Why is now a good time for USciences to offer online education?
A: Online higher education has become mainstream, and more and more students are looking for the flexibility that online education allows. Over 35 million adults have some college credits but no degree. Online programs give those adults the opportunity to finish what they started.

Q: What makes USciences Online unique compared to other schools with online programs?
A: USciences, with its prestigious history and proven outcomes, stands out compared to other online programs. We are focused in our fields of expertise. We are not trying to be all things to everyone like many other online universities seem to be.

Q: How can those working in healthcare and science fields benefit from USciences Online?
A: Our options will provide access to lifelong education and training to prospective students, including alumni. Technology changes, as do disciplines within science and healthcare. It is critical in today’s world to stay current in order to be competitive as an individual, institution, business, or industry. USciences Online provides for more nimbleness to adapt to changing skills and technology while providing a more flexible method for delivery of education.

Q: How do you see the future of higher education and how it can integrate new technology?
A: We are just scratching the surface as technology is evolving and there are many businesses out there looking to find better, more effective ways to deliver education. Take virtual labs as an example. They will allow hands-on experiences to be delivered online and remotely....I think we will see more university/industry partnerships where the universities will develop and deliver on industry-specific skills and competencies. We will be in a good position to deliver these skills with USciences Online.

Q: What were you like as a college student?
A: As a college student, I was not the traditional student. I needed to move out after high school and support myself while pursuing a college education. I found a manufacturing job that reimbursed me for tuition and books as long as I received a 3.0 GPA or better. I worked from 4:00 p.m. to midnight five days a week and every other weekend, so I was not involved with nor did I have the opportunity to engage in traditional college activities. I would have greatly benefitted from the opportunity to participate in online education, so I am excited to offer that option for others.

For more of our Q&A with Kishen, visit usciences.edu/RonKishen19.
The Living & Learning Commons is a 426-bed mixed-use residence hall that includes state-of-the-art classroom, retail, living, and learning spaces.

At Home: A Look Inside the Newest Residence Hall

Common spaces include a game room, study lounges on each floor, and a community kitchen open to all residents.
Amenities in the Living & Learning Commons:

- 126,000 square feet
- 208 double occupancy rooms
- Private bathrooms
- Laundry amenities on each residence floor
- Student lounge and study spaces on each floor
- Multi-use classrooms
- Two retail spaces including an ATI Physical Therapy Clinic
- Residence Life offices and staff apartments
- Open-air plaza
- Game room
- Shared kitchen

For more information about the residence hall, visit usciences.edu/LLC.
MADELINE KING, PharmD, assistant professor of clinical pharmacy, began her career in retail pharmacy as a pharmacy technician before internships and rotations led her to an interest in infectious diseases and public health. Dr. King recently coauthored a study in the *Annals of Internal Medicine* on flesh-eating bacteria becoming more common in the Delaware Bay and the impact climate change may have on these bacteria.

**What made you start looking into climate change and its effect on bacterial infections?**

MK: [My colleagues and I at Cooper Hospital] noticed over a few months that there were several cases of *Vibrio vulnificus* infections, which was really unexpected and uncommon for our region of the country. We postulated that since *V. vulnificus* typically lives in the Gulf of Mexico, and occasionally has been found in the Chesapeake Bay area, it was possible that there were warmer sea temperatures in our region. We looked at all of the cases we encountered, as well as data on sea surface temperatures, and hypothesized that there was a correlation.

**At what point in your life did you know what field you wanted to get into and why?**

MK: I have always had a very strong interest in public health and found that I really enjoyed infectious diseases in pharmacy school. I had an opportunity to complete some internships and rotations with the Indian Health Service as well as inpatient and outpatient infectious diseases clinical settings. I thought that specializing in infectious diseases would allow me to do work in both infectious diseases and public health—and it has!

Dr. King helps to assemble a water filtration system during a medical mission trip to Guatemala.

PATRICK DAVITT, PhD, CSCS, FACSM, director of the health sciences program and assistant professor of kinesiology, began working at USciences in 2018. Dr. Davitt specializes in energy metabolism research and the impact of different exercises on changes in carbohydrate vs. fat and various blood markers. He is also studying ultra-endurance athletes, most recently traveling to Colorado to collect data on a runner competing in the Leadville Trail 100, a 100-mile race that climbs and descends over 15,000 feet.

**What made you want to study exercise physiology and research energy metabolism?**

PD: My study of exercise physiology started with my father instilling a passion for how the human body works at an early age. I eventually pursued nutrition and, within my graduate studies, I fell in love with the basic science of energy metabolism and how the body switches between carbohydrate or fat for energy at rest and with different exercise intensities. It is remarkable that many of the modern chronic diseases are related to metabolic and biochemical imbalances and even more astonishing is how potent exercise can be (both cardio and weight training) at preventing and treating these chronic diseases.
exercise prescription, that small dose of exercise can begin to grow until you are completing athletic endeavors that you never thought possible. It seems crazy, but give yourself the patience and time, with the right training and progression, and you will be going farther and doing more than you could have ever imagined.

**MARGARET PEARCE, PhD, assistant professor of biology and neuroscience, runs a lab that studies the effect of neurodegenerative diseases on the brain using fruit flies. Dr. Pearce first researched Huntington's disease before receiving a $285,000 National Institutes of Health grant to continue the work using an Alzheimer's disease model.**

**What first made you interested in researching neurodegenerative diseases and why?**

MP: My PhD research focused on how cells deal with proteins that aren’t folded properly or change their folding in a way that makes them appear damaged. Our cells have developed several systems to eliminate damaged proteins, and these work well, as long as our cells are healthy. But in many diseases collectively known as proteopathies, genetic or environmental factors cause misfolded proteins to accumulate into toxic protein aggregates. I was especially interested in Alzheimer’s and other neurodegenerative disorders because they are the most common proteopathies, and despite many decades of research, we still don’t really understand what causes them.

