



AFPC COMMUNICATION

Association of Faculties of Pharmacy of Canada

Association des Facultés de Pharmacie du Canada

January/February 2007

Volume 18 No. 2

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Happy New Year to all AFPC members! I hope this edition of the newsletter finds you all healthy and happy as we begin the winter term. Certainly, the year 2007 promises to be a very busy and exciting year for your organization!!

We will be starting off the New Year with our midyear meeting scheduled for early February in Toronto. Council members will be working on reviewing and moving forward with our Strategic Plan. The various committee chairs will be providing updates on all of their activities; additionally we are looking forward to hearing about the progress with Program Evaluation from Dr. Ingrid Price and Dr. Sharon Mitchell.

Your organization has been asked to contribute to several initiatives over the last few months. For example, the Canadian Hospital Pharmacy Residency Board (CHPRB) is seeking written feedback on their draft 2010 Accreditation Standards from AFPC and PEP-Canada. I will be participating in a Stakeholder Consultation Workshop on the same topic at the 38th Annual Professional Practice Conference in Toronto in late January. In response to a request from the National Association of Pharmacy Regulatory Authorities (NAPRA), Susan Mansour has agreed to

represent AFPC for the review and revision of NAPRA's *Professional Competencies for Canadian Pharmacists at Entry to Practice*.

Additionally, Terri Schindel has agreed to represent AFPC as a member of the Task Force on the Blueprint for Pharmacy. It is exciting to see that the value of AFPC is being recognized! However, this would not be possible without all of you who respond to our requests and volunteer your time to represent your organization for these initiatives. We greatly appreciate your time and expertise and all your contributions to AFPC!!

Planning is well under way for the 64th AGM conference in the beautiful city of Montreal May 30th-June 2nd. The conference is being held jointly with the 10th Canadian Society for Pharmaceutical Sciences (CSPS) Annual Meeting and the 18th Pharmaceutical & Biomedical Analysis (PBA) Annual Meeting. The preliminary program looks very exciting with a joint session on "Hot topics in drug discovery and pharmacotherapy," and the Teachers Conference focusing on evaluation, outcomes and mentoring. For the first time, PEP-Canada will be making a presentation as part of the Teachers Conference. We look forward to hearing from this new group! The Pharmacy Practice Research Session will examine the "Impact of recent legislation on pharmacy practice, curriculum changes and pharmacy practice research". This joint meeting will provide ample opportunity for members from all three organizations to come together and share expertise and experiences. The poster session is an excellent opportunity to share your research and learn about the variety of research being done by others across the country. The deadline for abstracts is fast approaching so we encourage you all to submit as soon as possible. We look forward to an exciting meeting and hope to see many of you there!

Anne Marie Whelan

AFPC President, 2006-2007

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S CORNER

My very best wishes to colleagues and friends for 2007 and I hope that you had a very enjoyable Christmas and New Year's break. AFPC had a productive year in 2006 and is preparing to make significant progress on several important projects in 2007. The on line database of faculty research and teaching expertise is rapidly coming to fruition and we intend to have a working search model on the web site by the annual meeting in 2007. Former AFPC Executive member Sylvie Marleau of Montreal has been a strong champion of this project.

PEP Canada has emerged as a formal organization based on recommendations from the Task Force on Structured Practice Experiential Programs. Harriet Davis of Dalhousie and Annie Lee of Toronto share the chairperson role of PEP Canada and Ingrid Price of UBC is the AFPC representative. The group will meet with its national membership at the annual meeting in Montreal in May. A major objective of this organization is to develop and share best practices for a

In 2006, AFPC was actively involved in projects with a number of pharmacy and external health organizations. As an example, President Anne Marie Whelan represented AFPC at an international organization supporting pharmaceutical care in North America, continued to bring the interests of AFPC in pharmacy practice research to CPPRG, and was a participant in the initial planning of the blueprint for pharmacy initiative by CPhA. CPJ has invited AFPC to elect a representative to its editorial board. Greater ties with AACP have been generated as we plan for a joint meeting and conference in Chicago in 2008. These activities continue in 2007 with Susan Mansour of Dalhousie University representing AFPC to assist NAPRA in a review of the Professional Competencies for Canadian Pharmacists at Entry to Practice. Terri Schindel of the University of Alberta is representing AFPC on the Blueprint for Pharmacy Task Force that began its extensive work in January.

AFPC completed the year financially on a positive note although concern for the support of the awards program continues. Some emphasis is being given to raise awareness of AFPC activities with the individual pharmacy chains that employ the bulk of pharmacy graduates in Canada. Fortunately, many stakeholders continue to regard support of pharmacy education in

structured experiential curriculum for all Canadian Faculties and to communicate and work collaboratively with pharmacy stakeholder groups that are vital to this objective. An important goal of AFPC in 2007 is to be able to create web pages for PEP Canada on the AFPC web site that will provide a national centre for sharing and disseminating resources.

A major task that AFPC accepted in 2006 was the creation of a handbook of methods and tools for Faculties to undertake and report on program evaluation. This has become a key element of accreditation procedures and the Deans of Pharmacy are funding AFPC in this important undertaking. The accreditation body, CCAPP has been consulted in the initial planning and indications are that significant progress will be made this year towards developing a program evaluation guide for Canadian Pharmacy Faculties.

