GREETINGS

We look forward to seeing you at the Alumni Agent of Change event on March 13 as the Faculty celebrates two remarkable and inspiring alumni: the 2019 Alumni Agent of Change, Sarvajna Dwivedi MSc'88, PhD'92 and Alumni Future Agent of Change, Tamara Mihic, BSc(Pharm)'13, PharmD'16.

Dr. Sarvajna Dwivedi

Dr. Tamara Mihic

The TED style event will be hosted by Dean Michael Coughtrie and include presentations from both individuals about their career trajectories that have led to this recognition. All alumni are invited and encouraged to attend. Please RSVP before March 6.

Last month UBC hosted its annual Lunar New Year Celebration on January 21. Edwin Lum, BSc (Pharm)'78, Vicki Lum, BSc (Pharm)'78, and Judith Soon, BSc(Pharm)'74, MSc'95, PhD'O0 attended the event with other alumni from across the University.

Shina Boparai, MA
Alumni Relations Manager
KUDOS

In early February, Fellow Status was bestowed on Karen Dahri, BSc (Pharm)'00, PharmD'07 by the Canadian Society of Hospital Pharmacists at the Professional Practice Conference in Toronto.

Shahrzad Salmasi, MSc'18, a current PhD student (Supervisors: Drs. Peter Loewen and Mary De Vera) received the ImpactBC Scholarship in Health Care Research and Development. This scholarship recognizes outstanding students in a UBC health discipline who have completed a research or development project focusing on patient/client involvement in health care decision-making or in health professional education.

EVENTS

Register here

The Class of BSc(Pharm)'94 is currently planning their 25th reunion. If you would like more information or would like to get involved, please contact the organizers by email or through the class Facebook page.

If 2019 is a milestone year for your Class and you would like to plan a reunion event, please contact Shina Boparai.

ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

Ahmad Ghahary
BSc(Pharm)'08, Community Pharmacy Residency ’09

Career/profession

Pharmacist; Owner, CEO of Community Apothecary Inc.

Dr. Ghahary accepted a position with an independent community pharmacy working with marginalized populations, who suffered from infectious diseases, mental health conditions, and many other ailments. In June 2013, Dr. Ghahary left his position to pursue the creation of Community Apothecary Inc.

What accomplishments are you most proud of?

I am most proud of starting my own business. I believe pharmacists need to lead our profession into the future, and the only way to do that is to embrace entrepreneurship and make our dreams a reality.

How do you stay involved in the community?

As a community pharmacist, I am proud to say that my work keeps me engaged in the needs of my community and allows me to contribute in a positive way. Thanks to UBC, I am able to be a part of this honourable profession and make a difference in my community through my life’s work. As an avid hockey fan, I hope to one day organize street hockey games in my community to use the power of sport to bring people together.

What UBC moment are you still talking about?

I am still talking about my experience in the UBC Community Pharmacy Residency. I was able to see a wide range of pharmacy practice across British Columbia, and the experience helped shape how I view the profession today. Many of my good friends and valuable connections in pharmacy have come from participation in the Community Residency.

Who or what has been a major influence in your career?

There are many individuals who have influenced my career path and trajectory - clinical pharmacists, professors, instructors, clinical coordinators, directors, preceptors, colleagues, family, friends - all have played a part in helping me attain my goals and aspirations by providing mentorship, advice, guidance, and other forms of support. Getting involved and taking part in a variety of projects, initiatives, and professional associations have also significantly influenced my career. This involvement helped me hone in on what my personal and professional interests are, which led to subsequent opportunities for growth and learning.