



March/April 2005

Volume 16 No. 3

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

You are invited to join us for the 2005 AFPC Annual Conference, hosted by the College of Pharmacy and Nutrition of the University of Saskatchewan in Saskatoon, from June 24-26 2005. It will be a unique opportunity to learn and contemplate on the important issue of interdisciplinary collaboration in education and research. Furthermore, you will have the opportunity to meet and hear the recipients of our prestigious research and educational awards, and to learn about AFPC accomplishments over the past year at our AGM. This year, the Annual Conference is also joined with the 6th International Conference on Life Long Learning in Pharmacy.

AFPC, as a national academic voice for Pharmacy Education in Canada, has been working on many important issues facing Pharmacy teaching and training over the last few years. This is exemplified by the report on experiential pharmacy practice (SPEP report) and the draft of educational outcomes for an entry-level Pharm.D program in Canada. Many thanks are due to the AFPC councillors and task force members for their work on these issues and on many others.

AFPC has the unique opportunity to hear and bring together the views of our nine (soon to be ten) Faculties, Schools or Colleges of Pharmacy in Canada and to aspire to work for the benefit of all our diverse members. As once said the English writer Samuel Johnson, "Our aspirations are our possibilities". I believe that the undertaking of a continuous reflection by AFPC on its mission, through regular strategic planning sessions, will allow AFPC to outline the Canadian aspirations for pharmacy education and certainly open up many new possibilities to maintain our excellence and to plan progress for the future.

I wish to thank all the councillors for their work on behalf of the AFPC Council. It has been a great pleasure to work with all of you. Special thanks to our Executive Director, Dr. Frank Abbott, for his guidance, kindness and hard work.

Very best personal regards,

Sylvie Marleau

AFPC President, 2004-2005

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S CORNER

With Easter and spring break behind us, most of you will now be looking forward to final exam marking and making plans for the summer.

The academic year has been a hectic time for everyone and because of this, we are extending the **deadline for abstracts** to the AFPC Annual Conference in Saskatoon to **April 15, 2005**. This will give you a bit of time to catch your breath and apply some quality time to abstract writing and preparation. As indicated by President Sylvie Marleau, we invite you to participate in the Conference and Annual General Meeting that occurs on June 24-26 just prior to the International Life Long Learning in Pharmacy Meeting on the University of Saskatchewan Campus. Registration for both conferences is available on line at <http://www.lllp.usask.ca/registration/index.php>

Merck Frosst Canada Inc. has kindly offered to sponsor the Pharmacy Practice Research Symposium on June 25, 2005. As a result, we are looking forward to an interesting and informative program on both research and education that describe interprofessional form and content. Saskatoon can be at its best in June so don't miss out on the opportunity to

attend. Early registration can be obtained until April 15, 2005.

The United States Pharmacopeial Convention recently concluded in Washington DC. Dr. Colin Briggs of the University of Manitoba, our outgoing representative, and Raimar Loebenberg of the University of Alberta, our incoming representative, were both in attendance. Compounding standards, communication issues between healthcare professionals and patient safety in hospitals were among the issues to be fully identified for eventual resolution. A report on the USP Convention will be available for the AFPC Annual Meeting in June 2005.

By now most of you will have received an invitation from ADPC to attend a Forum and Workshop on the Future of Pharmacy Practice and Education in Canada. The one-day session will be held in Toronto on April 27, 2005. Should you require additional information on this event, please contact Frank Abbott at 604-222-0221 or fabbott@telus.net.

Frank Abbott
Executive Director

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

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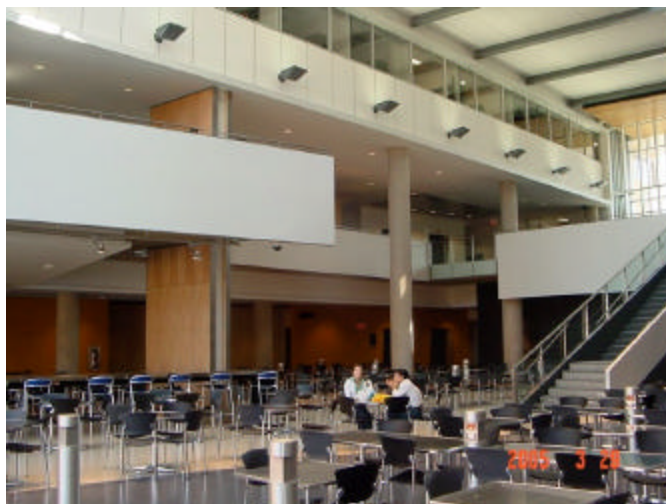
The Faculty of Pharmacy finally moves into the new Jean Coutu Building

What a feat for the project managers! Not only did they respect the construction budget, they met the challenge of a mere 25-month schedule. That's barely more than two years from plans being drawn up to project delivery. Boasting rights for this model construction site go to the entire team responsible for making last March 11 the date the Jean Coutu Building could welcome its first occupants.