Canada as one of their priorities and do so through affiliate membership. We are always pleased to give recognition to their generous support by listing the Affiliate Members in each of our Newsletters and posting their contact information on our web site, <http://afpc.info/content.php?SectionID=2&ContentID=10&Language=en>

Other news:

AFPC Awards: Awards committee chair, Roy Dobson of Saskatchewan is pleased to note that there have been a healthy number of applications for the AstraZeneca New Investigator Award, the Pfizer Research Career Award, the Bristol-Myers Squibb National Education Award, and the Merck Frosst Graduate Fellowship Award. Reviewers for the awards are always in demand so if you feel that you can assist in the review of these awards, please contact Roy at rtd124@mail.usask.ca.

As a reminder, the GlaxoSmithKline Graduate Student Research Award nominations must be submitted to the Executive Director by March 1, 2007. Students intending to compete in the AFPC-Whit Matthews Graduate Student Poster Award and the AFPC Pharmacy Student Research Poster Award must have their abstracts in by the abstract deadline of March 16, 2007.

March 15, 2007 is also 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 for details of the awards and procedures for submitting nominations. <http://afpc.info/content.php?SectionID=5&ContentID=95&Language=en> . I should point out that AFPC has not received any applications for the Rx & D visitation program in the past two years. This is unfortunate because this award provides an excellent opportunity for faculty to establish key contacts within the Canadian Pharmaceutical Industry.

Conference 2007 in Montreal “International Symposium on Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences”: The AFPC 64th Annual Conference and Meetings will be held May 30 to June 2 in the Queen Elizabeth Hotel, Montréal, Québec. The 2007 AFPC Annual Conference is being held jointly with the 10th Canadian Society for Pharmaceutical Sciences (CSPS) Annual Meeting and the 18th Pharmaceutical & Biomedical Analysis (PBA) Annual Meeting. Although this is a joint conference, AFPC will be handling its own

Registration and Abstract Submission. AFPC posters will be presented in joint sessions with CSPS and PBA as this should significantly increase the exposure of poster presentations. All sessions of the joint conference are open to AFPC, CSPS and PBA registrants.

Call for abstracts: The call for abstracts, the abstract submission form and the on-line registration for the 2007 Conference is now active on the AFPC web site: <http://afpc.info/content.php?SectionID=3&Language=en> The deadline for submission of AFPC abstracts is Friday, March 16, 2007. Authors will be informed of acceptance no later than March 30, 2007. **Registration with AFPC is a requirement for review and presentation of an abstract through AFPC.** Hotel information is also provided.

Midyear Meetings: ADPC is meeting February 1-2 and the AFPC Council and Executive are meeting February 3-4, 2007 in Toronto. Both associations will hold their meetings in the new Faculty building on the University of Toronto campus.

**ASSOCIATION OF FACULTIES OF PHARMACY OF CANADA/
ASSOCIATION DES FACULTÉS DE PHARMACIE DU CANADA
AFFILIATE MEMBERS 2006-2007**

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Frank Abbott
Executive Director

FACULTY SPOTLIGHT: UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA

Donation: The Faculty of Pharmacy & Pharmaceutical Sciences is pleased to announce that Canada's largest drug store chain of companies, Edmonton-based Katz Group, and the Government of Alberta are each contributing \$7 million to the University of Alberta. This \$14 million dollar investment is the largest ever one-time gift to a Canadian pharmacy school.

The Katz Group has also committed to assist the University in raising an additional \$5.5 million from pharmaceutical and related industries. The provincial government has agreed to match those monies as well, for a total investment of \$25 million. As University of Alberta President Indira Samarasekera said, *"This gift enables us to provide the best education for our students and to support world-class research and its dissemination and translation"*.

When fully funded, \$12.5 million will be used to support capital costs of facilities construction, \$10.5 million to support state-of-the-art educational and research programs for pharmacy students and faculty, and \$2 million will be used to fund a joint health law research chair in the Faculty of Law.

Facilities: To acknowledge this significant donation, the University will officially name the health sciences building, now under construction at the corner of 87th Avenue and 114th Street, The Katz Group-Rexall Centre for Pharmacy and Health Research. When it opens in phases starting in fall 2007, the more than \$250 million building will give the University much-needed space to expand its health sciences research and educational activities in the heart of Edmonton's emerging health sciences district. The future Faculty home will be in this facility as well as in atrium-connected space in the adjacent Medical Sciences Building.



PEBC: The Faculty is very pleased with its outcomes in PEBCs over the years and was particularly gratified to hear that the students placed first in the country in both the OSCE and written exams in 2006.

Curriculum: In 2003, the Faculty began its new curriculum consisting of a series of integrated modules encompassing the basic pharmaceutical sciences and disease states. Each disease state module is fully integrated and includes anatomy, physiology, medicinal chemistry, pharmacology, pathophysiology and therapeutics as well as pharmacy practice laboratories. Comprehensive written exams and OSCEs have been

incorporated at the end of 2nd and 3rd years. Experiential programs of one month duration, following 1st year, and two weeks following 2nd year have been added to the program. In addition, the 4th year experiential program was extended from 12 to 16 weeks. Students are midway through the third year of the new curriculum and have accepted it very well.

Enrollment: In 2004 the Faculty was awarded base funding from the provincial government ACCESS program to increase undergraduate enrollment from 110 to 130 students. The Faculty's submission received the highest ranking of all University applications.

