



AFPC COMMUNICATION

Association of Faculties of Pharmacy of Canada

Association des Facultés de Pharmacie du Canada

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Since our Annual General Meeting of last June 2004, in Vancouver, the AFPC Council working committees and task forces have made good progress on key issues in pharmacy education in Canada.

To highlight a few achievements:

- 1) The task force on educational outcomes for the entry-level Pharm. D. degree is about to complete its mandate and will present a revised report at the midyear meeting of Council in February. Revisions to the report are based on feedback and comments received from the Faculties and other stakeholders.
- 2) The Council has recently defined measures through which it could work to raise the

visibility and profile of AFPC by increasing collaborative work with faculty members and students. These approaches will be further refined at the strategic planning session in February.

An important mandate of AFPC is the realisation of its Annual Conference, which represents a gathering of delegates from the Faculties, from practice sites and other settings dedicated to pharmacy education. From June 24-26 2005, the AFPC conference will be hosted by the College of Pharmacy and Nutrition of the University of Saskatchewan. The theme of the conference "Interdisciplinary collaboration in teaching and research" is timely subject matter. Whereas interdisciplinary collaborative work in research may be associated with a longer working history, interdisciplinary collaboration within education is now emerging and facing many challenges. The Teacher's Conference will address these challenges and seek to discover how we prepare our students and ourselves for interdisciplinary collaboration in education. This year, the Annual Conference is also joined with the 6th International Conference in Life Long Learning in Pharmacy.

I am certainly looking forward to seeing many of you in Saskatoon next June.

Very best personal regards,

Sylvie Marleau
President, AFPC

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S CORNER

My very best wishes to colleagues and friends as we begin the New Year. At the top of the list, congratulates are due to President Elect Zubin Austin and Marie Rocchi Dean of the Leslie Dan Faculty of Pharmacy, University of Toronto, for their recently published paper in the American Journal of Pharmacy Education. The article titled, "Bridging Education in Pharmacy: The International Pharmacy Graduate Program in Ontario, Canada" appears in the 2004, Volume 68, Issue No. 5, of the Journal. You may access the Journal on line at <http://www.ajpe.org/volsIssues/issueView.asp?vol=68&issue=05>. Congratulations are also in order for Simon Albon and Harry Hubball of the University of British Columbia for their article titled "A Learning-Centered Course in Pharmaceutical Analysis" that also appeared in this same issue of the American Journal of Pharmacy Education.

Conference: Roy Dobson and his organizing committee continue to plan for the 2005 Annual Conference and Meetings to be held in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan at the Bessborough Hotel. The meetings are a bit later this year, occurring on June 24-26 just prior to the International Life Long Learning in Pharmacy Conference that will be held on the University of Saskatchewan campus from June 26-29, 2005. Preliminary details of the conference and information regarding registration costs have been posted on the Web Site at <http://www.afpc.info/conference/>. Online registration for both conferences will be handled by the same organization. Details will soon be available. Make plans to attend both conferences and enjoy the beautiful city of Saskatoon and that great Prairie hospitality. The call for abstracts for the AFPC Conference should be made in the very near future.

Midyear Meetings: The AFPC Council and Executive will be holding their midyear business meeting in Toronto on February 12-13, 2005. The Association of Deans of Pharmacy will be holding

AFPC Awards: Applications for the Merck Frosst Fellowship Award, the AstraZeneca New Investigator Award, the Janssen-Ortho Pharmaceutical Research Award, and the Bristol-Myers Squibb National Education Award are now being processed. 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, 2005. The GlaxoSmithKline Graduate Student Research Award nominations must be submitted to the Executive Director by March 1, 2005. Finally, March 15, 2005 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 page at <http://www.afpc.info/awards/awardsbook.php> for details of the awards and procedures for submitting nominations.

their midyear meeting and strategic planning session in Cambridge, Ontario on February 15-16, 2005. Contact the Executive Director's Office for further details.

Proceedings 2004: Please note that an electronic copy of the 2004 Proceedings was recently sent out to AFPC Council representatives for distribution to faculty members. A copy of the Proceedings is also posted on the AFPC Web site at <http://www.afpc.info/news/pastproceedings.php>

A note about Ken Ready: It was a shock to learn of the passing of Ken Ready in November of 2004. Ken served us well as Executive Director of AFPC from 1996 to 1999. This service to academia was but one duty in a versatile and dedicated career that Ken gave to the pharmacy profession. A fitting tribute to Ken that details many of his contributions to pharmacy appears in this newsletter. Our thanks to Merry Beazely and Linda Suveges of the College of Pharmacy and Nutrition, University of Saskatchewan for preparing this tribute to Ken. He will be missed.

**ASSOCIATION OF FACULTIES OF PHARMACY OF CANADA/
ASSOCIATION DES FACULTÉS DE PHARMACIE DU CANADA
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Executive Director

TRIBUTE TO MR. KEN READY

Ken Ready, former Executive Director of the AFPC, passed away suddenly on November 16, 2004. Just a month prior to his death, Ken was awarded the University of Saskatchewan's 2004 Alumni Service Award, in recognition of his outstanding volunteer leadership and service to the University and the Alumni Association. The program for this special event read "Mr. Ready's life achievements are best described in terms of his generous service to others and his limitless hospitality."

