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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

With the arrival of spring and renewed energy and enthusiasm, I would like to encourage you to attend the 64th AGM conference in the beautiful city of Montreal from May 30th to 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 program looks very exciting with sessions on the impact of legislative changes, the Teachers Conference focusing on mentoring and cross-curricular competencies and a joint session on topics in drug discovery and pharmacotherapy. We are excited that, 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 poster session is an excellent opportunity to share

your research and share expertise and experiences. We look forward to an exciting meeting and hope to see many of you there!

As noted in the last newsletter, AFPC started off the New Year with our midyear meeting in early February in Toronto at the new Leslie Dan Faculty of Pharmacy Building on the University of Toronto campus. Thanks to Zubin Austin and Lalitha Raman-Wilms for hosting a great meeting! We continue to move forward on our Strategic Plan and on the development of the program evaluation.

On a personal note, this is my last President's Message as President of your Association. It has been an honour and a pleasure to serve as your President. I have had the opportunity to meet, work with, and learn from many of the best in academic pharmacy. I would like to thank Dr. Frank Abbott and all our councillors for their enthusiasm and hard work. I look forward to working with incoming president, Simon Albon, who will provide outstanding leadership to our organization!

Best regards,

Anne Marie Whelan

AFPC President, 2006-2007

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S CORNER

With the early time change this year it seemed like we had spring for some time but the weather in parts of the Country might make you think otherwise. In any case, the term is winding down and faculty will soon have time for other things than the pressure of the classroom and marking exams. Not too far off is the Annual Meetings and Conference in Montreal May 30 – June 2, 2007. Chairperson, Dan Thirion and Sylvie Marleau of the University of Montreal have been working hard to deliver an interesting program with delightful social events on the side. AFPC is once again meeting conjointly with the Canadian Society for Pharmaceutical Sciences and a strong scientific program is in store for those who may want to attend. The first full day begins with a joint plenary session in the morning followed in the afternoon with AFPC exploring the changing role of the

pharmacist and the education that would be necessary to meet that challenge. Speakers from Alberta, Ontario and Quebec will share their thoughts and experiences. In the following day, the Teachers Conference will have workshops in the morning on leadership and mentoring followed by a session in the afternoon on cross-curricular competencies. PEP Canada will be making a presentation on experiential learning to complete the day. The AFPC Conference will conclude with the Awards Banquet at a lovely restaurant on the banks of the St. Lawrence River. For more information on the program please refer to the online information at <http://afpc.info/content.php?SectionID=3&ContentID=16&Language=en>.

In other recent news, AFPC/ADPC was invited by NAPRA to attend a visioning workshop held on March 17, 2007 in Gatineau near Ottawa. Your executive director attended along with representatives from PEBC, CCAPP, CPhA and the Pharmacy Technician organizations. AFPC has worked with NAPRA this year to support their review/revision of Professional Competencies for Canadian Pharmacists at Entry to Practice. Susan Mansour and Glenn Rodrigues of Dalhousie University provided significant input to this activity. Feedback from the Faculties was also solicited for Guidelines to Pharmacy Compounding and the document on Competencies to Practice for Pharmacy Technicians.

AFPC has assisted Health Infoway Canada with a survey of the Faculties to obtain information on the education and training of pharmacy students and the continuing education of pharmacists relative to the use of patient electronic health records. Influencing the future practice of pharmacists begins with their education.

New council member for Manitoba; Payal Patel, B.Sc.Pharm., Pharm.D., Assistant Professor Faculty of Pharmacy, University of Manitoba will take up AFPC Council duties as of the New Council Meeting on June 2 in Montreal. Mike Namaka of the University of Manitoba is completing his second and final term as a council member. Welcome Payal and a hearty thanks to Mike.

Simon Albon, chair of the AFPC Communications Committee and President Elect for 2007 reports that the database project for pharmacy researchers is rapidly nearing completion and will be posted on the AFPC web site once the search strategy is finalized.