PharmD: The Faculty is currently developing an entry-Level PharmD program that will be phased-in for selected students and practitioners following the third year of the program.

Recruitment: The Faculty has been steadily building its cohort of staff members in order to enhance research and teaching activities. The following individuals have been welcome full-time additions to the Faculty since the year 2000: Dr. Loebenberg 2000 (Pharmaceutics), Stephanie Adamic 2001 (Pharmacy Practice), Cindy Nelson 2001 (Communications, Experiential), Marlene Gukert 2001 (Experiential), Dr. Afsaneh Lavasanifar 2001 (Pharmaceutics), Dr. Ayman El-Kadi 2001 (Metabolism), Dr. Anita Carrie 2002 (Pharmacoepidemiology), Dr. Dion Brocks 2002 (Pharmacokinetics), Dr. Kamaljit Kaur 2004 (Medicinal Chemistry), Dr. Nese Yuksel 2004 (Women's Health), Matt Tachuk 2004 (Pharmacy Practice), Dr. Scot Simpson 2004 (Diabetes), Dr. Michael Doschak 2005 (Bone Metabolism), Dr. John Seubert 2005 (Cardiovascular Pharmacology) and Dr. Lisa Guirguis 2006 (Pharmacy Practice). In addition, Dr. Christine

Hughes and Dr. Cheryl Weins have transitioned from non-tenure track to tenure track positions. Since 2000 the number of tenure track faculty has doubled. The Faculty has also recruited part-time members, including Dr. Elizabeth Mathews to coordinate the Hematology Module, Dr. Harold Lopatka to coordinate a course on the Canadian Health Care System and Brad Willsey to coordinate Pharmacy Management. We currently have two new positions advertised, one in Professional Practice and one in Pharmaceutical Sciences. The Faculty will soon be embarking on a strategic planning session to plan recruitment into several additional new positions as well as replacements for retirements.

AFPC/CAPSI: The Association of Faculties of Pharmacy of Canada Annual Conference was hosted by the Faculty in Edmonton on June 2-6, 2006. The focus of the conference was "Preparing Pharmacists for the Future" and was attended by over 75 delegates. In January 2008, the students from the Faculty will be hosting the CAPSI Professional Development week focusing on the theme "Empowering our Patients".

CSPS/JPPS: The Faculty is proud of its role in the development and support of the Canadian Society for Pharmaceutical Scientists (CSPS) and its electronic journal (Journal of Pharmacy & Pharmaceutical Sciences), both founded by Dr. Mo Jamali in 1997/98. The Journal is a free and open-access peer-reviewed online journal, the first of its kind in the field; ISI Impact Factor 2.042. The Society has played an integral role in bringing together pharmaceutical scientists from across Canada and many other countries.

Legislation: This has been an exciting year for pharmacy in the province of Alberta as the Faculty was engaged with the Alberta College of Pharmacists to establish legislation permitting expanded scope of practice for pharmacists in Alberta. On Nov. 7, 2006, Cabinet approved an order in council establishing the effective date for the *Health Professions Act* for pharmacists and the *Pharmacy and Drug Act* to be April 1, 2007. That date will mark the beginning of a new era in pharmacist practice, providing new opportunities for patients and pharmacists alike. The new regulations give

Alberta pharmacists the most comprehensive scope of practice in Canada. Pharmacists will have limited prescribing authority and other opportunities to expand their scope of practice. The benefits of pharmacists expanded scope of practice include patient choice, accessibility to care, optimal use of health workforce, cost containment and appropriate drug use.

Centenary: The University of Alberta will be launching a series of activities to celebrate its Centenary Year. The celebration will culminate on September 20, 2008 with a Centenary Dinner and fireworks presentation.

Farewell: It is with profound sadness that the Faculty acknowledges the passing of Dr. Ron Micetich in 2005 and Dr. Antoine (Tony) Noujaim in 2006. Their scientific contributions, nationally and internationally, were key factors in the flourishing life sciences sector in Edmonton. Both left impressive academic and scientific legacies and their research excellence, generosity, leadership, and collegiality will be greatly missed by the pharmaceutical community.

UNIVERSITÉ DE MONTRÉAL

Grants

Professor Annick Bérard received a CTCRI grant for 3 years as primary investigator for the project ‘Effect of discontinuing gestational use of antidepressants on the cognitive and behavioural development of infants’. W.D. Fraser and S. Perreault are co-investigators on the project.

Professor Annick Bérard has received a RQRUM grant for 2 years as primary investigator for the project titled ‘*Infrastructure de recherche pour le registre des grossesses du Québec*’. W.D. Fraser and S. Perreault are co-investigators on the project.

Professor Annick Bérard has received a grant as primary investigator for the project titled ‘Effect of discontinuing gestational use of antidepressants on maternal behaviours during pregnancy’. W.D. Fraser, L. Blais and S. Perreault are co-investigators on the project.

Professor Annick Bérard has received a grant for 2 years as primary investigator for the project titled ‘Antidepressant use during pregnancy: a pharmacogenetic study’. W.D. Fraser and S. Perreault are co-investigators on the project.

Professor Lucie Blais has received a grant as primary investigator for the project titled ‘*La banque de données sur l’usage des médicaments chez les personnes bénéficiant d’une assurance médicaments privée*’. A. Bérard is co-investigator on the project.

Other News

We are pleased to announce the arrival of Professor Martin Latterich who will focus his research in the field of pharmacogenomics.