With its comfortable, light-filled 42,000 square feet of floor space, the new building allows the Faculty of Pharmacy to accept more undergraduate students and thereby meet the growing demand for pharmacists. Last fall's entry cohort was 170 students. In September 2005, 200 new students will join the Faculty. By providing up-to-date research facilities, the building also provides a highly conducive environment for professors, researchers and master's, doctoral and post-doctoral students. Inviting and functional areas are also available for continuing education activities for pharmacists.

It goes without saying that it would have been difficult to carry out such a project without the generous support of the Faculty of Pharmacy's alumni and partners – chief among them, Mr. Jean Coutu. In addition to expressing his gratitude and paying tribute to his alma mater in this way, Mr. Coutu wanted to tangibly support the Faculty of Pharmacy's growth and development. His personal contribution of \$12.5 million is the most generous personal donation to a francophone university in the history of Québec. In recognition of this important donation, the new Faculty building bears his name and the adjacent Immunology and Cancer Research Institute will be named the Marcelle Coutu Building.

Morris Goodman's support also marks a huge step in philanthropy. A 1953 graduate of the Faculty of Pharmacy, and 21 years later still the youngest graduate in the Faculty's history, the pharmacist and Chairman of the Board of Directors of Pharmascience made a \$3 million contribution. His donation was used to complete the Agora. Located between the Marcelle and Jean Coutu Buildings, the Agora is an open gathering place surrounded by green space where students will eat, relax, study and even enjoy access to the Internet.



Other partners support the Faculty in concrete ways as well. Such is the case of Apotex Group, which two years ago donated \$3 million to support and develop the Clinical Associates Program. To show its thanks, the Faculty named the training room dedicated to the program, the Apotex Room. Located just behind the Agora, the room features all the latest teaching equipment.



Moving forward on the new entry-level Pharm.D. and B.P.S. programs

The Faculty is still furthering its efforts in the approval process for its future programs. Good news on the new entry-level Pharm.D.: after presenting and obtaining the endorsement of faculty authorities, professional associations and the Québec Order of Pharmacists, it is now up to the conference of rectors and principals of Québec universities (known by its acronym CREPUQ) to evaluate the file. Let's remember that the Faculty hopes to offer this new program starting in the fall of 2006.

As for the baccalaureate in pharmaceutical sciences (B.P.S.), the program content has been presented and discussed with faculty authorities and experts in the pharmaceutical field. The resulting feedback has made it possible to round out the program structure. The next internal presentations should be held this spring. The Faculty hopes to submit the file to CREPUQ in early May.

New University-based Drug Research group: GRUM

In the past months, the Faculty has worked intensively to set up a large, university-based Research Group dedicated to research on medications known by its acronym GRUM, for Groupe de recherche universitaire sur le médicament.

The GRUM would have a mission to develop and support research, training and technological transfer pertaining to the discovery, development and evaluation of pharmaceutical entities. It is worth noting that a high portion of its activities would be devoted to training and technological transfer.

The new group would bring together representatives of three faculties (pharmacy, medicine, arts and science), with no less than forty researchers in addition to three hundred graduate students.

An application for a grant from the Québec Health Research Fund, the Fonds de recherche en santé du Québec (FRSQ), was completed in the Fall and was very well received by the agency. A final answer is expected in April 2005. The annual budget for the GRUM is \$700,000. Funding will be ensured by a University commitment of \$145,000 per year and a commitment by each of the three founder Faculties of \$40,000 per year, with the FRSQ bridging the gap.

The would-be director of the GRUM is Dr. Michel Bouvier of the Faculty of Medicine, with Dr. Pierre Moreau of the Faculty of Pharmacy acting as a co-director.



UNIVERSITY OF SASKATCHEWAN

Academic Appointments

Dr. Susan Whiting has been appointed as Head, Division of Nutrition and Dietetics, for a three-year period, commencing July 1, 2005. As Dr. Whiting will be on a six-month sabbatical leave, Dr. Gordon Zello will serve as Division Head from July 1 to December 31, 2005.

Dr. Linda Suveges was installed as President of the Pharmacy Examining Board of Canada in February 2005 for a one year period.

