



January/February 2004

Volume 15 No. 2

Table of Contents

<i>President's Message</i>	1
<i>Executive Director's Corner</i>	2
<i>2004 National Summer Student Research Program</i>	3
<i>Faculty Highlight – University of Manitoba</i>	4
<i>Faculty News</i>	7
<i>C.Ph.A. Report</i>	15

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Greetings to all. I hope this edition of the newsletter finds our members keeping warm, although I'm certain, wishing for warmer weather. Council members are currently preparing for the midyear meeting in Markham, Ontario. The major focus of this year's midyear meeting is to review our mission, clarify our values and determine key strategic directions for AFPC for the next few years. The meeting will be followed by development of action plans and a business plan.

Our Executive Director, Frank Abbott, has been busy the past eight months in his dual role as executive director for both AFPC and ADPC. He has been very diligent in sending regular updates of AFPC activities to councilors for distribution to all members. We hope that this has kept you all well informed of ongoing activities.

The June 2004 annual conference promises to be an interesting joint meeting with CSPA in the lovely city of Vancouver. Our primary joint session focuses on the issue of supply and demand for pharmaceutical scientists in Canada – certainly an area of concern for all of us in academia. Other topics include the scholarship of

teaching and the measurement of educational outcomes. This is a wonderful opportunity for those of us from various areas of teaching and research in pharmacy to come together for fruitful dialogue. We hope to have much participation by way of posters also. The deadline for abstract submission is soon approaching – February 29th.

A reminder of several award deadlines that are upcoming: February 29 as the deadline for the Canadian Foundation for Pharmacy National Student Research poster awards and March 1 is the deadline for the AFPC/GlaxoSmithKline Graduate Student Research Award. I would encourage you all to consider and support applicants for these awards. Photos of past award winners may be found on our website (www.afpc.info).

Your organization has agreed to become a collaborating partner with the Association of Canadian Medical Colleges and the Canadian Hospice Palliative Care Association on a project entitled "Educating Future Physicians in Palliative and End-of-Life Care". While many of the objectives of this project focus on medical students and faculty, one objective involves interdisciplinary curriculum teams which has the potential to impact all of our schools. We were pleased to be invited to participate and will update you on progress.

Finally, I would like to extend thanks to Rebecca Law, who continues to serve as our much appreciated newsletter editor. This volunteer position is one that requires dedication, patience and organization and we appreciate her work. Thanks Rebecca!

Susan Mansour

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S CORNER

In this first newsletter of 2004, let me draw your attention to several deadlines regarding awards and the call for abstracts. The Apotex Undergraduate Pharmacy Practice Research Award Nominations were to be in to your respective Dean by January 15, 2004 and the winners reported to the Executive Director by March 15, 2004. The call for abstracts deadline is February 29, 2004 and the Canadian Foundation for Pharmacy Research Poster Award winners must submit their abstracts by that deadline. CFP winners need to be identified to the Executive Director. The AFPC/GlaxoSmithKline Graduate Student Research Award nominations must be submitted by March 1, 2004. Finally, March 15, 2004 is the deadline for nominations for the Rx & D visitation program, Honored Life Membership, and AFPC President. Please refer to the abstract booklet on the web (<http://afpc.info/awards/awardsbook.html>) for details of the awards and procedures for submitting nominations.

Simon Albon and his organizing committee continue to plan for the Annual Conference to be held in Vancouver, June 10-12, 2004 in the Sheraton

Frank Abbott

Vancouver Wall Centre Hotel. The conference "Connecting Teaching and Research: Moving Beyond Tradition", will open with a banquet on Thursday evening, June 10 with the major award winners making their presentations. Friday, June 11, will consist of the Teachers Conference with two themes, "The Scholarship of University Teaching and Learning" in the morning and "Measuring Educational Outcomes" in the afternoon. On Saturday, June 12 there will be a joint session with the Canadian Society for Pharmaceutical Sciences in the morning and the Pharmacy Practice Research Symposium in the afternoon. The closing banquet is planned for the Museum of Anthropology on the UBC campus. Please mark your calendars. It looks like an excellent program and we are hoping for a large turn out. Please refer to the web site:

<http://afpc.info/conference/programme.html> for more information.

Please do not forget the deadline for abstracts on February 29, 2004. Details for the submission of abstracts may be found at:

<http://afpc.info/conference/callforabstracts.php>.

**ASSOCIATION OF FACULTIES OF PHARMACY OF CANADA/
ASSOCIATION DES FACULTÉS DE PHARMACIE DU CANADA
AFFILIATE MEMBERS 2003/04**

ABBOTT LABORATORIES LTD.

APOTEX INC.

AVENTIS PHARMA INC.

**BRISTOL-MYERS SQUIBB PHARMACEUTICAL GROUP
CANADA'S RESEARCH BASED PHARMACEUTICAL COMPANIES**

**CANADIAN ASSOCIATION OF CHAIN DRUG STORES
CANADIAN GENERIC PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION**

ELI LILLY CANADA INC.

GLAXOSMITHKLINE INC.

JANSSEN-ORTHO INC.

MERCK FROSST CANADA LTD.

NOVOPHARM LTD.

PFIZER CANADA INC.

PHARMACEUTICAL PARTNERS OF CANADA INC.

PHARMACIA CANADA

PHARMASCIENCE

SABEX INC.

TARO PHARMACEUTICALS INC.

WHITEHALL ROBINS INC.



2004 National Summer Student Research Program for Canadian Pharmacy Schools Sponsored by The Merck Company Foundation

Terms of Reference

1. Each Canadian Pharmacy School will receive one studentship worth \$5,000 Cdn (\$4,000 for student salary; \$500 for research supplies; \$500 for travel/lodging to present findings at the Canadian Society for Pharmaceutical Sciences Annual Meeting).
2. The funded student must complete a “hypothesis testing” research project. Projects in all disciplines of Pharmacy (Pharmaceutical Chemistry, Pharmaceutics, Pharmacology, Pharmacy Practice and Clinical Pharmacy) are eligible. *All currently registered “full-time” undergraduate pharmacy students in good standing are eligible for this program. *Note: Students whom have previously held this award are not eligible to receive this award again**
3. Each participating Pharmacy School will choose their own student and sponsoring supervisor and notify the National Director by **March 1st 2004**. If a school does not participate in this program, the funds will be given to another school (first come, first serve). *Each school will be responsible for determining the process by which they choose their student/supervisor representatives to the program. Each school will also be responsible for advertising this program to their students and faculty.*
4. Funds will be released to the school upon notification of student name, supervisor name and title of research project to the National Director (Dr. Kishor Wasan; kwasan@interchange.ubc.ca). **Please send name of school administrator whom the funds should be sent to.**
5. The student will spend 4 months (May 1st to August 31st) completing the research project in the laboratory of the supervisor.
6. Upon completion of the research project the student will submit a 3-page report of their findings in the following format (Introduction, Hypothesis to be tested, Specific Aims, Materials and Methods, Results, Discussion and References) to the National Director by **September 6th 2004**.
7. The student will be required to present their research project in the form of a poster at the following year’s Canadian Society for Pharmaceutical Scientist Annual Meeting (May-June 2004; TBA). Funds to attend this meeting are provided as part of the award for travel and lodging.

