

TTUHSC PharmNews

Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center School of Pharmacy

THE Prescription for Excellence

2014 - Issue III

Amarillo • Lubbock • Dallas/Fort Worth • Abilene

SOP sends strong contingent to TPA Conference

Thanks to the efforts of School of Pharmacy students, faculty and alumni, there was a 'Guns Up' atmosphere permeating the Texas Hill Country during the 2014 Texas Pharmacy Association (TPA) Conference and Expo July 31-Aug. 2 in San Marcos.

In addition to workshops, competitions and networking opportunities, TPA included its First Annual Alumni Reception at this year's event.

"These types of conferences and events are incredibly important not just for building student leadership and professionalism, but for maintaining the integrity and principles of TTUHSC SOP," said P3 Joe Dorsey, who serves as president for the School of Pharmacy's American Pharmacist Association-Academy of Student Pharmacists chapter.

The conference also includes statewide student competitions and TTUHSC pharmacy students made their presence known with a pair of top-three finishes.

In the Self-Care Competition, P3s Thien Hoang and An Nguyen teamed with P2s Barbara Tiner and Justin Urby to take first place. P4 Telyssa Anderson joined them on the podium by taking third place in the Patient Counseling Competition.

Dorsey said the first place finish by Hoang, Nguyen, Tiner and Urby was especially significant because all other teams, with one exception, were comprised of P3 and P4 students from the other Texas pharmacy schools.

"The other students were shocked to find out that the TTUHSC team had two players that had only completed one year of pharmacy school," Dorsey said. "We owe Dr. (Stephen) Wise a big 'thank you' for his contribution to this team's success."

Wise is a Pharm.D. and an assistant professor at the Abilene campus.

The conference was also special for P2s Kathryn Bachman and Sydney Kutter. Each received a scholarship and recognition at a luncheon held to honor their student involvement and potential to be leaders for Texas pharmacy.



Members of the SOP's state champion TPA Self-Care Competition team included (from left) Justin Urby, Barbara Tiner, An Nguyen, Thien Hoang and Stephen Wise, Pharm.D.

Alumna Michelle (Parker) Beall, Pharm.D. ('05), added to the school's run of success when she won the 2014 Excellence in Patient Outcomes Award. This prestigious award is given to only one Texas pharmacist each year.

The TPA spotlight also found Assistant Professor Mary Klein, Pharm.D. ('07) and P3 Yasmine Alhasan.

Klein was elected vice president for TPA's Board of Directors for the second year in a row.

Alhasan (P3) was voted in as the student chair-elect for the TPA Student Board of Directors. She will serve as president during her P4 year.

Dorsey said events like the TPA Conference and Expo are evidence that the School of Pharmacy's students, faculty, staff and alumni are continuing to grow and are striving to make the program the best it can be.

"The TTUHSC students that attended the conference were thrilled to see so many faculty, staff and alumni there as well to show their support," Dorsey said.

"Students had the opportunity to network with alumni and faculty during the alumni reception, which was truly valuable. We want to thank those in attendance and convey our gratitude for all that took place at the convention. We are hopeful this will be a continuing trend for years to come."

The Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center (TTUHSC) is accredited by the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools to award baccalaureate, masters, doctoral and professional degrees. Contact the Commission on Colleges at 1866 Southern Lane, Decatur, Ga. 30033-4097 or call (404) 679-4500 for questions about the TTUHSC accreditation.

White Coat Ceremony jump starts new school year

The 2014-2015 academic year officially opened Aug. 18, but the pharmacy school began a bit earlier in the month by presenting the incoming Class of 2018 students with their white pharmacy coats.

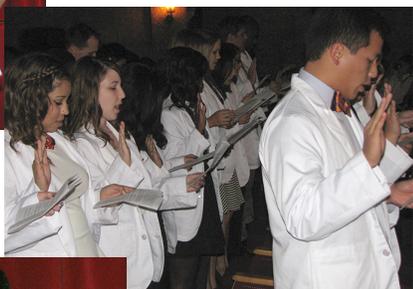
Abilene hosted its White Coat Ceremony Aug. 10 at the historic Paramount Theatre. The Amarillo ceremony was Aug. 17 at the Globe-News Performing Arts Center. CVS/Caremark helped sponsor both events.

The White Coat Ceremony serves as an early induction into the profession for pharmacy students.