Individual Faculty News

Dr. Shannan Neubauer has been selected to receive the Representative Board of Saskatchewan Pharmacists/ GlaxoSmithKline "Pharmacist of the Year Award". This award recognizes a

pharmacist who, through either a single outstanding deed or long-term service, brings credit and prestige to the profession of pharmacy. Shannan is being recognized for her involvement with the profession at the provincial level and her commitment as a practicing member, mentor and educator. She has been instrumental in developing the role of pharmacists as primary care providers and members of interdisciplinary teams involved in primary care.

Dr. Fred Remillard has met the eligibility requirement of recertification in Pharmacotherapy and has received the credential "Board Certified Pharmacotherapy Specialist" from the Board of Pharmaceutical Specialties.

Grants

Dr. Jonathan Dimmock received a five-year Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR) grant entitled, "Mannich Bases and Related Compounds: A Quest for Candidate Drugs Possessing Selective Toxicity for Malignant Cells and Immunosuppressant Properties".

Dr. David Blackburn, with co-applicants, Drs. Jim Blackburn, Roy Dobson, Muhammad Mamdani, Mary Rose Stang and Thomas Wilson, received a two-year Canadian Institutes of Health Research grant entitled, "Atenolol and Mortality in CHF (AM-CHF)".

Student News

Ms. Zeynep Akin successfully defended her Ph.D. thesis entitled, "Isolation and Cloning of In Vivo Downstream Target Genes of Hoxa2" on September 17, 2004 (Supervisor, Dr. Adil Nazarali).

Ms. Wendy Dahl successfully defended her Ph.D. thesis entitled, "Fibre Fortification of Long Term Care Diets" on March 18, 2005 (Supervisor, Dr. Susan Whiting).

Ms. Rachel Engler-Stringer successfully defended her Ph.D. thesis entitled, "Collective Kitchens in Three Canadian Cities: Impacts on the Lives of Participants" on January 14, 2005 (Supervisor, Dr. Shawna Berenbaum).

UNIVERSITY OF MANITOBA

Academic Appointments

Dr. Mike Namaka was recently appointed to the Medical Advisory Board in Toronto for neuropathic pain.

Dr. Frank Burczynski who was recently elected to the executive council as Member-at-Large of the Canadian Society for Pharmaceutical Services.

New Post-Doc – Dr. Kim O’Hara, a new post-doctoral fellow, has joined Brian Hasinoff’s lab. Dr. O’Hara received a B.Sc. from the University of Alberta and her Ph.D. from Dartmouth Medical School.

Awards

Dr. Mike Namaka and Dr. Maria Melanson for the Commitment to Care Award for the Best Pharmacist/Physician Team across Canada that exemplifies innovative clinical practice and research.

Individual Faculty News

Dr. Yuewen Gong is involved in the Proposed International Symposium entitled “Recent Advances in Molecular and Social Medicine” which is being jointly

organized by Shantou University (P.R. China) and The University of Manitoba. This is scheduled to be held from December 3-5, 2005 in Shantou.

Dr. Colin Briggs has been invited to a Systematic Review Methods Workshop for Researchers interested in Natural Health Products to be held at the Cartier Place Suites in Ottawa on January 29 and 30th, 2005.

Dr. Mike Namaka was recently published in the Medical Post.

Dr. Mike Namaka was a keynote speaker at the International Medical Board with the Bayer Company, in Toronto on Jan 22/05.

Dr. Mike Namaka was interviewed on CJOB earlier in January with regard to pain medication.

Dr. Mike Namaka is a co-investigator in Clinical Trial Support studies with Dr. Maria Melanson.

Grants

Dr. Mike Namaka was awarded an MMSF grant for \$45,000.00 to explore our DRG model of Multiple Sclerosis.

Dr. Ruby Grymonpre received a Travel and Conference grant for \$250 to attend the Professional Practice Conference in Toronto on February 7, 2005.

Dr. Keith Simons received a grant for a total amount of \$4,800 for 1 year from the Children’s Hospital Foundation in support of his project: “Formulation and Testing Of Sublingual Epinephrine Tablets As An Alternative Delivery System To IM Epinephrine For The First-Aid Treatment Of Anaphylaxis Using A Rabbit Model”.

Dr. Ruby Grymonpre received a grant for a total amount of \$150,583 for three years from the Canadian Institutes of Health Research in support of her project “Prescription Medication Adherence among Older Manitobans: Aging in Manitoba, 1996-2001” (B. Havens, C. Metge, D. Collins and C. Black).

Dr. Mike Namaka received \$30,000 from the Manitoba Medical Services Foundation for his project “Antigenic

induction of multiple sclerosis via the dorsal root ganglia”.

Dr. Mike Namaka and Dr. Yuewen Gong have been awarded a \$35,000 grant from Biogen for a continuation of his project: “Antigenic induction of multiple sclerosis via the dorsal root ganglia.”

