



SCHOOL OF PHARMACY AND PHARMACEUTICAL SCIENCES  
**COMMENCEMENT**

Saturday

May 16, 2026

1:00 pm

Center for the Arts

North Campus

# Letter to the Class of 2026 from President Tripathi



Dear Graduates,

Congratulations! You have reached an important milestone—one that marks both the completion of your degree and your arrival at a threshold of new opportunities and responsibilities. For that reason, today we celebrate not only what you have accomplished, but who you have become.

Your time here has been defined by intellectual growth, perseverance and discovery. You arrived with promise; you leave with purpose, ready to make an impact in a changing landscape that needs your talents and will test your resolve.

As graduates of the University at Buffalo, you uphold a mission dedicated to advancing knowledge and serving society. Your education has endowed you with greater clarity: to understand complexity and question assumptions. If we have done our job well, you have also come to appreciate the resilience of our collective humanity while recognizing where it is fraying.

You will encounter trials in the years ahead. When confronted with division or adversity, I urge you not to turn away, but to engage. Draw on what you have learned here to mend and renew the fabric of our communities. Whatever your discipline, you possess both the capacity and the duty to champion the public good through your work, commitment and leadership.

As Martin Luther King Jr. reminded us, “We are all caught in an inescapable network of mutuality, tied in a single garment of destiny.” The challenges you encounter will not be yours alone, nor will their solutions be found in isolation. Beyond your knowledge, you carry a shared obligation—to fortify those bonds, enrich those connections and cultivate fairness and compassion in all that you do.

It has been one of the great privileges of my life to celebrate our UB graduates and to witness your growth. As I conclude my presidency this summer, my faith in the contributions you are poised to make remains unwavering.

To the Class of 2026, please accept my heartfelt best wishes. May your efforts advance integrity and harmony across society, and may you inspire others to follow your example.

Sincerely,

Satish K. Tripathi

President

# Program

## Processional

Selections from "Pomp and Circumstance"  
by *Edward Elgar*

## Opening Declaration

Jennifer Rosenberg, PhD  
*Associate Dean*  
*Student Success and Engagement*  
*School of Pharmacy and*  
*Pharmaceutical Sciences*

## Master of Ceremonies

Associate Dean Rosenberg

## National Anthem

The Royal Pitches

## Introduction of the Platform Party

## Greetings

A. Scott Weber, PhD  
*Provost and Executive Vice President*  
*for Academic Affairs*

## Remarks

Gary M. Pollack, PhD  
*Dean*  
*School of Pharmacy and*  
*Pharmaceutical Sciences*

## Commencement Address

Curtis Haas, PharmD '89  
*Senior Advisor*  
*University of Rochester Medical Center*

## Remarks

Austin Grzechowiak  
*PharmD Class President*

## Recommendation of Candidates

Dean Pollack

## Conferral of Degrees

Provost Weber

## Alma Mater

The Royal Pitches

## Closing Remarks and Declaration

Associate Dean Rosenberg

## Recessional

"Triumphal March" from *Aida*  
by *Giuseppe Verdi*

# SUNY Trustee and UB Officials

## Eunice Ashman Lewin

*Member of the State University of New York Board of Trustees*



President and co-founder of Impacto Consulting Associates, Eunice Ashman Lewin was appointed to the SUNY Board of Trustees in February 2010. During her tenure, she has been instrumental in

reinstating the Student Life Committee and in spearheading the committee's food insecurity and mental health task forces.

A retired bilingual social worker for the Buffalo Board of Education, Lewin is deeply dedicated to her community. She served on the Western New York Health Equity Task Force, was named co-chair of the 5/14 Remembrance Committee and is a founding member of the Roswell Park Alliance and the Greater Buffalo Racial Equity Roundtable. Lewin is also a member of the Hispanic Women's League and Hispanics United of Buffalo and previously served as a commissioner of the Niagara Frontier Transportation Authority. In 2024, she was named chair of the Buffalo Urban League, where she continues to advance its mission of social parity, economic self-reliance and civil rights for underserved communities.

Born in Guantanamo, Cuba, Lewin immigrated to the United States with her family in 1967. She holds a bachelor's degree in sociology from Marymount Manhattan College and master's degrees in American and Puerto Rican studies and in educational administration from UB.

## Jerry Jacobs Jr.

*Chairman of the University at Buffalo Council*



Jeremy "Jerry" M. Jacobs Jr. is the chief executive officer of Delaware North, a role he shares with his brothers, Lou and Charlie. He also serves as an alternate governor to the Boston Bruins.

