



*PharmAlliance*

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THE UNIVERSITY  
of NORTH CAROLINA  
at CHAPEL HILL



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**PARTNERING  
FOR BETTER  
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WORLDWIDE**



PHARMALLIANCE MONTH 2020

# FRIDAY FELLOW'S REPORT



WEEK 2 // PREPARED BY CAROLINE SASSER

Tuesday, 5 October 2020

## COMMUNITEA TIME



During this CommuniTea Time, participants were asked to think about the future of PharmAlliance. In small groups, faculty were asked to envision what PharmAlliance would be known for in 2030, how we would get there, and what needed to change to accomplish these visions. Notably, several outward facing themes emerging from the discussion including *Altruism*, *Educational Excellence*, *Global Health Influencer*, and *Advocate for Collaboration*.

## STUDENT INTERNATIONAL CASE COMPETITION

Wednesday, 7 October 2020

The Pharmalliance International Case Competition (ICC) is an entirely student-driven, collaborative case competition that occurs annually in March. International teams work together to come up with a creative solution based around a patient scenario. This year, teams had a choice between two cases: one focused on substance use disorder in pregnancy and another focused on medical cannabinoid use in children.

The ICC Debrief during PharmAlliance Month celebrated the top three teams and announced the winner of the competition! Case solutions were judged on creativity, solution innovation, and delivery of information.

Congratulations to the winners, Team 7: Alice Hann (Monash), Alec Martschenko (UNC), Haley Mun (UNC), and Akina Nana (UNC)!

Wednesday, 7 October 2020

# PANEL ON INTERNATIONAL COLLABORATION

Panelists: Vivienne Mak, Ava Vargason, Gauri Rao, Matthew Todd, Jenni Ilomaki



During this session, panelists shared lessons and reflections on their experience with international collaboration within PharmAlliance and beyond! Topics ranged from balancing parenting with late-night Zoom calls to the benefits of early collaboration as a PhD Candidate. This session was hosted by Her Research Matters in partnership with the EDI Committee of UCL School of Pharmacy.



During the discussion, participants were asked to comment on the personal and professional benefits of international collaboration, resulting in a word cloud emphasizing perspective, idea generation, and networking (left).

# EFFECTS OF COVID-19 ON THE PHARMACY WORKFORCE

Speakers: John Jackson, Lizzie Mills, Amira Shaikh, Delesha Carpenter

John Jackson began the session presenting on the "Impact of the first wave of the COVID-19 pandemic on community pharmacy in Victoria, Australia". The presentation highlighted short-term effects of the pandemic including medication shortages, increased stress and workload, and confusion caused by newly introduced e-prescribing. Notably, long-term impacts included accelerated introduction of electronic prescriptions, continuation of hygiene practice, and increased recognition of pharmacists and the profession.



Lizzie Mills and Amira Shaikh followed with their presentation, "The impacts of COVID-19 on pharmacy practice in the UK: Case studies". They discussed the effects the pandemic has had on pre-registration students in the UK including rotation changes, increased workplace pressure, and reduced tutor support. Workflow changes were also discussed for general practice pharmacists including more remote work and telemedicine, improved multi-disciplinary care, increased focus on high-risk and care home

patients. They noted the pandemic came with some positives for pharmacy practice including innovation, workflow changes to support nursing staff, and expansion of pharmacy services.

The final presentation, given by Delesha Carpenter, was entitled "Rural Community Pharmacies' Preparedness for and Responses to COVID-19". Her study found that half of pharmacies surveyed had received conflicting information about COVID-19. Findings from this study indicated that rural pharmacies need disaster preparedness training, assistance adapting their preparedness plans, and regular policy and informational guidance from professional bodies and health organizations.



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