



ESHELMAN SCHOOL
OF PHARMACY

Advancing Medicine for Life

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UNC ESHELMAN SCHOOL OF PHARMACY M.S. DEGREE ALUMNI NEWSLETTER

Shaping the Future of the M.S. Program

Greetings UNC Alumni,

Those who have been involved in the MS program realize that it has continued to grow and change over the years. Our incoming class will have 19 residents, representing 10 different health-systems. We also just graduated our first cohort of working professionals, with the third class having 14 students. This means that our total incoming class is 33 students. No one involved in those early days would believe that this is where we are a decade later, including me. However, there is a desperate need for leadership training in health-system pharmacy and UNC Eshelman School of Pharmacy has used the MS degree to help in answering that call. While these are great metrics, we need to ensure that our program stays at the vanguard of education and prepares our graduates for the future of health-system pharmacy.

In early August, the leadership involved in the teaching and oversight of the MS program came together to review the past activities of the MS program and use that to guide its future direction. Besides having a great time networking and developing community among the various stakeholders, the goal was to develop a strategic roadmap that will guide the next few years. For those who have been involved in the program for a while, this will be the third strategic plan. The first one led to the development and re-launch of the MS program. The second plan led to the entire curriculum being provided by the School of Pharmacy. If you didn't know, the first few years of the degree had 50% of the content taught by the School of Pharmacy and 50% from the Gillings School of Global Public Health. While this was needed to get the degree off the ground, it was not a position of long-term sustainability. The second strategic plan led to new classes being taught by the hospital partner sites involved in the program at that time. This is how we got many of the current faculty to be involved in the program and has led to all of this growth.

While I do not know what the third strategic plan will contain, I am excited by the process and involvement of the various stakeholders. There are a few questions that I have been asking myself and hoping the collective wisdom of the group can help us work through them. These are:

- Is there a cap on how large the residential program should grow?
- How do we continue to grow the number of students in the working professional MS degree, especially outside of NC?
- If we are focused on addressing pharmacy administration and leadership, are there educational opportunities (i.e., micro-credentials) besides the MS degree that exist?
- Are there educational partnerships that are outside the US that we should evaluate?
- Besides education, can we collaborate on research activities, and if so, how?

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I believe that the future of the MS program is robust and limitless. I am hopeful that this process will increase the engagement of all participants, will uncover new opportunities for collaboration, and guide us into the next few years. I look forward to sharing the details in the next newsletter. I continue to be excited about the future and am honored to be involved in this program.

Stephen F. Eckel, Pharm.D., M.H.A

Director, M.S. Program in Health-System Pharmacy Administration

Curriculum Spotlight

PACE 820: HEALTH SYSTEM PHARMACY LEADERSHIP



Stephen Eckel



Robert Granko

PACE 820 has been designed to stimulate one's thinking about pharmacy leadership within health-systems and to foster a sense of responsibility for personal and professional development. The course exposes the student to various constructs of thinking surrounding leadership, specifically as it applies to health-system pharmacy, including principles and practices of leaders. The course is structured around the book [The Leadership Challenge: How to Make Extraordinary Things Happen in Organizations](#) by Kouzes and Posner. The sections in this book are Model the Way, Inspire a Shared Vision, Challenge the Process, Enable Others to Act, and Encourage the Heart. In addition to having leaders from the various partner sites present on a specific topic, students develop a professional mission statement and strategic plan and make a Leadership in the News presentation. In addition, the students are placed on teams to provide a Leadership Theory or Model Presentation and give a Leadership Book Club. Finally, a few Webb and Whitney lectures are read and discussed, demonstrating examples of leadership within health-system pharmacy.