Ken graduated from the U of S in 1953 with a Bachelor of Science degree in Pharmacy, and began a career in retail pharmacy, first as manager of Peter's Second Avenue Drug Store and then as owner and manager of Ready's Pharmacy from 1956-1986. Ken was invited to teach the drug store management course at the U of S for the 1954-55 academic year. He went on to teach Pharmacy 415 for four decades. In 1986, Ken's role in the College expanded when he became Assistant and then Associate Professor Without Term. He took on added responsibilities in the clinical dispensing, pharmacy seminar and clinical clerkship courses, and served as Director of Continuing Pharmacy Education. In 1987, Ken received the Squibb Master Teacher Award. He contributed to numerous College and University committees, notably in the University Advancement area, was a member of a Dean's Search Committee and coordinated a Pharmacology course for seniors.



Ken retired from the University in 1995 and accepted the position of Executive Director of the Association of Faculties of Pharmacy of Canada. Under his leadership, the AFPC became one of Canada's strongest national pharmacy organizations.

Throughout his career, Ken worked tirelessly and effectively to enhance his chosen profession. His active involvement with the Saskatchewan Pharmaceutical Association began in 1970 when he was elected Councilor, a position he held for ten years. He Served as Chair of the Education Committee, Member of the Executive Committee, Vice-President and President of the Association. He represented SPhA in a host of other capacities: as Member of the U of S Senate, Founding

Committee Member of the Saskatchewan Prescription Drug Plan, Pharmacy Negotiations Committee, Pharmacy Claims Appeal Committee and on the Pharmacy Examining Board of Canada where he served as Chair of the Finance Committee, Member of the Executive, Vice-President and President. In 1983, Ken was selected as SPhA's first *Pharmacist of the Year*, and in 1995 his outstanding contributions were recognized with an Honorary Life Membership.

Ken was very active on the national scene as well, serving the Canadian Pharmaceutical Association as Saskatchewan Board Member, Chair of the Publications Committee, Member of the Executive Committee, President-Elect, Chair of the Awards Committee, Member of the Council of Delegates, Theme Speaker and President.

Perhaps the memory of Ken most treasured by all was the wonderful accompaniment he provided for the three to four hour sing-alongs during the annual Saskatchewan night at CPhA conventions. Ken was also honoured with a Life Membership by CPhA

In 1990, Ken became Chairman of the Nominating Committee for the Canadian Academy of the History of Pharmacy, and he later accepted the position of Secretary-Treasurer for that same organization.

Community service was a major part of Ken's life. He was a long-time member of the Kiwanis Club of Saskatoon and served as its President. He particularly enjoyed assisting with the Kiwanis-sponsored Cosmopolitan Rhythm Band, whose members are individuals who have varying degrees of disability. In 1991, Ken was honoured as the

Kiwanian of the Year. He served as Steward, Elder and Member of Council for the Second Street United Church.

In addition to his outstanding career and service accomplishments, Ken was a talented musician and square dance instructor, a passionate golfer and a keen U of S Huskies' supporter. But the role of which he was most proud was that of husband to Mary, dad to Scott, Kirk and Shelley and grandpa to his four grandchildren.

Ken's dedication and significant contributions to the profession of Pharmacy will long be remembered, as will his generosity, wonderful sense of humor and exceptional spirit. We will treasure our memories of him and will miss him a great deal.

Merry Beazely and Linda Suveges

On behalf of the Faculty and Staff, College of Pharmacy and Nutrition, University of Saskatchewan

WORKING TO CREATE AND IMPLEMENT A LEARNING-CENTRED UNDERGRADUATE CURRICULUM IN PHARMACEUTICAL SCIENCES

In the fall of 2003, the Faculty of Pharmaceutical Sciences at U.B.C. implemented a new learning-centred undergraduate curriculum. This article summarizes the events leading up to the launching of this program and provides a current perspective after two years of its initial implementation.

Motivation for Change

Curriculum reform is an effortful and taxing process. In order for a Faculty to willingly engage in such a process, there must be considerable motivation for change. In 1997/98, the Faculty of Pharmaceutical Sciences at U.B.C. was motivated to engage in curriculum reform when U.B.C. published a campus-wide Academic Plan that called on all Faculties to shift to a more learning-centred educational program. In addition, the current curriculum did not meet the requirements of the Canadian Council on Accreditation of Pharmacy Programs (CCAPP) that Pharmacy curricula be structured around ability-based outcomes. Finally, students, pharmacy practitioners and faculty were

dissatisfied with a content-driven rather traditional curriculum that did not prepare students well for Pharmacy practice.

A learning-centred curriculum is one that places emphasis on learning communities, curriculum integration, diverse pedagogues and clearly defined learning outcomes.

There are several benefits to a learning-centred curriculum that have been motivational throughout higher education as universities move forward in enhancing the education students receive. When a program of study is learning-centred, it informs learners of what they can expect to achieve from a program, it communicates the goals of the program in a meaningful way to a broader community, and it guides instructors and curriculum committees to determine course offerings, content selection, delivery and assessment strategies.

Planning and Implementing the Curriculum

Once the Faculty agreed to engage in curricular reform, a curriculum committee was formed out of faculty members who were interested in participating in this work. Further, to ensure that the curriculum re-design process was grounded in pedagogy and best practices, the curriculum Chair sought the assistance of a faculty member from Education with research and practical experience in curriculum development. The consultant's role in this context was to work collaboratively with the curriculum committee to develop a conceptual framework and strategic approach to engage the academic unit to create a learning community, to determine analysis of needs and collectively define, rationalize, re-design and implement a learning-centred curriculum.