Creating a New Home for the Faculty of Pharmacy

The University of Manitoba’s Faculty of Pharmacy is getting ready to move ‘downtown’ to join the faculties of Medicine and Dentistry as part of a broader investment by the university in the education of Manitoba’s future health professionals.

The Faculty of Pharmacy has outgrown its home on the Fort Garry campus. The Faculty recognizes that it must expand and enhance its teaching and research facilities to ensure that it continues to respond to current and future demands for pharmacists, and continues to provide graduates with the skills to serve the needs of a growing health care delivery system.

To accomplish the goal of building a new facility on the Bannatyne campus, the Faculty of Pharmacy is seeking to raise \$17 million through the *Prescription for the Future* fundraising campaign.

The project has already received strong support from government, industry and the wider community. A total of \$7 million has been allocated to the project from the Government of Manitoba’s \$50-million commitment for infrastructure renewal at the university; Procurity Pharmacy Services Inc., one of Canada’s largest pharmacy services providers, has pledged \$1 million to the project.

Pharmacy’s new facility will double teaching and research capacity to 75,000 square feet, enabling the Faculty to increase the number of graduating students. The central location will give students better access to a key sector of Manitoba’s health care delivery system, through closer ties with the Winnipeg Regional Health Authority, major hospitals and local clinics. This move represents the start of enhanced collaboration for health-care practitioners and students in Manitoba, and will benefit not only students of pharmacy, but also all health science students in the province.

The new facility will provide greatly increased space for teaching and research, including advanced lecture theatres, a manufacturing lab, providing hands-on experience in tablet and sterile formulation production, and a pharmaceutical care lab, allowing students to practice their patient counseling skills in a simulated community pharmacy.

With the continuing support of our community, the growth and continued success of the Faculty of Pharmacy can be assured. Support for the project will translate directly into improved health care for Manitobans and Canadians.



RESEARCH

Research in the Faculty of Pharmacy continues to be strong. All of our sixteen full time academic staff have on-going research programs. Support for ongoing research exceeded 2.8 million dollars for full time faculty appointees (FTE) in the 2002-2003 fiscal year.

There were 23 graduate students enrolled in either the M.Sc. or Ph.D. programs in the 2003-2004 academic year. Most of our students obtained funding through graduate studentship competitions held either at the University of Manitoba, provincial, or national levels of competition.

In the last year (2002) faculty members have produced 103 publications as well as numerous presentations on their research work at local, national and international conferences. Faculty members collaborate on numerous projects with scientists world-wide.

Several of our faculty were successful in obtaining very prestigious new research awards and/or renewed their past awards. These include (alphabetical order):

- | | |
|------------------|---|
| Anderson, Hope | CIHR, New Investigator Research Award |
| Gong, Yuewen | CIHR, New Investigator Research Award |
| Gu, Xiaochen | AAPS, New Investigator Research Award |
| Hasinoff, Brian | CIHR, Canada Research Chair in Drug Development Award |
| Kozyrskyj, Anita | CIHR, Senior Research Fellowship |

New Appointments

Dr. Silvia Alessi-Severini, B.Sc. (Pharm) (Parma, Italy), B.Sc. (Pharm Chem and Tech) (Parma, Italy), Ph.D. (Alberta, Canada) has recently accepted a tenure-track position at the assistant professor level in Pharmacy. She obtained her degree in Pharmacy and her degree in Pharmaceutical Chemistry and Technology from the University of Parma (Italy). After moving to Canada she completed her education at the University of Alberta (Edmonton) where she received her Ph.D. (Faculty of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences) and her post-doctoral training (Department of Pharmacology, Faculty of Medicine) as a fellow of the Alberta Cancer Board. Her research work included the development of enantioselective methods applicable to pharmacokinetic studies and the description of intracellular metabolism and kinetics of antineoplastic agents. At the Faculty of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences (University of Alberta), Dr. Alessi-Severini was also the coordinator of the undergraduate toxicology course and a lecturer in the areas of applied pharmacokinetics and evidence-based medicine. She has been a pharmaceutical consultant to Alberta Blue Cross and more recently to Manitoba Health and has been involved with the provincial drug review and approval process since 1996. She has been a member of the Common Drug Review Committee, which developed the national Common Drug Review process. Dr. Alessi-Severini has produced hundreds of reports on new drug products submitted for listing in the Manitoba and Alberta formularies and has

published in the areas of drug analysis, pharmacokinetics and bioequivalence.

Dr. Hope I. Anderson joined the Faculty of Pharmacy (University of Manitoba) as an Assistant Professor and National Centre for Agri-Food Research in Medicine (St. Boniface Hospital Research Centre) in September, 2003. She is a Manitoban who received two degrees from the University of Manitoba: a B.Sc. in microbiology (1992) and a Ph.D. in pharmacology and therapeutics (1997). She then did a post-doctoral fellowship at the Institut de Recherches Cliniques de Montreal (IRCM), where she investigated physical and biochemical mechanisms underlying hypertension-associated vascular disease; that is, structural remodeling, mechanical stiffening, and vasodilatory impairment. In 1999, she began a second post-doctoral fellowship at UCSF, where she studied molecular mechanisms of insulin resistance-associated cardiovascular dysfunction. She has published papers in several journals including the Journal of Pharmacology & Experimental Therapeutics, British Journal of Pharmacology, Hypertension, and Circulation, and she is a recipient of the prestigious CIHR/MRC Centennial Fellowship. Dr. Anderson's research interests lie in understanding (i) the pathophysiological link between insulin resistance and cardiac/vascular disease, and (ii) how this link can be disrupted therapeutically, particularly utilizing nutraceutical agents, to alleviate diabetes-associated cardiovascular disease.



New Staff

Ms. Barbara Becker assumed the position as Development Specialist at the Faculty of Pharmacy effective September 2, 2003. The appointment is for the period of one year. Although Barbara will be under the umbrella of Private Funding, she has been assigned to work exclusively on the fund raising campaign for the Faculty of Pharmacy.

Barbara brings with her over ten years of experience in the area of fundraising. Her position prior to the acceptance of the position here at the University was with the Winnipeg Humane Society as the Director of Development. She was responsible for the implementation of the Humane Society's Campaign

Plan for a new facility. She was involved in all aspects of the Society's current campaign that included management of volunteer resources, identifying prospects, cultivation, solicitation and providing the appropriate recognition. She obtained her certificate as a Certified Fund Raising Executive in 2001 and is known as a motivator, team builder, leader and visionary. Other areas of expertise range from development of a marketing and public relations plans for a non-profit organization, development and management of annual fundraising plan to exceed annual budget objectives, and analyzing, strategizing and forecasting success of fundraising programs for effective financial management.