Dr. Mike Namaka has been awarded a \$20,000 grant from Berlex for a continuation of his project: “Antigenic induction of multiple sclerosis via the dorsal root ganglia.”

Dr. Yuewen Gong received a final installment of \$18,000 USD from Serono to complete his project: "Comparison of biological effects of different interferons on hepatic stellate cell activation".

Dr. Hope Anderson received a grant for a total amount of \$86,100 for 2 years from the Canadian Institutes of Health Research in support of her project: “Effect Of Conjugated Linoleic Acid On Cardiac Ventricular Hypertrophy (with the Heart and Stroke Foundation)”.

THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

General Faculty News

The Division of Biomolecular and Pharmaceutical Chemistry is pleased to announce the arrival of our most recent member, **Dr. Adam Frankel**. Adam's faculty appointment as Assistant Professor in our Division took effect January 1st 2005. Adam comes to Vancouver from Los Angeles, where he was an American Cancer Society Post-doctoral Fellow in Professor Richard W. Robert's laboratory in the Division of Chemistry and Chemical Engineering at the California Institute of Technology. Adam's research is in the development of encodamer technology to incorporate multiple unnatural amino acids into mRNA display libraries and to use this technology in the discovery of new therapeutic agents.

Dr. Dale Meisner (Merck-Frosst Canada Inc.) and Dr. Kishor Wasan (UBC) have established a new Graduate Student Internship Program at Merck Frosst with the Faculty of Pharmaceutical Sciences. This program will give our graduate students a 5-month internship experience (August to December 2005) at Merck-Frosst in the areas of either Formulation, Drug Delivery, Drug Metabolism and/or Analytical Chemistry. To be

Dr. Karen Shalansky is the recipient of the 2004/05 CSHP Merck-Frosst Award (Rational Drug Therapy) for her research paper, co-authored with Dr. J. Jastrzebski, entitled, "Complete Switch to Darbepoetin in a Hemodialysis Unit". Dr. Shalansky presented her paper on February 7, 2005 at the CSHP Professional Practice Conference in Toronto.

CCOHTA (Canadian Coordinating Office for Health Technology Assessment) in the 'Capacity Building' grants program, have awarded \$68,000 to Dr. Larry Lynd, Dr. Carlo Marra, Dr. David Fielding, Dr. Ron Georee, (Program for Assessment of Technology in Health, McMaster

considered for this program, please provide a letter stating your interest in the program, your current resume and a copy of your latest transcript to Dr. Kishor M. Wasan by **May 1st, 2005**.

Dr. Elaine Chong, a 2000 UBC BSc(Pharm) graduate, and a 2003 UBC PharmD graduate, has been accepted to the CIHR Strategic Training Program – **Transdisciplinary Understanding and Training on Research – Primary Health Care (TUTOR-PHC)** for the academic year 2005-2006. Dr. Mary H.H. Ensom will serve as Elaine's supervisor at UBC for this post-doctoral fellowship. For more information, visit <http://www.uwo.ca/fammed/csfm/tutor-phc/>.

Dr. Kerry Wilbur is the recipient of the 2004 New Hospital Pharmacy Practitioner Award. This honour is awarded to a pharmacist (5 years or less in practice) by the Canadian Society of Hospital Pharmacists for outstanding achievement in hospital pharmacy practice in recognition of contribution to patient care, education or research, to the profession or to the Society that denotes leadership, dedication, and commitment to practice excellence and professional growth.

University), Dr. Aslam Anis (Health Care and Epidemiology, UBC), Dr. Ellen Balka, (Centre for Clinical Epidemiology and Evaluation, VCHRI). The title of the project is: "Development of an undergraduate level university course and a 1-day workshop on the Principles of Health Economics/Health Technology Assessment to increase health practitioner knowledge".

Dr. Kerry Wilbur and Dr. Roger YM Wong have been awarded \$5,000 in the 2004 grant competition for their research project entitled, Medication Assessment of Geriatric Inpatients by Clinical Pharmacists (MAGIC).

DALHOUSIE UNIVERSITY

Academic Appointments

Dr. Neil MacKinnon has been appointed to the position of Research Coordinator for the College of Pharmacy.

Individual Faculty News

Dr. Anne Marie Whelan has been appointed as a Consultant for the Osteoporosis Society of Canada's Scientific Advisory Council

General Faculty News

Nicole Hartnell has received a \$23,000 Killam Predoctoral Scholarship from Dalhousie University. The Killam Scholarships are the highest graduate student awards offered by Dalhousie University. Nicole is an Interdisciplinary PhD student who is studying

medication error reporting. Neil MacKinnon is her supervisor and Ingrid Sketris is one of her thesis committee members.

