As the last 2018 edition of the alumni newsletter is delivered to you, I would like to thank all alumni who stayed connected to the Faculty of Pharmaceutical Sciences by volunteering their time and making other generous contributions throughout the year. Your support and engagement makes an enormous positive impact on the Faculty and UBC as a whole, and enriches the lives of students and fellow alumni.

This month saw much alumni activity from the Faculty as Dean Michael Coughtrie hosted our Alumni and Friends Reception in Washington, DC and Associate Dean Thomas Chang, BSc(Pharm)'86, PhD’91 hosted Pharm Sci alumni at the alumniUBC Achievement Awards. In addition, Judith Soon, BSc(Pharm)'74, MSc’95, PhD’00 will be welcoming the latest Pharm Sci grads to their alumni community at the graduation ceremony taking place on November 30.

The 2019 Alumni Agent of Change and Future Agent of Change Award recipients have been selected and will be announced soon. The event date has been scheduled for March 13, 2019 so please save the date.

Wishing you all the best for the upcoming Holiday Season,

Shina Boparai, MA
Alumni Relations Manager
2008 CLASS REUNION

The class of BSc(Pharm)'08 celebrated its 10-year reunion on October 13 and over 40 people attended the event in Vancouver. Julia Zhu, Sarah Tam, Victoria Su, James Van and Anoop Khurana were the class leads who took the initiative to plan the reunion.

alumniUBC ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

From L to R – Associate Dean, Thomas Chang; Ahmad Ghahary, BSc(Pharm)'08; Helen Burt, PhD’80; Ryan Kular, BSc(Pharm)'06

Associate Dean Thomas Chang, BSc(Pharm)'86, PhD’91 hosted a group of alumni at the alumniUBC Achievement Awards on November 15, 2018, which celebrated eight inspiring individuals from across the institution and raised over $1.1 million for UBC’s Blue and Gold Campaign for students. Nominations for 2019 are currently being accepted until January 31. Additional details are available here.

EVENTS - SAVE THE DATE

The UBC CPPD 30th Annual Pharmacy Alumni Update Conference is scheduled for Saturday, March 2, 2019.

The 2019 Alumni Agent of Change Event will take place on Wednesday, March 13, 2019.

Canada’s first pharmacist-led patient care clinic wins 2019 Quality Award. Click here for more details.

UBC Pharm Sci Assistant Professor Receives Canada Research Chair in Oncology. Click here to read the full story.

Shahrzad Salmasi, MSc’18 (Supervisors: Dr. Peter Loewen and Dr. Mary De Vera) has received the CIHR Institute of Circulatory and Respiratory Health Travel Award for her poster presentation at the Canadian Cardiovascular Congress, the largest gathering of cardiovascular and allied health professionals in Canada.
ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

Amy Ku
BSc(Pharm)'87

Career/Profession

I have enjoyed a diverse and interesting career path. My past employers include Shoppers Drug Mart (pharmacist and associate), Merck, BMS, Agouron, Pfizer, and Novo Nordisk, where I held various positions including sales/marketing, business operations, and government affairs. Currently, I am the owner of Medicus Wellness, providing individual health consultations. We practice functional medicine with a focus on lifestyle medicine and wellness education.

What accomplishments are you most proud of?

Most folks would expect me to say the completion of an MBA, a promotion, or seeing a major project through. For me, it was the moment I decided that I would come out of my shell: just get up and go. Go beyond my own comfort zone just to see if I can do it. Go beyond my training to see if I succeed. Go live a life rich in experiences.

How do you stay involved in the community you live in?

Advisor to Type 1 Together, an advocacy group for people with type 1 diabetes. I also volunteer to support local political candidates who I feel would make a difference for our city, province, or country and I come back to UBC to speak with current pharmacy students.

What UBC moment are you still talking about?

I have wonderful memories of the laughter shared with classmates at the Woodward Lecture Hall.

Who was the biggest influence in your career?

Paul Kwari, a UBC Pharm Sci alumnus, was the kindest person and the best mentor a new graduate could have. Paul gave me the opportunities to learn and understand every aspect of operating a drug store. He also encouraged me to explore options beyond being a pharmacist. “Everything is possible if you work at it,” he would say, and, “Always help those in need.” Although Paul is no longer with us, his teachings will always be with me and guide my decisions.