



January 2021

# THE STUDENT PHARMACIST



## WHAT'S NEW?

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Dr. Zhengping Yi*



# Lambda Kappa Sigma (LKS)

Omicron Chapter has had a busy summer and fall semester. The chapter participated in the Lambda Kappa Sigma National Convention, which was held virtually this year. Omicron Chapter presented a poster showcasing our volunteer efforts at Vista Maria and received great feedback and interest from other chapters. Omicron Chapter was also awarded the Northern Lakes Region Collegiate Chapter of the year, as well as third place nationally for recruitment.

Despite the fall semester being virtual this year, the chapter had a successful recruitment season and welcomed 16 dedicated women into the sisterhood. Omicron Chapter also held a popcorn fundraiser event and will be donating a portion of the profits to Project Hope.

Moreover, Omicron Chapter hosts monthly professionalism and community service events for members. This semester included a Residency Seminar by Dr. Pilar Gaggin and Dr. Lindsey Clark, two Omicron Alumni. Sisters from all years of the program attended the seminar and learned more about both community and administrative pharmacy residency programs. We also held a seminar on independent pharmacy lead by Hanadi Thomas, RPh, co-owner of Merriman Drugs, as well as a Stress Management Seminar and a Mastering LinkedIn Seminar.

We continue to volunteer with Vista Maria and held a presentation on Women's Health in September. We also continued to

hold MARR (Michigan Antibiotic Resistance Reduction coalition) events, which were virtual this year. Our sisters have been staying connected and have had multiple virtual social events. Sisters participated in a virtual slow flow yoga class together, as well as a virtual cooking class led by P4 sister Natalie Brikho and Alumni Dr. Najifa Choudhury. Our sisters also had a virtual holiday party over the break and participated in a gift exchange and a gingerbread house contest. Our goal is for members to look forward to continuing success and building lifelong relationships with sisters!

**-Ahlam Daoud (P3), LKS President**



LKS members at the Vista Maria Presentation (L-R): Uyen Phan, Klea Noskey, Dr. Mary Beth O'Connell, Michelle Dierker, Jewel Konja



**Paige Hanke, P2**

LKS Vice President-Elect; APhA, SCCP, SSHP

## **What is your current leadership role in LKS? Describe your favorite part about your role.**

I am currently the Vice President-Elect of LKS and this position means so much to me because I am able to help recruit new members and network with not only the eboard and current members, but also our faculty advisor and alumni as well. This gives me the opportunity to grow our LKS family and learn from past members.

## **What are your plans after you graduate?**

After graduation, I plan on pursuing a career in hospital pharmacy. I really enjoyed learning about cardiology this year and hope to be able to use the information in my future career.

## **What makes someone a good fit for LKS?**

LKS is all about networking and building relationships with future and current pharmacists that will not only enhance your career, but will also give you a group of people you can rely on. I enjoy being surrounded by strong and inspirational women.

# Wayne State Interprofessional (WSI-CHIP)

Wayne State Interprofessional (WSI) is the organization that provides leadership for the Community Homeless Interprofessional Program (CHIP). CHIP is an interprofessional, student-run, free clinic that was developed in collaboration with students and faculty from the College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences, School of Medicine, and School of Social Work and has been developed as a community partnership with the Cathedral of St. Paul's.

WSI students have held true to their values of providing service to patients and learning "along, with, and from" one another as healthcare professionals. Until February 2020, in-person clinics existed where student pharmacists worked with the homeless assuming responsibility for medication history taking and reconciliation, comprehensive medication review, and dispensing from a limited over-the-counter medication supply. In March, the clinic closed due to the pandemic. To maintain continuity, CHIP temporarily shifted from in-person clinics to online educational seminars.

WSI leadership planned to develop an interprofessional experience that would keep students engaged with one another and to learn about health issues that affect homeless individuals. Monthly virtual seminars started in June and focused on diabetes management, malnutrition, chronic pain, COVID, cough/cold, seasonal challenges, frostbite, burns, substance abuse, and depression. Presentations are followed by a patient case where students work together to suggest interventions to simulate patient and interprofessional interactions that occur at the clinic.