In addition to receiving their white pharmacy coats, they also sign the Pharmacist Code of Conduct and recite the Oath of a Pharmacist for the first time.

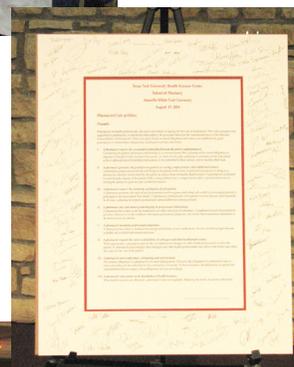
The Pharmacist Code of Conduct defines the roles and responsibilities of pharmacists and forms the basis for student conduct when they interact with patients and colleagues, not only during their years in the TTUHSC pharmacy program, but also when they graduate and enter the profession.

White Coat Ceremonies Class of 2018



TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY
HEALTH SCIENCES CENTER™

School of Pharmacy



Thank you to all 'Adopt a White Coat' campaign participants

*A letter from Carrie Croley, Director of Development
SOP and Laura W. Bush Institute for Women's Health*

The inaugural "Adopt a White Coat" initiative 2014 went off with a bang! This initiative ultimately aims to provide every incoming pharmacy student with a white coat, which is presented to them at the White Coat Ceremonies. The White Coat Ceremonies emphasize the importance of the passage from pre-clinical studies to becoming a proficient pharmacist who is caring and compassionate.

Every White Coat Ceremony is unique and being able to give a student a White Coat is a special feeling. Because of the SOP alumni, faculty, staff and friends who helped support the initiative, 64 white coats were adopted. Thank you to everyone who made this initiative possible.



Poison Center begins Fall Medication Cleanout collections

The Texas Panhandle Poison Center (TPPC) has started its Fall 2014 Medication Cleanout cycle.

The collections kicked off with a Sept. 6 collection in Amarillo. Additional take-backs are slated for Lubbock (Sept. 27) and Abilene (Oct. 4). All collections are scheduled to take place from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Medication Cleanout seeks to prevent poisonings and stop the abuse that may result when old or unused medications are left around the home and improperly stored, prevent the misuse of leftover medications like antibiotics and pain medications and avoid environmental contamination.

TPPC Managing Director Dr. Jeanie Jaramillo said Medication Cleanout provides communities a safe option for disposing unused medications and reducing poisoning and abuse risks.

"People are told not to flush these drugs or throw them in the trash because this may result in contamination of the water supply, but they are not really provided with alternatives," Jaramillo said. "The Medication Cleanout events provide a safe and responsible alternative."

Prior to the latest round of collections, TPPC had conducted 31 Medication Cleanout events in Amarillo, Abilene, Lubbock and several other smaller communities since September 2009. Those collections resulted in more than 17,600 pounds of unused medications being properly disposal.

"These medications are no longer available as a source for poisonings, abuse, misuse or environmental contamination," Jaramillo said.

"None of this would be possible without the support of the pharmacy school, our students, volunteers, law enforcement agencies and community supporters.

For more information about volunteering for the Medication Cleanout, please contact TPPC at (806) 414-9495 or visit www.MedicationCleanout.com.



Despite the rainy weather, there were long lines for the Fall Medication Cleanout Sept. 6 at the Amarillo campus



P2 Alexander Lee worked to collect and bag unwanted medications outside while P1 Cristal Zambrano was busy inside helping to sort, identify and log the medications.

Grad students reap travel awards

Nine students from the School of Pharmacy's Graduate Program in Pharmaceutical Sciences have recently received travel scholarships from various organizations.

- Raktima Bhattacharya, Neel Fofaria and Alok Ranjan were each selected to receive a Mary Lou Clements-Mann Endowed Scholarship for 2014. Recipients must: be enrolled full-time as a PhD student; have a 3.0 GPS or higher; have faculty nomination; be in a field of study within Infectious Diseases, Immunology or Cancer. Bhattacharya works in the lab of Dr. Ulrich Bickel, Dept. of Pharmaceutical Sciences. Fofaria and Ranjan are both employed in the lab of Dr. Sanjay Srivastava, Dept. of Biomedical Sciences.

- Nilesh Gupta was selected by the American Association of Pharmaceutical Scientists (AAPS) to receive the 2014 Graduate Student Research Award in Biotechnology. He is receiving a complimentary annual meeting

registration and a \$1,000 stipend for travel expenses to attend the AAPS Annual Meeting and Exposition the week of Nov. 2 in San Diego where he will present his poster and receive a plaque and a cash award. Gupta works in the lab of Dr. Fakhrul Ahsan, Dept. of Pharmaceutical Sciences.

