

# The LIPSCOMB NOW: SCRIPT

A Publication of the  
College of Pharmacy &  
Health Sciences  
at Lipscomb University

Spring 2019 Vol. 10 No. 1

## Lipscomb's north campus morphs into 'Med Row'

pg. 34

*inside:*

BLOCKCHAIN BENEFITS CANCER PATIENTS 24

ENTREPRENEURIAL ALUMNI 26

CELEBRATING THE LIPSCOMB 'PHARMILY' 30

# Highlights



# Lipscomb prepares two kinesiology students to train America's elite military officers and Rangers

## EXNS student is slated to teach at West Point Academy after graduation

When **Cleve Richard** (left) graduated from West Point in 2010, little did he know that he would be headed back there as a teacher nine years later. And Lipscomb University kinesiology teachers never would have expected him to be trained for his teaching post on the Lipscomb campus, but that's the way it turned out for both Richard and Lipscomb.

After graduation, Richard became an ordnance and logistics officer in the U.S. Army, eventually becoming a company commander at Fort Campbell in Clarksville, Tennessee.

But the former West Point basketball player had always had a love for sports and the physical side of his military life, so when his five-year commitment was done, he accepted an offer from West Point to teach in the physical education department.

To fulfill that contract, he needed a master's degree in exercise science, and only three programs in the U.S. were approved by the Army for their West Point teachers. However, due to medical treatments his wife Margaree needed at Vanderbilt Medical Center, Richard was allowed to choose a Nashville program, and he chose Lipscomb's Master of Science in exercise and nutrition science.

"I've loved every day at Lipscomb," Richard said. "It's a close-knit environment, and a great Christian university that promotes an attitude that is not only good in life, but also in line with everything we learn at West Point: to do the right thing and to hold to strong values."

He will use his master's to teach West Point students about sports that promote wellness for a lifetime, nutrition and "military movement," how to move with heavy gear on, how to traverse an obstacle course, etc., he said.

"Watching the instructors and professors here at Lipscomb provided me with good models of how to be as a teacher and how to help students from an educational standpoint," he said. "I have been able to talk to them and understand why they do certain things and why certain classes are offered."



## EXNS alum trains 75th Ranger Regiment

**Jonathan Flinn** ('14) served as an infantry man in the U.S. Army's elite 75th Ranger Regiment from 2004 to 2012, and now, after earning an EXNS master's degree from Lipscomb, he is back with the

Rangers as a civilian contractor training soldiers in tactical strength and conditioning.

The Rangers is the U.S. Army's premier large-scale special operations force, and it is made up of some of the most elite soldiers in the world. Flinn was deployed to Iraq and Afghanistan and earned a rank of staff sergeant.

"The soldiers I work with have to be able to do a little of everything: go an unknown distance, carrying an unknown load, climb, crawl. Pretty much everything," Flinn said.

Upon leaving the Army, Flinn hoped to pursue a career in physical fitness. As soon as he arrived on campus in 2013, he began volunteer work doing strength and conditioning for the athletics department. He also became a graduate assistant in the kinesiology department and upon graduation worked as the Lipscomb Racquet Club manager.

He left for his position at Fort Benning, in Columbus, Georgia, in June 2018.

His Lipscomb experiences like working with freshmen as he taught the Lifetime Fitness course and training women athletes helped him learn how to work better with different groups of people, like the younger, next generation of Rangers he now trains, he said.

"One of the biggest things I learned was how to communicate better. Coming out of the Army, there is a certain way to communicate, and going to Lipscomb helped me learn how to have different communication styles and relationships with people," Flinn said. "The listening part of communicating is what I learned the most."

# Pharmacy alumni open independent pharmacies in a big box world



*In a retail world full of big-box stores and online merchants, it's not common to see the neighborhood-based, community pharmacy spring up very often. Lipscomb's College of Pharmacy, however, has seen 14 of its graduates strike out and start their own independently owned pharmacies in the past decade.*

*This issue of The Script begins a series highlighting each of these intrepid entrepreneurs, beginning with two who have opened unique retail outlets in growing areas of the Greater Nashville region: **Todd Garrett** (Pharm.D., '14, '10) in Franklin and **Chad Huntsman** (Pharm.D., '15) in the outskirts of Nolensville.*

*Don't miss the Script pharmacy owners' series in future issues. Currently expected to be featured are **Jay Wilmore, Jade and Matt Fricks, Elizabeth Cherry, Jennie and Kelby Sutton, Luke Wright, Jared Lonon, Andrew Byrd, Heather Hollingsworth, Brad Medling and Grant Mathis.***



## Daily healing is a ‘humbling opportunity’

Dr. **Chad Huntsman** (left), came from a pharmacy family as his father owned several pharmacies in East Tennessee throughout his life. However, he began his early career in construction and restaurant development based in East Tennessee.

