

# NGU partners to offer Doctor of Pharmacy degree

A year after North Greenville University's (NGU) College of Science and Mathematics (COSAM) announced a partnership with the Mary Black School of Nursing at the University of South Carolina Upstate in Spartanburg, a new agreement with a Florida-based Christian institution was recently announced. The new affiliation is with Palm Beach Atlantic University's (PBA) Lloyd L. Gregory School of Pharmacy (GSOP) to offer a Doctor of Pharmacy (Pharm.D.) degree.

NGU biology majors interested in a career in pharmacy will now have the opportunity to earn a bachelor's degree from NGU and in three additional years, rather than four, earn a Pharm.D. degree from PBA.

Students will have the opportunity to serve, teach, and heal those in need while continuing their education in a program that integrates faith into the learning process, offers small class sizes and life-changing medical mission trips, all in a Christian environment set in beautiful West Palm Beach, Fla.

"NGU is committed to preparing students for callings in healthcare, and one of the most important fields in patient care is pharmacy. Palm Beach Atlantic University's Gregory School of Pharmacy is one of the top programs in the country and is one of only a handful of Christian programs," said NGU President Dr. Gene C. Fant, Jr. "NGU and PBA enjoy significant alignment in our missions, and we look forward to our students having this great opportunity to serve patients back here in the Upstate and around the country."

The first three years of the curriculum will be spent on the NGU campus fulfilling the requirements for the Bachelor of Science in Biology degree. The final year in the bachelor's program will be their first year at GSOP. After that first year at GSOP and meeting the requirements, the student will earn their Bachelor of Science in Biology from NGU. In three additional years, the student will earn their Pharm.D. from PBA.

"The faculty and staff of the Gregory School of Pharmacy at Palm Beach Atlantic University are driven by our commitment to the mission, Pharmacy with Faith — preparing the next generation of servant-leader pharmacists," said Dean of the PBA Lloyd L. Gregory School of Pharmacy Dr. Jeff Lewis. "Fulfillment of this calling largely depends on the recruitment of outstanding students — well-prepared academically and desiring to use their gifts in service to their community. We find just such students at NGU, and are very excited to launch this partnership."

According to the school's articulation agreement, qualified NGU students who meet all admissions criteria as described in PBA's academic catalog and identified by NGU will be invited to apply in their junior year. NGU will then provide an approved list of students annually to be entered into the GSOP before Dec. 1 for an August start date.

Identified students with completed applications who meet the standards of the dual degree program will be guaranteed acceptance, conditional on final and successful completion of all prerequisites, entrance examination, and admissions interview. Standards include maintaining an overall 3.0-grade point average, having a 3.0 GPA in the required sciences, and completing the Pharmacy College Admission Test (PCAT) with a minimum composite score of 40.

"We are excited to partner with Palm Beach Atlantic to increase the ways that our students can be equipped to become transformational leaders in our society for the glory of God. This new Pharm.D. agreement is only one of several 'three-plus' programs we have, and more are being negotiated even now," said Dean of the College of Humanities and Sciences Dr. H. Paul Thompson Jr. "The College of Humanities and Sciences will continue to leverage our relationships with other universities and like-minded institutions to increase opportunities for our students and

prospective students to pursue the variety of callings on their lives."

PBA's GSOP is housed in Gregory Hall, a four-story, 45,000 –square-foot building, which utilizes advanced educational technology to enhance the learning experiences. The faculty is seasoned professionals, caring educators who have conducted groundbreaking work to improve the lives of others.

Career opportunities available to Pharm.D. graduates other than the typical chain community pharmacy are compounding pharmacy, health system pharmacy, ambulatory care, community health center, long term care, specialty pharmacy, research and development, pharmacy law, and government/federal pharmacy, just to name a few.

"I could hardly be more excited about this new partnership with Palm Beach Atlantic. Their pharmacy program has an excellent reputation, and as a sister school committed to Christ-centered education, we know they share with us a desire to root the health sciences in the Christian worldview," said NGU Provost and Dean of the University Faculty Dr. Nathan A. Finn. "I believe many of our students will benefit from this partnership and learn how to care for others (including the underserved) as pharmacists."

The first group of NGU students will enter the pharmacy program at PBA in Fall 2019.

For more information about the degree program contact the program coordinator Susan Allen at susan.allen@ngu.edu, or 864-663-7532.



**CAREER LUNCH AND LEARN** — Eighth grade students at Laurens Middle School often have the opportunity to sign up for eighth grade Career Lunch and Learn. At these events the students attending learn about different careers and educational opportunities. A recent Lunch and Learn guest speaker was Chris Liner. Mr. Liner is the head football coach and an algebra teacher at Laurens District 55 High School. Some of the LMS students in attendance are pictured, from left, Amare Hill, Isaiah Walker, Randall Cheeks, Sebastian Gunter, Jamarion Young, Bryson Taylor, Coach Chris Liner, Hensley Spooone, Ja'Nicholas Woodruff, Jose' Felipe, Sion Hunter, Jay Pulley, Rydell Ray, Zhyvier Davis, Bryan Diaz, and Jayden Knight.

## Lander announces winners of symposium

Lander University recently wrapped up its 2019 Student Academic Symposium, featuring research presentations from Lander's undergraduate students coming from a broad array of academic disciplines. Over 70 students participated in this year's symposium.

Hosted by Lander University's Honors College, the symposium gives student researchers the opportunity to showcase original research projects in a professional setting, while also practicing communication and presentation skills. Student presentations covered a wide variety of topics, ranging from language to music and from marketing to videography.

Among the local winners were: •Mekensie Therrien of Gray Court, for her presentation, "Stigmas that Prevent Seeking Care"

•Ravon N. House of Waterloo and Hunter A. Merrill of Beaufort,

for their presentations, "Seasonal Patterns in Herbivore and Omnivore Abundance and Diversity," and "Changes in Temporal Distributions of Common Wildlife Taxa in Response to Low-level Human

Disturbance" •Dr. Chaz Schindwien Research Award: Quinton Amick of Clinton and Lee Phillips of Greenwood, for their presentation, "Predicting College Students Next Year: A Machine Learning Approach"

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- Registration & Voting for Board of Trustees  
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- Entertainment  
**9–10 a.m.**
- Early Bird Prize Drawing  
**10 a.m.**
- Business Meeting Begins  
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- Prize drawings will follow the business meeting.

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(Must be registered prior to 10 a.m.)

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• **Two \$1,000 Scholarships**  
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Registration cards for the Annual Meeting will be mailed by May 17. You should receive **one card** and will be given **one gift**, even if you have multiple accounts. Only members who register in person will receive a gift.

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