At this point, the entire faculty was engaged collectively, and through disciplinary streams, in open-dialogue and needs analysis pertaining to the curriculum reform process. This was particularly effective through "Town hall" meetings (that is, discussion fora about curriculum issues for faculty, administrators, students

and professionals in the field), notice-board information about on-going issues and progress with the curriculum reform process, individual and focus group interviews with faculty members, and e-mail surveys and consultation with student and professional groups.

After collecting and collating suggestions offered from various stakeholders, the faculty defined a set of ability-based outcomes that the undergraduate program is meant to achieve. Through achievement of these outcomes, students in the program are enabled to acquire and apply the knowledge and skills necessary to be competent pharmacists. The outcomes of this program are based on the educational outcomes document developed by the Association of Faculties of Pharmacy of Canada (AFPC, 1998). Similar to the AFPC outcomes, the UBC document identifies a set of general abilities (e.g., critical thinking, communication, information access and evaluation, scientific inquiry) that apply to any area of academia, as well as a set of specific abilities (e.g., meet patient's drug-related needs, provide drug information, manage drug distribution) that describe skills of value within Pharmaceutical Sciences.

Integration of content and skill development across the curriculum requires vertical (within discipline, over the 4 years of the program) and horizontal (across discipline) planning. Disciplinary-based “working groups” were established to develop course streams over the 4 years of the program and integrate (vertical integration) outcomes with learning experiences and assessment strategies within the subdisciplinary field. Horizontal integration of knowledge and skills across the disciplines was co-coordinated by the curriculum committee and chair by designing case-based learning modules (entitled Cases in Pharmaceutical Sciences, CAPS) which students take continuously throughout the four-year program. The goal of CAPS modules is to give the students opportunities to apply and integrate knowledge, skills and attitudes being learned in the individual disciplinary streams through the solving of multidisciplinary cases and problems. The complexity of the cases and problems in CAPS increases as the student’s progress through the program. These CAPS courses not only draw upon the expertise and issues of the sub-disciplines but they also build upon one another in each progressive year throughout the program.

All of ability-based outcomes are assessed throughout all four years of the program. Initially, instructors and course coordinators were asked to identify at least four outcomes that students would develop skills in and be evaluated on within a particular course. These outcomes formed the basis of selecting learning and assessment

strategies. In addition, instructors within a particular year of the program work together to ensure that students are being supported in a diverse range of skill building across courses. This has become quite valuable when considering skills such as library search, retrieval and evaluation or presentation skills. Through working together, faculty can prepare students to progressively enhance their skills across courses by selecting learning and assessment activities that build on one another. Further, program-wide assessment strategies, such as portfolio assignments, are used. In the portfolio assignment, students are asked to identify and reflect on learning activities (assignments, working in groups, solving problems, etc.) and link these to particular ability-based outcomes. This has the advantage of providing the student with an opportunity to gauge their progress toward achieving a particular outcome as well as providing the faculty with a perspective on whether the curriculum and individual courses are effective in achieving all or some of the ability-based outcomes.

Current Perspective: Looking forward and looking back two years later

Despite a thorough, well-coordinated and systematic approach to curriculum reform in the U.B.C. Faculty of Pharmaceutical Sciences, change is typically incremental and requires ongoing systematic analysis, refinement to further develop and enhance the curriculum as it is implemented and we learn from that implementation.

Evaluating the Curriculum

Since its inception, Dr. David Fielding has been working to develop a comprehensive on-line program evaluation tool that will evaluate the effectiveness of all aspects of the undergraduate program. This tool allows for relative ease of completion on the part of the student and provides almost immediate feedback to instructors. While not fully developed at this time, this program evaluation will ultimately provide perspectives from all those affected by the program (e.g., alumni and employers).

Beyond formal evaluation, students have been invited to express their concerns, opinions and support for the curriculum through focus groups and informal written evaluations several times throughout the academic year. These opportunities provide faculty with immediate and on-going feedback that can be used to make changes to

a current course almost immediately. The combination of formal on-line program evaluation and on-going informal feedback provides comprehensive student perspective on the effectiveness of the program to achieve the said outcomes.

Current Challenges

One of the challenges of this new curriculum is defining when and where individual skills should be taught, practiced and evaluated. In addition, faculty members are faced with the challenge of developing new and innovative ways to support student learning and evaluating it. This is particularly challenging when designing and implementing learning and assessment activities that lend to some of the more complex learning outcomes (e.g., critical thinking and problem solving). While many such tools are available, most are designed for use in small classes. Further, many of

these tools require significant effort on the part of the students whose course load is already quite high.

Curriculum reform is a complex, multifaceted, and iterative process that is shaped by many factors (social, political, economic, organizational, cultural and individual) and involves people at various institutional

levels (administrators, curriculum committee members, instructors and learners). As the Faculty of Pharmaceutical Sciences at U.B.C. moves forward with the implementation of this new curriculum, continual communication and evaluation from all stakeholders are essential to identifying considerable areas growth and opportunity as well as challenges and limitations.

Excerpts taken from: Hubball H, Burt H. An integrated approach to developing and implementing learning-centred curricula. *International Journal for Academic Development*; 9(1): 51-65, 2004.

FACULTY NEWS

DALHOUSIE UNIVERSITY

Academic Appointments

Dr. Remigius Agu joined the faculty in November as Assistant Professor in Biopharmaceutics/Pharmaceutics.

Individual Faculty News

Neil MacKinnon has been named a member of the Editorial Advisory Board of the new journal, *Research in Social and Administrative Pharmacy*.

