OUR MISSION

The mission of The University of Mississippi School of Pharmacy is to improve the health, well-being and quality of life of individuals and communities by educating students, pharmacy practitioners, and pharmaceutical scientists, conducting research, and engaging in service.

RESEARCH INSTITUTE OF PHARMACEUTICAL SCIENCES

The Research Institute of Pharmaceutical Sciences (RIPS) encompasses four major divisions:

• The National Center for Natural Products Research (NCNPR)
• The Center for Pharmaceutical Marketing and Management (CPMM)
• The Pii Center for Pharmaceutical Technology
• The Center for Clinical and Translational Science (CCTS)

The mission of the NCNPR is to discover, develop and commercialize natural product-derived pharmaceuticals and agrochemicals to benefit human health and agricultural productivity.

The CPMM promotes efficiency and effectiveness in the marketing and management of pharmaceutical products and services in all segments of the industry.

The Pii Center is devoted to research related to Hot-Melt Extrusion and other pharmaceutical processing technologies.

The mission of the CCTS is to facilitate the translation of basic research discoveries into clinically validated therapies to improve the health of populations in Mississippi and beyond.

RIPS contributes to the economic development of the state by partnering with Mississippi industries to enhance their competitiveness and by attracting new companies to the state.

EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS

Professional Program: Students receive the B.S. in Pharmaceutical Sciences degree after the first year of the professional program and the Doctor of Pharmacy degree upon completion of the fourth year. The professional program is four years long. The initial two years of professional courses are taken on the Oxford campus, while the third professional year occurs at the University of Mississippi Medical Center campus in Jackson. The fourth year consists of a series of advanced practice experiences primarily in Mississippi and surrounding states.

Early Entry Program: The Early Entry program is an avenue for high-performing high school seniors to be accepted into the School of Pharmacy as incoming University of Mississippi freshmen. Those accepted are guaranteed seats in the professional program if they meet set requirements and expectations. The program typically consists of three years of pre-professional courses.

Graduate Programs: The School of Pharmacy offers a number of graduate programs in a variety of specialty areas. These include:

• M.S. in Pharmaceutical Sciences with emphases in Environmental Toxicology, Industrial Pharmacy, Medicinal Chemistry, Pharmacognosy, Pharmacology or Pharmacy Administration
• Ph.D. in Pharmaceutical Sciences with emphases in Environmental Toxicology, Medicinal Chemistry, Pharmacognosy, Pharmacology, Pharmaceutics or Pharmacy Administration

RESEARCH

The faculty of the School of Pharmacy maintain active, funded research programs in a variety of biomedical, social administrative and clinical sciences. Faculty compete for funding from a variety of sources, including the National Institutes of Health, other federal agencies, foundations and the pharmaceutical industry. The School of Pharmacy’s extramural research funding reached $21.2 million in 2019, which ranked sixth in the nation among colleges of pharmacy.

The School of Pharmacy’s Research Visioning Strategic Plan identifies four key areas of research:

• Cancer
• Cardiometabolic Disorders
• Neuroscience/Drugs of Abuse
• Infectious Diseases

The school’s Research Visioning Statement reads:

The University of Mississippi School of Pharmacy will be globally recognized for its multidisciplinary research in the discovery, development and translation of innovative solutions to health care problems.
SERVICE AND OUTREACH PROGRAMS

The School of Pharmacy provides service to citizens and health care professionals through a variety of outreach programs. These include provision of:

• Patient-centered care at the UM Student and Employee Pharmacy Health Services, and various other ambulatory, inpatient and managed care sites.
• Drug information to health care professionals.
• Continuing education for pharmacists and other professionals through the activities of the Division of Pharmacy Professional Development.
• Scientific, management and leadership expertise to pharmaceutical industries, other academic institutions, community pharmacies, clinics and medical centers.
• Leadership to local, state and national professional and scientific organizations.

FACULTY

The School of Pharmacy has nearly 100 regular faculty members, in addition to more than 350 preceptors that teach at over 175 sites. For 10 consecutive years, UM has been recognized as one of the best colleges in the nation to work for by The Chronicle of Higher Education.

STUDENTS

The strong applicant pool for admission to the professional pharmacy program is comprised of local, national and international candidates. Preference is given to US citizens who are residents of Mississippi. The school seeks to admit approximately 115 students to the professional pharmacy program annually.

2019-20 ENROLLMENT

431 Professional students
242 Early Entry students
151 Pre-pharmacy students
32 M.S. students
84 Ph.D. students
5 Residents

OPPORTUNITIES FOR FUTURE DEVELOPMENT

The School of Pharmacy must raise significant funds from non-state appropriated sources in order to deliver quality education and service programs and to conduct the caliber of research to which it is committed. Funds must be raised to increase endowments to support student and faculty needs. Funds raised through the annual fund support:

Student Aid and Scholarships – Attract increasing numbers of excellent and diverse students by providing additional scholarships and fellowships.

Teaching, Learning, and Research Support – Strengthen academic programs and enhance teaching, learning and research opportunities for students and faculty.

Special Opportunities – Obtain unrestricted gifts to be used by the dean of the school for unique education, service or research opportunities.

ADMINISTRATION

David D. Allen, R.Ph., Ph.D., FASHP, FNAP, FAPhA
Dean, Executive Director of RIPS

Chelsea W. Bennett, Ph.D.
Assistant Dean for Student Services – Oxford

John Bentley, Ph.D.
Interim Director of the Center for Pharmaceutical Marketing and Management

Alicia S. Bouldin, Ph.D.
Associate Dean of Outcomes Assessment and Learning Advancement

T. Kristopher Harrell, Pharm.D.
Associate Dean for Academic Affairs

Ikhas A. Khan, Ph.D.
Director of the National Center for Natural Products Research

Soumyajit Majumdar, Ph.D.
Associate Dean for Research and Graduate Programs

Katie S. McClendon, Pharm.D.
Assistant Dean for Student Services – Jackson

Barbara Neyses, MBA
Associate Dean of Administration and Financial Operations

Michael A. Repka, Ph.D., D.D.S.
Director of the Pii Center for Pharmaceutical Technology

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FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION, CONTACT

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