



LA PHARMACIE EN LOUISIANE

COLLEGE OF PHARMACY ALUMNI NEWS



PHARMILY SPOTLIGHT: Alexis Horace, PharmD, BCACP

Hometown: Fayetteville, GA

Education: Bachelors in Biology from the University of Georgia; PharmD from the University of Tennessee Health Science Center; PGY1 from Wellstar MCG health Medical Center; PGY2 from the University of Georgia

Work History: I have been employed by the University of Louisiana at Monroe College of Pharmacy since 2010.

Areas of Pharmacy you are passionate about: I'm deeply passionate about harm reduction practices, particularly in addressing substance use disorders (SUD) and preventing HIV. I believe in empowering individuals and communities through education and access to resources like PrEP and PEP, which are vital tools in reducing the risks associated with HIV exposure. Promoting these strategies allows me to contribute to better health outcomes and support vulnerable populations.

The ULM HERO Program (funded by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration) has been a transformative part of my journey, both professionally and personally.

Professionally, it has allowed me to channel my passion for harm reduction into tangible, life-changing education and outreach efforts for first responders and the community. Personally, it has deepened my sense of purpose and reinforced my belief in the power of education to create safer and healthier communities. The goals of the [ULM HERO Program](#) include providing comprehensive harm reduction education, equipping first responders with the knowledge and tools to handle substance use-related emergencies, and fostering a supportive network to reduce stigma and improve public health outcomes. I'm incredibly grateful to the remarkable ULM HERO team—Dr. Stephen Hill, Dr. Jameshia Below, Aaron Brown, Magnisha Casseus, and Kaliyah Dunmore. Their passion, collaboration, and unwavering dedication have been the foundation of the program's success. Together, we're making a meaningful impact, and I couldn't ask for a better group to work with on this important mission.

I'm also passionate about managing chronic disease states such as HIV, Asthma/COPD, and Diabetes. I enjoy working with patients to navigate their health challenges and tailoring care plans that improve their quality of life. Advocacy plays a big role in this work, as I strive to ensure that individuals living with chronic conditions have access to the support, resources, and education they need to thrive.

Advice for those looking to a career in pharmacy: Embrace the journey with an open mind and a resilient spirit. Pharmacy is a field that demands knowledge, but also grit—the ability to push through challenges and learn from failures. It's often the moments where you stumble that provide the greatest opportunities for growth, shaping your ability to adapt and innovate in a constantly evolving profession. Creativity is equally essential; whether you're solving complex clinical problems, developing new ways to educate patients, or advocating for change, thinking outside the box will set you apart. Above all, stay motivated by remembering your "why." Whether it's improving patient outcomes, advancing research, or supporting public health, keeping your purpose at the forefront will drive your success and fulfillment in this dynamic and impactful career.

(continued on page 3)

STAY IN TOUCH



UPCOMING EVENTS

March 8

8th Annual Poor Man's Run
Monroe, Louisiana
Register [HERE](#)

March 19

PharmFUTURE

March 23

APhA 2025
Nashville, TN

March 28

ULM College of Pharmacy Crawfish Boil

April 16

PharmJR

April 24

ULM's Wine Over Water
Monroe, Louisiana
Information & Tickets [HERE](#)

May 16/17

College of Pharmacy Senior Recognition
& Graduation Ceremonies

June 7

Dufilho Society "An Evening of Thanks"
Monroe, Louisiana

**IF YOU ARE LOOKING
FOR A NEW POSITION
OR HAVE A JOB TO POST**

www.ulm.edu/pharmacy/alumni/alumnicareer

As a graduate of ULM's pharmacy, Ph.D. or Toxicology programs, the College of Pharmacy hopes you will stay in touch. There are many events throughout the year to help you re-connect with friends and former classmates. We hope to see you at one of these events and ask that you will take a moment to share any exciting news for upcoming newsletters. Connect today!

SHARE YOUR NEWS!