The Faculté de pharmacie has had the honour to host the 5th International Deans’ Conference of Francophone Faculties of Pharmacy. More than 40 Deans from France, Algeria, Guinea, Haiti, Morocco, Vietnam, Romania, Burkina Faso, and Togo came to discuss their experience and perspectives on academic and research programs and pharmacy practice.

Awards

Professor Annick Berard received the Franz Rosa Award from the Organisation of Teratology Information Services (OTIS) for her excellence in research in teratology.

Professor Ema Ferreire has been received as Fellow in recognition for her outstanding contributions to the Canadian Society of Hospital Pharmacy.

Mme Marie Lordkipanidzé, Ph. D. candidate, under the direction of Professor Chantal Pharand, has been awarded the "Canadian Cardiovascular Society Student Presentation Award - Clinical Research" for her poster presentation titled "Effect of different dosing regimens of clopidogrel given before elective percutaneous coronary intervention on platelet function". This was presented at the Canadian Meeting on Cardiovascular Health that took place in Vancouver BC.

Professor Yola-Moride has been nominated as president-elect for the International Society of Pharmacoepidemiology (ISPE). Her term will begin in August 2007.

Fifty-one students of the Faculté de pharmacie received a total of 68 awards offered by 36 organizations and individuals in October 2006. These awards are offered in recognition of academic excellence and student services within the Faculty.

We look forward to greeting you at the upcoming 2007 Annual AFPC conference to be held at the Queen Elizabeth Hotel in exciting downtown Montreal!



UNIVERSITY OF MANITOBA

General Faculty News

The Faculty of Pharmacy kicked off the New Year on Tuesday, January 9, 2007, by holding the 2nd annual white coat ceremony for its first-year students. The ceremony recognizes pharmacy as part of the health profession.

New Appointments

Dr. Payal Patel was appointed on the CPhA/CSHP National Task Force on the Future of the National Pharmacy Forum.

Dr. Mike Namaka was recently appointed by the Common Drug Review Committee (CDR) to oversee the review of multiple sclerosis and neuropathic pain medications.

Grants

Alessi-Severini S. Use of antipsychotic agents in Manitoba: Prescribing and cost-effectiveness. Manitoba Medical Service Foundation.

Alessi-Severini S, Metge C. Reflections on Self-directed Learning: An Evaluation of a Project-based Course in the Faculty of Pharmacy. Centre for Higher Education and Research (CHERD).

Student News

Faculty of Pharmacy 2nd Annual Graduate Awards Reception

On November 13, 2006, 16:00 to 18:00, the faculty, staff and graduate students participated in the Reception to recognize the Pharmacy graduate students, including new students, graduated students and award recipients. Dr. Richard Lobdell, Vice-Provost (Programs) and Dean Jay Doering, Faculty of Graduate Studies brought greetings from the University and Graduate Studies respectively. Award donors, Dr. JoAnne Bugey, presented the Leslie F. Bugey Graduate Fellowship in Pharmacy, Bill Eamer and MPhA President, Pat Trozzo

presented the William G. Eamer/MPhA Graduate Scholarship in Pharmacy, while Dean Doering presented the Pfizer Canada, Inc. Centennial Research Award.

Graduate Students who have completed their degrees:

Dennis Cote passed his Ph.D. Oral Defence and submitted his Thesis. Title: Development and evaluation of a novel pharmaceutical dose form for the induction of emesis in canines. Committee: Dr. Frank Burczynski, Advisor, Dr. Dan Sitar, Dr. Xiaochen Gu, Dr. Keith Simons

Mutasem Rawas-Qalaji passed his Ph.D. Oral Defence and submitted his Thesis. Title: Formulation and assessment of fast-disintegrating sublingual epinephrine tablets for the potential emergency treatment of anaphylaxis. Committee: Dr. Keith Simons, Advisor, Dr. Yuewen Gong, Dr. Brian Hasinoff, Dr. Estelle Simons, Dr. Shirley Wu

Graduate Student Candidacy Exams:
Jianghong Fan (Advisor: Dr. Yuewen Gong)

Graduate Student Awards:

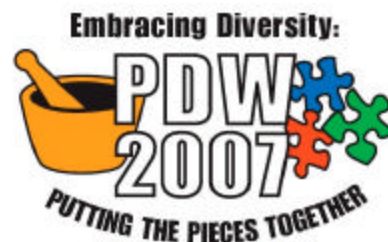
Teresa Takla (Advisor: Dr. Vercaigne) - The Leslie F. Bugey Graduate Fellowship in Pharmacy
Ting Chen (Advisor: Dr. Gu) - The Pfizer Canada Inc., Centennial Pharmacy Research Award
Hongtao Li (Advisor: Dr. Gu) - The William G. Eamer/MPhA Graduate Scholarship in Pharmacy

New Graduate Students:

Ms. Ting Chen for M.Sc. September, 2006 (Advisor: Dr. Xiaochen Gu)
Mr. Hongjun Jing, for M.Sc. September, 2006 (Advisors: Drs. Silvia Alessi-Severini and Anita Kozyrskyj)
Mr. Ousama Mahmoud Rachid for Ph.D. January, 2007 (Advisor: Dr. Keith Simons)

Professional Development Week 2007

The University of Manitoba's Faculty of Pharmacy hosted Professional Development Week, which took place January 17-21, 2007. An initiative of the Canadian Association of Pharmacy Students and Interns (CAPSI), this annual conference gives pharmacy students the opportunity to explore the challenges and possibilities of their future profession. With over 500 pharmacy students from across the country in attendance, PDW remains the largest student health care conference in Canada.