**We all know someone who has been affected by one of the diseases you’re studying. How does it feel to be working toward a solution or cure for Alzheimer's?**

MP: I feel really honored to have received funding to study Alzheimer’s and related diseases and to be a part of the worldwide effort to understand how neurodegeneration develops at a deeper level. There is a lot of enthusiasm in the field to identify what molecular mechanisms are at the core of these diseases so that more targeted therapies can be developed.

**When you first started out, did you think you would be working so closely with fruit flies, and how important is it to be adaptable or flexible as a scientist?**

MP: No! While I knew that there was a lot of valuable research being done in fruit flies, I would have never guessed I’d end up running a fly lab! During my postdoc, I struck up a collaboration with another group that had developed a lot of genetic tools in flies that I could use to study how protein aggregates spread between different populations of neurons in the brain. This ended up leading to some really exciting findings about how different cell types in the brain communicate in the disease state, and here I am a decade later as a bona fide fly geneticist!

**Sometimes people are intimidated by the word “athlete” and think they aren’t capable of exercise or fitness—what’s your favorite part of educating people about exercise?**

PD: It is all about starting somewhere, even if that means walking around the block or lifting a bare barbell 10 times. If you worked with a trained exercise professional, who can help design a proper exercise prescription, that small dose of exercise can begin to grow until you are completing athletic endeavors that you never thought possible. It seems crazy, but give yourself the patience and time, with the right training and progression, and you will be going farther and doing more than you could have ever imagined.

Dr. Davitt studies ultra-endurance athletes in the field.
Donating to a GoFundMe, feeding the homeless at a soup kitchen, or collecting school supplies for underserved communities; these acts of generosity are all ways to help others, yet they often boost the happiness of the donor. This positive effect isn’t a coincidence.

“Giving and being generous activates the ‘reward centers’ in the brain—the same areas that light up when we experience pleasurable things, like a good meal,” said HEIDI FREEMAN, PhD, assistant dean of students and adjunct assistant professor. “Studies have also found that when we give back, the neural pathways that underlie caregiving are activated, showing a similar pattern as when a parent is caring for their child.”

When a person decides whether or not they want to contribute time or money, they take many factors into consideration, including if there is an emotional connection to the person or cause, or even if they are in a hurry. ALYSSON LIGHT, PhD, assistant professor of psychology at USciences, said researchers like psychologist Dan Batson have identified the factors that can inhibit helping and have created a flow chart of sorts.

“First, we have to identify that someone is in need,” said Dr. Light. “If there are a lot of other people around and none of them are helping, we might assume that they know better than we do and the victim doesn’t actually need help. Second, we have to have some level of emotional reaction to the event.” If the emotional reaction is fear, specifically fear for our own safety, that may override the decision to help, said Dr. Light.

If donors know exactly where their donation is going, they may be more encouraged to give. One may think a person is more likely to help when the recipient is a large group, but Dr. Light said studies show exactly the opposite. The “Single Identifiable Victim Effect” describes how people are much more likely to offer aid to a single, identifiable victim rather than a group of people.

“This is driven by a decrease in the empathetic concern people feel and is captured by the line ‘one death is a tragedy, a million deaths is just a statistic,’” said Dr. Light, citing one explanation in recent research by Daryl Cameron, which said potential donors may feel overwhelmed by the needs of many people and feel less able to help. Once a person is overwhelmed by the issue, she said emotion regulation kicks in, reducing a person’s empathetic concern.

Empathetic concern research is a line of focus for psychologists who are trying to answer whether people are ever purely altruistic or if they donate or help due to self-interest. “It’s a thorny question, since even if we don’t benefit directly, we might benefit by making other people think highly of us, raising our social status,” said Dr. Light.

Research suggests socioeconomic status and empathetic concern may be linked. Studies show those with a lower socioeconomic status give a greater percentage of their income to charity than wealthier people. People who have lower socioeconomic status may be more likely to perceive the needs of others and therefore experience that empathetic concern that motivates giving.
Donors may also be motivated by results. Dr. Freeman points to research that shows that knowing the impact of a donation helps fuel the desire to give.

“I think there is an element of hope that is necessary in order to give back, and it tends to make people feel like they are doing something even if it is small,” she said.

“Generosity tends to create upward spirals. You give back. You feel good about it. You do it again. You feel better, et cetera,” said Dr. Freeman.

Another question for psychologists studying the science behind the act of giving is how the publicity or knowledge surrounding a donation affects one’s willingness to participate. There are two types of identity-related concerns when it comes to this research, according to Dr. Light: social-signaling and self-signaling.

Self-signaling is when we’re less concerned about how others see us and more concerned with how we see ourselves. Self-signaling can actually be undermined by opportunities for social signaling, said Dr. Light. A person who wants to believe they are generous would be less likely to donate if their donations were made public, because they may question if their intentions are pure.

“This helps to explain why some donors really don’t want their donations made public,” said Dr. Light. “It can corrupt the altruistic feeling of helping by bringing in the potential for social gain.”

Dr. Freeman says there is no “wrong” reason to be generous, but those who give because they choose to often report feeling happier. The benefits can go beyond a simple boost in mood or sense of gratitude, however.

“Studies show a general health effect—people who give back or volunteer regularly show better overall health and, in older people, greater longevity,” said Dr. Freeman. “If they are generous and give back regularly, they are less likely to experience the detrimental health effects of stress and less likely to experience burnout at work.”