While not "in person" to serve patients, WSI has continued to serve the homeless community as we donated 95% of the personal items available at CHIP including socks, underpants, hats, scarves, and personal care products to the Cass Warming Shelter and the Detroit Rescue Mission in December 2020.

For the upcoming year, WSI will continue to host virtual seminars on the third Sunday of each month until we are cleared to host in-person clinics. To learn more about WSI-CHIP, visit: [Community Homeless Interprofessional Program \(CHIP\)](#).

**-Supreet Kaur (P3), WSI-CHIP President**

**Joana Arapi, P3**

**WSI-CHIP Pharmacy  
Representative;  
APhA, MPA**



**Why did you choose to be a part of WHSO?**

Volunteering within the organization allowed me to directly witness and participate in the difference CHIP makes to the patient population we serve. This really pushed me to pursue a leadership position within the organization.

**What is your current leadership position in WSI-CHIP? Describe your favorite part about your role.**

I am the Pharmacy Representative for WSI-CHIP. My favorite part is recruiting fellow pharmacy students to participate in our clinic, both in the short-term and long-term involvement. It is the first step in getting other students involved and I am proud to be able to contribute to it.

**What makes a student a good fit for WSI-CHIP?**

Empathy, a willingness to learn, good communication skills, and dedication to patient care are all necessary attributes to make someone a good fit for CHIP.

**What kind of networking/connections have you made through this organization?**

WSI-CHIP offers the unique opportunity to consistently network with other professions. As a member, I have made many connections with students and faculty in the professions of medicine, pharmacy, social work, and physical therapy.

Every December 1st, World AIDS Day is observed. On this day, FAWN participates in a World AIDS Day walk to bring attention to the HIV epidemic, increase HIV awareness and knowledge, speak out against the HIV stigma, and call for an increased response to move toward ending the HIV epidemic.

However, because of this year's coronavirus pandemic, local in-person World AIDS Day Walks were canceled. Despite this dilemma, FAWN rallied forces with students from Lambda Kappa Sigma, the Student National Pharmacists Association, Kappa Psi and Academy of Managed Care Pharmacy. The organizations joined together on Zoom for a virtual World AIDS Day Walk. Some students even braved snowy weather and marched outside, while others stayed indoors and joined the observance by walking in their homes.

Jacob Stepp, FAWN President, stated: "Research has shown that simply educating the public on HIV/AIDS has prevented the development of new infections. The incidence of this disease is highest in my age group, which is why I feel it is important that I do my part by encouraging younger generations to make safe decisions."

FAWN also joined efforts with the Student Pharmacists Diversity Council to support Kappa Psi's 'Up to Us' voting campaign in October 2020. Following FAWN's AIDS presentation, attendees learned how to register to vote online, followed by a discussion on how voting affects fiscal policy.

**-Jacob Stepp (P3)  
FAWN President**



Lambda Kappa Sigma President-Elect Jewel Konja and FAWN President Jacob Stepp joined forces to increase awareness of World AIDS Day 2020.

# Fighting AIDS With Nutrition (FAWN)



**Ali Khanafer, P2**  
**FAWN Vice President;**  
**WHSO, SPDC, SCCP Treasurer**

**Describe your favorite memory of pharmacy school so far.**

Pharmacy school has been great. I have gotten to know an amazing group of students and I got to build memories with them that can last a lifetime. However, my favorite memory of pharmacy school so far is when we, P2s, went last year to go fowling. We had just finished exams and no one seemed anxious, but everyone was there to have fun and it was amazing to see everyone smiling.

**What has been your favorite activity/event held by FAWN?**

The event I like the most about the organization is Frankie Julian's presentation about HIV/AIDS. He provides a lot of valuable information and statistics about this disease and how to help these people. It opened my mind about HIV/AIDS, and I learned new information.