Through the theme *“Embracing Diversity: Putting the Pieces Together”*, the PDW 2007 Planning Committee aimed to expose students to unique aspects of pharmacy practice. The educational portion of the conference featured talented and dynamic speakers who are experts and leaders in a wide range of fields including economics, business, microbiology, forensics and hospital & community practice. Opening the conference as Keynote Speaker was Myrella Roy, who currently serves as the Executive Director of the Canadian Association of Hospital Pharmacists, and spoke about her experiences with Pharmacists Without Borders. While several speakers shared their international pharmacy experiences, many discussions focused on issues facing Canadian practices such as antimicrobial resistance, sports medicine, prescribing rights and economics. Closing the conference as a Motivational Speaker was Stephen Lewis – UN Secretary-General’s Special Envoy for HIV/AIDS in Africa. Recognized by TIME magazine’s list of “100 most influential people in the world”, Mr. Lewis delivered an intense and thought-provoking presentation that was truly inspirational.

Students also put their skills to the test in competitions such as Patient Interview Competition (PIC), Over The Counter (OTC), Compounding and Literary Challenge. The game-show style “Pharmafacts” contest was a

crowd favorite, with the University of Saskatchewan claiming first place.

From the Mardi Gras Opening Gala to the Winter Wonderland Closing Banquet, the week was topped off with great social events, where students made lasting friendships with their future colleagues. Students are already looking forward to Professional Development Week 2008 in Edmonton Alberta!



PDW 2007 Planning Committee
(L to R: Alanna Borkowsky, Keri Hrabchak, Cheryl Shaver, Adrienne Dufour, Julia Bonnefoy, Ashley Stepaniuk, James Bogue)

UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO

Awards

Innovation in Safe Medication Practices Award 2007 received by **Olavo Fernandes**, **Jana Bajcar**, Yvonne Kwan, Jeff Nagge and Gary Wong for their project **“Pharmacist Medication Assessment in a Surgical Pre-Admission Clinic (SPPACE).”**

Canadian Society of Hospital Pharmacist conferred the status of CSHP Fellow to **Dr. Olavo Fernandes** at the PPC 2007 Conference.

Grants

Austin Z Measurement of English Language Training Needs for IPGs using Canadian Language Benchmarks
Funder: Citizenship and Immigration Canada (CIC)
Date: Oct 2006 – March 2008

Austin Z: An exploratory study examining internationally educated health professionals’ learning needs related to the culture, law, ethics, and organization of the Canadian health care system.
Funder: Health Canada
Date: September 2006 – April 2008

Bajcar J is a co-investigator on a Canadian Institute Health Research (CIHR) Grant that was received for the project “Discontinuity of chronic medications in seniors surviving ICU admissions: Enhancing medication safety.” Other investigators include Bell C (PI), Bierman A, Scales D, Urbach D, and Zwarenstein M.

UNIVERSITY OF SASKATCHEWAN

General College News

The College of Pharmacy and Nutrition held its second White Coat Ceremony on January 8, 2007 with Dr. Martha Blum (93 years of age) giving the Welcoming Address. Dr. Blum is a multilingual writer, pianist, singer, and voice teacher who pursued her artistic and cultural work through decades of work as a pharmacist. Following immigration to Canada in 1951, Martha worked in the College of Pharmacy as laboratory demonstrator and Sessional Lecturer in the area of pharmaceutical galenicals. Her first book, The Walnut Tree, was published in 1999. Martha received two Saskatchewan Book Awards for the novel and it was a finalist for the Canadian Bookseller Association's Libris Award. Her second book, Children of Paper, appeared in 2002, as a collection of short stories depicting a small town (a shtetl) at the beginning of the twentieth century. Her third book, The Apothecary, was published in August 2006.

In October, at our University's Fall 2006 Convocation, Martha was awarded an Honorary Doctor of Letters degree, in recognition of her outstanding accomplishments as an artist, writer, teacher and professional. Her inspirational welcome to the Pharmacy profession was a highlight for the 90 students from the Class of 2010. Dr. Glen Bryan Baker was also honoured at the Fall 2006 Convocation where he received the U of S Alumni Award of Achievement. Dr Baker obtained his BSP in 1970, M.Sc. in 1972, Ph.D. in 1974 and D.Sc. in 2000, all from the University of Saskatchewan. Dr Baker is a Tier 1 Canada Research Chair at the University of Alberta.

Individual Faculty News

Dr. Adil Nazarali is serving as Head of the Division of Pharmacy for the 2006-2007 academic year.

Recent Grants

Carol Henry, Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada entitled, "Healthy Children – Strengthening the Promotion of Healthy Lifestyles Behaviors and Reducing Obesity Among School-aged Children in Trinidad and Tobago".

Dennis K.J. Gorecki, Government of Saskatchewan (Health) entitled, "Implementing and Evaluating Reimbursement Models for Pharmacists in Primary Health Care Teams".

Graduate Student News

May 2007 Spring Convocation

Samuel Edward Gilchrist, M.Sc. Student (Pharmacy), "Transporter Gene Expression in Rat Lactating Mammary Epithelial Cells and Primary Organoid Cultures using Quantitative Real-Time Reverse Transcription Polymerase Chain Reaction (QRT-PCR)" - Supervisor Dr. Jane Alcorn.