Ingrid Sketris' CHSRF Chair Program, Developing and Applying Drug Use Management Strategies and Policies for Nova Scotia's Provincial Drug Programs, has been renewed for the remaining six years of the program term with funding from CHSRF/CIHR and NSHRF.

Andrea Kent and Ingrid Sketris are joint recipients of the 2004-2005 Canadian Society of Hospital

Pharmacists Novartis Award on the basis of the submission, "Trends in Fluroquinolone Use in Nova Scotia Hospitals and Effects of Hospital Policies on Utilization".

Charmaine Cooke and Ingrid Sketris are joint recipients of the 2004-2005 Canadian Society of Hospital Pharmacists Aventis Award on the basis of the submission "Impact of Statins on Mortality in Seniors with Cardiovascular Disease".

Ingrid Sketris received the University of Queensland and International Collaborative Research Travel Award to visit the School of Pharmacy in August 2004. While there, she attended the National Prescribing Service Conference and International Clinical Pharmacology and Therapeutics Congress 2004.

General Faculty News

Phil Doiron, a fourth year student at the College, was the 2004 recipient of Pharmacy Practice's Commitment to Care Award for Student Leadership. This was in recognition of his outstanding passion for the profession and his many accomplishments including (to name just a few) development of an interfaculty student committee, traveling to South Africa to bring medications to volunteer-run clinics and exploring the establishment of an exchange program between the Universities of Transkei and Dalhousie. Congratulations Phil!

Opportunities

Dr. Sue Tett is a Visiting Professor to the College of Pharmacy and IMPART (Initiative for Medication Management, Policy Analysis, Research and Training) from September 2004 – February 2005. She is a Norman Behan Chair and Professor of the School of Pharmacy, University of Queensland, Brisbane, Australia.

New Grants/Grant Renewals

Abbott R, MacKinnon N, Edwards S have been awarded a grant from Pfizer Canada. For the project titled: "Pharmacist-Directed Seamless Care Services in Oncology in Newfoundland: A Randomized Controlled Trial."

MacKinnon N, Shepherd M, Gass D, Dunbar P. Johnson J, Ur A have been awarded a grant from the Nova Scotia Health Research Foundation for the project titled: "Development and Use of Quality Indicators of Medication Use for Diabetes."

Kirkland S, Sketris I, Dykeman M, Mugford G, Gahagan J, Peltekian K have been awarded funding from the Canadian Institutes of Health Research for the "(AIRN) Atlantic Disciplinary Research Network: Social and Behavioural Issues in Hepatitis C and HIV/AIDS."

Université Laval

General Faculty News

To welcome first-year Bachelor Degree students in Laval University, the *‘Soirée de remise des sarraus’* (*Induction to the Pharmacy Profession – “The White Coat Ceremony”*) was held on Tuesday September 14, 2004. More than 450 students, friends and parents gathered at the University City Theatre, Pavillon Palasis-Prince, where the event took place. The audience was addressed by a number of distinguished speakers including Mrs. Christiane Piché, Laval University vice-rector for studies, and Mr. Luc Marmen from the Province of Québec Pharmacy Board. Dean Monique Richer hosted the ceremony. She explained the important role played by the pharmacists in our society and emphasized on the benefits of the multidisciplinary approach in providing care and health services to the community. Drug stores Uniprix was the major sponsor of the ceremony.

The second annual *‘5 à 7 de la Recherche’* (*“An evening on Research”*) was held by the Faculty on campus site on September 28, 2004. More than 250 undergraduate students attended the events. New Faculty members, Drs Benoit Drolet and Chantale Simard, shared their personal views on research activities.

Individual Faculty News

Yves Gariépy has been nominated as a member of the Laval University Administration Council for years 2005-2006. Dr. Jocelyne Moisan has been appointed as director of the FRSQ research thematic network on drug use. Pharmacist Jenny Lower officially began to serve as assistant to the dean in November.

Four students were given a scholarship grant for M.Sc. or Ph.D. degree from the ‘Fonds d'Enseignement et de Recherche’ or FER (*Faculty Fund for Research and Teaching*):

Jenny Keading, Ph D (supervisor, Dr. Olivier Barbier)
Catherine Gignac, M Sc (supervisor, Dr. Paul Poirier)
Véronique Rivest, M Sc (supervisor, Dr. Frédéric Calon)
Jessica Jean, M Sc (supervisor, Dr. Roxanne Pouliot)

McMahon Distributeur pharmaceutique inc., franchisor of the Brunet and Clini Plus banners and a wholly-owned subsidiary of METRO INC., announced a \$1 million donation to Université Laval’s Faculté de Pharmacie. The announcement was made on November 25, 2004, and warmly received by the many representatives of the university and private pharmaceutical communities present at the press conference. This substantial donation will help provide state-of-the-art pharmaceutical facilities for the development of a pharmacy practice laboratory. The laboratory is part of the major renovation and expansion of Laval’s Ferdinand-Vandry pavilion which will house the pharmacy, medicine and nursing science programs in 2008. Brunet has been for many years a major partner of Québec universities, especially Laval. This announcement fits in the company approach, which has always been innovative. For instance, Brunet became the first banner to remove tobacco products from its shelves in 1986, 12 years prior to the provincial Tobacco Act. The major donation is also a way of celebrating the 150th anniversary of the Brunet banner.