AFPC wishes to recognize the contributions from pharmacy organizations that choose to help make a difference for academic pharmacy in Canada.

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ASSOCIATION DES FACULTÉS DE PHARMACIE DU CANADA
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Frank Abbott

Executive Director

Research News: Interprofessional Education for Geriatric Care Project

Submitted by Dr. Ruby Grymonpre, IEGC Project Principal Investigator, Professor Faculty of Pharmacy, University of Manitoba

The Interprofessional Education for Geriatric Care (IEGC) Project is a two-year, nine-month project funded by Health Canada's Interprofessional Education for Collaborative Patient-Centred Practice (IECPCP) initiative. Dr. Ruby Grymonpre, a Professor in the Faculty of Pharmacy at the University of Manitoba, is the Principal Investigator for the project.

The IEGC Project focuses on educating advanced trained pre-licensure students from five disciplines; pharmacy, medicine, nursing, occupational and physical therapy in interprofessional education. Students spend 15 hours, over a 4-week period, at 1 of 3 geriatric day hospitals in Winnipeg learning with, from and about each other. The project focuses on learning about interprofessional teaming in a real world setting. Students receive mentoring, do hands-on

clinical projects, and observe team behaviours from the clinical team working at the Day Hospitals.

To date, the project is completing its second year of data collection and has run five rounds of experiential blocks, training students in interprofessional education. Dr. Grymonpre and her colleagues have actively promoted the project at invited presentations, attended conferences, and disseminated project activities through their quarterly newsletter Interactions, project Web site, and co-hosted meetings with the establishment of the Manitoba Science Café.

More recently, Dr. Grymonpre has presented the IEGC Project and IECPCP activities to the College of Pharmacy and Associate Deans at the University of Iowa (February 27–28) and attended the Steering Committee meeting for the Canadian Interprofessional Health Collaborative (CIHC) in Vancouver (February 11–12) which she is the Evaluation sub committee co-lead.

Other Research News

The Pharmacological Society of Canada presented the Senior Investigator Award to Dr. Daniel Sitar at this year's meeting of the Western Pharmacological Society in Banff, Alberta. On March 7, 2007, he presented an award lecture entitled "Adventures in drug disposition – Pas seulement paté du foie". In addition, he co-chaired a symposium on March 8, 2007 entitled "Cardiovascular diseases in the aging patient" and made one of the formal presentations entitled "Aging issues in drug disposition and efficacy".

Dr. Michael Namaka received a grant from Serono for his project, "Establishing the Effects of Immunomodulatory Treatment for Fatigue and Cognition in Multiple Sclerosis."

Dr. Michael Namaka received a grant from Berlex for his project, "Cytokine and Neuropathic Pain Research."

Dr. Michael Namaka received a grant from Action for his project, "A Comparative Single Centre, Randomized Study Involving Patients with Multiple Sclerosis Induced Neuropathic Pain Receiving Treatment with Either Pregabalin (Lyrica) or Paroxetine (Paxil)."

Ms Kelly Brink was successful on her application to the Strategic Program Development Fund. \$10,000 has been awarded to cover expenses related to the Structured Practical Experiential Program.

2007 Recipient of the Bonnie Schultz Memorial Award For Practice Excellence

Dr. Lavern Vercaigne



The recipient of this award demonstrates outstanding excellence in optimizing patient care. Factors considered include serving as a role model; excellence in communication skills; compassion, empathy and concern; and demonstration of skilled practice.

Lavern serves as a role model to pharmacy students, pharmacists and other health care providers in his pursuit to provide optimal care to patients. He is a distinguished and highly respected teacher with our University, and prominent advocate of pharmacy education nationally. Time and again, Lavern is recognized by pharmacy students as an exceptional teacher and role model for the profession. His teaching success is built on a

foundation of meticulous preparation, great dedication and a sincere desire to contribute to the education and future careers of pharmacy students.