But he always had a passion for helping people, and he tried to carry out that mission through his construction business. Over time, he realized how many opportunities his father had to help people every day, in small but meaningful ways.

“I tell my employees, that when they come to work every day, they are literally the ones who get to help make people well. It’s a humbling opportunity,” Huntsman said.

So, when the economy began to change, Huntsman decided to take up pharmacy and earned his degree from Lipscomb in 2015. Today, Huntsman owns two pharmacies in East Tennessee along with his classmate, Dr. **Jacob Cox** (’15): his father’s original store in Morristown, College Park Pharmacy, and Mooney’s Pharmacy in Johnson City. The pharmacist-in-charge of College Park is alumnus Dr. **David Mitchell** (’14).

They also just opened their newest store, J.J. Beans Pharmacy, 6900 Lenox Village Drive, Suite 14, in Nashville this past fall. The store operates on a true customer-first philosophy, he said, pointing out posters around the store that declare their four guiding principles: patients come first, treat others the way you want to be treated, choose to encourage, and have wisdom, integrity and trust.

As the J.J. Beans pharmacist-in-charge, Huntsman hired another Lipscomb graduate, Dr. **Carrie O’Saile Duncan** (’17), (right), who began working at Perkins Drugs in Gallatin, Tennessee, at the age of 16. She became a pharmacy tech at Perkins before earning her degree in Nashville. She completed a residency at Marcrom’s Pharmacy in Manchester,

Tennessee, before heading to J.J. Beans in July.

“So far, at J.J. Beans, I have had the opportunity to be the face that patients feel confident coming in to talk to. They think of me like family,” said Duncan.

Even before the grand opening, residents of nearby Lennox Village were stopping by to check out the various gift, decor and over-the-counter options (Huntsman also collaborated with Parker Mason to offer locally made products in the front of the store).

“People are excited we’re here,” he said.

## Independents fill a niche

Both Garrett and Huntsman say that customer-focused service is the key to surviving in today’s competitive retail market. Both offer enhanced pharmacy services such as home delivery of meds, curbside delivery and synchronization of medications, services that are often beneficial to elderly patients and families.

In addition, Medsync also provides various other advantages, allowing pharmacists more time to focus on therapeutic optimization for patients, smoother operations and better inventory management, said Huntsman.

Independent pharmacies have a competitive advantage he said, by hiring the best pharmacists, who are most interested in serving patients and providing the best care.

Finally, Huntsman believes that collaborative practice is how independent pharmacies will make their way in the future. An example is working with providers to make therapy decisions for patients who experience insurance problems. Another example is a pilot program his store is conducting with Covenant Health at their hospital in Morristown called meds-to-beds where the pharmacy delivers a patient’s medications to the hospital before discharge and performs face-to-face counseling through an iPad.

## *Celebrating the Lipscomb 'pharmily'*

Roger Davis, the man who tirelessly worked to create a family environment in Middle Tennessee's first college of pharmacy, was honored in 2018.

Since its inception, the Lipscomb University College of Pharmacy has worked to create a family environment.

From faculty mentors to LUCOP's Got Talent, from cookies waiting in a jar to one-on-one applicant interviews with the dean, the pharmacy college is a place where student pharmacists feel like more than a class... they feel like a family.

And one man who played a major role in instilling that atmosphere was Dr. **Roger Davis**, dean of the college since three months after its creation was announced in November 2006.

After 12 years as dean, Davis' was appointed vice provost of health affairs in 2018. We, at The Script, felt like that was a good time to congratulate the College of Pharmacy's founding dean and reflect on the impact Dean Davis has had on seven pharmacy classes so far.

Davis was a former assistant dean for Middle Tennessee at the University of Tennessee College of Pharmacy, when he was appointed

dean of the College of Pharmacy. That was less than three months after the Lipscomb Board of Trustees approved the creation of a College of Pharmacy. At the University of Tennessee, Davis was a member of the faculty for more than 25 years and the assistant dean for Middle Tennessee for 10 years.

But it didn't take long for Davis' blood to run purple and gold, especially since he had been a member of Lipscomb's Board of Trustees since 1999.