As CEO, Jacobs oversees the company and its operating subsidiaries, focusing on strategic growth, corporate governance and financial management. He joined Delaware North in 1986 and held progressive leadership roles before becoming CEO in 2015.

Jacobs is actively involved in numerous philanthropic, civic and business organizations in Buffalo and across the country. He was appointed UB Council chairman by New York State Governor Kathy Hochul in December 2024. His additional current board positions include The Corps Network, Mimivax and the Jacobs Institute. He is also a member of the U.S. Travel Association's CEO Roundtable and the Partnership for New York City.

Jacobs was a founding board member of Say Yes Buffalo, and he has dedicated more than two decades of service to the United Way of Buffalo and Erie County, including past chairmanships of the board of directors and the annual fundraising campaign. He is a past member of the Board of Regents at Georgetown University and past chair of the Nichols School's Board of Trustees. He also served three terms on the University at Buffalo Foundation board.

Jacobs holds an MBA from the Wharton School of Business at the University of Pennsylvania and a BA from Georgetown University.

## Satish K. Tripathi

*University President*



An internationally distinguished researcher and higher education leader, Satish K. Tripathi, PhD, is the University at Buffalo's 15th president.

Tripathi, who served as UB's provost from 2004-2011, was dean of the Bourns

College of Engineering at the University of California, Riverside, from 1997-2004. Previously, he spent 19 years as a professor of computer science at the University of Maryland, including seven as department chair.

In 2024, Tripathi was elected to the American Academy of Arts and Sciences. A fellow of the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers, the American Association for the Advancement of Science and the International Academy of Artificial Intelligence Sciences, he has published more than 200 scholarly papers, supervised more than 30 doctoral and postdoctoral students and served on program committees of numerous international conferences.

Tripathi graduated at the top of his class from Banaras Hindu University (BHU). He holds a master's degree and doctorate in computer science from the University of Toronto, as well as master's degrees in statistics from the University of Alberta and BHU. He has received honorary doctorates from Maharaja Surajmal Brij University, the Indian Institute of Information Technology, Allahabad, and Brock University.

Tripathi serves on the College Football Playoff Board of Managers and the board of University Innovation Alliance. Previously, he chaired the Mid-American Conference Council of Presidents and Internet2 and served on the boards of the AAU, NCAA Division I, NCAA Board of Governors, Association of Public and Land-Grant Universities and Council for Higher Education Accreditation.

## **A. Scott Weber**

*Provost and Executive Vice President  
for Academic Affairs*



As provost and executive vice president for academic affairs, A. Scott Weber, PhD, serves as the university's chief academic officer, providing leadership across the academic enterprise including research, scholarship and

creative activities; undergraduate, graduate, professional and international education; faculty development; inclusive excellence initiatives; and university libraries. Weber is leading the implementation of the university's vision to be recognized among the top public research universities in the nation, focused on building on UB's strengths to achieve new levels of excellence in research, scholarship, education, clinical care and engagement.

A UB faculty member since 1983, Weber is an innovative scholar, teacher and former chair of UB's Department of Civil, Structural and Environmental Engineering. Prior to his appointment as provost and executive vice president for academic affairs, Weber held several other senior administrative roles at UB, including senior vice provost for academic affairs, where he was instrumental in the creation of the UB Curriculum and nationally recognized Finish in 4 program; and vice president for student life, where he focused on enhancing the student experience and promoting overall student wellness.

Weber serves on New York's Hazardous Waste Facility Siting Board for Chemical Waste Management. He is a former board member and current advisory committee member of the United Way of Buffalo & Erie County.

Weber earned bachelor's and master's of science degrees in civil engineering from Virginia Polytechnic Institute and a PhD in civil engineering from the University of California, Davis.

## **Allison Brashear**

*Vice President for Health Sciences  
Dean of the Jacobs School of Medicine  
and Biomedical Sciences*



Allison Brashear, MD, MBA, is a world-renowned neurologist and a transformative leader reshaping academic medicine at the University at Buffalo. As vice president for health sciences and

dean of the Jacobs School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences, she oversees a comprehensive educational continuum—spanning undergraduate biomedical programs, graduate research and professional medical and postgraduate training. She drives health care innovation locally and nationally, advancing strategic partnerships and serving as president and CEO of UBMD Physicians' Group.

A leading authority on ATP1A3-related diseases, she has received continuous National Institutes of Health funding since 2008. Her groundbreaking research helped secure approval for three botulinum toxin therapies used to treat post-stroke spasticity and other neurologic conditions.