Grant Renewals

«*R&D grants from Industrial Partners*»

Olivier Bernard, Msc (Chantal Guillemette)
Caroline Sirois, Phd (Jocelyne Moisan)
Karine Marquis, Phd (Paul Poirier)

«*CIHR*»

Isabelle Plante, Ph.D. (supervisor, Pascal Daleau)
Johanie Lépine, MSc. (supervisor, Chantal Guillemette)

In addition, 50 students of the B.Sc program (first to fourth year) received financial support from our generous industrial partners for the conduct of various academic projects. Recipients shared a total of 50 000\$ in grants distributed during a ceremony held at the Pavillon Desjardins on November 2nd 2004. (<http://new-www.pha.ulaval.ca>)

Université de Montréal

Individual Faculty News

Dr. Claude Mailhot was one of seven individuals from 5 continents to receive a honorary doctorate (Doctorat Honoris Causa) from the Université de Picardie Jules Verne, Amiens, France, last December.

General Faculty News

The Faculty of Pharmacy is proposing a transformation of its Baccalaureate program towards an Entry-level Pharm.D. program.

A relevance and feasibility study was done from Fall 2001 to Spring 2003, based on the following factors: unmet population needs for services related to drug use, needs that are expected to increase in the future and emphasis on prevention and health promotion, leading pharmacists to play a more active role in "first contact" services.

This study was undertaken in consultation with Quebec professional associations, Board of Pharmacy, Faculté de pharmacie de l'Université Laval, students and professors from the Faculty. During that period, Quebec Board of Pharmacy held "Les États Généraux de la pharmacie" a major consultation to define profession vision of the future.

In January 2003, a new legislation, the Law 90, has been officialized. This law gives a new definition of the "practice of pharmacy" in the Quebec "Pharmacy Act". The pharmacist "supervises medication therapy" and

The outstanding collaboration of professors, pharmacists, professionals, students and pedagogy consultants resulted in a proposal for the transformation of the program which includes major changes in teaching and clerkships. The new program emphasizes competency development and integration of knowledge from different disciplines in problem resolution. Clerkships are more structured, occur earlier and are better prepared with an increase in practice laboratory activities.

The actual Baccalaureate program includes 142 credits over 4 years (over 8 trimesters) with 14 credits of clerkships. The Baccalaureate does not confer practice privileges and students must complete additional externship and internship hours under the Board of Pharmacy supervision to obtain practice privileges.

"initiates or adjusts medication therapy according to a prescription", thus becoming increasingly responsible for pharmacotherapeutic outcomes. Interdisciplinary activities require the pharmacist to have excellent knowledge to the health care system and to have the required skills to intervene effectively with other health professionals.

The development of knowledge in pharmacogenetics, biotechnology, and complementary medicine puts undue pressure on a program whose total credits already exceed standard baccalaureates. Finally, the recent ACPE decision to "not extend the recognition of the CCAPP accreditation decisions for baccalaureate programs in pharmacy" leaves our graduates with fewer opportunities to enroll in foreign post graduate programs, such as residencies and fellowships.

The aforementioned factors support a thorough and complete review of the pharmacy curriculum. We believe major program modifications, including integrating significant experiential learning experiences throughout the curriculum, justifies a change in the degree awarded. When compared with equivalent programs, the designation of Pharm.D. was deemed most appropriate.

In March 2003, the Faculty Council adopted the relevance and feasibility study and recommended the development of a Pharm.D. program.

The proposed Pharm.D. program increases:
1) the credit load from 142 to 164 (over 9 trimesters), 2) the clerkships credits from 14 to 40. The Pharm.D. degree will be recognized by the Board of Pharmacy and graduates will have immediate practice privileges. For hospital practice, the Master degree in Pharmacy practice (Hospital) will be maintained.

The Entry-level Pharm.D. will start with the class of 2006. The first class will graduate in 2010. The Faculty of Pharmacy is also planning to implement a non-traditional Pharm.D. at the end of 2009.

For more information, please contact Claude Mailhot, Pharm.D., Associate Dean for Academic Affairs (claude.mailhot@umontreal.ca).

UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO

General Faculty News

Re-appointment of Professor Wayne Hindmarsh, Dean, Leslie Dan Faculty of Pharmacy

We are very pleased to announce that Dean Wayne Hindmarsh has been re-appointed for a four-year term, beginning July 1, 2005 and ending June 30, 2009. In the note from Vivek Goel, Vice-President and Provost at the University of Toronto: "The keen support for the re-appointment of Dean Hindmarsh is a testament to his outstanding leadership of the Faculty. Dean Hindmarsh, with his vision of pharmacy education and research, has provided exceptional direction to the Faculty. He has created and sustained a mood of excitement and accomplishment for faculty, staff and students. He has steered the Faculty through the development of major building projects; significant enrolment increase in both the undergraduate and graduate programs; increase in faculty numbers; and the establishment of new program and research collaborations with other University of Toronto divisions and with external organizations.

Jillian Clare Cohen, PhD,

Jillian Clare Cohen, PhD, New York University, has recently been appointed to a tenure track position in health policy at the Leslie Dan Faculty of Pharmacy. Jillian is an Assistant Professor at the Faculty and also is Director of the Comparative Program on Health and Society for the Munk Centre for International Studies, at the University of Toronto. Jillian specializes in international pharmaceutical

Publications

Raman-Wilms, Lalitha (Editor-in-Chief). Canadian Pharmacists Association Guide to Drugs in Canada – The essential home reference to over 2,000 medications, Dorling Kindersley Limited, 1st edition, 2004.

