

2026 COHORT

LDE NEWSLETTER



(From left to right, front to back):

Tien Dinh, Rachel Nguyen, Vivian La, Priscilla Sajonas, Alice Oum, Katelyn Truong, Grecia De La Cruz, Philip Tran, Alex Duong

What is LDE?

Chapman University School of Pharmacy's (CUSP) Doctor of Pharmacy (PharmD), Leadership Emphasis Program (LDE) was established in 2021 and the inaugural cohort was selected in early 2022. This degree emphasis focuses on developing well-rounded student leaders inside and outside the classroom. The goal is to equip candidates with the personal and professional skill sets to serve as outstanding, lifelong leaders in healthcare. Along with maintaining strong academic and professional standings, students selected for the Leadership Emphasis Program coordinate various leadership development and community outreach events for other students at CUSP.

MEET THE STUDENTS!



Goals After CUSP: Undecided; Maybe Outpatient Hospital

Why LDE: To better understand the extent of my individual strengths and weaknesses in order to maximize my ability to create positive, efficient, and collaborative work environments

Hobbies: Drumming & Playing Roblox

Fun Fact: My naps are always almost exactly three hours long

GRECIA DE LA CRUZ



Goals after CUSP: Pursue PGY1/2, Specialize in Cardiology or Oncology, Academia or Association Management (long term)

Why LDE: Learn from current pharmacy leaders, Further develop skill set to better serve the profession

Hobbies: Concerts, Shopping, Explore cafes, Crafts with friends

Fun Fact: Tien has a dog named mop (the cleaning tool)

TIEN DINH



Goals after CUSP: Residency (Short term), Clinical Development/ Scientific Communication in Industry (Longterm)

Why LDE: Wanted to learn how to better express myself in the professional space and develop my leadership character

Hobbies: Crochet (+ other artistic ventures), Strategic Card Games

Fun Fact: I ate a whole container of butter when I was a kid bc I thought it was ice cream

ALEX DUONG



MEET THE STUDENTS!

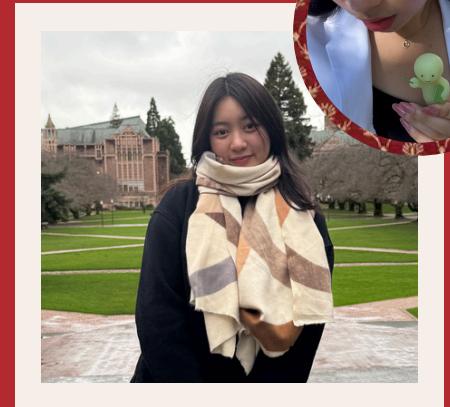
Goals after CUSP: PGY1 Residency (short term), PGY2 + Clinical Academia/Clinical Development Scientist/MSL in Industry (long term)

Why LDE: Wanted to learn more on how to lead professionally and explore own type of leadership style

Hobbies: Listening to music, crocheting, cafe-hopping with friends, spending time with family, and eating + cooking good food.

Fun Fact: I have 50+ smiskis!

VIVIAN LA



Goals after CUSP: Residency (short term) then working in a short term acute care hospital (long term)

Why LDE: Wanted to gain more leadership experience and learn more about myself as a leader

Hobbies: reading and spending time with my friends and family

Fun Fact: I was named after Rachel Green from the show “Friends”

RACHEL NGUYEN



Goals after CUSP: PGY1 residency that offers a blend of both acute care and ambulatory care

Why LDE: Wanted to strengthen my leadership skills, enhance my professional communication, and grow into a more confident and effective leader in both the academic and clinical setting

Hobbies: Tennis and going out for boba + dessert

Fun Fact: Tried over 90 different boba shops

ALICE OUM





MEET THE STUDENTS!



Goals after CUSP: Become an Ambulatory Care pharmacist, Serve underserved communities, Teach and mentor future pharmacists

Why LDE: Grow personally and professionally, Discover strengths, Make meaningful contributions in the pharmacy community

Hobbies: Exploring new places, Read, Vlogging, Spending time with family and friends