**What are your plans after you graduate?**

My plan is to do residency in Neonatal and Pediatric Pharmacy, and I hope I can work in a hospital setting, such as the Children's Hospital of Michigan.

**What is your current leadership position in FAWN? Describe your favorite part about your role.**

I am currently the Vice President of FAWN. What I like about this position is that I get to organize the events for this organization, which is a big part since it does not directly deal with pharmacy. Therefore, the events that are held during the year focus mostly on educating students about a disease they do not really learn a lot about during the program.



# American Pharmacists Association - Academy of Student Pharmacists



Our goal for this year was to provide a sense of normalcy for our pharmacy program amidst a global pandemic. We proudly carried on the tradition of providing flu clinics for students and staff to better protect our campus and community. We promoted healthy lifestyles by hosting the Step Challenge in February, where our students and faculty competed on achieving the highest step counts! Several students and faculty greatly enjoyed the event, which we will proudly be hosting again in the upcoming Winter semester! In addition, we provided diabetes and cardiovascular education for our fellow P1/P2 students this Fall. Our Electives Panel provided students a chance to hear from current P3 students regarding which electives/research opportunities to consider for their next year. In addition, APhA hosted the LAPP/CAPP/TAPP Seminar for our P3 students, in which they had the chance to speak to P4 students



about rotation tracks to consider during their fourth year. Another exciting event of this year was our participation in Pharmacy Day at the Capitol. We promoted the future of pharmacy where several of our students spoke to state senators and representatives regarding legislation that impacts the pharmacy profession.

APhA has had a wonderful year, and we are excited to promote the events upcoming in the Winter semester of 2021, many of which will be held virtually, such as: MPA Annual Convention, APhA Annual Convention, Self-Care Competition, National Patient Care Competition, blood drives, APhA's Annual Auction, and our upcoming election for 2021-2022.

**-Sam Polina (P3), APhA-ASP President**



**A:** Current P3 students enjoying the Exhibit Hall at the Michigan Pharmacists Association Annual Convention (February 2020). **B:** E-Board and Committee members (L-R): Davey Gutenschwager, Sam Polina, Erwyn Tabasan, and Alvin Tomika representing APhA at PharmPhest (May 2019).

## Ranem Kishmish, P2

**APhA sMPA Chair and State Liaison; DEW, CPFI-PIC, AAPA**

### **What has been your favorite activity/event held by APhA?**

Although Pharmacy Day at the Capitol is a close second, I loved attending the MPA Annual Convention. It was great to see that pharmacy has such a tight-knit community.

### **What kind of networking connections have you made through APhA?**

Through MPA-ACE, I met the MPF chair members and I know the MPA staff fairly well. I also formed relations with WSU students that are involved with MPA, SPEC, and APhA because of my current MPA position.

### **What are your plans after you graduate?**

I currently practice at a community pharmacy; I like the workflow, and I love the patient interaction. My future plans are to either practice in community or in ambulatory care.

### **What makes someone a good fit for APhA?**

I believe that you need to have a well-rounded character and be able to communicate with others. I also find value in having patience and being able to speak in front of others.



# Student Society of Health-System Pharmacists (SSHP)

Last semester, Wayne State University's Student Society of Health-System Pharmacists (WSU-SSHP) hosted many seminars and events, including an Ambulatory Care Seminar with two new faculty members: Dr. Joseph Nardolillo and Dr. Alison Lobkovich. Both faculty members have played a vital role in providing patient care during the COVID-19 pandemic. Through their use of technology, they have been able to connect with their patients safely during telehealth visits in order to provide the care their patients need.

SSHP also hosted a Wellbeing and Resilience Seminar with Dr. Francine Salintri and Dr. Lynette Moser, who discussed the importance of managing stress in the healthcare field. They shared their methods and tips on how to manage stress in order to avoid burnout in the professional and academic setting. Following this event, SSHP held a Race and Religion Seminar, where guest speakers Dr. Dennis Parker and Dr. Mary Beth O'Connell discussed their experiences and approaches to these sensitive topics in the healthcare profession.