Phokeo V, Sproule B, **Raman-Wilms L**. Community pharmacists' attitudes toward and professional interactions with users of psychiatric medication. *Psychiatry Services* 2004; 55(12):1434-1436.

K. Zhang, H. Huang, G. Yang, J. Shaw, C. Yip, **X.Y. Wu*** (2004) Characterization of nanostructure of temperature- and pH-responsive polymeric composite membranes, *Biomacromolecules* 5, 1248-1255.

Y. Zhou, J.S. Chu, **X.Y. Wu*** (2004) Theoretical analysis of drug release into a finite medium from sphere ensembles with various size and concentration distributions, *Eur. J. Pharm. Sci.* 22, 251-259.

K. Zhang, C. Quan, H. Huang, N. Taulier, **X.Y. Wu*** (2004) On the stability of insulin delivered by a new

policy issues and brings years of experience to her position. Formerly, she was a pharmaceutical policy specialist at the World Health Organization's Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) and at the World Bank, both based in Washington, DC.

The International Pharmacy Graduate (IPG) Program

The International Pharmacy Graduate (IPG) Program at the Leslie Dan Faculty of Pharmacy (University of Toronto) announces the establishment of two satellite campuses in 2005, in the cities of **Ottawa and Waterloo**. The IPG Program, founded in 2001, has assisted close to 400 pharmacists educated outside North America meet entry-to-practice requirements. Funding for the IPG Ottawa campus is provided by the Access to Professions and Trades Unit, Ministry of Training Colleges and Universities (Ontario).

Interfaculty Pain Curriculum

Students in the 3rd year of the Program will be participating in the week-long Interfaculty Pain Education Curriculum in March 2005. About 760 students from 6 health disciplines – Dentistry, Medicine, Nursing, Occupational Therapy, Pharmacy and Physical Therapy - will be learning together both in large and small group settings about pain assessment and management. This is the 4th year that this program will be offered and is supported by the University of Toronto Centre for the Study of Pain and Council of Health Science and Social Work Deans.

glucose-responsive polymeric composite membrane, *J. Pharm. Pharmacol.* 56, 611-620.

Y. Zhou, J.S. Chu, T. Zhou, **X.Y. Wu*** (2004) Modeling of drug release from two-dimensional matrix tablets with anisotropic properties, *Biomaterials*, 26, 945-952.

H. L. Wong, **R. Bendayan**, A.M. Rauth, **X.Y. Wu*** (2004) Development of solid lipid nanoparticles containing ionically-complexed chemotherapeutic drugs and chemosensitizers, *J. Pharm. Sci.* 93, 1993-2008.

R.Y. Cheung, B. Kuba, A.M. Rauth, Y. Ying, **X.Y. Wu*** (2004) A new approach to the in vivo-in vitro correlation of drug release from locoregionally delivered microspheres, *J. Control. Rel.* 100, 121-133.

K. Zhang and **X.Y. Wu*** (2004) Temperature- and pH-responsive polymeric composite membranes for regulated delivery of peptide and protein drugs, *Biomaterials*, 25, 5281-5291.

UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

General Faculty News

Our hearty congratulations to **Drs. Tom Chang** and **Kishor Wasan** who have been named Distinguished Junior Scholars, which recognizes their excellence as scholars in research and/or teaching and learning. These are significant appointments from the University, designed to help recognize and retain UBC's most prized scholars.

We are delighted to advise that the 2004 UBC Killam Teaching Prize recipient is **Dr. Brian Rodrigues**. Congratulations, Brian! You are richly deserving of this special recognition for the excellence you bring to teaching!

Dr. Fatima Marankan has been appointed Lecturer in the Division of Biomolecular and Pharmaceutical Chemistry effective April 1, 2004. Fatima obtained an M.Sc. degree from Université Laval in Québec city and a Ph.D. from the University of Illinois at Chicago (UIC), College of Pharmacy, both in the area of medicinal chemistry/structural biology.

Dr. John McNeill has been chosen to receive the 2004 AFPC/Janssen-Ortho Pharmaceutical Research Award.

Dr. Kishor M. Wasan has been named one of the *25 Up-and-coming Innovators in British Columbia by BC Business Magazine* (Article published in May 2004) for

his discovery of how a novel phytosterol compound (FM-VP4) blocks the absorption of cholesterol from the gastrointestinal tract resulting in lower LDL Cholesterol.

Dr. Kishor Wasan has been reappointed to the Canadian Institutes of Health Research Pharmaceutical Sciences Operating Grant Review Committee from July 1st, 2004 to June 30th, 2005.

On behalf of the UBC SPEP, we are pleased to announce the appointment of **Dr. Angela Kim-Sing** as Lecturer and SPEP Coordinator.

Dr. Peter Jewesson is the recipient of the 2004 CSHP-BC Branch Distinguished Service Award. The award recognizes Peter's outstanding achievements, long-term service, and extensive contribution to hospital pharmacy at the local, provincial and national level. Congratulations, Peter, on a most deserving recognition!

We are pleased to announce the appointment of **Dr. Peter Jewesson** as Chair (Acting) of the Clinical Pharmacy Division for a 10-month term commencing September 1, 2004 and extending to June 30, 2005.

Dr. Rosemin Kassam has been appointed to the B.C. Medical Services Foundation Scientific Advisory Committee.