Class of 2022 First Positions

Alumni	Residency Site	Position and Institution
Alexis Hayes-Porter	BayCare Health System	Supervisor of Decentralized Pharmacy Operations; St. Joseph's Hospital
Justin Jimmy	BayCare Health System	Pharmacy Operations Manager; Cedars Sinai Medical Center
Mimi Pham	Cone Health	Pharmacy Operations Manager; Cedars Sinai Medical Center

Jing Steenwyk	Cone Health	Pharmacist Coordinator, Acute Care Surgery; UF Shands
Tyler Merritt	Duke University Hospital	Inpatient Operations Pharmacy Manager; UNC Rex
Michael Stepanovic	Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania	Health-System Pharmacy Administration Fellow; UNC Eshelman School of Pharmacy
Antonia Akrap	Massachusetts General Hospital	Manager, Perioperative Pharmacy Services; Massachusetts General Hospital
Joe McDonald	Mission Hospital	Staff Pharmacist; Bryn Mawr Hospital
Austin Gardner	UNC Medical Center	Assistant Director of Pharmacy, Contracting; Geisinger Medical Center
Connor McKay	UNC Medical Center	Inpatient Operations Manager, University Hospital; Medical University of South Carolina
Greg Norsten	UNC Medical Center	Pharmacy Revenue Integrity Manager; Health Partners
Jennifer Sato	UNC Medical Center	Oncology/Infusion Pharmacy Manager; Kaiser Permanente Washington
Heather Dalton	Wake Forest Baptist Medical Center	Specialty Pharmacy Manager; Froedtert and the Medical College of Wisconsin
Keith Keddington	Wake Forest Baptist Medical Center	Pharmacy Benefit Clinical Manager; UNC Health

Alumni Updates

New Positions

Alumni	Residency Site	Position and Institution
Liz Hess	UNC Medical Center, 2015	Associate Director of Medication Safety and Accreditation, University of Kentucky Healthcare
Rebekah Matthews	Online Program, 2022	Executive Director of Acute Care Pharmacy Services, Cone Health
Laura Meleis	Duke University Hospital, 2016	Director of Risk and Program Management Quality Operations, Syneos Health
Christopher Murray	Duke University Hospital, 2010	Market Director of Pharmacy Services, CHI St. Luke's Health North and South Market
Patty Roberts	UNC Medical Center, 2015	Director of Pharmacy, Oncology, University Hospitals
Patty Roberts	UNC Medical Center, 2015	PGY2 HSPAL Residency Program Coordinator, University Hospitals
Josh Tessin	Cone Health, 2021	Pharmacy Manager of Central Pharmacy, UAB Medicine
Ian Willoughby	UNC Medical Center, 2012	Director of Specialty Pharmacy Services, Lifespan

Accomplishments

Alumni	Residency Site	Accomplishment
Spencer Blohowiak	Wake Forest Baptist Medical Center, 2019	Secretary and Treasurer for Louisiana Society of Health-System Pharmacists (LSHP)
Genelle Butz	Online Program, 2023	Leader of the Year, Carolina East Health
Adrienne Giddens	Mission Hospital, 2013	Asheville Area Chamber of Commerce Chamber Challenge Awards
Liz Hess	UNC Medical Center, 2022	Chair of the Medication Safety Committee for the Kentucky Board of Pharmacy
Greg Norsten	UNC Medical Center, 2022	Pharmacy Resident Research Grant Recipient
Dan O'Neil	UNC Medical Center, 2015	WVNews and The State Journal's 40 West Virginia Leaders Under 40
Patty Roberts	UNC Medical Center, 2017	NCCN Pharmacy Directors Forum Appointment
Mary-Haston Vest	UNC Medical Center, 2018	Hematology/Oncology Pharmacy Association (HOPA) Research Fund Award
Mary-Haston Vest	UNC Medical Center, 2018	Cancer and Aging Research Group (CARG) Pilot Grant
Mary-Haston Vest	UNC Medical Center, 2018	Next-Generation Pharmacist Awards Rising Star Award Finalist
Mary-Haston Vest	UNC Medical Center, 2018	Chair of American Society of Health-System Pharmacists (ASHP) SPPL Value, Quality, and Compliance Advisory Group
Mary-Haston Vest	UNC Medical Center, 2018	Chair of North Carolina Association of Pharmacists (NCAP) Health-System Practice Academy