SSHP will be kicking off the Winter 2021 semester with a Residency Seminar to help students prepare for pursuing further education after graduation. SSHP will be inviting current residents to come and discuss their practice site and advice on how to make yourself a competitive applicant when applying for residencies.

**-Hassan Khatib (P3)**  
SSHP President



Guest speakers from the SSHP Ambulatory Care Seminar: Dr. Joseph Nardolillo and Dr. Alison Lobkovich, Ambulatory Care pharmacists from Henry Ford Hospital.

**Sameera Javed, P1**

**SSHP P1 Outreach Committee; SCCP P1 Outreach Committee**



### **Why did you choose to be a part of SSHP?**

As a P1 student, I wanted to prioritize as much hands-on experience as I could in the different fields of pharmacy. By joining SSHP, I knew that I would learn about pharmacy careers in hospitals, health-systems, and ambulatory care clinics, as well as gaining the skills needed to develop myself as a leader and health professional.

### **What has been your favorite activity/event held by your organization?**

My favorite event thus far has been the Race and Religion in Healthcare Seminar. It truly highlighted key information that all healthcare providers should keep in mind when treating individuals of different backgrounds.

### **What kind of networking connections have you made through this organization?**

I have been able to meet new faculty members at EACPHS and have met students in their P2 and P3 years that have been very helpful in guiding me throughout my first year.

### **What is your current leadership role in the organization? Describe your favorite part about your role.**

I am a part of the P1 Outreach Committee. I enjoy my role because I get to reach out to my peers and let them know about exciting future events!



**A:** 2019-2020 E-Board members (L-R): Fatme Nassar, Miryan Elias, Prasanna Alavandi, Ana Belza, Kimia Khatib-Shahidi, and Lexi Arabo at PharmPhest (May 2019). **B:** SCCP Research Committee members leading their first Jeopardy-Style Journal Club, allowing students to practice their drug literature analysis skills (February 2020).



B

# Student College of Clinical Pharmacy (SCCP)

Student College of Clinical Pharmacy (SCCP) has had an eventful year, despite the variable circumstances from the pandemic. SCCP had initiated the 2020 year by expanding its Executive Board with two new committees: P1 Outreach Committee and Research Committee. With this expansion, SCCP delivered new events such as interactive Journal Clubs and its first Research Scholars/Directed Study Seminar with Dr. David Pitts and a student-led panel, aiming to help students determine whether either research avenue would fit their goals.

During the spring and fall semesters, SCCP continued to hold events online. SCCP hosted its annual Clinical Pharmacy Challenge and held its Electives Panel in collaboration with APhA. SCCP also featured two of its faculty members who had recently received awards from the national level of SCCP and the American College of Clinical Pharmacy (ACCP), in a Faculty Seminar. In this seminar, Dr. Mary Beth O'Connell, former ACCP national president and 2020 Education Award recipient, and Dr. Kyle Burghardt, 2020 New Investigator Award Recipient, discussed the significance of clinical pharmacy involvement on a national level and their contributions to pharmacy, research, and ACCP. Lastly, SCCP was proud to see growth in its Residency Mentorship Program, where students were matched with current PGY1 residents or fellowship mentors from various clinical institutions.

This winter semester, we look forward to holding our annual Clinical Research Challenge and continuing our Journal Clubs led by our Research Committee. We also look forward to holding seminars featuring clinical specialists, fellows, and pharmacy residents, as well as potential community service collaborations with other student organizations.

**-Ana Belza (P3)  
SCCP President**



## Regina Pacitto, P3

**SCCP Research Chair;  
SSHP P3 Project Leader**



### Why did you choose to be a part of SCCP?

SCCP is one of the few organizations to highlight research in their events. I wanted to participate in activities that would further develop my skills in analyzing and interpreting clinical literature to become more confident in utilizing research to guide my clinical decisions as both a student and future pharmacist.