- Md Abdul Kaiser and Shikha Prasad were selected by the American College of Toxicology (ACT) to each receive a \$1,000 Student Travel Award to attend the ACT Annual Meeting Nov. 9-12 in Orlando where they will present their research in the Student Poster Judging Session. Kaiser and Prasad work in the lab of Dr. Luca Cucullo, Dept. of Pharmaceutical Sciences.

- Rajiv Balyan was selected to receive a \$750 travel scholarship from the Pharmacokinetics, Pharmacodynamics and Drug Metabolism Section of the American Association of Pharmaceutical Scientists (AAPS) to assist with travel expenses to attend the AAPS Annual Meeting

and Exposition the week of Nov. 2 in San Diego. Balyan works in the lab of Dr. Quentin Smith, Dept. of Pharmaceutical Sciences.

- Mohammad Jahidur 'Jahid' Rashid was selected to receive a \$750 travel scholarship from the Formulation Design and Development Section of the American Association of Pharmaceutical Sciences (AAPS) to assist with travel expenses to attend the AAPS Annual Meeting and Exposition the week of Nov. 2 in San Diego. Rashid works in the lab of Dr. Fakhrul Ahsan, Dept. of Pharmaceutical Sciences.

- Alejandra Fernandez was selected to receive a \$1,200 Young Investigator Travel Award from the American Epilepsy Society (AES) to assist with travel expenses to attend the 68th AES Annual Meeting the week of Dec. 5 in Seattle. Fernandez works in the lab of Dr. James Stoll, Dept. of Biomedical Sciences.



Bhattacharya



Fofaria



Ranjan



Kaiser



Prasad



Balyan



Rashid



Fernandez

Gupta shines at Global Academic Competition



Gupta

Nilesh Gupta, a Ph.D. Candidate in the Graduate Program in Pharmaceutical Sciences at the School of Pharmacy in Amarillo, was awarded one of five first-place prizes for his participation in the Third Annual Global Academic Competition for Life Science Leaders

of Tomorrow, co-sponsored by Catalent Applied Drug Delivery Institute and the American Association of Pharmaceutical Scientists (AAPS).

Gupta's winning submission, "Challenges in Developing Inhalation Technology: Right Particle Size and Device Selection," was well received by all

expert judges because it "showcased his innovation as a truly emerging scientific talent."

For his efforts, Gupta will receive a \$2,000 cash prize for his academic excellence and for his hard work and dedication to both the competition and the field of science. He will also be awarded a complimentary one-year AAPS membership to encourage his further participation and contributions in the academic competition.

Gupta works in the lab of Dr. Fakhrul Ahsan, an associate professor for the Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences and the graduate program advisor.

Posters, speakers highlight Thirteenth Research Days

Faculty scientists met in Amarillo June 5-6 at the Amarillo Civic Center's Heritage Room for the Thirteenth Annual School of Pharmacy Research Days, an interdisciplinary forum designed to showcase research activities that have taken place at the school during the past year. It provides an opportunity for faculty, postdoctoral fellows and students to exchange research ideas and interests and to stimulate interdisciplinary collaborations between the school's departments and campuses.

The 169 registered attendees heard podium discussions and presentations from various invited speakers, including keynote speaker David Boothman, Ph.D., from the University of Texas Southwestern (UTSW) Medical Center. Topics included research related to cancer/tumors and the blood-brain barrier.

The event was highlighted by the annual research poster competition, which this year featured 67 posters. Ten of the entries were recognized as Outstanding Poster Presentations and their presenters were awarded certificates and a \$150 cash prize.

Outstanding poster honorees from the Amarillo campus included junior graduate students Alok Ranjan and Kshitij Verma and senior graduate students Alejandra Fernandez and Neel Fofaria.

Poster honorees from the Abilene campus included senior graduate student Saeed Alzghari and postdoctoral research associates Jun-Hung Cho and Sharad K. Sharma.

Outstanding posters presentations from the Dallas/Fort Worth (DFW) campus were prepared by residents Jessica Bradley, Christyn Mullen and Brian Terrell.

Ranjan, Fernandez and Fofaria represented the Department of Biomedical Sciences. Alzghari, Cho and Sharma represented the Department of Immunotherapeutics and Biotechnology. Verma represented the Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences and Bradley, Mullen and Terrell represented the Department of Pharmacy Practice.