Barbara Cinnamon – Dean Collins announced that Ms. Barbara Cinnamon of Procurity Pharmacy Services has been appointed as a lecturer.

Barbara Cinnamon graduated from the Faculty of Pharmacy, at the University of Manitoba. She worked in retail pharmacy for a number of years, before joining United Pharmacists Ltd. in 1981 as the Q.P.I.C in charge of narcotics and controlled drugs. As the Professional Practice co-ordinator, she is now responsible for coordinating and conducting clinics in the Counterwise and CounterCare banner stores, as well as writing patient informational articles for these stores, and acting as Procurity’s liaison with the Faculty of Pharmacy.

Barbara has served on numerous committees both in the community and for the profession. She was active in the parent council activities of the schools that her daughter attended, and served as President of the Allard School Parent Council. She was a member of the Manitoba Pharmaceutical Association Professional Relations Committee from 1986 to 1993 and was co-chair of the committee from 1990 to 1993. During this time she worked on all aspects of the committee including, the Medicine Cabinet Clean-up, the Drug Caution Code re-launch, and the kNOw drugs program. She was co-editor of *Communication* magazine from 1995 to 1996 and editor from 1996 to 1999. She joined the Pharmacist-at-Risk in January 1999, and is currently a member of this committee.



Retirements

Mrs. Marian Kremers – the Dean announced that Marian Kremers has tenured a letter of resignation effective June 30. He expressed his regret and that of the faculty.

Marian joined the Faculty of Pharmacy in 1993 as a part-time lecturer responsible for the curriculum development of the 46.120 communications. She was instrumental in receiving funding for the Toastmasters Speechcraft and worked diligently to have it recognized as part of the communications curriculum. This program is still a valued part of the first year experience in the first year skills lab. In 1994 her appointment was increased and she took on the challenge of developing the non-prescription medications course for third year and running the experiential program for the community pharmacy section in all four years. This was the year there were two cohorts going through as the curriculum changed to the 1+4 year basis which presented more than the usual challenge.

She has been involved in the continuous development of skills laboratories in years 2 & 3 beginning with the first year model that was started in 1999 with Dr. Colleen Metge and Dr. Sheri Fandrey.

The Glaxo Pathways program fulfils a part of the requirement for career counselling. Marian was trained as a facilitator for this program in 1994 and has been the facilitator for this each year. From 1995 to 2000 she served on the Pathways advisory board. While doing all this she served as the Manitoba representative to the Board of Directors, Canadian Pharmaceutical Association from 1992-99. From 1995-99, she was Chair of the Publications Committee and in 1997-98 she was elected vice-president

Before joining the Faculty, Marian contributed to various areas of the profession; as a community pharmacist at the Winnipeg Clinic and hospital pharmacist at Seven Oaks Hospital. She served as councillor with The Manitoba Pharmaceutical Association from 1980-82, was the Chair of the Standards of Practice Committee 1985 – 88, Chair, Continuing Education Committee 1977 – 81; Chair, Speakers Bureau as a sub-committee of Professional Relations Committee 1990- present and served on the Discipline Committee 1984 – 94 Chair, 1995 – 97. In 1992 she was awarded the Manitoba Pharmaceutical Association, Pharmacist of the Year award. Marian has been the President of the Manitoba Society of Pharmacists for two years with her term ending in June 2004.

UNIVERSITY OF MANITOBA

Other Appointments and Leaves

Dr. Colin Briggs has been appointed a member of the board of the Natural Health Products Research Society of Canada.

Dr. Sheryl Zelenitsky has been appointed chair of the Infectious Diseases Pharmacy Specialty Network (IDPSN), Canadian Society of Hospital Pharmacists in 2003-2004.

Dr. Colleen Metge was granted a one-year sabbatical leave for the academic year 2003/2004. She is spending it in France working with colleagues at the University of Bordeaux, Department of Pharmacology in the areas of pharmacovigilance, pharmaco-surveillance and pharmacoepidemiology, in particular the OTC use of emergency contraception. As well, Dr. Metge participated in the Health Technology Assessment Consultative Process Meeting of First Health Ministers held in Toronto in December.



Awards

Congratulations to:

Dr. Sheri Fandrey for receiving the 2003 UMSU/UTS Students' Teacher Recognition Award.

Mr. Dennis Cote for the Faculty of Pharmacy Student Recognition of Outstanding Teachers, Second Year.

Dr. Lavern Vercaigne for the Faculty of Pharmacy Student Recognition of Outstanding Teachers, Third Year.

Dr. Sheryl Zelenitsky for the Faculty of Pharmacy Student Recognition of Outstanding Teachers, Fourth Year.

Dr. Sheryl Zelenitsky for the Bristol-Myers Squibb Award for Excellence in Teaching.

Leslie Hoffman (the Faculty's receptionist) who was awarded on January 14, 2004 a Faculty/Staff Access Award from the Disability Services office. These awards are presented to faculty and staff members at The University of Manitoba for outstanding service in providing accommodations for students with disabilities on campus.



CAPSI AWARDS (Canadian Association of Pharmacy Students and Interns)

Congratulations to:

Jonathan Fine, Tannis Produniuk, Christel Johanson, Kevin Le were the winners of the local CAPSI compounding competition and placed fourth in the national competition.

Dieu Ly and Jessica Schroeder were the local winners of the CAPSI Patient Interview Competition.

Tracy Furst won the local CAPSI Student Literary Challenge.

Allison Bell and Jennifer Buffie won the CAPSI Patient Care Counseling Poster Competition.

Research Awards, Grants and Contracts

Dr. Sheryl Zelenitsky was awarded the Canadian Society of Hospital Pharmacists (CSHP) 2003-2004 Merck Frosst Award for her project “Using Translational Research to Assist Therapeutic Decisions in the Management of an Emerging Pathogen”. This award was presented at the 35th Annual Professional Practice Conference on February 2, 2004 in Toronto.

Dr. Hope Anderson received a two year CIHR Senior Research Fellowship Phase 2.

Dr. Hope Anderson received a University of Manitoba Research Grant for her project “Effect of Trivalent Chromium on Endothelial Nitric Oxide Production in the Metabolic Syndrome”.

Dr. Frank Burczynski along with co-investigator Dr. Judy Anderson was successful in obtaining a CIHR Proof of Principle grant for their project “Targeting Nitric Oxide Delivery to Skeletal Muscle to Promote Growth and Repair in Healthy Muscle and Neuromuscular Disease”.

Dr. Frank Burczynski along with co-investigator Dr. Yuewen Gong received a CIHR Operating Grant for their project “The Role of Intracellular Fatty Acid Binding Protein in Oxidative Stress”.