"The dean has officiated at numerous weddings that have come about as a result of students meeting in pharmacy school. Most weeks one or more of our alumni stop by for a visit. Often it is to introduce us to new babies or to celebrate other life milestones.," said **Kathryne Channell**, coordinator of alumni and student affairs (and the woman with the never-empty cookie jar).

"The commitment to the 'pharmily' remains strong, even after graduation," she said. "This environment has been made possible by a dean who from day one had an open door

policy and committed to know the name of every student pharmacist."

Practically every student pharmacist who has attended Lipscomb has a clear memory of their first introduction to Dean Davis, for most of them during the interview process to be admitted, where he goes out of his way to meet every applicant and their family.

"I remember vividly our first professional encounter at my White Coat Ceremony where he came to speak to my family and extend a personal welcome to the college. For a senior academic official, he was so kind and welcoming," said Dr. **Jay Dorris** ('14), now a clinical assistant professor and informatics pharmacist at University of Florida College of Pharmacy.

"I remember being invited to have lunch with the dean in my P1 year to provide feedback on my initial thoughts of the program," said Dr. **Justin Kirby** ('15) now an assistant professor at Lipscomb. "It was his custom to invite all the first year students to have lunch with him at some point in their inaugural semester, and this always stood out to me, especially





“He taught me much about *leadership* and how to truly care for others as a leader. His *kindness* is one of his hallmarks which resonates with me to this day.”

considering the college was in the thick of its initial accreditation process my first year!”

As the first dean of the college, Davis was able to put his stamp on the future by creating traditions for the first class that each class would follow thereafter.

The first Thanksmas holiday dinner, complete with turkey, dressing and the trimmings was held in the college’s first year of existence with the families of student pharmacists sitting at long tables that stretched the length of the hallways in Burton, Channell said. In 2018 Thanksmas dinner was held in McQuiddy gymnasium to hold the many attendees.

“At the end of the academic year, Dean Davis hosts a picnic to celebrate. We have inflatables and love to watch the children of our students playing and enjoying the spring weather. Dean Davis brings in an ice cream truck with treats for all,” Channell said.

He has been known to don a wig or two and paint his face purple and gold for more festive events.

“Now that I am out of school and working, some of Dean Davis’s pharmacy school classmates are my co-workers. I’ve heard some pretty good stories about his pharmacy school days,” teased Dr. **August Whipple** (‘18), but she declined to share.

While the student pharmacists get to see the fun side of Dean Davis on special occasions, on any day, even the fun days, he is an excellent model of professionalism and leadership, they say.

“Being in the first class meant we got to spend a lot of time with the faculty and staff,” said Dr. **Mallory Johnston Smith** (‘12), who worked with Dean Davis on the graduation committee. “From the very first day walking onto campus, Dean Davis was a very present part of our lives. Most students do not even know who their dean is, much less that he knows you by name, where you are from, and who your parents are.

“Dean Davis is who first taught us about professionalism, he continued to teach us about what that word meant throughout our time at Lipscomb. Professionalism has not only become a part of my career, it has become a part of my daily life and how I present myself and handle business,” Smith said.

“Plus, we also learned that Dean Davis LOVES banana pudding, it’s his favorite dessert!”

“As a pharmacist, you have the opportunity to take lessons from your faculty into practice to share with others. And, I am thankful that I get to share the kind leadership which Dean Davis showed to me,” said Dr. Dorris. “He taught me much about leadership and how to truly care for others as a leader. His kindness is one of his hallmarks which resonates with me to this day.”

Whipple was the recipient of that kindness during a difficult time.

“The summer before my last year in pharmacy school, a family member of mine was admitted to the hospital for a serious health condition. While I was at the hospital, I got a message from Dean Davis, checking in and letting me know he was praying for my family. In the year that followed, he frequently inquired about my family and how I was doing with my fourth-year rotations. As busy as he is, he has a passion and heart for his students,” she said.

“Culture is created from the top down,” noted Kirby, “and Lipscomb’s College of Pharmacy feels like home to everyone who sets foot inside the halls of the Burton Health Sciences Center.”

Davis recently moved from his office to the James D. Hughes Center, to take on his new vice provost role at the nexus of all the college’s health programs, but as Dr. **Allyson Geary Wunderlich** (‘12) said, we can “rest assured he has left a lasting impression on so many pharmacists who have the privilege of knowing him.”







