



- About the School
- Departments
- Prospective Students
- Research

- Current Students
- Experiential Education
- Faculty/Staff Directory

- Alumni, Donors and Friends
- Continuing Education
- Pharm References



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Support requests »

Highlights



News @ VCU School of Pharmacy

SOP shines at ISPOR's 16th Annual International Meeting

VCU School of Pharmacy made its presence known at the **International Society for Pharmacoeconomics and Outcome Research's 16th Annual International Meeting** in Baltimore.

Graduate student members of the **VCU chapter of ISPOR** won the annual "Jeopardy!"-style student research championship. The winning team consisted of **Ali Al-Hammad, Toni Coe, Timothy Inocencio and Arpamas Seetasith** of the school's Department of Pharmacotherapy and Outcomes Science.

"The momentum for VCU's fabulous performance was started by its first place among 16 highly competitive universities, such as Purdue and Texas," said ISPOR member **Kunal Saxena**. "The quiz was based on elimination stages, in which each team had to defeat a new compellitor before proceeding to the next round, much like the NCAA basketball bracket.

"VCU had to face stiff challenges from the Universities of Cincinnati, Arizona and Houston on their path to victory," he said.

Nantana Kaisaeng, who was there to cheer for her colleagues, said, "Out of a total of 32 ISPOR student chapters across the U.S., we are small in size but big on capabilities!"

Urvi Desai, who received her Ph.D. in pharmaceutical sciences in May, successfully completed her term as 2010-11 chairwoman of the ISPOR Student Network.

Leticia Moczygomba, assistant professor, received a Best New Investigator Podium Research Presentation Award for "12-Month Outcomes of a Pharmacist-Provided Telephone Medication Therapy Management Program to Medicare Part D Beneficiaries." (To see an abstract, click [here](#).) Her research was funded by an American Society of Health-System Pharmacists Foundation Junior Investigator Research Grant.

David Holdford, professor and vice chairman of graduate studies, said Moczygomba's presentation was clear, concise and well-explained.

Dipen Patel (Ph.D. '10) was nominated as a finalist for the ISPOR Best Poster Research Presentation Awards. Poster presentations also were made by **Al-Alhammad, Abdulkhaliq Alsalman, Avant Joshi, Kaisaeng, Maryam Al-Owayesh and Jing Tao**.

In addition, the chapter was recognized for its "Pharmacoeconomics/Health Outcomes" T-shirt design.

Al-Alhammad, president of the VCU chapter of ISPOR, noted that he would like to thank his fellow officers -- vice president **Arpamas Seetasith**, secretary **Kunal Saxena**, treasurer **Toni Coe** and social affairs chairwoman **Jing Tao** -- and faculty advisor **Norman Carroll** for their efforts this year.

"The students and faculty members of VCU were happy and satisfied with their good showing and gained the respect of their peers and others," said Saxena. "They hope to put up an even better performance in the **ISPOR 17th Annual International Meeting**, which takes place in Washington, D.C., next year."

Submitted By:
Cynthia McMuBen
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VCU School of Pharmacy participants at the 2011 ISPOR annual meeting were Leticia Moczygemba (left), Maryam Al-Owayesh, Toni Coe, Arpamas Seetasth, Kunal Saxena, Ali Al-Hammad, David Holdford, Timothy Inocencio, Jing Tao, Avani Joshi and Nantana Kaiseang.



Virginia Commonwealth University | School of Pharmacy
410 North 12th Street | Room 500
P.O. Box 980581
Richmond, Virginia 23298-0581
Phone: (804) 828-3000 | Toll-Free Line: (800) 330-0519 | Fax: (804) 828-1815
E-mail: pharmacy@vcu.edu
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