Dr. Yuewen Gong received a three year grant from CIHR in support of his project “Mechanism of Transforming Growth Factor Beta and Smad Signaling in Liver Fibrosis”.

Dr. Yuewen Gong was successful in obtaining a grant for one year from the Health Sciences Centre Research Foundation in support of his project “Mechanism of Dysfunction of the Aorta and Atherosclerosis of Rat Model of the Bile Duct Ligation” with Dr. Hong Ji (Fellowship Award).

Dr. Ruby Grymonpre was awarded a CIHR New Emerging Team (NET) grant with L. Strain, P. Hawranik, and P. St. John This research program will focus on the health and health services use, including use of pharmaceuticals and pharmacy services, of older adults in rural communities.

Dr. Xiaochen Gu (with K. Simons & E. Simons) received funding from Abrika Pharmaceuticals contract for their project “Determination of the Rate and Extent of Absorption of Epinephrine Following Sublingual Administration in an Animal Model”.

Dr. Anita Kozyrskyj was awarded a CIHR New Investigator Research Award. The project title is “Do antibiotics in early life contribute to the development of asthma in children?”



Dr. Mike Namaka is involved in “BEST Study - Observational Study of Treatment with Betaseron for Early Stage Relapsing Remitting Multiple Sclerosis”.

Dr. Mike Namaka received a Non-Restricted Educational Research Grant from the Health Sciences Centre to support his neuroscience research program.

Dr. Mike Namaka obtained funding as a co-investigator from Berex for a study on “Observational Study of Treatment with Betaseron for Early Stage Relapsing Remitting Multiple Sclerosis”.

Dr. Mike Namaka was successful in obtaining funding as a co-investigator from Biogen for a study on “A Multicenter, Prospective and Retrospective Long-Term Observational Study of Avonex and Rebif to Determine the Efficacy, Tolerability, and Safety in Subjects with Relapsing Remitting Multiple Sclerosis”.

Dr. Mike Namaka was successful in obtaining funding as a co-investigator from Bristol Myers Squibb Study for a study on “A Phase II, Randomized, Double-Blind, Placebo-Controlled Study to Evaluate the Preliminary Efficacy, Pharmacokinetics and Immunogenicity of MBS-188667 Administered to Subjects with Relapsing Remitting Multiple Sclerosis”.

Dr. Mike Namaka was successful in obtaining funding from Biogen, Berlex, and Teva Neuroscience for his project “Antigenic Induction of MS via the Dorsal Root Ganglia”.

Dr. Sheryl Zelenitsky obtained a contract with Bayer Inc. for her project “Ciprofloxacin Pharmacodynamics and Clinical Outcome: The Optimal Treatment of Serious Blood Stream Infections”.

Student Research Awards, Studentships and Fellowships

Pinhui Miao (M.Sc. candidate; advisor M. Namaka) was the winner of the Pfizer Canada Inc. Centennial Pharmacy Research Award.

Dr. Ruby Grymonpre's student **Diana Duncan** (currently in fourth year Pharmacy) received the AFPC/Apotex PACE Undergraduate Pharmacy Practice Summer Research Award.

Sreeneeranj Kasichayanula (Ph.D. candidate; advisor X. Gu) received a University of Manitoba Graduate Fellowship for 2003/2004.

Allison Bell (M.Sc. candidate; advisor L. Vercaigne) was offered an University of Manitoba Graduate Fellowship for 2003/2004 and a Manitoba Health Research Council Studentship.

Abeer Elzainy (Ph.D.candidate; advisor K. Simons) has been approved for renewal on her MHRC Graduate Studentship.

Mutasem Rawas-Qalaji (Ph.D. candidate; advisor K. Simons) received a MICH Studentship (Manitoba Institute for Child Health).

Ganesh Rajaraman (Ph.D candidate.; advisor F. Burczynski) was selected as the winner of the Leslie F. Bugge Graduate Scholarship.

Dr. Hong Shen (Dr. Yuewen Gong - supervisor) received the 2004 Canadian Association for the Study of the Liver (CASL)/Hoffmann La Roche Fellowship for one year, with an additional year extension pending CIHR approval



Conferences and Papers

Dr. Frank Burczynski presented "Hepatocyte Oxidative Stress and Liver Fatty Acid Binding Protein" at the American Association for the Study of Liver Disease held in Boston from October 25-28, 2003. He also presented a paper "Intracellular Function of Hepatic Fatty Acid Binding Protein" to the Second Joint Meeting of Promotion of Blood Circulation Research held in Beijing, China from November 22-24, 2003.

Dr. Yuewen Gong presented a paper "Hepatic stellate cells and their application in Chinese Medicine" to the Second Joint Meeting of Promotion of Blood Circulation Research held in Beijing, China (November 22-24, 2003).

Dr. Brian Hasinoff presented "The Antitumor anthracyclines doxorubicin and daunorubicin do not inhibit cell growth through the formation of iron-mediated reactive oxygen species" to the 8th World Congress on Advances in Oncology and 6th International Symposium on Molecular Medicine held in Hersonissos, Crete, Greece on October 16-18, 2003.

Dr. Mike Namaka attended the European Committee for Treatment and Research in Multiple Sclerosis meeting in Milan, Italy, September 17, 2003.

Dr. Sheryl Zelenitsky presented a paper on "The Pharmacodynamics of Meropenem in Febrile Neutropenics with Bacteremia" to the 43rd Interscience Conference on Antimicrobial Agents and Chemotherapy in Chicago in September, 2003.

Dr. Xing Wu (post-doctoral fellow) presented "Structure-activity Relationship Study of the Topoisomerase II and Cell Growth Inhibitory Effects of a Series of Substituted Quinines" to the American Association for Cancer Research held in Washington, D.C., July 11-14, 2003.

Ms. Patricia Caetano (Ph.D candidate; advisor C. Metge) attended the International Society for Pharmacoeconomics and Outcomes Research meeting held in Barcelona, Spain in November 2003.

Ms. Ping Jiang (Ph.D. candidate; advisor C. Briggs and F. Burczynski) presented at the American Association of Pharmaceutical Scientists in Salt Lake City, Oct 27-30, 2003. The title was: "Flavonoids and antioxidant activities in two cultivated buckwheat species".

Ms. Patricia Schroeder (Ph.D. candidate; advisor B. Hasinoff) presented a paper entitled "The metabolism of the doxorubicin cardioprotective agent dexrazoxane (ICRF-187) and its one-ring open intermediates is depressed by the dihydroorotase inhibitor 5-aminoorotic acid" at the American Association for Cancer Research Annual Meeting in Washington, DC, July 11-14, 2003.

Colin Gramlich, (third year Pharmacy student) has a Poster Presentation at the Pharmacy Student Research Conference, Western Region, May 30 and 31, 2003 in Denver, Colorado, titled "HPLC analysis of antioxidant bioflavonoids in buckwheat leaf and seed extracts" by Gramlich, Colin R., Jiang, Ping, and Briggs, Colin J.