# Health science programs consolidated in ‘Med Row,’ including renovated Hughes Center

The James D. Hughes Center, a 23,500-square-foot building nestled between the Nursing and Health Sciences Center and the Pharmaceutical Sciences Research Center, was renovated this past summer to become the hub of all of Lipscomb’s health science programs on campus.

The new School of Physician Assistant Studies (launched this past fall), the Department of Nutrition and Kinesiology and the vice provost’s office for health affairs, are now all located in Hughes, positioned within a line of buildings that also serves The School of Nursing, the College of Pharmacy and pharmacy research.

The \$3 million renovation provided new faculty offices, three classrooms and five spacious labs: the anatomy lab for all health science programs, the nutrition program’s foods lab and the kinesiology program’s cardiopulmonary-metabolic, strength and conditioning and body composition, all with a modern professional look that reflects the cutting-edge research and instruction going on within the building.

“This consolidation is part of a strategic plan which creates expanded resources and collaboration for growth,” said Dr. **Roger Davis**, vice provost for health affairs. “With faculty from multiple disciplines in closer proximity, the potential for the sharing of lectures, practice laboratories, classrooms and research facilities is greater. It also provides synergy for broader faculty interaction and collaboration to enhance

interprofessional education opportunities, the lynchpin for progressive models of health science education.

“With the Hughes Center an environment has been created for significant new permanent laboratory space, and concentration of these assets contributes to a more efficient and cost-effective process for education,” he said.

The anatomy lab is large enough to allow every PA student hands-on dissection with one cadaver for every five students, a ratio far above most other physician assistant programs, said Dr. **Stephen Heffington**, program director of the PA school.

“This lab is really our centerpiece. It is one of the best you can find at a PA school not associated with a medical school,” he said.

It also includes an overhead, mobile camera and a handheld camera both with wireless links to six 65-inch TV screens throughout the lab so students can see and compare multiple dissections and demonstrations, as well an environmental control system that reduces fumes by circulating air every two minutes.

“The new anatomy lab will serve as the cornerstone for all future growth in Lipscomb’s health science education programs,” said Davis, who has advocated for a new cutting-edge anatomy lab for a decade.

The foods lab features six cooking and prep stations, allowing up to 24 students to use the space at one time, said Dr. **Autumn Marshall**, chair of the nutrition and kinesiology department. Each station features stainless steel gas appliances, granite countertops and enough space for each student group to maneuver.

The foods lab is used by nutrition majors, sports nutrition dietetic interns who serve Lipscomb’s athletics department, students who take Basic Foods as a science and math elective and students enrolled in the cooking skills course in the IDEAL (Igniting the Dream of Education and Access at Lipscomb) program for young adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

The lab includes a large pantry space, cubbies for students’ belongings and an

Americans with Disabilities Act-compliant station. Mobile furniture allows for multiple uses for the lab and more collaboration among students and the vaulted ceilings allow for a lot of natural lighting, an aspect students enjoy, Marshall said.

Two new treadmills; a spirometry system to test lung function; two weight racks; leg press, leg extension and lateral pulldown machines and a full set of adjustable dumbbells, have been added to the extensive equipment the human performance labs already had available for students to use in their research studies, said Dr. **Ruth Henry**, vice chair of kinesiology and nutrition.

Hughes allows for more square footage in all three kinesiology labs and a blood draw area, five treadmills, nine stationary bikes, EKG equipment and the spirometry equipment in the third-floor cardio-metabolic lab. This lab includes three TV screens that maximizes professors’ ability to teach techniques and protocols while students are using the equipment, said Henry.

New equipment in the strength and conditioning lab “allows us to do prolonged resistance training interventions, instead of just investigating how the body responds to one bout of exercise,” said Dr. **Jeremy Townsend**, assistant professor of kinesiology who oversees the lab. “This semester we have also added the capability to perform muscle biopsies, allowing our research teams to not only measure functional applied outcomes of various interventions, but to explore the biological mechanisms responsible for these outcomes.”

The body composition lab, with a DEXA (dual-energy x-ray absorptiometry scanner), two InBody Bioelectric Impedance Analyzers and a Body Pod for air displacement plethysmography, was provided a more private set-up, for the convenience of research subjects and the researchers.

In addition to the vice provost’s office, Hughes now holds 22 offices for faculty, a space for the director of interprofessional education and several common areas and kitchen facilities for students to study, take breaks or relax.



.....  
**This lab serves as  
the cornerstone of health  
science growth at Lipscomb  
and fulfills a decade-long  
goal of Vice Provost  
Davis.**  
.....