Liang (Julia) Ji, M.Sc. Student (Nutrition), "Effect of Protein-Energy Malnutrition on Nuclear Factor Kappa B Activation Following Global Ischemia" - Supervisor Dr. Phyllis Paterson.

October 2006 Fall Convocation

Angela Chung, M.Sc. Student (Toxicology), "Validation of an Ultra Performance Liquid Chromatography

Tandem Mass Spectrometry (UPLCTM/MS/MS) Method for Forensic Analysis: Confirmation and Quantitation of Lysergic Acid Diethylamide (LSD) and its Congeners in Forensic Samples" - Supervisor Dr. Gord McKay.

Danton Lorne Danielson, M.Sc. Student (Interdisciplinary Studies), "Factors Contributing to Clinical Output Among GP/FPs" - Supervisor Dr. Roy Dobson.

Fawzy Elbarbry, Ph.D. Student (Pharmacy), "A Development Model of Hepatic Cytochrome P450 Enzyme-mediated Elimination: Evaluation of Model Assumptions" - Supervisor - Dr. Jane Alcorn.

Ya-ning (Helen) Lo, M.Sc. Student (Pharmacy), "Consumers' Expectations of Over-the-Counter (OTC) Medicines: Location of Sale" - Supervisor Dr. Jeff Taylor.

Melanie Ann Tait, M.Sc. Student (Pharmacy), "Effect of the Flaxseed Lignan, Secoisolariciresinol Diglucoside, and its Aglycone on Cholesterol Parameters in a Rat Model" - Supervisors Dr. Jane Alcorn and Dr. Ed Krol.

Hassanali Vatanparast, Ph.D. Student (Nutrition), "The Impact of Food and Nutrient Intake on Bone from Childhood to Early Adulthood" - Supervisor Dr. Susan Whiting.

DALHOUSIE UNIVERSITY

Academic Appointments

We are pleased to welcome Peter Zed as an Associate Professor at the College of Pharmacy with a cross appointment with the Capital District Health Authority. Peter is teaching in the cardiovascular section of our curriculum and is coordinating the third year Critical Appraisal Series.

Bev Zwicker BSc (Pharm), Coordinator of Continuing Pharmacy Education and co-coordinator of the first year class, Pharmacy Law and Health Care Ethics, has resigned her position and is the new Deputy Registrar of the Nova Scotia College of Pharmacists.

Individual Faculty News

David Gardner was selected by the class of 2006 as the recipient of the Dr. Jessie I. MacKnight Teaching Award.

Neil MacKinnon has been named a fellow of the Canadian Society of Hospital Pharmacists.

Kent Groves successfully completed an Interdisciplinary Ph.D. and graduated from Dalhousie University in October 2006. Drs. Neil MacKinnon and Ingrid Sketris were thesis committee members (Topic: A model to assess the rate of adoption of new prescription drugs by physicians). Kent also was awarded the best student poster at the 2006 Canadian Association for Health Services and Policy Research (CAHSPR) Annual Conference held September 17-19 in Vancouver, BC. Kent's poster, "Prescribing Cyclooxygenase-2 Inhibitors (COX-2s): A New Model of Adoption", presented evaluation research of physician prescribing activity using criteria by which various prescribing segments may be identified. Kent is currently an Assistant Professor, Marketing, at The F.C Manning School of Business, Acadia University.

Ingrid Sketris facilitated a mentoring workshop entitled "Fostering and Strengthening New Careers in Academic Medicine" on Wednesday, November 8, 2006. This workshop was sponsored by the Capital District Medical Staff Association, Halifax, Nova Scotia.

Neil MacKinnon was keynote speaker and a workshop leader on the topic of seamless care for the joint community and hospital pharmacy sections educational program at the International Pharmaceutical Federation (FIP) Annual Congress in Salvador, Bahia, Brazil in August, 2006. Neil was invited to deliver these presentations again at the Annual Pharmacy Conference, Universidad Central de Venezuela, Caracas, Venezuela in October, 2006.

Katrina Hurley, Masters in Health Informatics student and Drug Use Management and Policy Resident, received the annual Steven Huesing Scholarship (2006) from COACH (Canadian Organization for the Advancement of Computers in Health). This is a prestigious award as it recognizes the academic and research achievements of the recipient in the field of health informatics. The competition invited applications from students enrolled in Canadian post-graduate health informatics or health care information management programs.

Neil MacKinnon was keynote speaker on the topic "Safe and Effective? A Closer Look at the Medication Use System" for the Medication Seamless Care – Patient Safety Conference in Sydney, NS, in October.

Neil MacKinnon was the co-leader for the Canadian Patient Safety Institute's research workshops held in Ottawa and Edmonton.

Opportunities

The 4th Canadian Therapeutics Congress (CTC) will be held in Halifax, Nova Scotia from Sunday, May 27 to Wednesday, May 30, 2007 at the Westin Nova Scotian Hotel. The CTC is a joint meeting of the Canadian Association for Population Therapeutics (CAPT), Canadian College of Clinical Pharmacy (CCCP), and the Canadian Society for Clinical Pharmacology (CSCP). This joint congress provides an unprecedented opportunity for those interested in therapeutics in Canada to discuss the important issues related to the discovery and use of drugs in Canada. Together the CAPT, CSCP and CCCP organizations represent an influential group of researchers, clinicians involved in patient care, industry representatives, program administrators, and policy makers involved in seminal drug therapy decision making at the local, regional, provincial and national levels.