DALHOUSIE UNIVERSITY

Individual Faculty News

Susan Bowles was the recipient of the 2003-04 CSHP Pfizer Award in Long-Term Care for the Project “*Economic Evaluation of Oseltamivir for Influenza Post-Exposure Prophylaxis in Long-Term Care.*” Authors: Susan Bowles, Nancy Riseborough, Andrew Simor, Allison McGeer, and Paul Oh.

David Gardner is representing CPhA on the steering Committee of the project “Canadian Collaborative Mental Health Care Project” funded by Health Canada's Primary Health Care Transition Fund (PHCTF). In total 13 national organizations are participating and the project is being led by the College of Family Physicians of Canada.

Ingrid Sketris has been appointed to the Non-Insured Health Benefits, First Nations Inuit Health Branch of Health Canada, Drug Utilization Review Committee.

Ingrid Sketris and Hoan Linh Banh are joint recipients of the 2003-2004 CSHP GlaxoSmithKline (Pharmacy Administration) Award on the basis of the submission, “*Thrombolytic Drug Use in Nova Scotia, Canada: An Application of the World Health Organization's Anatomical Therapeutic Chemical (ATC) / Defined Daily Dose (DDD) Methodology.*” Authors: Ryan Sommers, Ingrid Sketris, George Kephart, Hoan Linh Banh.

Pollen Yeung has been appointed to serve as an Ad Hoc Member of the Health Canada Expert Advisory Committee for Oncology Therapy starting in 2004.



New Grants and Awards

David L. Jakeman was awarded a young investigator award from the Canadian Bacterial Diseases Network (CBDN) for a project titled “*Developing inhibitors of the L-rhamnose biosynthetic pathway.*” As a result of this award he also becomes a member of the CBDN.

Neil MacKinnon (co-PI), Roland Genge (co-PI), Nicole Hartnell, Magdalena Nestel and Kevin McNamara have received funding from the Canadian Society of Hospital

Pharmacists (CSHP) Research and Education Foundation for the study “*Patient & Health Professional Perceptions of Medication Errors: Identifying Contributing Factors and Solutions.*”

Anne Marie Whelan and Susan Bowles received a grant from Merck Frosst Canada Ltd for the project: “*A Critical Review of Natural Health Products for the Management of Osteoporosis.*”



MEMORIAL UNIVERSITY OF NEWFOUNDLAND

General School News

CCAPP conducted a site visit of the School of Pharmacy on October 20 to 22, 2003.

At the recent PDW compounding competition, the team from the Memorial consisting of Ryan Snelgrove, John McIntyre, Michelle Biles, and Tammy Olsson finished second. The Pharmafacts team consisting of Nadine Smith, Ryan Snelgrove, Peter Drodge and Jody Pomeroy placed third. Congratulations!

Applications are invited for two full-time tenure track

appointments in Clinical Pharmacy. The anticipated start date will be July 1, 2004. The deadline for receipt of applications is February 15, 2004. Applicants should submit a letter of interest, curriculum vitae, and the names and addresses of three referees to:

Dr. Linda Hensman, Director
School of Pharmacy
Memorial University of Newfoundland
St. John's, NL, Canada
A1B 3V6



LAVAL UNIVERSITY

Academic Appointments and Promotions

Warm welcome to five new full-time tenure-track professors to start their teaching and research activities at the Faculty: Drs. Frederic Calon (pharmacology of SNC), Paul Poirier (cardiovascular pharmacology), Chantal Simard (pharmacokinetics), Benoît Drolet (cardiovascular pharmacology), and Danielle Laurin (pharmaco-epidemiology). In addition, Drs. Olivier Barbier and Frédéric Picard have also joined the Faculty.

General Faculty News

In November, the Group Apotex announced a \$ 1.5 million donation to the Faculty to support the development of the innovative teaching program known as the **Pharmacy Virtual Intervention Program**. (<http://www.apotex.com/PressReleases/20031103-01.asp>).

In October, more than 200 undergraduate students attended the “5 à 7 de la Recherche” (“An evening on Research”) held by the Faculty on the campus site. New Faculty member, Frederic Calon, shared his personal views on research activities. The evening was hosted by professor Pascal Daleau. Six of our students were given a scholarship grant from the Faculty Fund for Research and Teaching (“Fonds d’enseignement et de recherche” or FER).



New Grants and Grant Renewals

Drs. Olivier Barbier, Chantal Guillemette and Pascal Daleau are all recipients of supports from CIHR.

Dr. Paul Poirier and Michel Dorval obtained grants from FRSQ.

« *Fonds d’enseignement et de recherche de la Faculté de Pharmacie de l’Université Laval* » (“Fund for Research and Teaching” for M.Sc. or Ph.D. degree):

Nina Boucher
(supervisor, Louise Beaulac-Baillargeon)
Jean-François Gagnon
(supervisor, Chantal Guillemette)
Marc Lapointe (supervisor, Roxanne Pouliot)
Joannie Lepire
(supervisor, Chantal Guillemette)
Pascal Roberge (supervisor, Juliana Juhasz)
Patrice Brassard (supervisor, Paul Poirier)

Individual Faculty News

Barbeau G., Mallet L., Grenier L. The second edition of the book entitled “Manuel de soins pharmaceutiques en gériatrie” has been released and is now available in many bookstores or can be ordered at Les Presses de l’Université Laval (www.ulaval.ca/pul). Professor Gilles Barbeau served as Editor for this book. Thanks to GlaxoSmith Kline Inc. for their support with a non-restrictive grant.

Professor Gilles Barbeau received the prestigious “Prix de la pharmacie francophone” from the French National Academy of Pharmacy. Dr. Barbeau was honoured during the bicentennial celebrations of the Academy, held in Paris, November 20th.

Dr. Chantal Guillemette was awarded a research chair in pharmacogenomics by the Canadian Institutes of Health Research.

Dr. Pierre Gagnon received the 2003 Dorothy J. Lamont Scientist Award, given by the National Cancer Institute of Canada. This award is given annually to the top-ranking applicant for the research scientist award in the behavioural / psychosocial / cancer control research category. (<http://www.ncic.cancer.ca>).

Karine Marquis (supervisor, Paul Poirier)
Jean Thibaudeau
(supervisor, Chantal Guillemette)
Maryvonne Le Saux, Ph.D.
(supervisor, Thérèse DiPaolo)

« *R&D grants from Industrial Partners* »

In November, 45 students (first to fourth year, B.Sc program) received financial support for various academic projects from our generous industrial partners. For further information please see the website <http://new-www.pha.ulaval.ca>

« *CIHR* »

Isabelle Plante, Ph.D.
(supervisor, Pascal Daleau)
Hugo Girard, Ph.D.
(supervisor, Chantal Guillemette)

UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA

Academic Appointments

Dr. Kamaljit Kaur is our newest tenure-track member in Medicinal Chemistry. The appointment is effective April 2004. Kamaljit Kaur received her undergraduate education from India, and her PhD in bioorganic chemistry from Case Western Reserve University, Cleveland, Ohio. After a postdoctoral stint at Wesleyan University in Connecticut, she immigrated to Canada in 2001. At Wesleyan she worked with Rex Pratt on design of antibacterial agents targeted toward penicillin resistant bacteria. Prior to joining the Faculty of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences, she did postdoctoral work on antimicrobial peptides (bacteriocins) with John Vederas in the Department of Chemistry, University of Alberta.