Fun Fact: I took swimming lessons as a kid, but I forgot how to swim

PRISCILLA SAJONAS

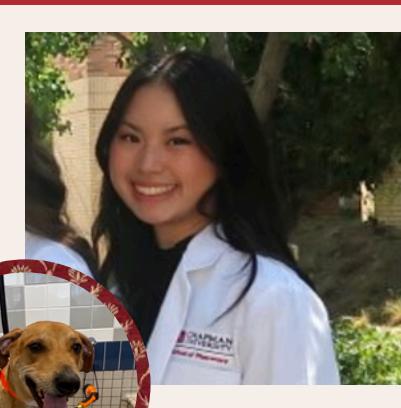
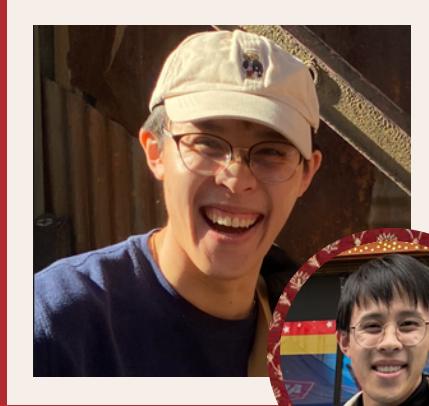
Goals after CUSP: PGY1 residency either general, ambulatory care, or acute care, with a possible pursuit of a PGY2 residency after

Why LDE: Learn didactically on leadership and become a better leader for others and myself, and in the workforce

Hobbies: Acoustic guitar, Basketball, Making music, Running, etc!

Fun Fact: Got hospitalized due to a soft skin tissue infection in my foot due to a spider bite

PHILIP TRAN



Goals after CUSP: Acute care PGY1 residency, Interested in oncology pharmacy

Why LDE: To explore how my personality and values can help me be a more authentic and effective leader.

Hobbies: Petting her dog, Playing any type of word puzzle game

Fun Fact: I was diagnosed with lupus for two weeks because of a false positive. (It's never lupus)

KATELYN TRUONG

LEADERSHIP POSITIONS - STUDENT ORGS

ACCP-SCCP



Vice President



Clinical Development Chair



Clinical Development Chair

VP of Policy



VP of Student Affairs



President



APhA-ASP/ChPA

VP of Finance



VP of Patient Care



SNPhA



President



Vice President

HAP



Secretary

CSHP/ASHP-SSHP



Vice President

IPHO



President

LEADERSHIP POSITIONS - GREEK LIFE & CAMPUS LEADS

KAPPA PSI

Active Brothers: Tien Dinh, Vivian La, Rachel Nguyen, Philip Tran, Katelyn Truong

PHI
LAMBDA
SIGMA

Alex Duong: Secretary/Treasurer
Rachel Nguyen: Sergeant of Arms
Active Members: Vivian La, Alice Oum

PHI DELTA
CHI

Rachel Nguyen: Historian
Active Members: Vivian La, Priscella Sajonas

RHO CHI

Alumni Advisory
Board

Priscilla Sajonas

Assessment
Committee

Alex Duong

STUDENT AMBASSADORS

Tien Dinh
Alex Duong

Rachel Nguyen
Katelyn Truong

Vivian La
Alice Oum

SIs / TUTORS

Vivian La
Rachel Nguyen
Priscilla Sajonas

2024 CUSP Cohort

Where are they now?

Our first inaugural cohort is out in practice as professionals! We are so proud of them and their journeys. Let's see where their leadership training has led them so far!



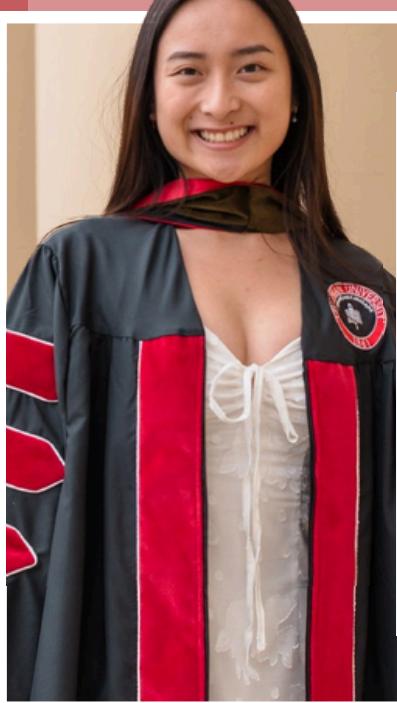
I'm currently finishing up my first year of my Global Regulatory Affairs fellowship, and I've been learning a lot! Industry is a highly collaborative environment, and I find myself employing my leadership and teamwork skills every day. Working in a global regulatory role requires balancing the goals of various functional areas, aligning with regulatory authorities around the world, and prioritizing patients. It's a challenging but rewarding experience, and I'm excited to see where the rest of my fellowship takes me.

Megan Shieh
Global Regulatory Affairs Post-Doctoral Fellow at Takeda

Hi Panthers! I just finished my PGY1 Acute Care Pharmacy Residency at UC San Diego Health. I'm incredibly grateful to have trained at a top academic medical center, an opportunity that wouldn't have been possible without the experiences and mentorship I received at CUSP. Next, I'm excited to be starting my career as an Inpatient Pharmacist at Kaiser San Diego Medical Center! At the same time, it's been rewarding to stay involved with CUSP by serving on the Alumni Advisory Board, where I'm able to give back to a community that gave me so much. To current students: get involved, stay open to new experiences, build strong connections with your peers, faculty, and preceptors, and trust that every challenge is preparing you for something greater. I'm always happy to connect, so please don't hesitate to reach out if you're looking for mentorship, support, or just want to chat!"