Publications

Alumni	Site and Graduation Year	Publication
Michelle Carrasquillo Mary Petrovskis Patty Roberts	UNC Medical Center, 2018 UNC Medical Center, 2018 UNC Medical Center, 2017	Carrasquillo M, Petrovskis M, Roberts PA, Taylor RA. Bridging the gap: Technician shortage and education standards . <i>Am J Health Syst Pharm</i> . 2022;79(10):720-722.
Kevin Hansen Laura Meleis	UNC Medical Center, 2016	Price AS, Meleis L, Childs C, Hansen KN. Assess the resource impact of USP revisions . <i>Pharmacy Purchasing & Products</i> . Jan 2022. 19(1): 8–12.
Kevin Hansen	UNC Medical Center, 2016	Wright EB, Hansen KN, Thompson AC. Solving compounding challenges in hemorrhagic cystitis management . <i>Pharmacy Purchasing & Products</i> . Oct 2021. Vol 18(10): 8-12.
Liz Hess	UNC Medical Center, 2015	Johnson KL and Hess ET. Medication Safety II: Medication Errors, In: Drug Information - A Guide for Pharmacists, 7th ed., Malone PM and Malone MJ, McGraw Hill, Ch. 20, 2021.
Greg Norsten	UNC Medical Center, 2022	Norsten G, Bergeron A, Godin C, Vest ML. Drive informed decisions with data governance . Vol 19(2): 12.
Patty Roberts	UNC Medical Center, 2017	Roberts P, Glowczewski J, Wise C. Optimization of the medication-use process for fentanyl patches at a small community hospital . <i>Am J Health Syst Pharm</i> . 2022;79(4):290-296.
Mary-Haston Vest	UNC Medical Center, 2018	Patti M, Colmenares E, Abrahamson A, Weddle S, Zachary D, Cavanaugh J, Vest MH. Impact of pharmacist participation in the patient care team on value based health measures . <i>Am J Health Syst Pharm</i> .
Mary-Haston Vest	UNC Medical Center, 2018	Vest MH, Weber T, Savage S, McKnight L, Zachary D, Lovince J, Rush J. Development of an innovative partnership between a health system department of