Please join us in welcoming **Dr. Larry Lynd** who has joined the Division of Pharmacy Practise as an Assistant Professor and Research Scientist/Epidemiologist at the Centre for Clinical Epidemiology and Evaluation at Vancouver General Hospital, Vancouver, BC.

Please welcome **Dr. Carlo Marra**, an Assistant Professor in the Division of Pharmacy Practise and Head of the Health Economics Programme, Vancouver Coastal Health Research Institute.

Dr. Sid Katz was recently honoured by the *Michael Smith Awards for Science Promotion* for his contributions to science awareness and public education. Dr. Katz has played an active role in breaking down the barriers between the research community and the general public. During his role as Executive Director of Science World, Sid has helped enhance elementary and high school curricula with internet activities, bringing

science to life for countless school children. Congratulations, Sid!

Dr. Gail Bellward has been named as the recipient of the Society of Toxicology of Canada (STC) Award of Distinction for 2004. The STC Award of Distinction is to honour those individuals who have made outstanding and sustained contributions to the science of toxicology in Canada and/or the Society of Toxicology of Canada. Dr. Bellward will received this award at the annual symposium of the Society in Montreal on December 6 and 7, 2004. Gail is the first woman recipient, and only the 6th scientist to receive this prestigious award. Well done, Gail!

Student News

Mr. Thomas Chacko Pulinikunnil, a graduate student in our Faculty, is the recipient of the AFPC/GlaxoSmithKline Graduate Student Research award. Well done, Thomas!

Harish Vasudevan has been selected as one of thirteen postdoctoral fellows and graduate students across Canada to present his work at the Merck-Frosst Pharmacology Research Day in Montreal, on October 22, 2004. This competition selects winners whose work involves in vivo pharmacology research. Congratulations Harish!

New Grants March 2004 – January 2005

Dr. Steve Shalansky received \$3,150 top-up funding from UBC Office of the Vice President Research (also partially funded by the Canadian Society of Hospital Pharmacists) for the project: Shalansky SJ, Jang L, Jung L, Ignaszewski, Clark C. Interpreting British Columbia's prescription database for clinical and research applications: Agreement between Pharmanet and best assessment methods.

Dr. Kishor Wasan has received a new three-year operating grant, as part of his CIHR University Industry Research Chair (partnership with Forbes Medi-Tech

Inc.) in the amount of \$635,904 for the period of August 1, 2004 to July 31, 2007. The project is entitled, "Mechanisms by which phytosterol and phytosterol analogues inhibit cholesterol absorption and transfer into the blood".

Dr. Kishor Wasan has received a grant-in-aid from Forbes Medi-Tech Inc for his project entitled, "Assessing the lipid lowering activity of FM-VP4 in combination with either Simvastatin or Atorvastatin following co-administration to Hyperlipidemic Female Rabbits", in the amount of \$156,768 for the period of July, 2004 to December, 2005.

Grant Renewals March 2004 – January 2005

Dr. Kishor Wasan has received an increase of \$50,000 to his Forbes Medi-Tech grant-in-aid entitled, "Assessing Cholesterol and Lipid Soluble Vitamins bioavailability following oral administration of various plant sterols (phytosterols) to rats" for the period of November, 2004 to March, 2005.

MEMORIAL UNIVERSITY OF NEWFOUNDLAND

General Faculty News

Dr. John Hawboldt and a group in Pharmacy at the HCCSJ were awarded funding of \$5,000 from the Health Care Foundation to assist in a study on "Surgical prophylaxis at a tertiary Care Institution". Of the eight applicants only four were awarded funds and apparently their protocol was the best.

Dr. Rebecca Law is part of a group of interprofessional and inter-provincial researchers and health practitioners who have been awarded developmental funding of \$10,000 from the Newfoundland and Labrador Centre for Applied Health Research (NLCAHR) for a study on "Chronic Disease Management and Primary Health Care Renewal". The lead investigator is Dr. Brandan Barrett, MUN Faculty of Medicine (Nephrology). The group has now submitted a Letter of Intent Research Module to CIHR entitled "CIHR Team Grant on Primary Health Care and Chronic Disease", and is continuing to develop the research module.

Dr. Rebecca Law was invited by CIHR Institute of Aging to participate in a Regional Seniors' Workshop on Research held in Halifax, November 16-17, 2004. This is one of six workshops CIHR is holding across the country to help plan research priorities and a strategy to connect the Institute of Aging with seniors, seniors' organizations and service providers.

Dr. Husam Younes was contacted by Journal of Pharmaceutical Sciences regarding the article he wrote about Interferon-gamma therapy that was published in the Journal. The Journal will be collating the most significant and cited reviews in the Journal of Pharmaceutical Sciences in 2002 and 2003 under one book.

The Pharmacists Association of Newfoundland and Labrador conferred on **Dr. Leslie Phillips** the James C. Quick Award. The award recognizes practitioners for innovative pharmacy practice and outstanding achievement in the practice of pharmacy.

Jennifer Loder, an undergraduate pharmacy student, developed and implemented an oncology pharmacy patient care database under a summer research award from Apotex Inc. This helped to lay the foundation for a major research study at the Newfoundland Cancer Treatment and Research Foundation (NCTRF) which has received a \$100,000 grant from Pfizer Canada. The study will be the first randomized controlled research project in Canada on seamless care, measuring outcomes relating to clinical oncology pharmacy practice. The primary investigator is Scott Edwards; co-investigators are Rick Abbott and Dr. Neil MacKinnon.

