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11-5-2017

## Attendees Participate in First UM Natural Products Training Lab Course

Whitney Tarpy

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### Recommended Citation

Tarpy, Whitney, "Attendees Participate in First UM Natural Products Training Lab Course" (2017).  
*University of Mississippi News*. 489.  
<https://egrove.olemiss.edu/umnews/489>

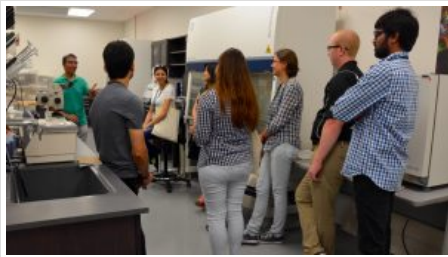
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## Attendees Participate in First UM Natural Products Training Lab Course

Pharmacy school sets next session for February

NOVEMBER 5, 2017 BY WHITNEY TARPY

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Students in the first course of the Natural Products Training Lab at the UM National Center for Natural Products Research learn about the capabilities of the lab's instruments. UM photo by Sydney DuPriest

OXFORD, Miss. – The **University of Mississippi School of Pharmacy** and its **National Center for Natural Products Research** conducted their first course recently in the Natural Products Training Lab, covering various aspects and techniques of botanical authentication.

"I am very pleased with how the first training lab course went," said Ikhlas Khan, NCNPR director. "This will be a great resource moving forward, and I'm looking forward to many more courses in the future."

Over the three-day course, participants from industry and academia at and outside the university learned basic techniques for analyzing natural products using instruments that perform chromatography, microscopy and taxonomy. The course also offered solutions to problems related to authentication and quality issues in real workplaces, while providing practical tools that participants can apply to their own analytical processes.

"The program was definitely an eye-opener for me," said Pei Cee Lim, a visiting scholar at the university. "It showed the importance that different expertise is needed to work together."

The training center includes five laboratories and occupies 3,000 square feet that can be used to teach best practices in natural products and botanical dietary supplements. It is a collaboration between Ole Miss researchers and Waters Corp., with Waters provided several cutting-edge analytical systems and software. These include three liquid chromatography/mass spectrometer systems, as well as an accelerated supercritical fluid extraction system, each designed for various applications.

"The course is organized very well," said Aihua Liu of Genysis Labs. "Trainers are very knowledgeable, patient and teach very well, too."

The next course is scheduled for Feb. 12-16, 2018, and registration is available at <http://pharmacy.olemiss.edu/nptl/>. Both three- and five-day courses will be offered.

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