The research interests of Dr. Kaur are in Bioorganic and Medicinal Chemistry with emphasis on inhibitor design, enzyme mechanism, and molecular modeling. She is also interested in understanding the mechanism of lipid modification in low-density lipoprotein (so called bad cholesterol) during plaque formation.



General Faculty News

The new integrated BSc Pharmacy curriculum received final University approval in November and the first year will commence in September 2004.

New Grants and Grant Renewals

Dr. Dion Brocks received a new three-year grant from CIHR. The title of the grant is 'The influence of lipids on the pharmacokinetics and pharmacodynamics of some representative highly lipophilic, cytochrome P-450 3A substrates'.

Graduate Students

Saeidreza Harirfooroosh (Supervisor Dr. F Jamali) successfully passed his candidacy exam on December 16, 2003.

Undergraduate Students

Christal Lacombe was awarded the 2003 Commitment to Care Student Leadership Award.

Ms. Lorraine Deydey has formally accepted the position of Research Facilitator for the Faculties of Pharmacy & Pharmaceutical Sciences and Law.

Individual Faculty News

Mavanur Suresh is a 2003 recipient of a Louis D. Hyndman Sr. Award sponsored by the Office of the Vice-President (Research). This award recognizes an outstanding contribution to improving the welfare of animals used in research on campus.

Dr. David Feeny conducted a workshop on Interpreting Utility (preference-based) Measures of Health Related Quality of Life with George Torrance at the 10th Annual Conference of the International Society for Quality of Life research in Prague, Czech Republic. Sheri Maddigan was awarded the Best Poster Presentation by a new investigator. Simon Pickard was awarded the best oral presentation by a new investigator.

Naomi Baker was chosen as the Faculty's winner of the 2003-4 CAPSI-Apotex Student Literary Challenge.

Professional Development Weekend Winners

Wei Pan, Travis Titcomb, Jill Yates and Catherine Jordison received first place in the Compounding Competition.

Paula Crowe placed second in the Patient Interview Competition.

Melissa Chung and John Greiss placed second in the Pharmaceutical Care Case Presentation.

Andrea Tannas, Colleen Gustafson, Kim Tomnelen and Mike Thompson placed first in the Pharmafacts Bowl.



UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

Appointments

Mary Ensom was appointed to the Honorary Editorial Board of the international journal, Clinical Pharmacokinetics.

Peter Zed, Clinical Pharmacotherapeutics Specialist - Emergency Medicine was appointed to the Editorial Board of the Annals of Pharmacotherapy as a member of the Emergency and Trauma Medicine section.

Bruce Carleton was appointed Adjunct Associate Professor, in the School of Health Information Science, at the University of Victoria for the period July 1st, 2003 to June 30th, 2006.

Kishor Wasan was re-appointed to the CIHR Pharmaceutical Sciences Operating Grant Review Committee for the period July 1st, 2003 to June 30th, 2004.

Kishor Wasan received a five-year "CIHR University-Industry Research Chair in Pharmaceutical Development" co-sponsored by CIHR and Forbes Medi Tech Inc., effective December 1st, 2003.

Bruce Carleton was selected as a Member of the Canadian Expert Drug Advisory Committee (CEDAC).



Kishor Wasan was selected to be an honorary member of the UBC Chapter of the Golden Key International Honour Society. This selection was based on Dr. Wasan's dedication and efforts symbolized by the Golden Key's main purposes of promoting student scholastic and personal development and enriching the quality of UBC's education and research.

Mary Ensom received the Faculty's first Distinguished University Scholar appointment for an initial term of five years. The guidelines for the Distinguished University Scholar program state that it has been designed to recognize outstanding members of faculty of exceptional merit who have distinguished themselves as scholars in research and/or teaching and learning.

Leela John accepted the position of Assistant Professor, Clinical Pharmacy, and Clinical Coordinator, Pharm.D. Program, Faculty of Pharmaceutical Sciences, UBC commencing November 17.

Jennifer Shabbits has been appointed Sessional Lecturer, Part-time, Division of Pharmaceutics &

CEDAC represents an important step in the establishment of the permanent CDR in Canada and in the implementation of a process for making common listing recommendations to participating Canadian publicly-funded drug plans.

Peter Loewen of Vancouver Hospital CSU Pharmaceutical Sciences was conferred a Fellow by the Canadian Society of Hospital Pharmacists which recognizes sustained contribution to the profession of institutional pharmacy and excellence in the domains of patient care, teaching and research.

Marc Levine was appointed as Chair of the Clinical Research Review Committee at Children's and Women's Hospitals and as an Editor of the journal, The Annals of Pharmacotherapy.

Kishor Wasan was elected Chair of the Lipid-Based Focus Group of the American Association of Pharmaceutical Scientists from November 2003 to November 2005.

Tom Chang was re-appointed to the CIHR Pharmacology and Toxicology Grant Review Committee for 2003-2004.

Biopharmaceutics, from August 25th, 2003 to May 4th, 2004.

Jamal Kurtu was appointed as a Research Assistant for the Faculty's Animal Care Services effective August 5, 2003.

Josie Lim was appointed Financial Coordinator for the Faculty effective August 5, 2003.

Maria Lee was appointed as the new Development Coordinator for the Faculty of Pharmaceutical Sciences effective September 29th, 2003.

Jamal Kurtu accepted the new role of Facilities Coordinator and Research Technician for the Faculty. He will also continue as supervisor and coordinator for our animal care facilities.

Joe de Sa has joined the Continuing Pharmacy Education team as a Programme Assistant.

Awards

Gail Bellward received the 2003 "Women of Distinction" award in the Healthy Living category, from the YWCA. Highlighted at the ceremony was Gail's research work into environmental toxicity leading to new provincial rules on the amount of dioxin B.C.'s pulp mills can release and alternative treatments for heroin addicts.

Mary Ensom received the "Best Poster Award" at the Canadian College of Clinical Pharmacy 2003

Simon Albon received the 2003 Association of Faculties of Pharmacy of Canada (AFPC) Bristol-Myers Squibb National Award for Excellence in Education at the AFPC Annual General Meeting in Montreal, June 2003.

John McNeill received the 2003 University of British Columbia Killam Teaching Prize in Pharmaceutical Sciences at the May Convocation ceremony.

Ric Procyshyn received the 2003 Graduating Class Master Teacher Award in Pharmaceutical Sciences at the Dean's Graduation ceremony.