Prior to UB, Brashear was dean of the University of California, Davis School of Medicine, and a professor and the Walter C. Teagle Endowed Chair of Neurology at Wake Forest School of Medicine.

She earned her medical degree and completed her neurology residency at Indiana University School of Medicine and her MBA at Duke University's Fuqua School of Business.

In 2025, Brashear was elected to the National Academy of Medicine. She holds national leadership roles, including serving on the Association of American Medical Colleges' Council of Deans Administrative Board, where she became chair-elect in 2024, on the AAMC board of directors and as a trustee of the McKnight Brain Research Foundation. In Buffalo, she serves as a board member of the WNY Women's Foundation.

## **Gary M. Pollack**

*Dean of the School of Pharmacy and  
Pharmaceutical Sciences*



Gary Pollack, PhD received his undergraduate degrees in chemistry and psychology from Knox College (Galesburg, IL), and his PhD in pharmaceutical sciences from the University at Buffalo. He spent nearly 26 years on faculty in the School of Pharmacy, the University

of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, where he also was a division chair and the school's first vice dean. Pollack subsequently served as dean of pharmacy at both Washington State University and the University of Toledo prior to coming home to Buffalo. In August 2021, he became the 12th dean of UB's School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences.

Pollack has taught a wide range of subjects in both the professional and graduate curricula, with an emphasis on pharmacokinetics and pharmacodynamics. He was the founding director of North Carolina's Center for Instructional Innovation in Pharmacy, has led changes in curricular delivery approaches in each of the institutions he has served, and has published in the area of teaching and learning. Pollack has also been a research mentor for students pursuing professional and graduate degrees, as well as postdoctoral scholars.

Pollack's research has focused on the pharmacokinetics and pharmacodynamics of drugs and toxicants in the central nervous system. His research group has made fundamental contributions to understanding the role of P-glycoprotein in limiting drug penetration into brain and in modulating pharmacologic response, and to defining the mechanisms and dynamics underlying the development of morphine tolerance. Pollack is a fellow of both the American Association for the Advancement of Science and the American Association of Pharmaceutical Sciences.

# Commencement Speaker

## **Curtis Haas, PharmD '89**

*Senior Advisor*

*University of Rochester Medical Center*



Curtis E. Haas, PharmD, FCCP, was most recently the Chief Pharmacy Officer for the University of Rochester (UR) Medical Center and UR Medicine health care system, and remains a senior advisor to the medical center. He earned his Bachelor of Science in pharmacy from Albany College of Pharmacy and his Doctor of Pharmacy from the University at Buffalo.

Haas has over four decades of experience in pharmacy practice, education, and leadership. He spent a total of 37 years in health systems practice, advancing through clinical, administrative, and many leadership roles. From 2000 to 2006, he joined the University at Buffalo as a full-time faculty member, earning tenure as associate professor.

Specializing in critical care for 17 years, Haas has contributed extensively through teaching, research, and national presentations. His professional service includes leadership roles with the American College of Clinical Pharmacy and the Board of Pharmacy Specialties. He has been actively involved in training pharmacy students, residents, and fellows for more than 35 years.

## Program Descriptions

### **Bachelor of Science in Pharmaceutical Sciences**

The Pharmaceutics Major Program is a rigorous four-year curriculum leading to a Bachelor of Science Degree in Pharmaceutical Sciences. Areas of interest in Pharmaceutics include: the Physical Chemistry of drug delivery systems; Biopharmaceutics, which encompasses the study of the relationship between drug tissue concentrations and drug effects on the body; Clinical Pharmacokinetics, or the application of pharmacokinetics to the safe and effective therapeutic management of individual patients; and Pharmaceutical Biotechnology, which is the application of genetic engineering and recombinant DNA techniques important for the development of pharmaceutical drugs.

### **Master of Science or Doctorate of Philosophy in Pharmaceutical Sciences**

The MS and PhD programs offered by the Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences provide instruction and research training in drug discovery and experimental therapeutics, with interdisciplinary coursework and research in the Pharmaceutical Sciences at the molecular, biochemical, biological and clinical levels. These programs involve clinical as well as laboratory research including pharmacokinetics, pharmacodynamics, drug delivery, drug transport and metabolism, drug analysis and pharmacogenomics. Graduates of these programs find extensive career opportunities where they will be involved in the discovery and development of new drugs in the Pharmaceutical Industry and in academia, and in the evaluation of drug therapies in various government and private agencies.