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HEIDI FREEMAN, PhD, assistant dean of students and adjunct assistant professor.
Melissa Akacha PharmD’04: Taking Care of Our Neighbors When They Are in Need

By Colleen Chase

MELISSA AKACHA PharmD’04 cares for strangers daily in her role as pharmacy manager for CVS Caremark. In April 2019 she took that compassion from the pharmacy to the street when Dr. Akacha lent a helping hand to a stranger she found living in a car. At the time, she did not realize her actions would result in a new friendship with someone with whom she had a lot more in common than she originally thought.

When Dr. Akacha’s daughters alerted her to a woman with two dogs that they noticed had been parked in the same spot in a King of Prussia parking lot, it was instinctual for her to lend a hand. Keeping an eye on the well-being of others is a way of life for a pharmacist.

Using her healthcare experience, Dr. Akacha partnered with Jennifer Elsier, a close friend and a medical social worker, to triage the situation. Dr. Akacha approached the car, discovering a woman named Lynn, who had been living in her car for approximately two years.

Lynn’s homelessness followed the death of her husband and declines in her own health. Living off of her social security benefits, she was able to buy food and water for her dogs but couldn’t afford gas or a new battery for her car, or much else. When Dr. Akacha first offered assistance, Lynn felt proud and pushed away the help but then had a change of heart and accepted.

The day Lynn met Dr. Akacha she was at her lowest point. “That morning, I made the decision that it was unfair to my dogs. I could no longer provide the care and support they needed,” she said. “My dogs are my family. I sat in my car and thought this is it. I needed to make sure they would go to a good home.”

Within one night, with the help of her neighbors, Lynn’s outlook was changed.

“I would tell anyone who needs support but doesn’t ask for it to bury their pride, put it away, and accept the help. Those who supported me do so out of the goodness of their hearts. It’s good for their souls also.”

As Dr. Akacha and Lynn became acquainted, they discovered a common bond—both had graduated from Philadelphia College of Pharmacy. LYNN SCHUTZMAN P’72 had graduated three decades before Dr. Akacha.

“I see myself in Lynn,” said Dr. Akacha, who has had hardships of her own. “People looked at me as if I had to have it all together because I was a pharmacist, but at the time, life took me in another direction. We went through a lot of the same things in life, and I wanted to help her. Everyone has a story, and at times people hit their breaking point. I was able to put myself in her shoes.”

Dr. Akacha and Elsier rallied their Upper Merion community to raise money and gather donations to help Schutzman get back on her feet. They put her up in a motel, helped her to find a new apartment, fixed up her car, and helped to care for Schutzman’s beloved dogs, Chase and Chaucer.

“Melissa and Jennifer have such kind hearts,” said Schutzman. “They said to me you are not going to spend another night living in this car, and they kept their word. We met on a Thursday, and they had me out of my car on Friday. I am so grateful.

“I’m so glad I accepted the help. I have a whole new life. I call Melissa and Jennifer my angels. God bless my angels. They had the courage to approach me and I am forever grateful. I will have their backs forever. I owe them everything.”

Dr. Akacha and her family continue to visit Schutzman throughout the week.

“We are her family now, her support system. It was important she stayed close to us. Lynn went from having little support to a revolving door of friends who help her walk the dogs, provide healthy meals, and keep her company.”

“Everyone has a story and at times people hit their breaking point. I was able to put myself in her shoes.”

MELISSA AKACHA, PharmD’04
“I call Melissa and Jennifer my angels. God bless my angels. They had the courage to approach me and I am forever grateful. I will have their backs forever. I owe them everything.”

LYNN SCHUTZMAN, P’72

“With the help of our community, we were able to change someone’s life in less than a month,” said Dr. Akacha. Dr. Akacha credits her experience in the pharmacy program with shaping her work ethic and character.

As a result of this experience, Dr. Akacha plans to help others like Schutzman in her community, one by one. In Philadelphia and the surrounding counties, there are more than 7,000 homeless individuals on a given night, according to the National Alliance to End Homelessness.

Dr. Akacha’s efforts to help Schutzman inspired members of the USciences community to follow her example of providing support. Dr. Akacha welcomes fellow alumni to connect with her on Nexus to learn how you can continue to help Schutzman.

Connect with fellow alumni on Nexus: usciences.nexus.edu

“Lynn went from having little support to a revolving door of friends who help her walk the dogs, provide healthy meals, and keep her company. With the help of our community, we were able to change someone’s life in less than a month.”

MELISSA AKACHA, PharmD’04
Pharmacy Graduate Awarded Medal of Honor for Bravery in Civil War

By Dennis B. Worthen, PhD

In the midst of the 150th anniversary of the Civil War, there have been numerous reflections on the people and events of the era. One such person was a Pennsylvania pharmacist, JOSEPH KIRBY CORSON, an 1858 graduate of Philadelphia College of Pharmacy, who received the Medal of Honor for bravery on May 13, 1899, for his bravery and gallantry at Bristoe Station, Virginia, where he was assistant surgeon in the 6th Pennsylvania Infantry Reserves. Few pharmacists in the history of the medal, perhaps only two, have won such distinction.

Corson was born on November 22, 1836, the second of nine children of Dr. Hiram and Ann Jones Foulke Corson in Montgomery County, Pennsylvania. In 1856, Corson moved to Philadelphia and apprenticed with the wholesale drugstore of the brothers William and John Savery while he attended the Philadelphia College of Pharmacy, graduating with a PhG in 1858. He later enrolled at the University of Pennsylvania Department of Medicine, earning his MD in 1863.

Upon graduating, Corson enlisted and was assigned as an assistant surgeon. He joined his regiment in time to take part in the Battle of Gettysburg and the subsequent battles.