### Describe your favorite memory of pharmacy school so far.

My favorite memory comes from an experience at my hospital internship site. I remember how exciting it was to counsel my first patient on anticoagulation after learning about this in our Cardiology module. This was the first time I felt like I was becoming a real pharmacist with a working and helpful knowledge of pharmacotherapy.

### What networking connections have you made through this organization?

I have been able to network with residents through SCCP's Residency Mentorship Program, and I have been able to connect with faculty at the college through participating in the Clinical Research Challenge.

### What are your plans after you graduate?

I plan to complete a PGY1 residency. Following my PGY1, I am interested in specializing in either oncology, pediatrics, or psychiatry. I hope to explore these areas of interest during my P4 rotations and PGY1 residency.

# Arab American Pharmacist Association (AAPA)

The WSU Student Chapter of the Arab American Pharmacist Association (AAPA) is a community-oriented, non-profit organization that provides services to the community throughout numerous professional, community, and cultural health fair events throughout the academic year.

During these unique and unprecedented times, AAPA was able to take part in new volunteering opportunities to provide our community with healthcare services and medical supplies. In the summer, our organization held a volunteering event at the World Medical Relief Headquarters in Southfield. The event was aimed at packaging medical supplies to be shipped out to Lebanon as a means of aiding in their recovery during the traumatic incident the country was facing. The event was in collaboration with Kappa Psi and Lambda Kappa Sigma and was a great opportunity to join multiple student organizations to help out a great cause. Additionally, AAPA had the honor of taking part in the Day of Dignity event sponsored by Islamic Relief USA and C-Assist this past November. The event consisted of administering flu shots, collecting COVID-19 samples for testing, providing jackets and other winter essentials to those in need, preparing meal packages, and handing out school supply kits. The event functioned through a “drive-thru” structure to maintain social distancing and was an overall success.

In addition to volunteering events, AAPA hosted two annual seminars. During the Fall, our seminars were aimed at different fields within pharmacy to showcase the vast opportunities that exist for us as future pharmacists. This year, we had the pleasure of having an Emergency Medicine Pharmacist and PGY1 Pharmacy Resident share their experiences within inpatient pharmacy. During the Winter, our seminars are aimed towards the topic of “Culture and Medicine”. We are hoping to have one of the university’s Counseling and Psychological Services counselors speak about culture and mental health.

**-Rola Hariri (P3), AAPA President**



*AAPA Packaging Supplies for Lebanon at World Medical Relief (L-R): Jafar Kassir, Hala Tokko, Mustafa Chahrouh, Reem Hammoud, Dany Ashaka, and Rola Hariri.*



**Fatimah Cheaito, P2**

**AAPA President-Elect; SPDC SPIN Committee Co-Coordinator-Elect, DEW Clinic Co-Coordinator-Elect, APhA Operation Immunization**

### **Why did you choose to be a part of AAPA?**

I chose to be a part of AAPA because I come from a predominantly Arab community, where many community members practice pharmacy. I feel that I am able to represent my community through AAPA and unite members of my community with aspiring pharmacists.

### **Describe your favorite part of your leadership role.**

As President-Elect, my favorite part is leading the P1 Committee because it gives me an idea of how to lead as President of the organization when I take over the following year. I am also aiding the current President, so it helps me recognize the responsibilities of the president in order for me to fulfill them when I step into that role.

### **What makes someone a good fit for this organization?**

Anyone is a good fit for this organization. Although the name states, “Arab-American”, the organization is truly open to all, as it is a pharmacy organization with the same goal as any organization: to spread awareness and inform others about the world of pharmacy, and to connect students with other professionals to build their network.