### **Doctor of Pharmacy Program**

The Doctor of Pharmacy program has a strong academic base, which is aimed at developing an in-depth understanding of the factors involved in making rational drug therapy decisions. The Advanced Pharmacy Practice Experiential program builds on this academic base, providing a wide range of exposure to various clinical pharmacy practice environments and medical subspecialty areas. Formal teaching opportunities and clinical research experiences are components of the program. Graduates of the Doctor of Pharmacy program practice in a wide variety of clinical pharmacy positions in university, hospital, community and industrial settings throughout the United States, Canada, Europe and Africa.



# Candidates for Degrees

*Subject to the completion of all degree requirements, degrees will be conferred as indicated upon those individuals listed herein who were identified by April 2, 2026, and upon such others as may meet the requirements of their respective degrees. This listing includes candidates for the following degree conferral dates: August 2025, February 2026, May 2026 and June 2026.*

## Latin Honors

Subject to completion of all degree requirements and satisfaction of the following minimum criteria, Latin honors may be conferred as indicated upon the individuals listed herein and upon such others as may meet the requirements. To qualify for Latin honors, students must present a minimum of 60 credit hours of UB undergraduate coursework, at least 54 of which must be graded credits (i.e., not satisfactory or unsatisfactory [grades of 'S' or 'U']). The UB GPA must be a minimum of 3.2 (to 3.499) for cum laude, 3.5 (to 3.749) for magna cum laude and 3.75 (to 4.0) for summa cum laude.

To receive the Latin honors designation in the printed 2026 commencement programs, candidates for the May and June 2026 degree conferral dates must qualify based upon their UB cumulative GPA or course average percent (CAP) through the Winter 2026 session and total number of UB credit hours projected through the Spring 2026 semester.

Standings for Latin honors MAY change once final grades are posted or degrees conferred.

## Legend

Cum laude is denoted by one asterisk (\*)

Magna cum laude is denoted by two asterisks (\*\*)

Summa cum laude is denoted by three asterisks (\*\*\*)

Posthumous degree is denoted by (P)

## Academic Recognition Items

### The Gold Cord

This cord is awarded to students who are graduating with Latin honors.

### The Grey and Red Stole

This stole was received by students who are University Honors College graduates.

### The WNY Prosperity Fellowship Medallion

This medallion was received by graduating WNY Prosperity Fellows. They were selected for this fellowship based on their commitment and demonstrated potential to positively impact WNY's economic development and sustainability.

### The UB Flame of Wisdom Pin

This pin, depicting the flame of wisdom from the university's seal, was received by students who were honored at the UB Celebration of Student Academic Excellence for earning select national, SUNY and UB awards and citations.

## Non-Academic, University-Wide Recognition Items

### The Kente Stole

This stole was received by students who participated in UB's ALANA Celebration of Achievement which is open to all students and has historically honored graduating African, Latino/a, Asian and Native American students.

### The Rainbow Tassel and Lavender Stole

These items were received by students who participated in the Lavender Celebration, recognizing achievements of graduating students who identify as LGBTQ+ or allies.

### The Red, White and Blue Cord

This cord is being worn by graduating UB students who are reservists, members of the National Guard, newly commissioned officers or veterans of the United States armed forces.