Phil Doiron, a fourth year pharmacy student, has received the Dalhousie University Governors' Award. This award was established in 1992, to mark the 125th anniversary of the founding of the Dalhousie Student Union and to recognize students' contribution to the quality and vitality of the University. The awards are presented for exceptional contribution or leadership in the extracurricular realm in such areas as university governance, development of a sense of community on campus, community service, internationalizing the campus, visual or performing arts, minority access or athletics.

New Grants/Grant Renewals

David L Jakeman was awarded a grant from the Mizutani Glycoscience Foundation of Japan for a grant entitled "*Engineering enzyme substrate specificity: Directed evolution of glycosynthases*"

Jurgens T, Whelan AM have been awarded a grant from the Pharmacy Endowment Fund for the project titled: "*Evaluation of the effectiveness of a draft Natural Health Product assessment instrument in translating evidence to answer a clinical question: comparison to a commonly used instrument*".

Neil MacKinnon, Nicole Hartnell, Pat Croskerry, Mark Fleming, Steven Smith, Ingrid Sketris, Ken Wallston, David U have been awarded a grant from the Pharmacy Endowment Fund for the project titled: "*Identifying, Understanding, and*

Overcoming Barriers to Medication Error and near Miss Reporting in Hospitals in Nova Scotia".

Ingrid Sketris, Stephen Kisely, David Gardner, Sue Tett have been awarded a grant from the Pharmacy Endowment Fund for the project titled: "*Comparison of the Use of Psychotropic Prescription Medicines (antidepressants and benzodiazepine groups) in Nova Scotia, Canada and in Australia*".

Education corner

Dr. Neil MacKinnon is in the planning stages for a new book on medication safety and quality that could be used by pharmacists, physicians, nurses and students. Anyone who is interested in contributing as a chapter or case author can contact Neil at: neil.mackinnon@dal.ca

Université de Montréal

General Faculty News

News from the last annual general meeting

The annual general meeting of the Faculty of Pharmacy was held on January 28th. This event gives the Faculty an opportunity to present a summary of its achievements during the previous year to the staff and to outside partners. The meeting underlined the high number of students wishing to enroll in the pharmacy baccalaureate and their strong academic record; the rise in the

number of graduates at both the undergraduate and graduate levels; the innovations in several courses and programs; the progress towards the implementation of the new baccalaureate in pharmaceutical sciences (B.P.S.) and the entry-level Pharm.D; Faculty leadership in the research sector; and the progress in the construction of the new building.

Recruitment and Promotions

Two new clinical professors join the Faculty of Pharmacy

The Faculty is proud to mark the arrival of two new recruits.

Nancy Sheehan, Clinical Assistant Professor
Recruited last year, Professor Sheehan earned her bachelor in pharmacy at Laval University in 1997, where she went on to complete a master's in hospital pharmacy in 1998. She then did her residency specializing in pharmacy (HIV/AIDS) at Toronto General Hospital/Hôpital St-Michael.

Co Pham, Clinical Assistant Professor
A 2004 graduate of University of British Columbia (Pharm.D.), Professor Pham plans to devote his efforts to gastroenterology. Currently completing a fellowship at University of Michigan, he will join the Faculty teaching staff a little later this year.

As clinical professors, both will practice in a hospital and offer high level pharmaceutical care for about 50% of their time. The other 50% will be devoted to academic and scholarly activities.

In Memoriam

Guy Saheb, an eminent colleague

It was with profound regret that we learned that Guy Saheb passed away last January 4 during a well deserved vacation in Gabes, Tunisia.

A colleague at the Faculty for many years and adjunct professor since 1989, Guy Saheb brought us the full benefit of his unique knowledge and expertise in the area of regulatory aspects of drug development. The management and staff of the Faculty wish to express their heartfelt sympathy to his family, his friends and his colleagues at Merck Frosst Canada, where he held the position of Director, Regulatory Affairs.

MEMORIAL UNIVERSITY OF NEWFOUNDLAND

Academic Appointments

Dr. **Debbie Kelly** will be promoted to Associate Professor effective September 1, 2005.

Dr. **Husam Younes** will have an extension of his tenure-track appointment effective September 1, 2005.