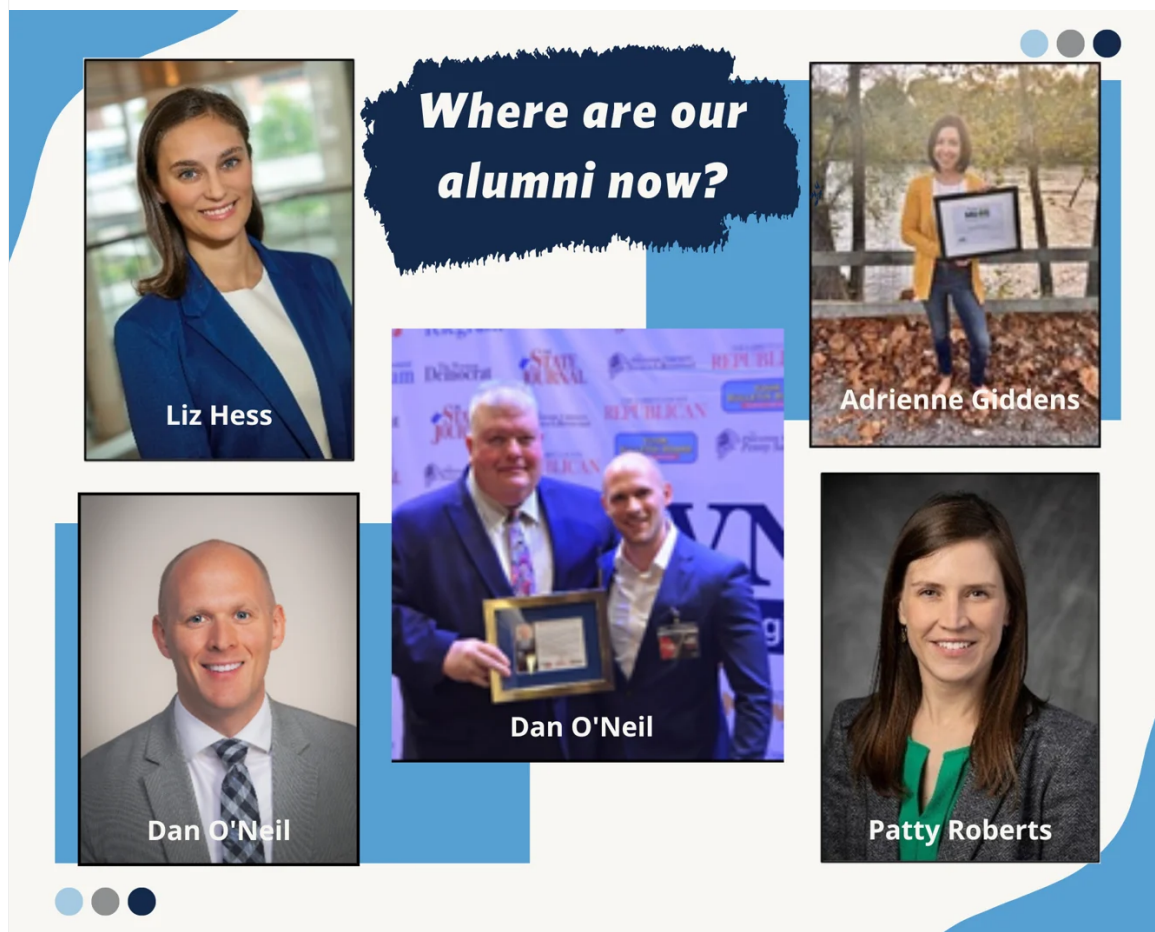
		pharmacy and external community pharmacies . <i>Am J Health Syst Pharm</i> .
Mary-Haston Vest	UNC Medical Center, 2018	Summerlin C, Vest MH, Valgus J, Deyo Z, Alexander M, Waldron K. Development and implementation of a standardized process for identifying ambulatory pharmacy clinical outcomes measures. <i>Am J Health Syst Pharm</i> .
Mary-Haston Vest	UNC Medical Center, 2018	Vest MH, Stout S, Waldron K. Implementation of a strategy for identification and monitoring of clinical outcome measures in a department of pharmacy . <i>Am J Health Syst Pharm</i> . 2022;79(9):e135-e142.
Mary-Haston Vest	UNC Medical Center, 2018	Zeeman JM, Peterson AE, Colmenares EW, Schenkat D, Vest MH. Identifying health system pharmacy operational process categories and corresponding tasks across a diverse health system using a modified delphi . <i>Am J Health Syst Pharm</i> . 2022;79(13):1070-1078.
Mary-Haston Vest	UNC Medical Center, 2018	Petersen AE, Zeeman JM, Vest MH, Schenkat D, Colmenares EW. Development of a system-wide pharmacy operational weighted workload model at a large academic health system . <i>Am J Health Syst Pharm</i> . 2022;79(13):1103-1109.

Presentations

Alumni	Site and Graduation Year	Presentation
Kevin Hansen	UNC Medical Center, 2016	Using Compounding Technology Safely: Putting Recommendations into Action. ASHP Midyear Clinical Meeting. December 2021.