## Baccalaureate Degrees

*Recommending Candidates for Degrees*

Dean Pollack

*School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences*

### Bachelor of Science in Pharmaceutical Sciences

#### August 2025

Naushin Hossain

Maureen Parks

#### June 2026

Jonathan Bussa

Genesis Campbell

Bronagh Cassidy\*\*

Olivia Grafer

Ayisha Hassan

Lu Jin

Natalia Kyriakopoulos

Thomas Lindstrom

Christian Lopez\*

Emily Ouellette\*

Samara Paladino\*

Anna Pellegrino\*\*

Hannah Pollack

Si Shen\*

Joshua Tutin

## Masters Degrees

*Recommending Candidates for Degrees*

Dean Pollack

*School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences*

### Master of Science in Pharmaceutical Sciences

#### August 2025

Sudhanshu Sachin Agnihotri

Junlang Cai

Aniruddha Chaudhari

Sheryl Dsouza

Tanvi Ghanvatkar

Sujay Sanjay Harne

Palak Naresh Jethwa

Rutuja Vidyadhar Kulkarni

Prutha Suryakant Parmar

Sanjana Vijay Yadav

#### February 2026

Israt Jahan

Bao Ly

Dhvani Patel

Sahil Sujay Salvi

Euibeom Shin

Samjhana Shrestha

Allison Warmuth

#### June 2026

Daniel Amanfo Boateng Atakora

Pranitha Bhuthkuri

Vrushal Dalvi

Amanda Duminuco

Rachel Hirschkind

Jessica Hockler\*\*\*

Liam Hubbard

Deepesh Jain

Chloe Kim\*

Nam Yeon Kim\*

Mrunmayi Deepak Lad

Erin Leslie

Aneesha Venkatraman Mudaliar

Abhi Sarayu Reddy Parreddy

Adam Plecha

Shamith Manjunath Poojari

Yun-I Sang

David Schnell

Samruddhi Shinde

Muhmoud Younis

Kerry Zhou

### Master of Science in Clinical and Translational Therapeutics

#### February 2026

Karina Germakovski\*\*

Claire Han\*

#### June 2026

Takudzwa Chagumaira

Jian Dong\*\*\*

Yan Pan

Abby Tarun\*\*

### Master of Science in Pharmacometrics and Personal Pharmacotherapy

#### February 2026

Muhan Jiang

#### June 2026

Jack Chen

Yuyan He

Zijia Huang

Raja Ram Karthikeyan

Soohyun Kim

Peilin Liu

Darya Razmara

Ahmed Saeed

# Doctoral Degrees

## *Recommending Candidates for Degrees*

Dean Pollack  
School of Pharmacy and  
Pharmaceutical Sciences

### **Doctor of Pharmacy**

#### **August 2025**

Donglin Huang  
Anthony Lee  
Christopher Liaw

#### **February 2026**

Puteri Nurfaqihah Qisthina

#### **May 2026**

Kevin Ackerman<sup>P</sup>  
Jabra Altarazi\*\*  
Kaylee Atehortua\*\*  
Thomas Awad\*  
Victoria Bartella\*\*  
Katherine Beikirch\*\*  
William Besold\*  
Julia Beutel\*\*  
Madison Blesy\*\*\*  
Sara Bojarski\*\*\*  
Mallory Bradley\*\*  
Nathan Briselden\*  
Jason Burke\*\*  
Dylan Busch\*\*\*  
Megan Callahan\*\*  
Clark Chen\*\*  
James Chmurzynski\*\*  
James Delaney\*\*  
Alexis Delaney\*\*\*  
Navya Desireddy\*\*  
Sean Dlugosz\*\*

Jian Dong\*\*\*  
Hillery Downey\*\*\*  
Priya Duraisamy\*\*  
Pooyan Esmaelishayeh\*  
Brandon Fajardo\*\*  
Jade Finlayson\*\*  
Bryan Flores\*  
Andres Garcia\*\*  
Karina Germakovski\*\*  
Sarah Goetz\*\*  
Gurcharan Grewal\*\*  
Austin Grzechowiak\*\*  
Anusha Gupta\*\*  
Claire Han\*  
Philip Hans\*  
Desiree Herman\*\*  
Katelyn Hilko\*\*\*  
Jessica Hockler\*\*\*  
Amy Huang\*\*  
Stephie Ikama\*  
Michelle Jabbour\*\*  
Joshua Johnson\*\*\*  
Zacaria Ka\*\*  
Jagraj Kalirao\*\*  
Amarachi Kanu\*  
Priya Karintholil\*\*  
Nicole Kayrala\*\*  
LouLou Khoury\*\*  
Chloe Kim\*  
Nam Yeon Kim\*  
Amanda Kocher\*  
Mitchell Koralewski\*\*  
Daniel Kurowski\*\*\*  
Samuel Lazarus\*\*  
Tim Le\*\*\*  
Wonbin Lee

Klaudi Lekaj\*\*\*  
Christopher Louie\*\*  
Sheng Ma\*\*  
Nathan Manongji\*\*  
Christopher Mayer\*\*  
Megan McGovern\*\*  
Nusrat Samiya Mithila\*\*  
Randa Mohamed\*\*\*  
Jonathon Morrello\*\*  
Patrick Mueller\*\*  
Imran Muhammad\*\*\*  
Ny Ako Ndrianjasoazanany\*\*  
Nhan Nguyen\*\*\*  
Chelsea Obelle\*  
Karishma Patel\*\*\*  
Naiya Patel\*\*  
Rutu Maheshkumar Patel\*\*  
Julia Pawelek\*\*\*  
Laura Piazza\*  
Yana Prokopechko\*\*  
Jennie Qin\*\*  
Ehson Raoufi Zadeh\*  
Jessica Ren\*\*\*  
Chloe Richards\*\*  
Angelene Roberts\*\*\*  
Rachel Romanowski\*\*\*  
Derek Rossetti\*\*  
Kaylee Siener\*\*  
Lindsey Sobaszek\*\*  
Nidhi Soman\*\*  
Abbey Swackhamer  
Giavanna Sylvester\*\*  
Abby Tarun\*\*  
Syrena Than\*  
Miles Travis\*  
Andrew VanEps\*\*