Corson describes the activities of Oct 14, 1863, in which the 3rd Division of the 5th Corps of the Army of the Potomac, to which he belonged, was marching North near Bristoe and was ambushed while eating lunch. Corson’s commentary is part of the recommendation for the Medal of Honor:

“Just as we started Private Ernest Arenholdt of Co. ‘E’ broke from the ranks and attempted to run to the nearest point of the woods. When a short distance away a shot or shell struck him and shattered his leg just above the knee. I did not see him at first but my attention being called to the fact, I turned and rode back, taking with me Private James O’Boyle of ‘I’ Co., Hospital Attendant. After a hasty examination finding that nothing could be done under fire of the Battery, on the spot and the man begging to be taken from the exposed position, we managed to put him on my horse and carry him to where the regiment was halted behind the wood, O’Boyle leading the horse and I supporting the man and holding his leg. The limb was amputated that day with successful result. The operation was performed by Surgeon Charles Bower of the Regiment. During the occurrence narrated the firing of the Battery was severe and the enemy’s skirmishers were plainly visible on the opposite side of the stream. It is certain in my judgment that the action taken was the means of saving the man’s life as the ground was not regained, I think that day, if at all, and the nature of the wound made delay absolutely fatal.” [punctuation and capitalization in original typescript]
Offering quality care to their patients isn’t enough for **BRITTANY SMITH** MOT’12 and **JANKI PATEL** MOT’12. As the founders of Jump Ahead Pediatrics, headquartered in Jersey City, New Jersey, the alumnae are on a quest to make occupational therapy and speech therapy treatments for children in need more affordable and achievable for families.

“Therapy can be extremely expensive,” said Smith, who knows firsthand the high cost of out-of-network care because her son has speech delays. “I have experienced how expensive and how tedious it can be to get good care.”

Smith’s family is fortunate enough to have good out-of-network insurance benefits so that her son can go to speech therapy regularly in a location convenient to their home and his school. But she also knows that is very rare.

“I can’t imagine the pressure to spend that much money on something your child needs to be successful in their occupation of playing and socializing and getting ready for school,” she said.
Finding a Way to Make Care Affordable

Smith and Patel are cofounders on a mission to make pediatric occupational therapy treatments affordable for families in New Jersey, working with insurance companies to make sure treatments are covered.

“There were many parents that couldn’t afford out-of-pocket services. They borrowed money, took out loans, etc. We wanted to provide a service that was accessible and affordable for everyone,” said Patel. “Now we are one of the only clinics in New Jersey to take in-network insurance.”

Jump Ahead Pediatrics works with most major insurers, as well as their patients, to ensure children get the occupational or speech therapy they need with the lowest possible out-of-pocket expense. This means they have to put more time and effort into billing, but they say it is worth it to reach a population that needs assistance and is underserved in their community.

This mission has been a success for Smith and Patel, who have expanded to three locations in New Jersey since opening their flagship in Jersey City three years ago. And they have been awarded several contracts with various school districts to provide services throughout the state.

In addition to their location in Jersey City, Patel and Smith have opened a clinic in Little Falls and Roseland. They employ more than a dozen other therapists and staff, are actively hiring, and are also looking to expand to include physical therapy services.

Despite the rapid growth, Smith and Patel are working to keep their growing business feeling small. They personally drop into the different clinics and work hard to train their staff so that the standard of care remains high and the quality is consistent.

“We want to make sure the kiddos are getting exactly what they are entitled to as far as quality of service,” Smith said.

The Pathway to Partnership

The two met during their Introduction to Occupational Therapy course during their first year as undergraduate students at USciences pursuing an accelerated track to a masters in OT. They quickly become friends after carpooling to a fieldwork site. Both had an interest in pediatrics, and spent countless hours studying for their certification exam together. “We clicked
right from the start,” said Smith. “We both had similar aspirations, similar dreams, and a wealth of knowledge.”

They started their first jobs together, but soon went off to work at a variety of different places and in different care settings, keeping in touch about personal milestones and consulting one another about particularly difficult patient cases.

Both agreed that USciences provided them with a good variety of fieldwork experiences, which prepared them for their chosen fields and helped them to adapt to different care settings.

“I learned what I liked, what I didn’t like, and discovered the type of provider I wanted to be,” said Smith. “We both wanted to open a business for the independent aspects of owning our own business. We trusted each other and just did it.”

“We ended up opening a business very similar to a company we worked for in the past. We learned the ins and outs of working for a private practice,” said Patel. “That made things a lot easier when we decided to branch out on our own.”

Smith and Patel said they were scared to take the leap from working for someone else to starting their own business, but their confidence from prior experience and in one another helped them to become successful.

“It was the scariest thing,” said Patel. “I said to myself, I’m going to make a little bit less right now; I have to, I have to give all of my time and energy to this business. It was just something I had to do. It wasn’t an option because I knew that this business was what I wanted for my future.”

Smith has the following advice to others looking to become their own boss: “I would say just do it. That’s always been my motto,” said Smith. “It was definitely a struggle to get things off the ground, but we would have never done it any other way. You just have to give yourself more credit and know that you are capable.”

Janki Patel works with Matthew in her occupational therapy clinic.

“Online Exclusive Video: Watch Smith and Patel speak about their experience at USciences and the journey to start their own business at usciences.edu/ JumpAheadPediatrics19.

“It was definitely a struggle to get things off the ground, but we would have never done it any other way. You just have to give yourself more credit and know that you are capable.”

BRITTANY SMITH MOT’12
5 Steps for Starting Your Own Business by Brittany Smith and Janki Patel

1. No one cares about your business like you do
   The old saying “if you want something done right, do it yourself” applies here. It is so important to be involved in every single aspect of your business initially. Once employees begin to take on more responsibilities, make sure you always have periodic check-ins to make sure things are to your standards. This is your blood, sweat, and tears!

