School of Pharmacy

Degrees Offered

• Doctor of Pharmacy (entry-level)
• Ph.D. in Pharmaceutical and Pharmacological Sciences

Introduction

The WVU School of Pharmacy offers graduate programs in the pharmaceutical and pharmacological sciences for the Ph.D. degree. The school is advantageously located in the Health Sciences Center complex which also houses all departments of the Schools of Medicine, Nursing, and Dentistry, as well as a comprehensive medical library, audio-visual and computer-based learning center, research core facilities, and laboratory animal quarters. State-of-the-art research laboratories are located throughout the Health Sciences Center complex to facilitate interactions with the Mary Babb Randolph Cancer Center, Center for Neuroscience, and Center for Cardiovascular and Respiratory Sciences. In addition, the Health Sciences Center has easy access to the Evansdale and Downtown campuses of WVU through a personal rapid transit (PRT) system. The scientific community, which is especially well-developed, draws on area scientists throughout WVU, the Centers of Disease Control/National Institute on Occupational Safety and Health (CDC/NIOSH), Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), and a variety of research centers supported by the National Institutes of Health (NIH), National Science Foundation (NSF), and the Department of Energy (DOE). A CDC/NIOSH research facility is two blocks away, and Mylan Pharmaceuticals, a leading generic drug producer in the world, is located across the street from the Health Sciences Center. In addition, the school has long-standing collaborations with several state agencies and multinational pharmaceutical companies.

Applicants for the Ph.D. may choose between two pathways: pharmaceutical and pharmacological sciences, and health outcomes research. Both pathways uniquely encompass a wide variety of interdisciplinary areas of science and technology, with translational potential. For example, students in medicinal chemistry are trained to combine knowledge in analytical/synthetic chemistry, biochemistry, pharmacology, pharmacokinetics, and toxicology and molecular modeling in the design and synthesis of new drugs; those who specialize in pharmaceutics, biopharmaceutics, and pharmacokinetics are trained to combine physicochemical methods, cellular and molecular biology, and drug metabolism in the design and evaluation of novel drug delivery systems and their impact on pharmacodynamic and therapeutic effects. Trainees who specialize in health outcomes and policy research may integrate health economics, epidemiology, behavioral research, and health policy research methods to improve healthcare and pharmaceutical access, quality, and affordability and to reduce health disparities.

The Ph.D. degree emphasizes research training and will not qualify the recipient to take the professional practice licensing exam. For those interested in becoming a licensed pharmacist, please consult the doctor of pharmacy (Pharm.D.) program in the WVU Health Sciences Catalog.

Administration

Dean

• Patricia A. Chase - Ph.D. (University of Colorado)

Associate Dean for Research and Graduate Programs

• Rae R. Matsumoto - Ph.D. (Brown University)

Associate Member

• Marie Abate - Pharm.D. (University of Michigan)
• Robert Griffith - Ph.D. (Ohio State University)
• Gerald Higa - Pharm.D. (University of the Pacific)
• Sobha Kurian - M.D. (Medical College, Trivandrum)
• Gauri Pawar - M.D. (University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey)
• Carl R. Sullivan - M.D. (West Virginia University)

Regular Member

• James Antonini - Ph.D. (West Virginia University)
• Erik Bey - Ph.D. (Cleveland State University)
• Patrick Gallerly - Ph.D. (University of California, San Francisco)
• Vincent Castranova - Ph.D. (West Virginia University)
• Fei Chen - Ph.D. (Peking University Health Science Center)
• Eugene Demchuk - Ph.D. (Engelhardt Institute of Molecular Biology)
• Glenn Dillon - Ph.D. (University of Illinois)
• Cerasela Zoica Dinu - Ph.D. (Max Planck Institute)
Doctor of Philosophy

Students must possess a baccalaureate degree from a suitable academic discipline with an overall grade-point average of at least 3.0 and an aptitude and interest for graduate work in the pharmaceutical sciences. Furthermore, GRE scores in the verbal, quantitative, and analytical sections are required. TOEFL scores are required for most international students.

To obtain specific information related to the school’s graduate programs, graduate faculty research interests, and availability of graduate assistantships or fellowships, applicants may contact:

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