Joan Wang\*\*  
Maximilian Wesner\*  
Mackenzie White\*\*  
Xintian Wu\*\*  
Noah Wuethrich\*\*  
Yanrong Xu\*  
Amanda Yang\*\*  
Christopher Yau\*\*\*  
Nicole Yong\*\*  
Sophy Yu\*  
Joel Zachariah\*\*  
Xuexin Zhang\*\*  
Bethy Zhou\*  
Jiayi Zhu\*\*

## Research Projects

### Clinical Research Program

Klaudi Lekaj

*Pharmacodynamic Effects of Statins in the Presence of Nilotinib*

Advisor: Dr. Jason Sprowl

Nusrat Samiya Mithila

*Synthesis and Evaluation of an MCT6 Genetic Variant*

Advisor: Dr. Jason Sprowl

Randa Mohamed

*Systematic Review of Potassium Exchange Resins for the Treatment of Emergent Hyperkalemia*

Advisor: Dr. Calvin Meaney

Nhan Nguyen

*HIV-Associated Pulmonary Function Impairment*

Advisor: Dr. Qing Ma

Karishma Patel

*Turning the Tide Against Antimicrobial Resistance with Bacteriophage Therapy*

Advisor: Dr. Nicholas Smith

Jessica Ren

*Polypharmacy Analysis and Medication Optimization in People with Human Immunodeficiency and Severe Renal Impairment: Focus on Diabetes Management*

Advisor: Dr. Qing Ma

Angelene Roberts

*The Impact of Inhaled Corticosteroid Use on Hospital Admissions and Emergency Department Visits in Patients with Concurrent COPD and Asthma*

Advisor: Dr. Erin Slazak

### Scholars Program

Katherine Beikirch

*The Impact of Intentional SDOH Integrated Interventions by Clinical Pharmacists and Trainees During Patient Care at a Federally Qualified Health Center*

Advisors: Drs. Gina Prescott and Christ Ange Cellino

Alexis Delanoy

*Systematic Review of Interest Holder Perceptions of Pharmacist Prescribed Ulipristal Acetate Emergency Contraception*

Advisor: Dr. Nicole Cieri-Hutcherson

Hillery Downey

*Bleeding Rates of Apixaban Versus Unfractionated Heparin in ICU Patients with Acute Kidney Injury*

Advisor: Dr. Maya Chilbert

Desiree Herman

*Seeing the Whole Picture: Infographics as a Tool to Teach Natural Products and Health Literacy to Pharmacy Students*

Advisor: Dr. Erin Slazak

Katelyn Hilko

*Characterization of Glucagon Like Peptide 1 Receptor Agonist Use for the Treatment of Type 2 Diabetes Mellitus in Under Resourced Populations*

Advisors: Drs. Gina Prescott and Christ Ange Cellino

Jessica Hockler

*Same Day Versus Next Day Administration of Pegfilgrastim in a Hodgkin Lymphoma Patient Population*

Advisor: Dr. Catherine Forbes

Amy Huang

*Assessing Guideline Adherence in Outpatient Prescribing for Pediatric Group A Streptococcal Pharyngitis*

Advisors: Drs. Emily Polischuk and Nicholas Fusco

Nicole Kayrala

*Quality of Transitions of Care in Newly Diagnosed Type 2 Diabetes Upon Inpatient Diagnosis*

Advisor: Dr. Collin Clark

LouLou Khoury

*Assessment of Prescribing Patterns for Outpatient Treatment of Pediatric Lyme Disease*

Advisors: Drs. Emily Polischuk and Nicholas Fusco

Tim Le

*Comparison of Sedation Requirements in Patients Who Received Propofol with or Without a Bolus Prior to Continuous Infusion*

Advisor: Dr. Kevin Chilbert

Christopher Mayer

*Hemoglobin Variability and Clinical Outcomes of Pharmacist Managed Erythropoiesis Stimulating Agents in Patients Receiving Hemodialysis*

Advisor: Dr. Calvin Meaney

Julia Pawelek

*Characterization of Continuous Glucose Monitoring Technology Use in Patients with Diabetes Mellitus at a Federally Qualified Health Center*

Advisor: Dr. Ray Cha

Rachel Romanowski  
*Comparing Inpatient Detoxification Length  
of Stay Among Buprenorphine Microdosing,  
Standard Dosing, and Macrodosing Protocols*  
Advisors: Drs. Maya Chilbert and Ashley  
Halloran