# Christian Pharmacists Fellowship International - Pharmacists in Christ (CPFI-PIC)

Pharmacists In Christ (PIC) is a worldwide ministry of individuals working in all areas of pharmaceutical service and practice. Our mission is to serve Christ and the world through pharmacy. Members are representative of a broad range of Christian denominations including Baptist, Catholic, Church of Christ, Methodist, Pentecostal, Mennonite, and non-denominational churches. To date, this fellowship has succeeded in establishing the first viable network of Christian pharmacists. Our organization had another great year despite the unprecedented time and the pandemic.

In October 2020, we had our first Fall General Meeting and Membership Drive via Zoom. The event was attended by many P1 students who are interested in being part of our organization. At the end of the same meeting, we held a Kahoot Pharmacology competition with prizes for every class.

In November 2020, we held our second Fall General Meeting via Zoom. During the

November meeting, we had Father Fadie Gorgies as a guest speaker. Father Fadie discussed how to deal with stress in life during school and pandemic. The lecture was very useful for members and non-members. In addition, Dr. Justine Gortney, who is the organization's faculty advisor, had attended the meeting and gave very useful insights to better deal with stress to our members.

We have upcoming events throughout Winter 2021, including bible studies during our monthly general meetings, and we have plans to bring Christian pharmacists who have practiced their faith through pharmacy practice.

**-Alvin Tomika (P3), CPFI-PIC President**



Serving Christ and the World  
Through Pharmacy

PHARMACISTS IN CHRIST (PIC)



**Kenneth Kue, P3**  
**CPFI-PIC Treasurer;**  
**APhA**

provide patient care to the community, as well as establish a support network and lifelong connections for pharmacists and student pharmacists.

**What is your current role in CPFI?**  
**What is your favorite part about this role?**

I currently serve as the Treasurer for CPFI-PIC. My favorite part about my role is being responsible for providing the funds needed to hold meetings and events. Taking care of the finances behind the scenes ensures that everybody else can enjoy the events that are made possible.

**What makes someone a good fit for CPFI-PIC?**

Anybody would be a great fit for this organization, and all are welcome regardless of their beliefs. I would

strongly recommend joining to anybody who is seeking a place to find support amongst others who understand the challenges that come with pharmacy school.

**What kind of networking/connections have you made through CPFI?**

Through my work in the organization, I have been able to build stronger connections with students in my own class and others. I have been able to find solace in shared experiences with the students in my own class and provide advice and mentorship to students in the other classes. I have also had the pleasure of hearing and learning from Dr. Gortney, our faculty advisor, outside of the classroom setting.

**Why did you choose to be a part of CPFI?**

I chose to be part of this organization because CPFI-PIC is a place where students of diverse backgrounds, but similar beliefs, can come together to accomplish a common goal. That goal is to use the profession of pharmacy to



# FACULTY SPOTLIGHT: DR. ZHENGPING YI

**Professor**  
*Pharmaceutical Sciences*

**Research Focus:** Role of protein-protein interactions and phosphorylation in insulin signaling in the development of skeletal muscle insulin resistance and type 2 diabetes



## 1) **Where did your career begin, and how has it unfolded to lead you to where you are today?**

I became very interested in science when I was a high school student and joined the high school Olympic Chemistry Competition Team. Later, I was admitted to the Chemistry Program at Nanjing University, one of the top 10 universities in China, and obtained my PhD there. After graduation, I joined Purdue University as a postdoc-fellow in Biochemistry in 2000, and joined the University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio as a postdoc-fellow in Proteomics & Diabetes in 2004. At the end of 2004, I moved to Arizona State University as an Assistant Research Scientist, and was promoted to Research Assistant Professor in 2005. In January 2011, I joined Wayne State University as an Associate Professor of the Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences, Division of Pharmacy, Eugene Applebaum College of Pharmacy/Health Sciences. I have been promoted to Full Professor with Tenure since August 2015 due to my outstanding progress in research/scholarship, mentoring/teaching, and service.