Keep your pharmacy friends and colleagues updated on your latest news. Use the link below to share any news such as new career moves, marriages, births, or condolences.
webservices.ulm.edu/webforms/form/college-pharmacy-alumni-news

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PHARMILY SPOTLIGHT:

Alexis Horace, PharmD, BCACP



Why you chose ULM/NLU College of Pharmacy: I chose ULM because it offered me the opportunity to work closely with patients living with HIV/AIDS through the Our Lady of the Lake early intervention clinic in 2010. That experience deeply shaped my passion for serving this patient population and solidified my commitment to providing compassionate, evidence-based care. Beyond that, ULM stood out as a smaller institution where I could work with incredibly talented faculty in a nurturing environment. I valued the opportunity to be mentored personally and to grow both professionally and academically, without getting caught up in the often impersonal, promotional focus of larger institutions.

School organization involvement as a student:

- University of Tennessee Pharmacy Class of 2008, 2005 – 2008 Class Vice President
- American Pharmaceutical Association, Academy of Student Pharmacists 2004 – 2008
 - Membership Chair, UT Chapter, 2006-2007
 - Chair, Hypertension Committee, UT Chapter, 2005-2006
- Tennessee Pharmacist Association 2004 – 2008
 - Professional Relations Committee, 2006-2008
 - Student Delegate, Spring 2006
- Student National Pharmaceutical Association 2006 – 2007
 - Pharmacy Class 2008 Representative
- Kappa Psi Pharmaceutical Fraternity 2004– 2005
 - Pledge Class Secretary

Family: My devotion to my family, especially my husband and my 3-year-old daughter, is a driving force behind everything I do. They inspire me daily to work toward creating a better, healthier, and more compassionate world for the future. Knowing that the work I do today can contribute to a brighter tomorrow for them motivates me to stay focused, passionate, and determined in both my personal and professional life.

Hobbies/Fun things: I love to jog! I wake up around 5:30am to go for a jog most days of the week. I usually run between 3-4.5 miles depending on my schedule. I recently started lifting weights. I also enjoy baking and cooking. I like creating nutritious meals for my daughter, and trying out new recipes. I recently learned how to make Chick-fil-A chocolate chip cookies at home, which have been a holiday hit. I also made the most AMAZING apple pie recently – the secret was to use some salt. Who knew?! I created some really awesome fried cheese, French onion burgers the other night that were equally as savory. I love craft projects. I can spend hours in Hobby Lobby buying supplies so that we can create some cool things at home – like recently we did some toddler-focused stitching. And, I also enjoy New Orleans City Life & Festivals. I like spending time with my family outside, attending and enjoying festivals. Most recently we went to Luna Fete which was SO MUCH FUN! They had DJs, tons of food, silent disco section to listen to music on headsets, and plenty of dancing. The festival also had many light-focused art installations. My daughter, who is normally in bed by 7pm, got to stay up until 9:30pm. She was so excited about that.

Anything else you wish to share: I am incredibly grateful and humbled to be chosen for this spotlight. I deeply appreciate all the individuals who have contributed to my growth, learning, and success along the way. My faith in God plays a central role in shaping who I am today, and it is through His guidance and strength that I find the motivation to keep moving forward. It is my hope to give back just as much by supporting my colleagues and making a meaningful impact in the community.

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Nilay Patel, PharmD
Owner

Nilay Patel (Pharm.D. '15) is now the owner of Mansfield Drug in Mansfield, Louisiana.
<https://www.facebook.com/share/15t3UQ8a6e/?mibextid=wwXlfr>

Maiha Hardin (Pharm.D. '21) Started a new position as Clinical Diabetes Specialist at Sequel Med Tech and launch of the Twiist AID System.

Nikki Seng (Pharm.D. '15) started a new position as Staff Pharmacist at Bryant Family Pharmacy.

Dr. Michael Cockerham (B.S. Pharm '89) has been promoted to Senior Associate Dean for Academic and Advocacy Affairs at the ULM College of Pharmacy and elected President-Elect of the Louisiana Pharmacists Association.