Tali Faggiano
Acute Care Resident Pharmacist at UCSD Health



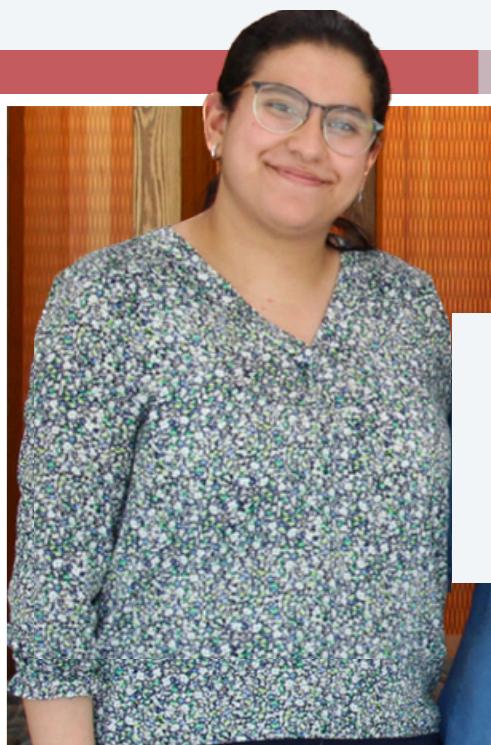


My name is Rosa Le, and I graduated from Chapman University School of Pharmacy in 2024. I recently completed my PGY-1 Pharmacy Residency at Kaiser Permanente Downey Medical Center, where I'll be staying on as an Inpatient Pharmacist. Throughout my journey, being part of the leadership emphasis program helped me develop a strong foundation in leadership, which I now carry forward as the Public Relations Chair for the South Bay/Long Beach Society of Health-System Pharmacists and Vice Regent of the Kappa Psi Anaheim Graduate Chapter. My advice to future students is to actively seek leadership opportunities. They will not only shape your personal growth but also set you apart in your professional journey.

Rosa Le
PGY1 Pharmacy Resident at Kaiser Permanente Downey Medical Center

I was part of the inaugural class for the Leadership Degree Emphasis Program and graduated in May 2024. I initially applied for LDEP because it stood out to me as an environment that supports the idea of growth which prepares students not only in the role of becoming pharmacists, but also in the role of becoming leaders. The program gave me the tools to lead with intention, communicate effectively, and helped me understand my strengths as a leader. The required elective classes focused on Standing as a Leader and Leading Teams, and there were tools we learned which I still use in my career as a pharmacist. I recently completed a PGY-1 at USC and am looking forward to making strides as a pharmacist and leader in the pharmacy field!

Journey Cordero
PGY-1 Pharmacy Residency at the University of Southern California



We wish her the best in her career journeys
from Chapman <3

Mariam Mekhail
Outpatient Pharmacist at Kaiser Permanente

ConGRADulations 2025 Cohort



LDE Class of 2025. I cannot wait to see all the great things you will accomplish in the coming years. We are all so proud of you!"

Dr. Jelena Lewis

Dear LDE Cohort of 2025,
It has been a delight and pleasure working with you throughout the program. I had a lot of fun engaging with you as we went through the journey of leading self and leading teams. I know you will shine no matter where your professional journey takes you! I am excited to see and hear about your successes and achievements; so please stay in touch. My only plea to you is to always have your Personal and Professional Mission Statement handy and specially during difficult times as it can provide you with hope, energy, inspiration, and serve as your North Star.

 With Panther Pride,
Reza Taheri

Dear LDE Class of 2025,

Congratulations on your graduation! It has been a pleasure to work with you, teach you, and learn from you over the past few years. I look forward to hearing of your future success in each of your unique leadership journeys.

Dr. Larissa Bethishou

LDE Class of 2025!

You have come so far, and your commitment to developing as a leader has been evident in every step of your journey with us at Chapman. As you move forward into the next serving come. foundation how chapter, hold true to your values, continue to seek growth while others, and embrace the challenges and opportunities as they While titles and responsibilities will evolve with time, the of your role as a leader is defined by your impact – no matter great or small. You've already made an outstanding impression, and I know you will continue to make your mark on the world. Wishing you all the best for your future!



Dr. Xavier

2027 COHORT

WELCOME



GOOD
LUCK!
- Class of 2026

Lots of Love from the Class of 2026