The theme of the 2007 congress is **The Virtuous Circle: Therapeutics from Molecule to Practice to Population and Back**. This meeting promises to be very exciting, with sessions exploring therapeutics for vulnerable populations, therapeutic innovations, human resources in drug evaluation, health technology assessment, information technology, drug policy, and advances in therapeutics education. Over 1000 participants from academia, government, clinical practice, and industry attended the past two congresses, in Vancouver and Toronto. The organizing committee of the Halifax congress is working hard to ensure that the calibre of the meeting will match if not surpass the high standards established by the previous meetings.

You are invited to submit abstracts to one of the participating societies using the website submission process located at: www.capt-actp.com, www.cccp.ca or www.cscp.net. You do not need to be a member of any of the societies to submit an abstract. Abstracts will be processed for submission in one central location and

will be reviewed for scientific merit and acceptance by the scientific program committee of the society where the abstract has been submitted. The deadline for submitting abstracts is midnight February 9, 2007. You will receive confirmation of your submission via email and be notified by March 16, 2007 regarding your abstract acceptance.

All abstracts accepted for presentation will be published in the *Canadian Journal of Clinical Pharmacology* at www.cjcp.ca/hm. Abstracts from the 2006 Congress are available for viewing in the Volume 13 (1) Winter 2006 edition of the Journal.

The International Society for Pharmacoepidemiology (ISPE) is holding its 23rd International Conference on Pharmacoepidemiology and Therapeutic Risk Management, August 19-22, 2007, Quebec City, Canada. Abstract Submission Deadline: February 16, 2007. Website: <http://www.pharmacoepi.org/>

Major Visitors

Dr. Jaime Caro, MDCM, Scientific Director, Caro Research Institute and Judith O'Brien, R.N., B.S.P.A., Director of Cost Research, Caro Research Institute visited the College of Pharmacy, IMPART (Initiative for Medication Management, Policy Analysis, Research and Training) on October 19, 2006. They both presented at the IMPART Research Seminar Series. Presentation Titles: Dr. Jaime Caro: "Pharmacoeconomics: Are We Fostering Better Decisions?" and Judith O'Brien: "DRGs: Not the Utopian Common Denominator for Estimating Case Costs Across Countries".

Dr. Trent McLaughlin visited the College of Pharmacy, IMPART (Initiative for Medication Management, Policy Analysis, Research and Training) on December 21, 2006. He is a Dalhousie University College of Pharmacy alumnus and Director of Pharmacoeconomics of Elan Pharmaceuticals, South San Francisco, California. His presentation was entitled, "The Role of Pharmacoepidemiology and Pharmacoeconomics in Outcomes Research."

New Grants/Renewals

Principal Investigators: Diana Lawlor and Bernadette Gatien; Co-Investigators: Dr. Michael Vallis, Dept. of

Psychiatry, Capital District Health Authority; Dr. Ingrid Sketris, College of Pharmacy, Dalhousie University; Dr. Ehud Ur, Division of Endocrinology, Dept. of Medicine, Capital District Health Authority. Title: "Development of an Instrument to Evaluate Self-Monitoring of Blood Glucose in Patients with Type 2 Diabetes". Funded by: Capital Health Research Fund.

The Astra-Zeneca Research Award from the Canadian College of Clinical Pharmacy - Investigators: Susan Bowles, College of Pharmacy and Pharmacy Department, Capital District Health Authority and Kenneth Rockwood, Division of Geriatric Medicine, Dalhousie University. Title: "Pilot Study to Explore the Effect of Concomitant Anticholinergic Drug Use on Response to Cholinesterase Inhibitors".

Investigators: Susan Bowles, College of Pharmacy and Pharmacy Department, Capital District Health Authority, Lilani Kumaranayake, Department of Economics, Dalhousie University and Robert Strang, Public Health Services, Capital District Health Authority. Title: "What is the Role of Pharmacies in the Provision of Influenza Immunizations?" Sponsored by: Green Shield Foundation.

UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

Awards

Dr. Mary Ensom received the prestigious Russell R. Miller Publication Award “in recognition of substantial contributions to the literature of clinical pharmacy, thereby advancing both clinical pharmacy practice and rational pharmacotherapy” at the Annual Meeting of the American College of Clinical Pharmacy in St. Louis. Congratulations, Mary!

Mary Ensom and Nilu Partovi received the CSHP-BC Branch Publication Award for their original research article entitled "Limited sampling strategy for predicting area under the concentration-time curve of mycophenolic acid in adult lung transplant recipients" (other co-authors included: Lillian Ting, Bob Levy, and Wayne Riggs).

Dr. Roger Wong and pharmacy student, Anna Liu, received the Long Term Health Award from Pfizer for “Medication Assessment of Geriatric Inpatients by Clinical Pharmacists”. This award is sponsored by Pfizer and is available for a scholarly paper or publication 1) describing the contributions of pharmacists to the health care of geriatric patients; 2) demonstrating significant innovations and the contributions of pharmacists to the health care of geriatric patients; 2) demonstrating significant innovations and more developments in the pharmacists contribution to the health care of geriatric patients, or; 3) original research that will contribute to the health care of geriatric patients.