Peter Zed (Clinical Pharmacy Specialist, Pharmaceutical Sciences Clinical Service Unit) and his investigative team in the Emergency Department of Vancouver General Hospital were awarded the Canadian Society of Hospital Pharmacy BC Branch Pharmacy Practice Award for their research entitled, "Patient Satisfaction with an Emergency Department-based Outpatient Deep Vein Thrombosis Treatment Program".

Mary Ensom competed as one of the six finalists (out of a total of 329 posters) for the Best Poster Award at the American College of Clinical Pharmacy 2003 Annual Meeting in Atlanta GA (Nov 2-5, 2003) and won first place for her poster: "MHH Ensom, E Houlihan, PJ Ballem, MD Stephenson. Treatment of Antiphospholipid Antibody Syndrome in Pregnancy: A Randomized Pilot Trial Comparing Dalteparin to Unfractionated Heparin".

Evan Kwong, a M.Sc. student in the Faculty (co-supervisors: Marc Levine and Tom Chang), was awarded "le troisieme prix" (3rd prize, \$1000) as one of 12 graduate students from across Canada selected to present their work at the Next Generation CIHR/BioContact-Quebec 2003 Conference held October, 1-3 in Quebec City. The title of Evan's presentation was "Pharmacogenetics of codeine bioactivation in pediatric dental patients: development of a real-time, rapid-cycle PCR method for CYP2D6*10 genotyping".

Elaine Chong, Robert Balen and Peter Jewesson have been awarded the Pharmacy Practice Commitment to Care Award for Technological Innovation for their project entitled, "Facilitating Continuing Education via Streaming Media in a Large Canadian Tertiary Care Teaching Hospital".

Jennifer Shabbits was the recipient of the Lloyd Skarsgard Research Excellence Prize for her graduate research at the BC Cancer Agency entitled, "Therapeutic applications of ceramide lipids for apoptosis induction". Jennifer presented a summary of her research at the BC Cancer Agency Annual Conference.



General Faculty News

The second annual provincial "Pharmaceutical Compounding Basics and Beyond Conference" was held on Saturday, June 7th and Sunday, June 8th, at UBC. The program, offered in response to the overwhelming demand demonstrated by pharmacists, was attended by thirty-eight enthusiastic compounding participants. The 2-day conference program consisted of didactic lectures and hands-on compounding lab activities drawing on the expertise of practitioners from around the province.

The Alan C. Hayman Summer Student Research Program (SSRP) Poster Competition was held on Thursday, October 2nd, in the Instructional Resources

Centre Upper Lobby. Seventeen summer students participated in the 2003 competition.

The 5th annual UBC Pharmacy Neema Golf Tournament took place on September 5th at the Eaglequest Musqueam Golf Course. The 29 participants teed off at 4pm on a beautiful sunny evening, for nine holes, and then enjoyed a wonderfully prepared buffet. The winner of the golf tournament was the faculty team, consisting of Gail Bellward, Joan Cosar, John Bethel and Brian Rodrigues. All proceeds go towards the Neema Project in Tanzania, Africa.

New Grants June 2003 – January 2004

Frank Abbott has received funding from Merck Frosst Research Laboratories to support academic programs in drug metabolism and pharmacokinetics.

Kishor Wasan has received a grant in aid from Forbes Medi-Tech Inc. for his project entitled, "Assessing cholesterol and lipid soluble vitamins bioavailability following oral administration of various plant sterols (phytosterols) to rats".

Bruce Carleton with co-applicants Charmaine Dean, Mark Fitzgerald, Malcolm MacLure and Sebastian Schneeweiss) have received funding for their project entitled, "Modelling trends and regional variations in asthma medication and health service utilization to improve care".

Medication Info BC has received funding from Astra Zeneca and Sanofi-Synthelabo Canada.

Wayne Riggs has received funding from the CIHR the project entitled, "Nutrition, Metabolism and Diabetes".

Kishor Wasan has received funding from Forbes Medi Tech Inc. for a new grant-in-aid project entitled "Effects of FM-VP4 and other VPx Analogues on Mdr1 expression and activity within Caco-2 cells".

Grant Renewals June 2003 – January 2004

Thomas Chang has received renewed funding from CIHR for his project entitled "Metabolic effects of nutraceuticals".

Kishor Wasan has received renewed funding from Forbes Medi-Tech Inc. for his grant-in-aid project entitled, "Assessing cholesterol and lipid soluble vitamins bioavailability following oral administration of various plant sterols to rats".

Kishor Wasan has received funding from Elan Pharmaceuticals Inc. for his research project entitled, "Assessing the Antifungal Activity of Amphotericin B Lipid complex following co-administration of caspofungin in experimental systemic aspergillosis".

TAKING NOTE

CPHA REPORT



I am pleased to report on the CPhA Board of Directors meetings, held October 17-19, 2003, and on several developments since that time.

NIHB and Methadone

Board members received reports on CPhA's recent government relations activities. Foremost was CPhA's work in collaboration with provincial pharmacy organizations to counteract a non-negotiated change of reimbursement policy for methadone by Health Canada's Non-Insured Health Benefits (NIHB). Although the past weeks and months have seen unprecedented levels of activity in government relations and media, more hard work is going to be needed on this issue.

International Prescription Services

There has also been a great swirl of media activity around the cross border drug trade in the past few weeks and months. CPhA has been called or interviewed by virtually every major media outlet in Canada, as well as several international outlets (*Time*, *New York Times*, *Wall Street Journal*, *Globe and Mail*, *National Post*, *Canadian Press*, *Toronto Star*, national public radio in the US, *Reuters*, *Associated Press*, CBC television (the National and Newsworld), CBC radio (English, French and international), *Macleans*. Frontline pharmacists in Manitoba concerned with the issue have also been very active and effective with media.



Everyone's hard work appears to be paying off. Editorials are now supporting the position we've been taking all along: that Canadians have reason to be concerned. Whether they quote CPhA directly or not, they have likely spoken with us, and heard our side, and the media is now posing our questions to government. Health Canada issued a letter October 27 pointing out that Canadians could face drug shortages as a result of the cross border drug trade. Things don't happen in isolation, and the fact that this correspondence comes now is in large part due to the media's focus on the issue. While Health Canada's response doesn't go far enough, we are responding directly and asking them to take a leadership role since this is a national issue. (To view CPhA's Statement on International Prescription Services and Distance Provision of Pharmaceuticals, visit the CPhA website at www.pharmacists.ca.)

Privacy

As of January 1, 2004, health care in Canada must comply with the Personal Information Protection and Electronic Documents Act (PIPEDA). Because the legislation is vague and subject to wide variation in interpretation, CPhA's Ethics Review Committee

developed a "Pharmacist's Health Information Privacy Code" to deal with PIPEDA's requirements. CPhA is also working with other health care associations, Health Canada and the Office of the Federal Privacy Commissioner to develop communications to clarify the responsibilities of health care providers with respect to health information privacy protection.