2. Be mindful of keeping a balance between being a boss and being friends with employees
   In our personal experience, it has seemed that being young entrepreneurs sometimes makes it difficult for similar aged or older employees to treat you the same as they would an older business owner. It can be easy to get caught up in trying to be friendly and relatable but it is very important to keep boundaries and remain even more professional because of how young you may present.

3. You don’t need to spend a ton of money when you are first starting out...be resourceful and ask for help
   Prior to opening our first sensory clinic, we became caught up in researching expensive, new equipment. After taking a step back and thinking about the equipment (or lack thereof) at our past jobs, we realized that we did not need to be extra fancy or extra in debt to start off. We purchased used items, asked family members and friends for office supplies they were getting rid of, and got help from handy family members who could build equipment.

4. Do your research—find a need, what makes you stand out, look into location, etc.
   When we decided to open a clinic, we researched, made a business plan, and looked into multiple locations prior to actually moving forward with the legal paperwork for Jump Ahead. When we sat down to research, we took it very seriously. We spoke with various mentors and consultants in order to have a good plan to move forward.

5. Just do it!
   This is an ironic answer to follow our recommendation to “do your research.” We’ve both tried all different settings, environments, and job types and just wanted the freedom to be able to use the tools and leadership skills that we saw become successful. We said “let’s just do it” and met up that same week to being filing all of the legal paperwork for the business. It was a chaotic time in both of our lives but we realized there was never going to be “the right time” to take this leap.

Brittany Smith (left) and Janki Patel (right) encourage children Lucas, Matthew, and Chloe to play using games that require fine motor skills.
The difference between success and failure is often the result of someone believing in you. In 1920, an act of kindness and a $50 scholarship changed the future for Pauline Tabachnick P’21.

Tabachnick came to the United States from the Ukraine at just 15 years old with her 17-year-old sister in pursuit of education as opportunities were limited for Jewish people in her homeland.

In America, Tabachnick had limited money and spoke little English. What she lacked in resources was superseded by her desire to learn. Tabachnick graduated from high school and decided to enroll in Philadelphia College of Pharmacy. She was able to save enough money to attend the first year, but the following year, Tabachnick was unable to earn the funds to enroll in the final year needed to complete the two-year degree.

Tabachnick met with Dean Charles H. Lawall to explain why she would not be returning to school. During their meeting, Lawall offered her a $50 scholarship, which allowed her to enroll in her final year. Tabachnick, shocked by the offer, asked, “Why?” Lawall replied that the scholarship was awarded on character.

In 1924, Tabachnick opened a community pharmacy in Brooklyn, New York, with the help of her husband and kept her licenses until her health failed, said Doris Weller, Tabachnick’s daughter.

Weller, a longtime supporter and friend of USciences, remembers the impact this seemingly small gesture had on her mother’s life. “When she would question her skills and abilities, she always looked back on the impact Dean Lawall’s scholarship made on her life to move forward,” Weller said.

A culture of caring has been prevalent at USciences for hundreds of years, proving philanthropy to be a timeless tradition. Because of the kindness of Dean Lawall, students on campus nearly 100 years later are receiving the Pauline Tabachnick Rothman Scholarship to support their education.

Tabachnick’s children and grandchildren established a scholarship in her memory and honoring the kindness of Dean Lawall.

“For more than 15 years, the fund has supported female students in their last year of pharmacy school who demonstrate outstanding character,” said Weller. Each year, the Weller family shares Tabachnick’s story with the recipients in hope that they, too, can pursue their career in pharmacy with the kindness of others.
Shivagni Shah PharmD’19, the 2019 recipient of the award, recognizes the obstacles Tabachnick overcame to pursue her education and is grateful for the contribution from the Weller family to pursue her studies. “I am inspired by Tabachnick’s grit and determination,” said Shah.

Philanthropy has been embraced by deans for generations at USciences. Today, Edward Foote PharmD’87, dean of Philadelphia College of Pharmacy, continues the tradition. Dr. Foote incorporates philanthropy into his role to meet the needs of our students and faculty. “I try to live by example,” says Foote. “I do what I can to make sure I do my part in supporting our mission.”

One of Foote’s goals since coming to USciences is to enhance the culture of caring at Philadelphia College of Pharmacy. “Certainly, caring for our students and each other doesn’t need to cost money, but many times it does.”

Recently, Foote has been reflecting on what he has been able to accomplish through donor support in the last year. “What we have done was not imaginable at my last institution,” Foote says. “I just got an unsolicited email from a P3 pharmacy student who wanted to thank me for providing funds for her to complete summer research under the direction of one of our pharmacology/toxicology faculty members. I could not have funded that out of operating dollars; it came from donations made during Giving Tuesday.”

“At some point, I think every student should be touched and helped by a donor. Philanthropy is life changing for PCP and the students we serve,” says Foote.
Decades Apart, Grandmother and Granddaughter Share a Career Path and Legacy

By Jenna Pizzi

DOMINIQUE FIELDS P’95, PharmD’99 always saw her grandmother, MARIE R. KERN (RANERE) BAC’36, P’61 as a role model.

Kern was a strong and dedicated woman. Having lost her husband, DONALD HENRY KERN P’36, at the age of 39, Marie needed to provide for their three children. She took over her late husband’s community pharmacy in Hammonton, New Jersey, and decided to go back to school to earn her pharmacy degree and license.

“I always respected and idolized her,” said Fields, who followed the example of her grandmother, choosing a career in pharmacy and her alma mater. At USciences, Fields found a supportive and challenging environment where she thrived.