Derek Rossetti  
*Impact of Health System Specialty Pharmacy  
Utilization on Sapropterin Adherence in  
Patients with Phenylketonuria (PKU)*  
Advisor: Dr. Mary Riedy

Christopher Yau  
*Investigating the Safety of Cefazolin Use in  
Surgical Preoperative Patients with Reported  
Penicillin Allergy*  
Advisor: Dr. Kelsey Gregorie



## **Doctor of Philosophy in Pharmaceutical Sciences**

### **August 2025**

Kimberly Adams

*Pharmacokinetic Modeling of Long-Acting  
and Extended-Release Formulations*

Advisor: Dr. Robert Bies

Ahmed Elsheikh

*Identification and Preclinical Evaluation  
of Small Molecule APJ Antagonists for  
Treatment of Cancer*

Advisor: Dr. Sukyung Woo

### **February 2026**

Vincent Chak

*Phosphatidylserine Mediated Oral Tolerance*

Advisor: Dr. Sathy Balu-Iyer

Se Jin Kim

*Individualized Systems Modeling for  
Identification of Drug Targets and Sources  
of Pharmacodynamic Variability in  
Combinatorial Chemotherapy*

Advisor: Dr. Donald Mager

Andrea Serratore

*Mechanisms of Fibroblast Growth Factor  
Receptor (FGFR) Inhibitor Interactions that  
Enhance Chemotherapy Treatments for  
Pancreatic Cancer*

Advisor: Dr. Robert Straubinger

### **June 2026**

Caroline Bosmajian

*Bridging In Vitro and In Vivo GalNAc-siRNA  
Efficacy Through Mechanistic Intracellular  
IVIVC Modeling*

Advisor: Dr. Sukyung Woo

Daniel Duran

*Lead Optimization of Payload Binding  
Selectivity Enhancers for Inverse Targeting  
of Antibody Drug Conjugates*

Advisor: Dr. Joseph Balthasar

Jonathan Perri

*Nanoparticle-Based Formulations and  
Priming Strategies to Enhance Anti-  
Cancer Immunity and Drug Deposition in  
Desmoplastic Solid Tumors*

Advisor: Dr. Robert Straubinger

Wensi Wu

*PK/PD Modeling of Corticosteroids in LPS-  
Induced Inflamed Rats*

Advisor: Dr. William Jusko

# PharmD Advanced Pharmacy Practice Experience Program

*The Pharm.D. Professional Experiential Program consists of required rotations in ambulatory, acute care, or long-term care settings. Each segment includes a comprehensive clinical experience in providing pharmaceutical care for patients with a variety of acute and chronic diseases focusing on patient education, medication counseling, drug interactions, review of medical literature, managed care and pharmacoconomics.*

## **PharmD Advanced Pharmacy Practice Experience Preceptors**

Eliana Abboudi	Peter Cao	Sandhya Emmadi	Sami Hossain
Fady Abdelmalek	Anna Capparella	Jason Erwin	Yen Nien Hou
Igor Abramov	Christopher Carames	Sara Farghaly	Timothy Hutcherson
Alexander Achenkuty	Lori Castillo	David Feldman	Janet Ibrahim
Sarah Adamo	Anthony Catalano	Sarah Fending	Erin Slazak
Traci Aladeen	Linda Catanzaro	Nadia Ferguson	David Jacobs
Nicole Albanese	Christe Ange Cellino	Alyssa Ferrerio	Vivek Jain
Natali Alberti	Craig Cendrowski	Lindsey Feuz	Patricia Jaramillo
Gregory Alston	Wendy Cendrowski	Jennifer Fiebert	Courtney Jarka
Ryan Anderson	Raymond Cha	Eric Field	Kimberly Jay
Alexandria Argentieri	Mei Chang	Matthew Fleming	Calvin Jean
Joanna Au	Angela Cheng	Catherine Forbes	Michelle Jensen
Michael Austin	John Chiavetta	Holly Forrestel	John Jiles Jr
Kaitlin Barnes	Kevin Chilbert	Richard Francisconi	Kimberly Johnson
Charles Barone	Maya Chilbert	Sarah Fratto Santana	Raquel Jones
Chelsea Barvian	Chia-Lin Chou	Magda Fulman	Diana Joyner
Christopher Batista	Allen Chow	Graziella Furnari	William Jusko
Tyler Bedard	Nicole Cieri-Hutcherson	Nicholas Fusco	Jennifer Kahi
Edward Bednarczyk	Collin Clark	Norbert Futeran	Christine Kamel
Heather Bell	Holly Coe	Chandra Sekhar Gajulapalli	Jennifer Karpie-Otterstein
Robert Bennett	Donna Cogavin	Daniel Garber	Kevin Kawalerski
Shreen Beshures	Natalie Crown	Virleny Garcia	Jamie Keller
Michael Bessada	Ilana Cypes	Lauren Gashlin	Alexa Keller Bellus
Mandeep Bharaj	Benjamin Daigler	Jordan Giaccotto	Arthur Khaimov
Ariane Blanc	John D'Aloise	Joshana Goga	Mudasar Khan
Myles Blas	Christopher Daly	Mayer Goldberg	Alisha Kher
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# Alumni Welcome