On December 19th the [Privacy section of the CPhA website](#) became accessible. At the present time the tools which are available on the site include: Guidelines for Pharmacists on Complying With the Pharmacist's Privacy Code and PIPEDA; a sample brochure, and a sample wall chart.

All of these were reviewed by a lawyer and by the Office of the Privacy Commissioner. Additional privacy information is being developed and will be made available in the members-only section: case scenarios, teaching slides, and, potentially a chat line. CPhA's Privacy Code has been reviewed by our lawyers and is awaiting final Board approval in January.



Marijuana

During the past few months, as Health Canada attempts to find a solution to distribute clinical grade marijuana, the media have focused on marijuana for medical use and the pharmacist's role. CPhA has met with Health Canada, representatives of other pharmacy organizations and the Canadian Medical Association to discuss concerns.

At its October meeting, the CPhA Board approved a position statement on medical marijuana. CPhA only supports marijuana for medical use when clinical evidence is available to demonstrate its efficacy and safety. When such evidence exists, CPhA would support pharmacists distributing this medication in the same manner as narcotics or other controlled drugs. Under Health Canada's Medical Marijuana Access Regulations, CPhA only supports pharmacists' involvement if provided within appropriately structured clinical trials. To view the statement, visit the CPhA website (www.pharmacists.ca).

Primary Health Care Transition Fund

CPhA is a partner in two interdisciplinary collaborative primary care projects funded by Health Canada's Primary Health Care Transition Fund, and has recently received notice of funding support for a third project related to e-Therapeutics:

Enhancing Interdisciplinary Collaboration in Primary Health Care (EICPHC): This project is being led by the Canadian Psychological Association. The budget is \$6.6 million over the next 27 months. Barry Power will be the CPhA representative on this steering committee. The project's goals are: to develop a set of guiding Principles and a Framework to enhance interdisciplinary collaboration in PHC; to have the Principles and Framework broadly supported by PHC practitioners (as evidenced through their ratification by the National Organizations); and, to support the National Organizations and other stakeholders in the implementation of the Principles and Framework.

Canadian Collaborative Mental Health Care Project: This project is being led the College of Family Physicians of Canada. The budget is \$3.8 million over the next 27 months. David Gardner (Associate Professor in Pharmacy at Dalhousie University) will be CPhA's lead representative on this project. The goals of this project are to compile information related to current collaborative care practice and identification of gaps including: components that make collaborative care a successful approach to meeting the mental health needs of residents of Canada; roles and responsibilities of health care professionals, consumers and communities utilizing collaborative care approaches; barriers to collaborative mental health care; and, educational needs of health care professionals utilizing collaborative care approaches.

CPhA e-Therapeutics Project

CPhA is pleased to announce that it has been awarded an \$8.8 million contribution from the Primary Health Care Transition Fund, Health Canada. The funding will be used to build the infrastructure for digital drug therapy management tools for primary health care physicians, pharmacists, nurses and others. Building on CPhA's key publications, *Therapeutic Choices* and *Patient Self-Care*, and using content from *CPS* product



New Practitioners

CPhA has been launching a number of initiatives to make itself more relevant to new practitioner members. New practitioner members have been appointed to committees, a seat on the Board for members will be up for election in 2004 and a New Practitioners Award has been added to CPhA's awards program. The Board also approved the criteria for the New Practitioners Award. The award will be offered to new practitioner members (licensed to practice no more than 5 years) who have demonstrated leadership through involvement in organized pharmacy or through professional pharmacy activities. The award will include \$1000, travel and complimentary registration to the CPhA conference in Niagara Falls May 15-18, 2004 and opportunities for the award winner to meet and network with national pharmacy leaders. This award will provide opportunities for new practitioners to make contacts and to become involved in the national pharmacy scene.

Pharmacist Awareness Week

Pharmacist Awareness Week is March 1-7, 2004. This year's theme is: *Make the most of your medicine... Talk to your pharmacist (Profitez au maximum de vos*

monographs and other sources, the tools will support better decision-making, better utilization and, therefore, better health outcomes for Canadians.

As well as receiving support from, and partnering with, a number of medical and nursing organizations and provincial governments in Alberta and Nova Scotia, CPhA will work closely on the project with the Canadian Coordinating Office for Health Technology (CCOHTA), the Canadian Institute for Health information (CIHI) and Canada Health Infoway.

The PHCTF contribution will be provided over 27 months. This will fund the creation of state-of-the-art information technology solutions to deliver up-to-date drug and patient safety information to primary health care practitioners at point of care. The tools created will provide evidence-based support for therapeutic decision making.

This funding is recognition of the Canadian Pharmacists Association's expertise in developing and publishing drug and therapeutic information. A particularly important aspect is the Association's ability to build effective partnerships across a wide range of stakeholders.

medicaments... Parlez-en à votre pharmacien(ne)). CPhA is issuing the PAW-Just Checking challenge, asking every pharmacist to conduct a Just Checking medication review with one patient per day during PAW. Participants can enter to be eligible for a draw for several fabulous prizes. CPhA will also be making available a questionnaire for pharmacists to hand out to caregivers of elderly family members, which seeks to highlight simple issues that the pharmacist can help with. It is intended to initiate dialogue between pharmacists and this sector of society that can really benefit from their pharmacists' care.

For More Information

These are but a few of the activities with which the Board and CPhA has been involved. For more information on any topic, or if you have an area of concern that you would like to bring forward, please contact me. The next meeting of the Board is February 28-29, 2004.

Sincerely
Linda Suveges
(linda.suveges@usask.ca)

Contributors

Susan Mansour, President
<*smansour@Kilcom1.UCIS.Dal.Ca*>

AFPC Councillors:

Roy Dobson, U of S
<*rtd124@duke.usask.ca*>

Jean Lefebvre, U Laval
<*Jean.Lefebvre@crchul.ulaval.ca*>

Sheila Kelcher, U of A
<*skelcher@pharmacy.ualberta.ca*>

Simon Albon, UBC
<*trout@unixg.ubc.ca*>

Zubin Austin, U of T
<*zubin.austin@utoronto.ca*>

Anne Marie Whelan, Dalhousie U
<*anne.marie.whelan@dal.ca*>

Ema Ferreira, U de MontrJal
<*ema.ferreira@umontreal.ca*>

M.P. Namaka, U of M
<*namakamp@ms.umanitoba.ca*>

Lili Wang, Memorial U
<*lwang@pharm.mun.ca*>

Frank Abbott, Executive Director
<*fabbott@interchange.ubc.ca*>
<*fabbott@telus.net*>

Linda Suveges, AFPC Representative,
CPhA Board of Directors
<*linda.suveges@usask.ca*>

Editor

Rebecca M. Law, Memorial U of
Newfoundland
<*rlaw@pharm.mun.ca*>