Marie eventually closed the community pharmacy but stayed in the profession, opening the pharmacy in William B. Kessler Memorial Hospital and serving as director of pharmacy until she retired.

Kern even kept her pharmacy license until after Fields graduated and passed her boards so that they could have some overlap of practicing together.

After a few years practicing pharmacy, Fields again found herself following after her grandmother, starting as director of pharmacy at Kessler Hospital in September 2000 until the hospital was closed in 2009, meaning the two women bookended the Kessler Hospital pharmacy program.

“You could tell that she was proud,” said Fields. Kern passed away in 2013 at the age of 98.

Read more at usciences.edu/LegacyFamily19.

New Ad Campaign: At USciences, Proven Everywhere Starts Here

By Jenna Pizzi

USciences advertisements now have a new look. The new marketing campaign for the University is focused on the next generation of USciences students and all that they will achieve when they are #ProvenEverywhere.

The new campaign remains focused on the rewarding outcomes of a USciences education, which is proven by the success of alumni throughout the University’s history. This campaign goes further, highlighting the innovation, rewarding patient interactions, and breakthroughs that alumni achieve.

A vibrant light technique highlights the spark that is ignited or fostered in students who attend USciences and represents the passion that guides them when they graduate to healthcare and science careers. The ads are appearing on billboards, public transit, targeted TV and cable TV spots, online radio stations, and in digital advertisements.

Watch our new commercial at usciences.edu/AdCampaign19.
Largest Incoming Class in Five Years Arrive on Campus

The incoming class of 435 first-year students is USciences’ largest incoming class in five years. To welcome them to the University community, we celebrated with a festival complete with inflatables, games, food, and fun activities for students and their families.

We marked the passing of the flame to the new class at a candlelight ceremony with alumni representatives.

Aided by their families, 367 new students moved into various residence halls on campus.

More than 100 returning students participating in “Arrival Survival” helped to unload cars and move belongings into student rooms. More than 300 of the new students make up the first class to move into the Living & Learning Commons, the newest residence hall, for the start of the academic year.

usciences.edu/MoveIn19

Dig It: Student’s Passion Leads to Month-Long Excavation Trip in Belize

VICTORIA POBOK Bio’20, HumSci’20 has always loved learning about ancient cultures. This summer, with financial support from USciences Center for Undergraduate Research, she was able to indulge that curiosity during a month-long archaeological dig in Northern Belize studying the ancient Maya.

“In the Belizian jungle, we lived among the trees and the animals in a 1200-year-old unmapped rainforest,” Pobok said. “In the jungle we came across tarantulas, vampire bats, venomous caterpillars, and the occasional hostile spider monkey.” Pobok was also learning firsthand how to participate at excavation sites. She received her own unit and was taught how to identify, handle, and log artifacts.

usciences.edu/Belize19
Decoding Substance Use Disorder: Students Shift Perspective During “Life Changing” Conference

It isn’t unusual for students to describe attending the American Pharmacists Association Institute on Substance Use Disorders as “one of the best decisions I’ve made.” The week-long conference in Salt Lake City, Utah, has been an annual experience for students of GEORGE DOWNS PharmD’72 for 31 years. And Dr. Downs says for each the experience is impactful and eye opening.

“I really came to this institute to learn about where I was going wrong in my decisions as a daughter of an alcoholic,” wrote a student, “and I am really glad I went. Growing up, like any other person, I thought that my dad’s alcoholism was a choice, and now, I understand that it’s not and that his alcoholism does not define him as a person.” For those students who don’t have a personal experience with substance use disorder, they discovered how bias and perceptions impact those living with substance use disorders.

usciences.edu/SUDConference19

USciences Launches MBA with a Focus on the Cannabis Industry

USciences has created a new option for students interested in learning about the business side of the cannabis industry. In September, the University launched a specialized cannabis industry master’s of business administration option.

USciences’ cannabis industry option is the first of its kind in the U.S., offering education in the business of cannabis, hemp, and dispensary operations. The option, which includes four elective courses specific to medical cannabis regulations and industry, was created in partnership with USciences’ Substance Use Disorders Institute and through feedback from individuals in the industry. The courses include Introduction to the Medical Cannabis Industry, Finance and Regulation in the Medical Cannabis Industry, Cannabis Marketing and Sales, and a project-based course where students will work to write a business plan or bring a product to market.

usciences.edu/CannabisMBA19

Physical Therapy Students Trade White Coats for Wetsuits at Adaptive Surfing Event

As a way to show other physical therapy students a fun opportunity to interact with patients outside of the clinic, CHRISTOPHER GRIMES DPT’21 invited his classmates to volunteer at Life Rolls On’s “They Will Surf Again” event as part of the 2019 “Get On Board Tour.” Hundreds lined the beach in Wildwood, New Jersey, on August 4, 2019, to help adaptive athletes catch a wave, including more than a dozen volunteers from USciences’ physical therapy department.

Watch video from the event at usciences.edu/Surf19
Honors Students Explore “Flâneur” During Trip to France, Netherlands

USciences’ honors program traveled with 21 students and three faculty to Amsterdam, Netherlands; Paris, France; and Normandy, France from May 7 to 16, 2019, to explore the theme of the flâneur. The term flâneur comes from the French masculine noun flâneur—which has the basic meaning of “stroller,” “lounger,” “saunterer,” “loafer”—which itself comes from the French verb flâner, which means “to stroll.” The students have explored this theme throughout the year during their courses on campus, and their time abroad was a further extension of the idea.

Students began the journey in Amsterdam where they explored the city for two days, consisting of walking tours along the canal-lined streets, seeing Cross Dam Square, the royal palace Koninklijk, and Ann Frank’s House. In Paris, the group spent four days touring various sites, including the Latin Quarter, the Eiffel Tower, and the Arc de Triomphe. They finished their trip with a visit to the Normandy region, where they saw Omaha Beach, the D-Day Museum, and the American Cemetery.