Kevin Hansen	UNC Medical Center, 2016	The Dirty Work of Getting a Cleanroom Clean. ASHP Midyear Clinical Meeting.
Kevin Hansen	UNC Medical Center, 2016	The Future of Pharmacy Podcast – First Steps to Compounding Technology. Omnicell Podcast.
Kevin Hansen	UNC Medical Center, 2016	Sterility Assurance using Sterile Compounding Automation and Technology. ARL Quality Compounding Summit.
Kevin Hansen	UNC Medical Center, 2016	Assessing the Financial Impact of Expanding Centralized Unit-dose Repackaging at a Community Teaching Hospital Pharmacy. ASHP Conference for Pharmacy Leaders.
Kevin Hansen	UNC Medical Center, 2016	Modification of Medication Due Time Calculating Functions to Improve Turnaround Times. ASHP Conference for Pharmacy Leaders.
Kevin Hansen	UNC Medical Center, 2016	Reducing Drug Spend with IV Robotic Services. (Virtual) Omnicell Illuminate.
Kevin Hansen	UNC Medical Center, 2016	Pharmacy Facility Planning Practical Approaches to Building Your New Pharmacy. Intensive Studies for Recertification: Compounded Sterile Preparations Pharmacy.
Dan O'Neil	UNC Medical Center, 2015	COVID-19 and Rise of the Remote Workforce. ASHP Conference for Pharmacy Leaders.
Patty Roberts	UNC Medical Center, 2017	Practical strategies for improving staff engagement and daily communication. ASHP Official Podcasts.
Patty Roberts	UNC Medical Center, 2017	Pull that thread: How a little data enables big change. ASHP Midyear Clinical Meeting.

* We recognize that these lists are incomplete. Please let us know of any updates so we can highlight them in future newsletters.



We are interested in where our alumni are currently working and accomplishments (fellowships, awards, honors, publications, etc.)! Please send an email to Tyler Vest at Tyler.Vest@duke.edu with your current position or your accomplishments. For accomplishments, please include a picture if possible. This will be featured in the next alumni newsletter!

Tyler A. Vest, Pharm.D., M.S., BCPS, BCSCP

Director of Alumni Affairs, M.S. Program in Health-System Pharmacy Administration

UNC M.S. Alumni Listserv

We have recently launched an alumni listserv! Please contact Tyler Vest at Tyler.Vest@duke.edu if you would like to be added to the email group.

UNC M.S. Online Program

This online program utilizes world-class faculty who have decades of expertise in leading and managing complex health-systems and in training and mentoring future leaders who will be steering these entities into the next decade. This program is modeled after the UNC Eshelman School of Pharmacy's Master of Science Degree in Pharmaceutical Sciences residential program, however, the online program does not require a two-year residency. Integrating literature and experience with robust student engagement provides a rich training ground for leadership development, that is applicable in all sectors of health-system.

Our program allows for online classroom instruction that recognizes students who are employed and have many demands on their time. Students will engage in a rigorous and in-depth study of leadership in health-system pharmacy administration and the principles of the medication use process. Students will also work within multiple health systems and practice settings and network with leaders across those spaces. Interested in learning more? [Visit the website.](#)

MS Programs

There are two options to earn an MS degree in Pharmaceutical Sciences
with a specialization in health-system pharmacy administration

Residential Program

Designed for full-time students with a PharmD degree seeking a residency training experience

- ✓ Classes taught via live synchronous instruction over a video conferencing network
- ✓ Instruction by UNC Eshelman School of Pharmacy faculty and residential partners
- ✓ Residency training at one of nine partner sites
- ✓ 24-month program

Online Program

Designed for working professionals with a pharmacy degree who want to secure their degree while working

- ✓ Classes taught via on-demand and live instruction
- ✓ Instruction by UNC Eshelman School of Pharmacy faculty
- ✓ 24-month program

UNC M.S. Alumni and Friends Breakfast

Join us! This is a breakfast event for alumni, preceptors, and partners of the Master's Degree in Hospital Pharmacy or Pharmaceutical Sciences with a specialization in Health-System Pharmacy Administration. Our event includes breakfast, program updates, and networking opportunities for alumni and friends. Our M.S. Alumni Networking Breakfast is free to attend, however, we please ask that you consider making an M.S. reunion gift to the Eckel Fund. This fund supports research and programmatic activities across the Master's program, and professional student research at the UNC Eshelman School of Pharmacy. The breakfast will be Sunday, December 4, 2022, from 8:00 AM – 10:00 AM at the Border Grill in Mandalay Bay Casino (3950 s. Las Vegas Boulevard).

[Register Now](#)

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