Individual Faculty News

An important license agreement has been made between North Atlantic Biopharma Inc. (NABPI) and Guangzeng Pharmaceutical Group of Guangdong, China, to bring a seal oil-based pharmaceutical product to market in China. Drs. **Hu Liu**, **Lili Wang** and **Taki Kara** from the School of Pharmacy, and Dr. Philip Davis from the Department of Biochemistry, jointly founded North Atlantic Biopharma Inc. (NABPI) in 2001. The company develops pharmaceuticals derived from marine biological materials from the North Atlantic Ocean. The marquee pharmaceutical product being developed is a unique seal oil-based lipid emulsion used in feeding patients who have difficulty digesting essential nutrients orally such as traumatic and post-surgery patients. While NABPI is conducting some of the pre-clinical studies on MUN campus, the Chinese company is aimed to invest about \$8-10 million to complete tests and set up manufacturing

facilities in China. It is estimated that the development will take three to five years before it reaches the market, which is estimated at \$160 million per year in China. Announcement of this license agreement was made by Dr. Axel Meisen (president of Memorial University), Kathy Dunderdale (Minister of Innovation, Trade and Rural Development, Government of Newfoundland and Labrador), Ken Martin (director of Business Programs for the Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency), and David Rideout (Atlantic and Nunavut director of the National Research Council's Industrial Research Assistance Program). It was also reported in The Telegram, Saturday March 12, 2005 and on the NTV evening news.

The Research Centre for Fisheries Byproduct, with stakeholders **Drs. Daneshtalab** and Shahidi from Memorial University, two stakeholders from Dalhousie University, one stakeholder from McGill University and one from St. Francis Xavier University, is off the ground. Dr. Daneshtalab will have a biological test facility (including lab and equipment) which will be mainly used for antimicrobial work.

Recent publications:

Specific details of Dr. Younes' book chapter relating to his Journal of Pharmaceutical Sciences article about Interferon-gamma therapy are as follows: **Younes HM**. 2005. *Interferon-gamma Therapy*. In Topp EM, Editor. JPS Compendium of Reviews: Biopharmaceutics and Drug Delivery, 1st Ed. New York: McGraw-Hill, 2005, ISBN 1582120730.

Timothy F. Loomis, Chaomei Ma, and **Mohsen Daneshtalab**, *Medicinal Plants and Herbs of Newfoundland. Part 1. Chemical Constituents of the Aerial Part of the Pineapple Weed (Matricaria matricarioides)*. Daru (2004); 12(4):131-135.

Vern Curran, **Gerry Mugford**, Sandra MacDonald, **Rebecca Law**. *Influence of an Interprofessional HIV/AIDS Education Program on Role Perception, Attitudes and Teamwork Skills of Undergraduate Health Sciences Students*. Education for Health: Change in Learning and Practice, Issue 18, Number 1, March 2005.

Presentations:

Dr. Mohsen Daneshtalab has two abstracts accepted for podium and poster presentations in the 20th International Congress of Heterocyclic Chemistry (20-ICHC), which will be held in Palermo, Italy July 31 to August 05, 2005. The one for podium presentation covers the design and synthesis of peptidomimetic analogues of Echinocandins, and the poster presentation covers the design, synthesis, and biological evaluation of novel quinolones with anti-cancer activities. He will also give a short presentation about St. John's and MUN and the potential of our city/university to hold the 2009, 22-ICHC meeting in St. John's. Dr. Daneshtalab noted this is a good opportunity to put MUN on the global scientific map.

Dr. Gerry Mugford has an abstract accepted as a short oral presentation at the 93rd Annual CPhA conference in Quebec City, May 23-31, 2005. The title of his abstract is "The Truer Picture of the Continuing Education Preferences of Newfoundland and Labrador Pharmacists: Can we apply what we learned to managing diseases such as HIV?"

Dr. Rebecca Law has an abstract accepted as an oral presentation at the “IPE2005: Interprofessional Education: Grounding Action in Theory” conference in Toronto, May 26-27, 2005. The title of her abstract is “*An Interprofessional HIV/AIDS Teaching Module for Pharmacy, Nursing, Medicine and Social Work Students*”. Other faculty involved in the research are Drs. Sandra MacDonald, **Gerry Mugford**, Vern Curran, Gale Burford, and Ian Bowmer.

Dr. Debbie Kelly was invited to make a presentation to the Provincial Ministerial Advisory Committee on Seniors regarding the findings of her research study, which profiled medication use across the province and estimated the prevalence of inappropriate medication use among seniors. The presentation took place on March 17th and was entitled “*Medication Use Among Seniors: Benchmarks and Opportunities for Improvement*”.

Dr. Rebecca Law led an Oriental exercise break and was a member of the Planning Committee for a conference titled: *Weaving a Warm Tapestry – Nurturing, Caring and Thriving in a Pluralistic Society*, held on March 5, 2005 in St. John’s. The conference highlighted the diversity of cultures in Newfoundland and Labrador and presented issues relating to immigration, international adoption and human rights.

The event was sponsored by the Office of Professional Development, Memorial University Faculty of Medicine. There will be future annual conferences dealing with issues relating to cultural sensitivity.