Dr. Brian Donald (ULM Faculty) has been promoted to Associate Dean for Effectiveness and Strategy.

Dr. Jessica Brady (Pharm.D. '07) has been promoted to ULM College of Pharmacy Director for the School of Clinical Sciences.

Emma Gautreaux (Pharm.D. '21) married Maximilian Miranne 10/05/24 and baby boy Theodore Maximilian Miranne born 12/20/24.

Michael W. Crockett (B.S. Pharm '94) Effective November 1, 2024, I was promoted to the rank of Rear Admiral in the US Public Health Service which also carries the title and responsibilities of Assistant Surgeon General. I have been an active-duty officer in the USPHS for 19 years and currently serve as the National Health Technology Administrator for the Federal Bureau of Prisons.



Gwen Genius (B.S. Pharm '67) teaches botanical art classes to master gardeners at the Benbrook Library in Fort Worth, TX, not far from her home. Recently focusing on poisonous and medicinal plants. She credits her botany professor, Dr. Prince from NLU, for encouraging the plant artwork. Pictured is a colored pencil drawing of poinsettia, mistletoe and blue spruce.

Kyle Perkins (Pharm.D./M.B.A. '22) started a new position as Pediatric Clinical Pharmacist at Ochsner LSU Health Shreveport - St. Mary Medical Center.

Aimee' Fontenot (Pharm.D. '17) started a new position as Regional Oncology Pharmacy Supervisor at Ochsner Lafayette General.

Taylor McMillion (Pharm.D. '14) started a new position as Lead Clinical Pharmacist III at Cardinal Health.

ALUMNI NEWS

ASHP MidYear Meeting 2024

It had been almost 10 years, since the American Society of Health-System Pharmacists (ASHP) Midyear Meeting was held in New Orleans. Given this fact, the two pharmacy colleges in Louisiana, ULM College of Pharmacy and Xavier College of Pharmacy, as well as the Louisiana Society of Health-System Pharmacists (LSHP) and the Louisiana Pharmacists Association (LPA) decided to have one big Louisiana Pharmacists Reception.

The event was held at Grand Isle Restaurant on Tuesday, December 10, 2024. Over 200 Louisiana pharmacists or pharmacy students attended.

Guests enjoyed a seafood bar of fresh shucked oysters and cocktail shrimp, as well as jambalaya, grilled vegetables and a variety of passed hors d'oeuvres. It was a great time to reconnect with old friends and meet new ones!

Special thanks to Dean Anderson of ULM and Dean Kennedy of Xavier, as well as the President of LSHP for helping to host such a wonderful event!



Eighth Annual Poor Man's Run to take place Saturday, March 8

This is a great way to show support for our local charitable pharmacy- St. Vincent de Paul Community Pharmacy (SVDP). All proceeds from this event go to support the mission of SVDP—providing medication to the economically disadvantaged and medically underserved. The ULM Pharmacy Student Council has a goal of raising \$10,000 this year for SVDP!

You can help out by running, sponsoring, or even just buying one of the good-looking t-shirts! The race will begin at 8:00 am and take place at the College of Pharmacy in Monroe.

If you or your company is interested in being a sponsor, please contact ULM Pharmacy Student Council President, Kolby Cook at cookks@warhawks.ulm.edu. Or, if you'd like to register to run the 1 Mile Fun Run, 5K, or buy a t-shirt, please visit the link below.

Early Bird Registration ends February 7!!

Race Registration: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/8th-annual-st-vincent-depaul-community-pharmacy-poor-mans-run-tickets-1095428840149?aff=oddtcreator>

St. Vincent DePaul Community Pharmacy serves 19 parishes in Louisiana, which include those parishes north of Alexandria and east of Shreveport. The pharmacy opened in Monroe in April 1999 serving our community for the last 22 years and counting. In that time, the charity pharmacy has filled over 230,000 prescriptions, reaching over 7,200 patients!