## 2) **What has been the most rewarding aspect in your research/career?**

The most rewarding aspect in my career is the scientific discoveries I have made over the years, with the help from my lab members (such as research faculty,

postdoc-fellows, students, etc.) and collaborators. Science is fun. I enjoy the sparking of ideas, generating hypotheses, designing experiments to test the hypothesis, analyzing data, interpreting results, and finally sharing the finding with the scientific community. I have to admit that most of the experiments were failures and the results were not what we thought they should be; however, when the experiments are successful, it is a true pleasure.

## 3) **What has been the most challenging aspect in your research/career?**

The most challenging aspect in my career is finding the resources for scientific research. Science is fun; however, it is not free and easy. Various resources are needed, such as personnel, equipment, supplies, etc. I have come up with novel, significant ideas and generated convincing data after numerous trials and error, which has enabled me to secure funding from the United States National Institutes of Health (NIH), the National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases (NIDDK), as well as the American Diabetes Association (ADA).

#### 4) **How do you see your teaching progressing over the years to come?**

In the beginning, my teaching was mainly lecturing, and I would try to give students as much information as possible during the lecture time. During the past several years, I have incorporated active learning (e.g., team match, polls, etc.) to help students become more engaged and understand the materials.

#### 5) **What are some of your greatest achievements?**

I have developed and maintained a vigorous independent research program in the areas of insulin signaling, insulin resistance, obesity, diabetes, and proteomics. Insulin resistance lies at the base of the array of diseases or pre-disease conditions such as obesity, dyslipidemia, hypertension, cardiovascular disease, some cancers, and type 2 diabetes (T2D). T2D has become a world and US epidemic. More than 10% of US adults (26 million) currently have T2D, and projections indicate that the US diabetes prevalence may increase to ~30% in 2050 ([www.cdc.gov](http://www.cdc.gov)). Intracellular actions of insulin are mediated by modifications of regulatory proteins through protein-protein interactions, as well as protein phosphorylation and dephosphorylation.

My research focuses on the role of novel protein-protein interactions and phosphorylation in insulin signaling in the development of skeletal muscle insulin resistance and type 2 diabetes. My research has improved our understanding of the biology of insulin signaling and the pathogenesis of insulin resistance and T2D, and promises to discover novel drug targets to prevent and treat metabolic diseases. My research utilizes a combination of human clinical studies (directly measure human physiology/pathophysiology), in vitro cell studies (for detailed mechanistic studies), and cutting-edge proteomics (for global analysis of cell signaling & for unbiased discovery). Proteomics offers the capability to simultaneously quantify multiple proteins, protein-protein interactions, and protein phosphorylation, providing a better picture of complex protein networks.

Over the years, I have published 62 papers in peer-reviewed scientific journals, received three clinical/translational R01 awards from NIH/NIDDK, as well as two clinical/translational awards from ADA. In addition, I have mentored, and am currently mentoring, junior faculty members, PhD students, Master's students, undergraduate students, PharmD students, and post-doctoral

fellows. Moreover, I have been invited to serve as standing study section member of NIH and ADA. NIH and ADA study sections are highly selective. As a study section member, I review grant applications submitted to the NIH and ADA, and make recommendations on these applications to the appropriate NIH national advisory council or ADA foundation. Finally, I have served as a team captain for Step Out: Walk to Stop Diabetes/Tour de Cure each year, a community-outreach event to help over 30 million Americans living with diabetes today.

#### 6) **What advice do you have for prospective students interested in becoming a health professional?**

Health professionals have been an indispensable part of the workforce for society, saving lives and improving physical and mental health of numerous individuals and their loved ones. Health professionals are essential during the COVID-19 pandemic to keep the nation and communities functioning, and will continue to play a critical role in the recovery. If you would like to be in a profession that can make a positive impact on countless lives, a health profession is one of the best choices. As Ray Bradbury, a famous and inspiring writer, pointed out: "Love what you do and do what you love." A bright future is waiting for you!



**WAYNE STATE**  
**Eugene Applebaum**  
**College of Pharmacy**  
**and Health Sciences**