Overhead mobile cameras, wireless connections and 65-inch screens allow every physician assistant student in the new anatomy lab to compare multiple ongoing dissections and demonstrations

The anatomy lab in the James D. Hughes Center provides one cadaver for every five students, enough to allow every PA student hands-on dissection practice







03



- 01 The nutrition lab boasts six cooking stations, allowing up to 24 nutrition students to use the space at one time.
- 02 Each station in the nutrition lab offers stainless steel gas appliances, granite countertops and space for students to maneuver.
- 03 The third-floor cardio-metabolic lab is one of three labs that offer kinesiology students more square footage and more equipment than previously.
- 04 The strength and conditioning lab now has additional weight racks, leg press and leg extension machines and a full set of adjustable dumbbells.
- 05 The kinesiology department's body composition lab now has more square footage and a more private set-up for the convenience of research subjects.
- 06 The James D. Hughes Center offers health science students more common space to study, relax and build community than the college has ever had as a whole before.

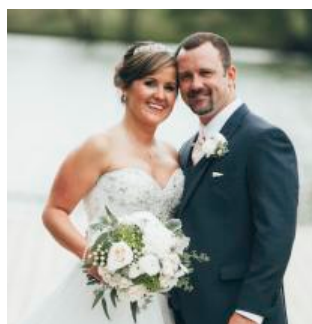


06

## College of Pharmacy



**Ashton** ('15) and **Devon Bushong** ('15) welcomed their daughter Amelia Brooke on September 24, 2018.



**Mallory Johnson** ('12) and Colby Smith were married on Sept. 22, 2018

**Mariam Shaker George** ('16) and Mena George (MS '16) were married on Nov. 19, 2016.



**Joshua Yates** ('15) and his wife Joelle (BS '14) welcomed their daughter Parker Lynn on Sept. 22, 2018.



Dr. **Elizabeth Gibson** ('15) received the Leon W. Cunningham Award for Excellence in Biochemistry at Vanderbilt University. This award is given to only one graduate student per year. She will be defending her dissertation "Overcoming fluoroquinolone resistance: Mechanistic basis of non-quinolone novel antibacterials targeting type II topoisomerases" in January 2019.

## Faculty and Staff



**Elizabeth Humphrey** ('15) and Ethan Humphrey (BS '11) welcomed their daughter Emily Joy on March 31, 2018.



**Amber Bradley** ('09, MS '15), laboratory manager, and Matthew Bradley welcomed daughter Abigail Jane on March 22, 2018. Abigail weighed 6 lbs. 4 oz. and was 19.25 inches long.

**Justin Loden** ('12) is now a diplomate of the American Board of Applied Toxicology. He and his wife **Kelly Loden** ('12), and their boys, Lane and Finn, live in Dickson, Tennessee.

**Abbie Burka**, assistant professor of pharmacy practice and director of interprofessional education, and Scott Burka welcomed their son Thomas Allen on March 7, 2018. Thomas weighed 7 lbs. 10 oz. and was 18.75 inches long.



**Will** ('12) and **Erin McEarl** ('12) welcomed their daughter Blakely Rose on Aug. 17, 2017. Blakely weighed 8 lbs. and 7 oz. and was 20 inches long.



**Samantha Cato**, coordinator of admission services, and Vance Cato were married on Jan. 27, 2018, in the Loveless Barn in Nashville.



For more information log on to  
**pharmacy.lipscomb.edu**

## LIPSCOMB UNIVERSITY COLLEGE OF PHARMACY ANNOUNCES



# Wednesday Webinars

The second Wednesday of the month throughout 2019

11:30am-12:30pm CST • 1 Hour of Live CE\*, \$15

To register contact **Kathryne Channell**

615-966-7176 / [kathryne.channell@lipscomb.edu](mailto:kathryne.channell@lipscomb.edu)

### Wednesday, May 8

#### **Patient Assessment: Common Uses in Everyday Practice.**

**Chad Gentry, PharmD, BCACP, CDE**

This webinar will focus on common assessments pharmacists in various areas might encounter in practice and that can provide avenues to patient-centered pharmacy practice.

### Wednesday, June 12

#### **Biosimilars—What You Need to Know.**

**Kam Nola, PharmD, MS**

As the cost of medications continue to rise, biosimilar drugs promise to reduce the burden of the most expensive drugs. There are 17 biosimilars approved by the FDA but only a handful are on the market. Walk through the FDA approval process for biosimilars and the challenges patients face to access.

\*Approved by the Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education for one hour of continuing education credit.