PHARMACY NEWS



Lake Carpenter, Miss ULM 2025, and Vincent Winston, II, Mr. ULM 2025

Lake Carpenter, Pharm.D. candidate, crowned Miss ULM 2025

The University of Louisiana Monroe recently crowned the 2025 Miss ULM and Mister ULM. The annual titleholders competitions were held on November 22 and 23, 2024. Lake Carpenter, 20, a pre-pharmacy senior from Start, La., was crowned Miss ULM 2025. Lake is a pre-pharmacy major from Start, LA, who will begin our Pharm.D. program in August.

“One of my key initiatives, ‘We Are Family,’ aims to redefine what family truly means. Together, we can create a more inclusive and loving community here on campus where everyone feels like they belong,” said Carpenter.

Carpenter will represent ULM as she competes in the annual Miss Louisiana competition in June 2025.

https://www.ulm.edu/news/2024/2025_titleholders_121024.html

ULM COLLEGE OF PHARMACY



The ULM HERO Program is excited to announce two new outreach coordinators, Magnisha Casseus and Kaliyah Dunmore. They will support both the New Orleans and Monroe campuses. “These individuals bring a wealth of energy and dedication to our mission of providing harm reduction education and resources to first responders and our communities,” says director Dr. Alexis Horace.

She states that their roles will be critical in strengthening our outreach efforts, fostering community partnerships, and ensuring that the HERO Program continues to make a meaningful impact in addressing the opioid crisis. Welcome to the Pharmily, Magnisha and Kaliya!

ULM SNPhA members appointed to SNPhA National Initiative.

Joshua Morehead: National Legislative, Membership, Benefits and Immigration Chair

KeAnna Kimble: National Bridging the Gap Initiative Chair

Valerie Panyanouvong: National Operation Immunization Subcommittee Social Media Manager

Samantha McGuffey: National Operation Immunization Subcommittee

Angelle Greene: National Mental Health Initiative Subcommittee Mental Health Resource Manager.

Angelle Boudreaux: Remember the Ribbon Subcommittee Community Outreach and Engagement Chair

Allison Rivoire (COP Office of Experiential Education) welcomed baby Asher Wayne on December 31, 2024.

Dr. Georgios Matthaolampakis (COP Faculty) and wife Jenny welcomed baby Stelios Sebastian on January 8, 2025.

A vertical poster for a fundraiser. The top half features a close-up image of a bowl of jambalaya. The text on the poster is as follows:
Jambalaya Fundraiser
GINGER ALLEN COFFEY FIGHTS ALS
FEBRUARY 7TH 11 AM
\$15 A PLATE
PLATE INCLUDES:
JAMBALAYA, WHITE BEANS, & DRINK
100% OF PROCEEDS GO TO GINGER
PICK UP:
ULM COLLEGE OF PHARMACY
1800 BIENVILLE DRIVE
MONROE, LA 71201
CASH OR VENMO:
@GC-FIGHTS-ALS
SIGN UP THROUGH GOOGLE FORM
DEADLINE TO PLACE ORDER IS JAN 31
A QR code is located at the bottom left of the poster.

College of Pharmacy students are currently raising funds to help **Ginger Allen Coffey (B.S. Pharmacy '97)** fight her recent diagnosis with Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS). Ginger is not only a graduate of the ULM College of Pharmacy, but has also served as a preceptor to many of our students over the years.

The deadline to place an order for Jambalaya plates is January 31.

If you'd like to donate to the cause you can still do so through the Venmo shown (GC-FIGHTS-ALS) or contact Shelby Whitney at whitneysl@warhawks.ulm.edu.



DR. RON BERRY

PRESIDENT

Dr. Ron Berry steps down as ULM President to return to the classroom.

University of Louisiana Monroe President Dr. Ron Berry has announced that he will be stepping down as president and returning to his role as a professor. Berry made the announcement in an email to ULM employees on Tuesday, January 21.