OT Students Join Fight Against Parkinson’s by Teaching Boxing

Helping to teach a boxing class isn’t what you think of when occupational therapy comes to mind, but students in their second professional year of USciences’ doctor of occupational therapy program are learning about the benefits of the sport. Students participated in weekly coaching at Rock Steady Boxing as part of their fieldwork.

“A big part about being an occupational therapist is just making sure that that person is not only happy but they’re doing things that are meaningful to them,” said ALISHA MICKLE DrOT’20.

To see video from Rock Steady, visit usciences.edu/Boxing19.

USciences Honors Class of 2019 at 198th Commencement

Approximately 620 graduates were honored at USciences’ 198th Commencement Ceremony on May 22, 2019, at 1 p.m. at the Liacouras Center. Among the recipients was Dr. Rachel L. Levine, secretary of health for the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, who received an honorary doctor of science degree.

Also honored at the ceremony was valedictorian BRITTANY RICKARD PH/TX’19, who told her fellow graduates, “Today is a day to be thankful and proud.”

ERIC PELLETIER, DPT, assistant professor of physical therapy, was awarded the 2019 Lindback Award for Distinguished Teaching, an honor for which he was nominated by his own students.

usciences.edu/Commencement19
USciences Student-Athletes Achieve 3.42 GPA in Spring 2019 Semester

Student-athletes posted a 3.42 grade point average (GPA) in the Spring 2019 semester, with all 12 teams recording at least a 3.1 team GPA. More than 61 percent of the department earned Dean’s List Honors, with 18 of those 89 honorees achieving a perfect 4.0 GPA.

USciences Chosen As Host for 2019–20 CACC Men’s and Women’s Basketball Championships

University of the Sciences will serve as the host institution for the semifinals and finals of both the 2019–20 Central Atlantic Collegiate Conference (CACC) Men’s and Women’s Basketball Championships on March 7–8, 2020, at the Athletic Recreation Center on campus. Both tournaments will tip off on Tuesday, March 3, 2020, with the first-round games at the sites of the highest seeds.

USciences and Phillies Officially Ink Partnership

USciences and the Philadelphia Phillies have announced a new partnership that will have the USciences baseball and softball teams practice and play at the Phillies’ Urban Youth Academy Fields, in Franklin Delano Roosevelt Park in South Philadelphia.

“We are extremely excited to formalize our partnership with the Philadelphia Phillies,” said MARC CASERIO, EdD, USciences athletic director. “Both the baseball and softball complexes at FDR Park are state-of-the-art facilities. This partnership is going to have a positive impact on our current and future student-athletes and we are hopeful that this is the start of a long and mutually beneficial partnership.”

The partnership will also see USciences and the Phillies collaborate to provide baseball and softball camps and clinics, as well as educational opportunities, to the Urban Youth Academy athletes.

Former Olympian Yvonne Harrison Appointed Head Men’s and Women’s Cross Country and Track & Field Coach

Former Olympian YVONNE HARRISON has been named the head coach of the USciences’ men’s and women’s cross country and track & field teams. She joins the Devils after serving as the head women’s cross country coach and assistant men’s and women’s track & field coach at Division I LIU Brooklyn last season.

“Coach Harrison brings with her years of experience and success as both a world-class athlete and coach,” said Athletic Director MARC CASERIO, EdD. “I strongly believe Coach Harrison’s passion, enthusiasm and positive energy will have an influential impact on both our student-athletes and the USciences Athletics program as a whole.”

Get more athletics news at usciences.edu/athletics.
From the Alumni Association President’s Pen

Get to know more about the new president of the USciences Alumni Association Board of Directors (AABOD): Rosemarie Halt P’89.

I was born in … Lansdowne, Delaware County, Pennsylvania, and if you are from the greater Philadelphia area, then you understand when I say I am a “DelCo Girl,” born, raised and still living in “DelCo.”

I wanted to grow up to be … a detective like Miss Marple or Hercule Poirot, character in the Agatha Christie novels that I loved. However, I found out that Agatha Christie was a pharmacist assistant in World War II and that put the thought into my head that a woman could be a pharmacist.

My favorite memory at USciences is … the friendships I made! I attended USciences twice; once for my pharmacy degree and the second time for my master’s degree in public health. Both times I had the pleasure of meeting amazing people from different cultures, backgrounds and personalities, all of whom have enriched my knowledge outside of the classroom.

The last book I read cover to cover is … Visionary Women by Andrea Barnet. As an avid reader, I have been in a book club that meets once a month for almost 20 years and just completed our 200th book.

The most challenging thing about my job is … working with policymakers, especially in the current political environment. I am the policy director for a nonprofit Maternity Care Coalition.

My plan for the AABOD is … to strengthen the infrastructure of the board, which includes outreach and engagement of alumni so they feel a part of the University post-graduation. The AABOD helps with the reunion and 200th Anniversary, building the young alumni network, and developing a long term sustainability plan with our Growth and Development committee. Another goal is to have alumni helping alumni beyond professional networking, for example helping fellow alumni facing problems such drug and alcohol recovery, homelessness, or struggling with long term health issues. The USciences community has always been caring and compassionate, which I think is something that we really need to highlight more.

When people tell me they want to get more involved with the University… I want to hug them and then I tell them to join a board committee, volunteer at an alumni event, or connect with faculty to help mentor students in various curricula. Of course it’s important to donate to the University to help maintain and grow it for another 200 years!

The most famous person I’ve met is … Will Smith. He is the bomb! In my job I have met senators, governors, mayors etc., but he is the person who really got me excited.