Seven School of Pharmacy researchers were also recognized for recent grant awards.

The awardees from the Amarillo campus included Kalkunte Srivenugopal, Ph.D (Carson Leslie Foundation grant); Paul Trippier, Ph.D. (Gilson, Inc. Equipment grant); and Ruiwen Zhang, M.D., Ph.D. (NIH R01 grant).

DFW awardees included Carlos Alvarez, Pharm.D. (NIH KO8); Richard Leff, Pharm.D. (NIH UL1 - UTSW subcontract; DOD - UTSW subcontract); and Claudia Meek, Ph.D. (IACP Foundation).

Mark Lyte, Ph.D., from the Abilene campus received a DOD grant from the Office of Naval Research.

How to submit items for the Newsletter

The mission of this newsletter is to communicate the news, events and achievements from the School of Pharmacy to all four of our campuses and to alumni and other friends of the school who enjoy hearing about your good work.

If you or your department, division, organization or class have something you'd like to include in this newsletter, or if you have a question about the types of items typically included in the newsletter, please contact:

Mark Hendricks
Communications Coordinator
TTUHSC SOP/Amarillo
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At the SOP's Thirteenth Research Days, resident Christyn Mullen, Pharm.D., (top left) won a poster presentation award, research associate Liang Feng, Ph.D., (top right) gave a podium presentation and graduate student Kito Barrow prepared to answer questions about her research poster.

SOP students receive scholarships



Bachman

Three pharmacy students from the Amarillo campus were recently announced as scholarship winners for 2014.

Rising P2 Kathryn Bachman was announced as the Texas Pharmacy Foundation's Robert Clayton

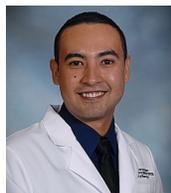
Scholarship recipient for 2014 by the Texas Pharmacy Association (TPA). Criteria for scholarship include: membership in the student organization of TPA, academic achievement, potential to become a leader for Texas pharmacy, interest in consultant pharmacy practice involving the treatment of geriatric patients.



Huseman-Krutsch

Kaytlin Huseman-Krutsch, a May 2014 graduate, received the \$1,500 Gene Lake Scholarship for 2014 from the Texas Society of Health-System Pharmacists' Research & Education Foundation.

Rising P4 Jason Serna received a generous scholarship from the Hispanic Scholarship Fund, an organization that recognizes Hispanic students who are academically talented and have a wide range of activities to which they are dedicated.



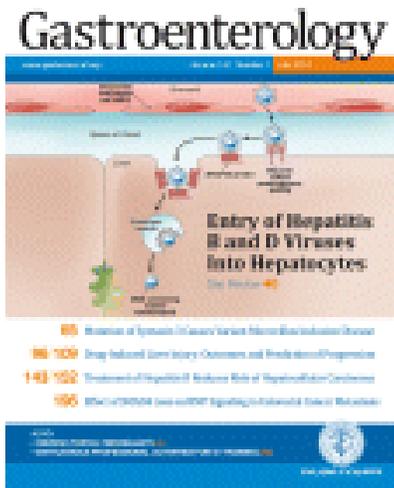
Serna

School of Pharmacy researchers published, funded

Drs. Wei Wang and Ruiwen Zhang have published a article in *Gastroenterology*, a prestigious journal with an impact factor > 12. The article, titled "Identification of a New Class of MDM2 Inhibitor That Inhibits Growth of Orthotopic Pancreatic Tumors in Mice," was published in the July 9 issue.

Wang is a research assistant professor and Zhang is a professor for the Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences.

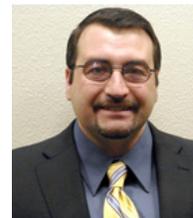
In addition, Dr. Luca Cucullo, an assistant professor for the Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences, has been notified that his Alternatives Research and Development Foundation (ARDF) grant will be approved for funding. This project develops a dynamic 3D in vitro model of both liver function and drug metabolism. This is the second project for which Cucullo has received ARDF funding.



Wang



Zhang



Cucullo

MacLaughlin named department chair



MacLaughlin

Eric MacLaughlin, Pharm.D. has been named chair for the Department of Pharmacy Practice, effective July 1 or as soon as the appointment is finalized by Human Resources.