Opportunities

The School currently has openings for three faculty positions as follows:

1. A Tenure-Track appointment in **Pharmacology, Toxicology and Drug Metabolism**. The appointment will be at the level of Assistant Professor. (**Reference Number PHAR-2005-01**)
2. A Regular 3-year Term Appointment (with a possibility of conversion to tenure-track), in **Biopharmaceutics, Pharmacokinetics and Pharmaceutical Analysis**. The appointment will be at the level of Assistant Professor. (**Reference Number PHAR-2005-02**)
3. A Regular 2-year Term appointment in **Drug Information**. The appointment will be at the level of Lecturer or Assistant Professor. (**Reference Number PHAR-2005-03**)

For details and more information, please view the three job postings available at the AFPC website: <http://www.afpc.info/news/jobpostings.php>

UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO

General Faculty News

Health disciplines tackle a case study in pain treatment and management

Excerpt from: Teamwork paramount during ‘Pain Week’- a report presented in *news@UofT*, March 22, 2005 <http://www.news.utoronto.ca/bin6/print/050322-1144.htm>

When it comes to promoting interdisciplinary healthcare teams, the University of Toronto’s health sciences faculties are way ahead of Ontario’s Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care (MOH). For a week each year, second- and third-year students from nursing, pharmacy, dentistry, medicine and occupational and physical therapy meet to tackle a case study in pain treatment and management. This year’s event, chaired by Judi Hunter of Physical Therapy, brought 754 students and 83 volunteer facilitators together to determine how to treat “Sarah,” a fictional woman suffering from pain as the result of a car accident. For three days in mid-March, the students attended lectures about pain treatment and met in teams to create a treatment plan. Facilitators guided the

conversation, urging them to consider issues they might have overlooked. On the final day, they shared their ideas with classmates and faculty. A number of the teams offered plans that included counselling, medication, ergonomics and exercise, each a piece of the puzzle that might be ignored without collaboration.

Watt-Watson said it’s important to offer interdisciplinary opportunities at the undergraduate level. “If we don’t get to people early in their student careers, their ideas about their colleagues and their approaches to pain have hardened,” she said. “This brings all students together.” Jake McCracken, a pharmacy student, said he valued the interaction with students from other faculties more than the pain curriculum itself. “In pharmacy, we tend to focus on drugs, but here, we get to see how others approach the problem and how our decisions about medication can affect people from a non-pharmacist’s perspective,” he said. “I think we should do more of this. It helps prevent the traditional turf wars and teaches us to work together, rather than step on each other’s toes.”

Individual Faculty News

SOT Novartis Graduate Student Fellowship Award:

Andrea Wong. One SOT fellowship is awarded to a student nearing the final year of their doctoral training. Candidates submit a detailed research plan for the coming year, along with copies of their publications and a curriculum vitae. Andrea received the Novartis fellowship based upon her proposed studies titled, "The role of oxidative DNA damage and repair in

teratogenesis". (US\$16,000 plus US\$1,000 for travel expenses to attend the 2005 annual SOT meeting)

Grants

Dr. Raymond Reilly and Dr. Katherine Vallis (P.I.) have been awarded a 3-year grant from the **Canadian Breast Cancer Foundation (CBCF)**, for the project: "Optimization of Systemic Auger Electron Radiotherapy for Breast Cancer". The total amount awarded was \$ 200,022 for 2005-2008.

TAKING NOTE

CPHA REPORT



CPhA's Board of Directors met February 25-26, 2005 in Ottawa. This newsletter will report on the meeting and recent CPhA activities.

Financial Update

At its February meeting, the Board reviews the previous year's financial statements and approves the budget for the year ahead. Financial results for 2004 showed a year end surplus close to budget. A small surplus is budgeted again in 2005, most of which will be allocated to further the development of CPhA's electronic publication capabilities.

Over the past several decades, *CPS* revenue has enabled CPhA to provide leadership to the profession and to carry out countless initiatives in government advocacy, pharmacy practice research and in the provision of resources and tools for pharmacists. Careful stewardship of this CPhA resource is an important role of the Board, both for the future of CPhA and Canadian pharmacy. Although print sales of *CPS* have not begun to decline, it is predicted that they will fall over the next 1 to 3 years as confidence grows in the e-CPS and with broader Internet connectivity. For this reason, the economic sustainability of CPhA's electronic products has become a priority. Business consultants have been hired to provide expert advice to staff and the Board. A comprehensive report to include all CPhA's electronic products will be presented to the Board at its next meeting.

e-Therapeutics

The first release of e-Therapeutics is complete and information learned during this pilot will enhance the

development of release two scheduled for roll-out July 2005. e-Therapeutics is CPhA's project with Health Canada to build a suite of electronic tools to provide point-of-care access to current, evidence-based Canadian drug and therapeutic information for primary health care practitioners.