For me, USciences, in a word, is … extraordinary.

Alumni Association Mission:
To engage the graduates of University of the Sciences in promoting the goals and objectives of the Alumni Association and the institution.
Alumni Events

**USciences OT Reception at the American Occupational Therapy Association (AOTA) Annual Conference**

*Friday, April 5, 2019, New Orleans, LA*

Occupational therapy alumni, faculty, and students gathered for a reception during the 2019 AOTA conference.

Faculty, students, and alumni pause the celebration for a quick group photo.

Colleen Maher (center), associate professor of occupational therapy, poses with students Delaney Booth DrOT’21 (left) and Anna Kleinschmidt DrOT’21 (right).

**PCP Alumni Reception at the American Pharmacists Association (APhA) Annual Meeting**

*Saturday, March 23, 2019, Seattle, WA*

Philadelphia College of Pharmacy alumni, students, and faculty gathered at the annual APhA Conference.

Attendees pose for a group photo during the reception.

**Upsilon Sigma Phi 100th Anniversary Celebration**

*Saturday, April 13, 2019*

Upsilon Sigma Phi fraternity was founded in 1919 through the hard work of five Philadelphia College of Pharmacy students, focusing on the values of character, loyalty, and service. Throughout the century they have continuously promoted these values while amassing a large legacy of successful brothers and alumni. In recognition of their 100-year legacy, Upsilon Sigma Phi has created a scholarship program, offered to descendants of alumni, to continue to spread the value of higher education among their organization.
Young Professionals Organization
Networking Night

Monday, May 6, 2019, Philadelphia, PA

USciences Young Professional Organization hosted its inaugural YPO Networking Night at City Tap House for alumni from graduation through the first 15 years of their careers to meet each other and share advice. Interested in learning more about YPO? Join nexus.usciences.edu!

Timothy Bowers MT’02, MPH’08, Alumni Association Director, President-Elect, joins more than 60 USciences young professionals at YPO Networking Night on May 6, 2019, at City Tap House.

Graduates from Class of 2019 get a taste of their first young professionals event just days before graduation!

Summer Happy Hour Down the Shore

Saturday, July 27, 2019, Strathmere, NJ

Alumni from a variety of classes took in the sunset, caught up with old friends, and enjoyed the food and beverages during the annual Happy Hour Down the Shore at Deauville Inn.

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.

(L to R) YPO steering committee members Rich DiGiacomo DPT’10, Tom Keyack PharmD’14, and Sean Ahern PharmD’19 represent YPO and introduce upcoming professional development, networking, and mentorship initiatives.
Class Notes

1972
SAMUEL J. CHIODO JR. P’72 recently released the second printing of Thirty Twice Tiny Tales of Terror, a unique collection of short stories, specifically brief observations of life and its grotesque and sometimes grandiose behaviors, that open the door to other realms of possibility. Chiodo is a retired pharmacist but says the stories in this book are not all about pharmacy!

1982
Several pharmacy graduates from the class of 1982 gathered for a reunion on Fenwick Island, Delaware, in June 2019.

Front row:
SHARON MAGGIO LARKIN
EDIE GAMBARCORA
LORI PIOTROWSKI HOGAN

Back Row:
JEANNE OBZUD TOLERICO
DONNA DESTEFANO SCHUEBEL
ROSE MARY BATTISTA HOY
KATHY HUTTON FLAHERTY

2006
MARIE ROSENTHAL BW’06, of Robbinsville, New Jersey, recently won two Tabbie awards. Tabbie is an international b2b editorial and design competition. She won for best single issue for the March 2018 issue of Infectious Disease Special Edition (idse.net): “The Curse of Valley Fever.”

She also won for feature writing in Pharmacy Practice News (pharmacypracticenews.com) for an article about a unique response to drug shortages: “Concerned About Drug Shortages? Think Inside the Box.” Both are published by the McMahon Group in New York City, a family-owned medical publisher now in its fifth decade.

HETAL (SHELADIA) VASAVADA BC’06 recently published a cookbook, Milk & Cardamom, which shares the name of the food blog she started after competing on Fox’s Masterchef competition. The book was recently featured in the New York Times’ food section.

2019
REBECCA COLANDREA BC’19 accepted her first job following graduation at GlaxoSmithKline as a medicinal chemistry co-op.

IN MEMORIAM

LEONARD H. FINKELSTEIN P’55 passed away on June 25, 2019, of complications from prostate cancer. After graduating from USciences in 1955, he went on to obtain two degrees from Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine before becoming the president of PCOM from 1990 to 2000.

JOSEPH J. URBAN JR. P’72 passed away on June 25, 2019. After graduating from USciences, Urban went on to get a master’s and a doctorate of pharmacy, He was an accomplished inventor, with many U.S. and worldwide patents, and also worked as a research pharmacist and pharmaceutical consultant.

GEORGE M. DECURTIS P’51 passed away on June 29, 2019. After graduating from USciences, DeCurtis, an army veteran, worked as a pharmacist before enrolling in medical school. He then opened his own medical practice and practiced for 53 years.

JEROME GOODMAN P’58, HonDSc’93 passed away in Boca Raton, FL, on July 8, 2019. He was given an honorary degree years after graduating from Philadelphia College of Pharmacy and also served as a trustee.
We want to hear from you!

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
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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
DoOT 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
PAd  Pharmacy Administration
PharmD Doctor of Pharmacy
PhB  Pharmaceutical and Healthcare Business
PhC  Pharmaceutical Chemistry
PhCogn 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
PMM  Pharmaceutical and Marketing
and Management
PrePro Pre-Professional
Psy  Psychology
STC  Certificate in Science Teaching
TX   Toxicology

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:

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