"The Search Committee worked long and hard screening candidates and assessing their capabilities,"

said School of Pharmacy Dean Quentin Smith, Ph.D. "Special thanks are due Drs. Krystal Edwards and Mark Haase for leading the department search process and doing so much to facilitate the effort. They did a wonderful job."

Smith said he and TTUHSC President Tedd Mitchell, M.D., took special care in selecting the final candidate.

"Dr. MacLaughlin is planning to travel to each School of Pharmacy campus to talk with faculty and staff," Smith said. "He has a number of ideas that he would like to discuss with the Department about possible ways to enhance interactions, communication, governance and future programs. We look forward to working with him and the whole School as we move forward to make this School all it can be."

SOP faculty garner AACP honor

The American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy (AACCP) has selected a research paper authored by a TTUHSC faculty team as the year's best.

Senior author Eric MacLaughlin, Pharm.D., and his team received the Rufus A. Lyman Award for their research article titled, "Development and Validation of the Student Perceptions of Physician-Pharmacist Interprofessional Clinical Education (SPICE) Instrument." The team included David Fike, Ph.D.; Joe Zorek, Pharm.D.; Anitra MacLaughlin, Pharm.D.; Mohammed Samiuddin, M.D.; and Rodney Young, M.D.

The Rufus A. Lyman Award is presented annually by AACCP to the author or authors of the paper judged to be the best to appear in the American Journal of Pharmaceutical Education during the year. Lyman was the journal's first editor.

Fike, a recurring faculty member for the School of Pharmacy's (SOP) Department of Pharmacy Practice, was the lead author for the SPICE project.

Zorek, a former pharmacotherapy resident for the SOP, is an assistant professor at the University of Wisconsin.

Anitra MacLaughlin was an SOP faculty member when the study was conducted and she is now a consultant pharmacist and adjunct faculty member for the SOP.

Young is department chair for the School of Medicine's (SOM) Department of Family and Community Medicine.

Samiuddin, a former assistant professor in Department of Family and Community Medicine faculty member and program director of the Mary E. Bivins Geriatric fellowship is now in private practice.

In addition to a \$5,000 monetary prize, the team was recognized at the 2014 AACCP Annual Meeting in Grapevine, Texas by AACCP president Peggy Piascik, Ph.D., who addressed them as "SPICE Boys."

"We are extremely humbled and honored to have been chosen to receive this award," Eric MacLaughlin said. "It was also a very pleasant surprise as it was not something we had expected or even thought would occur."

Eric MacLaughlin said the team has been looking at student perceptions related to interprofessional education for about four years. He said the topic is very timely because there is a significant focus on interprofessional education and preparing students



AACP President Peggy Piascik, Ph.D. (far left) and American Journal of Pharmaceutical Education Editor Gayle Brazeau, Ph.D., pose with Rufus Lyman Award winners (from left) Joe Zorek, Ph.D., Eric MacLaughlin, Pharm.D., and David Fike, Ph.D.

to work as part of a team in accreditation guidelines.

"What originally motivated us to look at this particular issue was that myself and Drs. Anitra MacLaughlin, Rodney Young and Mohammed Samiuddin developed an interprofessional clinic to provide Medical Annual Wellness Visits at the TTUHSC Center for Family and Community Medicine," Eric MacLaughlin said. "With pharmacy students and medical students working together as a team with a clinical pharmacist and a physician, we felt it would be

a great idea to assess how student perceptions might change before and after this clinical experience."

The team also had some experience with interprofessional education prior to the study due to a Sim Center project led by Anitra MacLaughlin titled, "Using Mannequin Simulation to Identify Medication Errors and Improve Interprofessional Teamwork."

"We expanded and revised the original survey questionnaire from this previous instrument, adapted some items from other instruments in the literature and included some original items of our own to develop a survey instrument," Eric MacLaughlin said. "Once the instrument was developed, we thought it would be a good idea to validate this tool using a confirmatory factor analysis, which resulted in SPICE."

Interestingly, Eric MacLaughlin said, the SPICE study and tool were not part of the group's original research plans, but they were an extension of another study the group was conducting looking at interprofessional education and clinical outcomes associated with the Annual Wellness Clinic. Those studies, he said, were originally resident projects led by Zorek.

"I think this demonstrates that research can take you down different paths that you had not anticipated and that very meaningful research with a surprising impact can result from resident studies," he added. "If schools and colleges are required to assess student readiness and perceptions related to interprofessional education, then validated tools such as SPICE could be very useful."