“It has been an honor and privilege to serve ULM in an administrative and leadership capacity for the past 25 years. My leadership journey has been extremely rewarding, professionally and personally, with the last four and a half years as president being particularly so,” stated Berry. “This last semester, I had the opportunity to teach a class of first-time freshmen and was reminded of why I entered higher education over 30 years ago. Serving as president has been remarkable, but I can’t think of a more rewarding experience than working with students one-on-one to help them achieve their best life possible. This is how I want to finish my career,” he added.

Berry has served as the ninth president of ULM since September 2020. During his time as president, Berry has overseen the creation of a strategic plan, the building of the HUB, and the acquisition of the Clarke M. Williams Innovation Campus, a gift from Lumen Technologies.

Berry was also instrumental in the creation of the Centennial Scholars program, an initiative created to improve literacy among local elementary students and to invest in the future of ULM by granting a \$500 scholarship to students who will become the incoming freshman class of 2031, which will mark the University’s 100th anniversary.

Along with First Lady Dr. Christine Berry, President Berry created the Opportunity Fund, a fund designed to support a wide variety of activities and projects not typically funded through traditional budgetary means. The Opportunity Fund has awarded over \$100,000 since its inception.

Dr. Ron Berry is a two-time alumnus of ULM, earning a B.B.A. in 1988 and an M.B.A. in 1990. He earned a Doctor of Business Administration from Mississippi State University in 1995. He has served at ULM in various roles since 1995, including Department Head of Computer Information Systems and, prior to his hiring as president, Dean of the College of Business and Social Sciences.

Berry will continue to serve as President of ULM until a new president is hired and in place. Details about the search process and timeline will be forthcoming from the University of Louisiana System.

YOUR SUPPORT MATTERS



When you support pharmacy education, you invest in our students and the future of the profession.

Your gift helps fund student education, facility improvements, faculty development, community outreach and other programs that strengthen the mission of the ULM College of Pharmacy.

Ways to Give

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You can give directly to the Dufilho Society by check or online.

Check

Payable to ULM Foundation and mailed to:
ULM Foundation
700 University Avenue
Monroe, LA 71201
*Specify Dufilho Society in memo line

Online

www.ulm.edu/give

Click "Give to Academics"

Designation: Academics: Select a College, School or Program

Scroll down to select "Dufilho Society" from the second drop-down list

OTHER WAYS TO GIVE

Other ways to give include stock or security gifts, IRA gifts, endowments such as chairs and professorships, planned giving through a will or estate, or a naming opportunity.

For more information or to learn how to leave a lasting legacy to ULM, please contact the ULM Foundation by phone at (318) 342-3636 or by email at foundation@ulm.edu.

Help name the College of Pharmacy Dean's suite to honor Dr. Bill Bourn and the late Marsha Bourn.

We invite you to join us in celebrating the legacy of Dean Emeritus William "Bill" Bourn, Ph.D., and the late Marsha Bourn. Bill served as the Dean of Pharmacy at the University of Louisiana Monroe (formerly NLU) for an impressive 17 years (1986-2003) and retired from the university after 34 years. The late Marsha Bourn retired from ULM after 20 years of service, but remained an active part of the College of Pharmacy until her death in 2017.

The Bourns' unwavering commitment to excellence, leadership, and innovation has left an indelible mark on our college and the field of pharmacy. To honor these remarkable contributions, there is a campaign to name the dean's suite after the couple. Your generous support will help perpetuate the Bourns' legacy and provide a lasting tribute to their dedication. If your life has been touched, in any way, through professional or personal relationships, or through Dufilho Society or Bourn scholarships, please consider supporting this effort. Together we can make this vision a reality!



Special thanks to these donors for their support of this naming opportunity:

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Learn more, or give, at: <https://www.ulm.edu/pharmacy/alumni/alumnigiving.html>

"An Evening of Thanks" Dufilho Society member ceremony and appreciation party.



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