Grants

Simon P. Albon, Devon A. Cancilla (Western Washington University) and Larry Gilbert (Western Washington University) have been awarded a three-year grant (2006-09) from the National Science Foundation for their project entitled, “Expanding the use of Remote Scientific Instrumentation within the Curriculum: Continued Development of the Integrated Laboratory Network”.

Simon P. Albon, Devon A. Cancilla (Western Washington University), Sharon Brewer (Thompson Rivers University), Bruno Cinel (Thompson Rivers University), Daniel Erasmus (University of Northern

British Columbia) have been awarded a three-year grant (2006-09) from the Province of British Columbia’s BC Campus Fund for their project entitled, “Developing an Integrated Laboratory Network to Enhance Science Education in British Columbia.”

Dr. Larry Lynd, co-investigator with Principle Investigator Dr. John Ogrodniczuk, Faculty of Medicine, received a MSFHR Team Planning Award for their proposed CoRRReCT (Collaborative Resources for Research on Counseling and Therapy) Groups in Psychiatry team.

MEMORIAL UNIVERSITY OF NEWFOUNDLAND

New Appointments

Dr. Marcel Musteata (Pharmacokinetics) will be joining the faculty in April 2007 as an Assistant Professor.

Keith Bailey will be joining the School as a sessional lecturer. He will be teaching the business aspects of pharmacy practice.

Individual Faculty News

Dr. Mohsen Daneshlab received a grant from Iceberg Canada to further his research into the production of alcohol that produces no “hang-over”. He has also applied and received a provisional patent with the U.S. Patent Office for his current research in this field.

General School News

Currently the School is undergoing renovations to our undergraduate and research laboratory space. The pharmaceuticals laboratory and research facilities will be completed first, with a brand new professional practice lab being completed by the end of summer 2007.

The School held its first White Coat Ceremony. It involved representation from key figures in the pharmacy community as well as from the University itself (the president, Axel Meisen). The ceremony was a resounding success.

UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA

New Faculty

Dr. Lisa M Guirguis has recently joined the Faculty in the Division of Pharmacy Practice as an Assistant Professor. Dr. Guirguis graduated with Distinction from University of Alberta with a B.Sc. (Pharm) in 1997, and received an M.Sc. (Pharmaceutical Sciences) from University of Alberta in 2001. In 2006, Dr. Guirguis received a Ph.D. (Social and Administration Sciences in Pharmacy), from the University of Wisconsin, where her major area of specialization was Pharmacy Practice Research.

Dr. Guirguis's expertise in the behavioural sciences and experience in community pharmacy underpins her work in four main areas: health outcomes research, survey measurement, health communication, and medication taking behaviours. Her pharmacy practice research has focused on how to help pharmacists adopt feasible programs related to monitoring and counselling patients with chronic conditions such as hypertension, high cholesterol and diabetes. Specific research and teaching interests address the role of pharmacists in providing

care to patients with chronic diseases, practice change in community pharmacy, patient-pharmacist communications, the concordance framework in medication taking behaviours, and adapting techniques from the social sciences for research in pharmacy practice.

Awards

The Faculty received a Commonwealth of Learning Excellence in Distance Education Award for distance education materials. This Award was developed to recognize excellence in materials produced by publicly-funded or not-for-profit institutions in Commonwealth countries. The Faculty was selected for its materials on PHARMALearn - Anticoagulation and is one of three Commonwealth institutions selected by an Adjudication Panel of experts.

Terri Schindel accepted the Award on behalf of the Faculty at the Fourth Pan-Commonwealth Forum on Open Learning held in Jamaica on 30 Oct – 03 Nov 2006.

Achievements

U of A becomes national centre for Humboldt Association

The University of Alberta has recently partnered with the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation at the University of Munich an internationally renowned research foundation to facilitate collaboration between Canada and Germany.

Dr. Len Wiebe, a professor in the U of A Faculty of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences is a long-time Humboldt Scholar and now a Humboldt International Ambassador Scientist. In this capacity, he promotes Humboldt programs around the world.

He explained that the Humboldt Foundation benefits U of A scientists in many ways, including providing “an opportunity for younger faculty members to continue their research in Germany with the support of fellowship money.”

“The Humboldt Foundation also offers a program of postdoctoral fellowships for young Germans to go abroad through the Humboldt program. It means that Canadian scholars also have the chance to recruit top young scientists from Germany for postdoctoral periods.”

TAKING NOTE

RxFiles Drug Comparison Charts

Many pharmacy faculty will be aware of the RxFiles Drug Comparison Charts. These charts are compiled by pharmacists and physicians working with the RxFiles Academic Detailing Program in Saskatchewan. They feature objective, comparative and Canadian drug tables that are updated regularly. The charts are originally developed as a reference tool for a therapeutic newsletter and they are somewhat famous for fitting a lot on one page. Pharmacy educators may wish to take advantage of this teaching tool by

recommending the books as a practical pharmacotherapy reference. Individual drug charts are also available upon request for use as teaching supplements and the most up to date versions of individual charts can be ordered. Colleges and student groups can take advantage of special bulk order pricing on the books. Books are available for order from the RxFiles, the CMA Online store, and select university bookstores. For more information, check the RxFiles website at www.RxFiles.ca or contact their office at 306-655-8506.

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