Government Advocacy

With the onset of the new year, CPhA staff and volunteers have engaged in a major round of government meetings. These have included meetings with Health Minister Ujjal Dosanjih, the new Deputy Minister of Health, the Chief Public Health Officer and senior policy advisors from the office of the Minister of Trade. Some of the issues discussed were the National Pharmaceutical Strategy, recommendations around the establishment of a National Medication Management Centre, cross-border drug trade and pharmacists' roles in ensuring public health.

Blueprint for Pharmacy

Changes in the pharmacy profession are essential to achieving health care reforms, particularly with enhanced roles for pharmacists in primary health care. Although substantial resources have been committed by governments to health care renewal, and various projects and programs are now underway to assist in moving the profession forward, the profession is lacking an overall high-level plan to guide and coordinate action over the next 5 to 10 years.

In recognition of this, CPhA proposes the development of a blueprint for the pharmacy profession, to ensure that pharmacy is “fit for purpose” for the health care system of the future. The plan would identify actions needed to achieve this goal. The first stage would involve work by a small group of pharmacy leaders. This will then be validated by a larger stakeholder group, including the CPhA Board, before being released to other stakeholders. Work plans are being developed and funding for this initiative is being sought.

Committee Reports

During the meeting, the Board received reports from several committees. The New Practitioners Advisory Committee is providing advice to staff on attracting new pharmacists as members and is planning events for new practitioners at the 2005 conference in Québec City. As well, the Centennial Committee is gearing up with plans to celebrate CPhA’s 100th anniversary in 2007. Be sure to visit the Centennial Committee at its exhibit booth at this year’s conference.

A Board Task Force on Committees presented its recommendations to engage members in productive and meaningful committee work. The Task Force will work with staff to flesh out the recommendations for implementation.

CPJ

This spring *CPJ* is taking an important step of its renewal since being brought back inhouse to CPhA in 2002. A new Editorial Board, chaired by Ross Tsuyuki,

one of Canada’s pre-eminent pharmacist researchers, was appointed in 2004, and along with senior management agreed that *CPJ* needs greater focus and commitment to excellence. Readers will see the first phase of the renewal in the June 2005 issue with the launch of a new name, *Canadian Pharmacists Journal/ Revue des pharmaciens du Canada*, a new design, and a change in the content mix.

Home Care

CPhA has recently completed a project, funded by Health Canada’s Population Health Fund, to study the role and duties of home support workers, develop training programs and identify specific pharmacists’ services to support home care workers in optimizing medications use in seniors receiving home care. The project’s overall aim was to reduce medication-related illness in the independent elderly receiving minimal assistance from a family (informal) caregiver. In the first phase barriers and facilitators to involving home support workers and pharmacists in assisting seniors with medication management were identified, while the second phase entailed developing a training program and tools, in both languages, to assist home support workers and seniors with medication management.

As part of the project, a screening tool for actual and potential medication problems for use by home support workers, a resource guide for home support workers and seniors, and a medication training program/workshop for home support workers, were developed and are available from CPhA.

CPhA Conference in Québec City – May 28-31, 2005

Information on CPhA’s conference has been mailed to all members with the *CPJ* and is available on the [CPhA website](#). Be sure to register before the early-bird deadline of April 16, 2005. You can register online.

Rendez-vous Québec promises an outstanding line up of educational sessions and social events in one of North

America’s most picturesque cities. We look forward to seeing you there.

The CPhA Board will meet again immediately before the conference in Québec City. Please contact me with any pharmacy issue that you think would be of interest to Board members. Also, if you have any questions or comments, please feel free to contact me at linda.suveges@usask.ca.

Linda Suveges
CPhA Board Member
(representing pharmacists in academia)

Contributors

Sylvie Marleau, President

<*sylvie.marleau@umontreal.ca*>

AFPC Councillors:

Roy Dobson, U of S

<*roy.dobson@usask.ca*>

Jean Lefebvre, U Laval

<*Jean.Lefebvre@crchul.ulaval.ca*>

Sharon Mitchell, U of A

<*smitchell@skylark.pharmacy.ualberta.ca*>

Ingrid Price, UBC

<*ingrid.price@ubc.ca*>

Lalitha Raman-Wilms, U of T

<*l.raman.wilms.a@utoronto.ca*>

Anne Marie Whelan, Dalhousie U

<*anne.marie.whelan@dal.ca*>

Daniel Thirion, U Montreal

<*daniel.thirion@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*>