The group also published a manuscript in BMC Medical Education titled, "Measuring changes in perception using the Student Perceptions of Physician-Pharmacist Interprofessional Clinical Education (SPICE) instrument." The manuscript is available at www.biomedcentral.com/1472-6920/14/101.

In case you missed it...

- An original research paper by Carlos Alvarez, Pharm.D., was published in the June 4 issue of *The Journal of the American Medical Association*. The paper is titled, “The Association of Azithromycin With Mortality and Cardiovascular Events Among Older Patients Hospitalized With Pneumonia.”



- Ms. Summer Balcer and Ms. Toni Johnson received a Texans Caring for Texans award Aug. 12 at the annual state employee recognition ceremony in Canyon, Texas for their outstanding contributions to the SOP and the community.



- The Office of Sciences has extended the free use of core equipment until October 31, 2014. This will further help the researchers generate preliminary data for grants applications that will be submitted for the October-November deadline. The free use of core equipment will not be valid for any commercial contract services. In addition, Dr. Zijuan (Amy) Liu has been recruited as a part-time employee to help researchers with their microscopy (confocal, multiphoton and IVIS imager) and flow cytometry needs. The Office of Sciences also plans to recruit an equipment core director. In the meantime, help for the LCMS can be made available to researchers by the end-user community. For more information, please contact Office of Sciences personnel Sanjay Srivastava, Lynn Finkenbinder or Lisa Miller.

Getting to know...

Cindy Perez Assistant Director Office of Student Services • Amarillo

Cindy Perez was born and raised in Amarillo. She attended West Texas State University, where she earned a B.S. in political science and met Jamie, her college sweetheart and husband for more than 16 years. The couple have three children: Hope, Brody James and Jameson. After Jameson was born, Perez returned to school and earned her Master's degree in education from Wayland Baptist University (WBU).

“Our free time is spent attending both our son's sporting activities, ranging from baseball to football and, most recently, hockey,” Perez said. “Our youngest put on his first pair of skates when he was four and can't seem to get enough of it – that in turn made us huge Amarillo Bulls fans and we try to attend all the home games.”

Perez said her daughter is the artist in the family and they all look forward to entering her creations in the Tri-State Fair.

“Blue ribbon or not – she will always be a winner in our hearts,” Perez said.

When she isn't busy with work or enjoying her family time, Perez serves as an adjunct faculty member for the WBU campus in Amarillo.

“I teach the orientation and exit seminars,” Perez explained. “I truly enjoy working with adult students in helping them earn their bachelor's degrees.

For her ‘me time’ Perez enjoys playing softball, reading and church activities.

“I try to get in a good book or two every month,” Perez said. “We are also members of St.

Mary's Catholic Cathedral, and the excitement builds as we prepare for our daughter's Confirmation and our son's first Holy Communion.”



In their spare time, Cindy Perez and her family like to attend sporting events like the Texas Rangers baseball games in Arlington.

School of Pharmacy Photo Gallery



Children from the Maverick Boys & Girls Club visited the SOP to learn about the sterile lab from P4 Joseph Boone. They also toured the Texas Pharmacy Museum with curator Susan Denney and listened to a presentation from Robbi Rivers of the Texas Panhandle Poison Center.



Amarillo Regional Dean Thomas Thekkumkara, Ph.D., tries to stay dry while directing traffic at the Texas Panhandle Poison Center's first Fall Medication Cleanout collection.



At the Amarillo Back-to-School Picnic, the competition was tough at the jalapeno eating contest, but P1 Ike Oguejiofor endured the heat and earned the first-place t-shirt.

P2s Ashiitha Jayachandran and Michael Romero had plenty of work to do at the Sept. 6 Medication Cleanout in Amarillo.



P2 Kathryn Bachman doesn't appear to be impressed with the cotton candy at the Amarillo Back-to-School Picnic.



At the P2 Skills Training Workshop, Kuline Wendling works on her injection skills while Barbara Quayle checks the cholesterol of classmate Michelle Ndiulor.



The SOP welcomed its newest faculty members from all four campuses with an orientation in Amarillo during the second week of September.



Lubbock P4 Student Council officers Michelle Castelli (left), Jason Serna and Brooke Halfmann helped organize a steak dinner for the SOP's August 30 Tailgate Party prior to the Red Raiders' season opening win against Central Arkansas.