CPHA REPORT



CANADIAN
PHARMACISTS
ASSOCIATION

ASSOCIATION DES
PHARMACIENS
DU CANADA

The first meeting of CPhA's new Board of Directors was held in Ottawa October 24-25, 2004, with a one-day Board Development Workshop October 23 preceding the Board meeting. Six new members were welcomed to the table including the first elected representative of the constituency representing new practitioners. As the elected Board member representing pharmacists in academia, I am pleased to report on some of the issues discussed at the meeting.

Frequently, CPhA is asked to provide comments to other organizations or meetings on pharmacy issues. Two such issues, which the Board discussed at the October meeting, were its position on Entry-Level PharmD for a symposium at the University of Toronto and its position on the Pharmacy Examining Board of Canada's (PEBC) proposal to remove the limit of four attempts for the Evaluating and Qualifying Examinations. The Board held open and extensive discussion on these complex and challenging topics to provide advice to the CPhA representatives who will attend meetings on these issues.

Entry-Level PharmD

CPhA is committed to expanding the role of pharmacists and the need for practice change to respond to current health care issues. However, there is uncertainty how valuable moving to an entry-level PharmD will be to achieve such change. Concerns relating to the Entry-

Level PharmD include lack of structured practice experience opportunities, the shortage of pharmacists and increased costs of tuition. The Board is cognizant of the anxiety among existing pharmacists about the impact on the profession of two tiers of qualification, and feels that upgrading programs for existing pharmacists must be provided by faculties introducing an entry-level PharmD. The proposed Human Resources Development Canada (HRDC) Pharmacy Human Resources Study has a national mandate to address the mega issues facing the profession, such as scope of practice, role of technicians, and impact of technology, and CPhA believes such research should facilitate a viable response to move the profession forward.

PEBC Examination Policy

During discussion to provide input to PEBC, the Board was concerned that PEBC's examinations should test the candidate's competency to practice, consistent with CPhA's view of the pharmacist's enhanced role. No limit was suggested on the number of examination attempts; however, the Board believes the limit should be set by education experts who are able to determine at which point the examination, through repeated attempts, is no longer reliable. CPhA also believes that work needs to be done on a policy for remediation for unsuccessful candidates.

Enhancing Board Member Involvement

Throughout the last year, Board members have been looking for ways to serve CPhA outside of the three-yearly Board meetings. Three areas have been identified: building membership, advocacy with politicians and public servants, and advocacy with pharmacy organizations and other health care disciplines. During the Board workshop October 23, Board members discussed specific ways that they as individuals could contribute in these areas. It is anticipated that the 2005 CPhA budget will include a small fund for individual Board members to apply some ideas developed in the workshop and promote CPhA.

Health Care Renewal and Implications for Pharmacy

During the October 23 Board workshop, Executive Director Jeff Poston made a presentation on the September First Ministers Meeting on the Future of Health Care and the 10-year Plan developed at the meeting. Dr. Poston presented implications for pharmacy and the opportunities and threats the profession faces. Pharmacy needs to create plans to take full advantage of the new money in the health system to help drive change and enhance the pharmacist's role.

NIHB Audit Issues

A report on the recent Community Pharmacy Economics Committee (CPEC) meeting was presented. An ongoing issue on CPEC's agenda is pharmacy's problems with NIHB, particularly with audits. Board members discussed strategy to deal with this issue. CPhA will continue to work with provincial pharmacy organizations to bring a resolution to these problems.

Parliament Hill Reception

Board members were fortunate this year that the meeting was scheduled in conjunction with CPhA's annual Parliament Hill reception. The reception was held October 25 jointly with the Canadian Association of Chain Drug Stores. Sixty-seven Members of Parliament and four Senators attended. Board members were able to convey key messages around problems with the NIHB program and its lack of funding, the pharmacist's role in primary healthcare reform and the

national pharmaceutical strategy. Cross-border drug trade was also a frequent topic of conversation.

Digital Publications

This has been a transitional year for CPhA's digital publications with the launch of the web-based e-CPS English in May 2004, followed later by e-CPS French. Although the big blue book will be with us for some time, we expect sales of our digital products to increase in the years to come, with a corresponding dip in book sales. However, predicting the rate of change to digital has been challenging in terms of forecasting revenue. Since feedback on the e-CPS has been positive and a number of significant opportunities for revenue are imminent, the Board is optimistic that our investment in e-publication will be fruitful, and revenue will be forthcoming for enhancements of the e-CPS and the development of handheld or other applications. For more information on e-CPS, visit the CPhA website at www.pharmacists.ca.

e-Therapeutics

CPhA's growing expertise in the digital world was evident during a demonstration of e-Therapeutics Release 1, the pilot for the web portal, which will offer current, evidence-based Canadian drug and therapeutic information to primary care practitioners. During the past year, CPhA, funded by an \$8.8 million contribution from Health Canada's Primary Health Care Transition Fund, has built e-Therapeutics Release 1, which features clinical, decision support content from *Therapeutic Choices (TC)* 4th edition, drug and product monographs from *CPS* and e-CPS, Health Canada alerts and ADR reporting, and public drug plan links. More content will be added in future releases. Over 300 pharmacists from Alberta, Nova Scotia and Ottawa are part of the test group for Release 1.

All members of the Board are looking forward to the year ahead and its opportunities and challenges. I would like to keep you informed on our discussions and decisions and I hope that you will contact me with any pharmacy issue that you may think would be interest to the Board. Please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

Linda Suveges

(linda.suveges@usask.ca, 306-966-6328)

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