**Dear Member of the Class of 2026,**

Congratulations and welcome! On behalf of the University at Buffalo Alumni Association, I am so proud to welcome you to a global community of more than 313,000 UB alumni. You earned this moment, and you will always have a home here.

Graduation is not the end of your UB story. It is the beginning of a new chapter. The friendships you formed, the university that shaped you and the experiences that helped you grow don't disappear when you cross that stage. They stay with you, wherever life takes you next.

To me, being a UB grad is about far more than staying connected through platforms and newsletters. It means being part of a community that reaches beyond Buffalo and continues to provide opportunities long after graduation. It means doors opened by fellow UB alumni, and the opportunity to open doors for others in return. It means the chance to continue learning and connecting, whether that happens through tools like Connect-a-Bull and Career North, or through UB Regional Alumni Networks that help you build friendships and professional connections at home or wherever life takes you. These networks link alumni locally, nationally and globally so you can find a UB community almost anywhere you land. Being a UB grad means being welcomed back, being plugged in and being part of a lifelong community that supports each other in work, in life and in growth.

I want to acknowledge the graduates wearing green philanthropy cords, a visible sign of their commitment to giving back. Their generosity—along with volunteerism and leadership—reminds us that collective support, in many forms, is what sustains and strengthens our alma mater.

This is not a goodbye. It's welcome. Welcome back for homecoming. Welcome to learning, leading, giving back and staying connected. Welcome to a lifelong relationship with UB. Wherever you go, you'll always be True Blue.

Go Bulls!

Sincerely,



Eileen Marutiak, BA '06  
President, UB Alumni Association Board of Directors

P.S. To see what's waiting for you, visit [buffalo.edu/alumni](http://buffalo.edu/alumni).



## The University Mace

Designed to tell the story of the university and the Niagara Frontier, the mace was fashioned by California silversmith Hudson Roysler. It was used for the first time in the 1962 general commencement.

The mace is silver with accents of lapis and howlite to represent the university's colors. It is topped by a miniature walled structure representing the City of Buffalo. Engraved atop the city are three arrows bound together, symbolizing the unity of UB and the city.

A band encircling the head of the mace bears the founding dates of the 13 divisions that composed the university in 1962.

The UB arms appear on the front of the head. On the back are the arms of the United States. The discovery of Lake Erie in 1669 by Louis Jolliet and early explorations by Robert de La Salle are symbolized on the left side of the head. A crest on the right side symbolizes the university's role as a dynamic center of human growth and welfare.

The wild rose, the state flower, is depicted in a floral motif at the top and bottom of the mace's head. Encircling the collars at each end of the shaft are three wavy lines representing intellect and water—the latter a reference to the Niagara River and Great Lakes.

The motto "University and City: Community" is lettered in Latin around the knob of the shaft.

With roots dating back to medieval times, the mace has evolved to be a symbol of enlightened authority. The mace bearer is traditionally the chair of the university's Faculty Senate.



## UB Alma Mater

*Music by Walter S. Goodale, MD, 1903.  
Lyrics adapted by UB students in 2006 for contemporary use.*

### Verse 1:

The pride of our spirit and tradition,  
Our alma mater's truth and name declare.  
Celebrate our history and wisdom,  
O let us all prepare to sing her glory.

### Refrain:

To Buffalo all hail to thee,  
Noble and strong it's our university!  
To blue and white pledge loyalty,  
Singing, I will always remember thee!

### Verse 2:

We'll ever keep our standards high,  
And sing UB's praises to the sky.  
Receiving the finest education,  
Our knowledge we impart unto the nations.  
*(Repeat refrain)*

### Verse 3:

Our friends we've made with ties that bind,  
A union of our spirit, heart and mind.  
Together we'll continue life's journey,  
O may dear Buffalo forever be.  
*(Repeat refrain)*

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