Despite the many teaching, administrative and research expectations of academia, Lavern has maintained a notable presence in clinical practice particularly in the Manitoba Renal Program. He has a true interest in patient care whether through interacting directly with patients, supporting his pharmacy colleagues or otherwise assisting the Renal program. To quote a colleague *"I have been humbled by his excellent knowledge base and his thorough and determined approach to solving clinical pharmacy-related problems. He has an excellent rapport with both patients and health-care staff. This is likely a result of his easy going manner and his genuine compassion and concern for those around him"*.

Lavern will receive his award at the Manitoba Pharmacy Conference in Winnipeg at the Victoria Inn on Saturday, April 17, 2007.

In Memory

Dr. Roman (Roy) Bilous (1919-2007) passed away in Winnipeg on Saturday, February 17, 2007. Dr. Bilous attended the University of Manitoba where he graduated with the first gold medal in pharmacy in 1943. In 1967, he received a Master of Science Degree in Pharmacy from the University of Manitoba and his doctorate from the University of Wisconsin in 1972. Dr. Bilous joined the Faculty of Pharmacy as a lecturer in 1957 and in 1977 became a professor of pharmacy to his retirement in 1987. He also served as acting dean from 1986 to 1987. In recognition of his contributions to pharmacy education in Manitoba, Mrs. Irene Lewis, Dr. Bilous' sister, has established a scholarship fund in Dr. Bilous' name.

FACULTY NEWS

UNIVERSITY OF MANITOBA

Academic Appointments

Dr. Hope Anderson was appointed to a full-time probationary position at the rank of Assistant Professor in the Faculty of Pharmacy beginning December 1, 2006.

Dr. Alan McIntosh was appointed to a full-time probationary position at the rank of Associate Professor in the Faculty of Pharmacy beginning March 1, 2007.

General Faculty News

Dr. Lavern Vercaigne has accepted the position to represent the AFPC on the Pharmacy Examining Board of Canada.

Dr. Payal Patel will replace Dr. Michael Namaka as the AFPC representative for the faculty, beginning on June 2, 2007 at the New Council meeting in Montreal.

Student News

Sreeneeranj Kasichayanula defended his final PhD oral examination on February 8, 2007. Title of thesis: "Evaluation of Percutaneous Penetration of Insect Repellents and Sunscreens". Advisor: Xiaochen Gu, Committee Members: Frank Burczynski, David Collins, James House, Kishor Wasan.

Robert Hardy (3rd yr. Pharmacy student), was one of the recipients of the 2007 National Summer Student Research Program Award. Title of project: "Effect of Polyethylene Oxide (PEP) Content and Drug Solubility on Polymer Swelling and Drug Dissolution." Robert will be presenting his research findings at the Canadian Society for Pharmaceutical Sciences Annual Meeting in Montreal in June 2007. Supervisor: Dr. Xiaochen Gu.

DALHOUSIE UNIVERSITY

Individual Faculty News

David Gardner has been granted tenure with the Department of Psychiatry, Faculty of Medicine.

New Grants/Renewals

The Astra-Zeneca Research Award from the Canadian College of Clinical Pharmacy - Investigators: Anne Marie Whelan and Tannis Jurgens, "Efficacy of natural health products for osteoporosis: What is the quality of internet patient advice?"

Canadian Patient Safety Institute Award - Principal Investigator: Neil MacKinnon, "Developing a brokerage function for linking Canadian researchers and decision makers with expertise and interest in patient safety research."

UNIVERSITY OF SASKATCHEWAN

General College News

Our College is partnering with the College of Medicine and the Saskatoon Health Region to establish an *Interdisciplinary Clinical Pharmacology Teaching Program*. Work has begun to recruit three new faculty members in the areas of Endocrinology, Neurology and Pediatrics. Located in our, they will join current clinical faculty – Drs. Dave Blackburn, Shannan Neubauer, Fred Rémillard, Yvonne Shevchuk and Jeff Taylor – to deliver high quality, innovative, interprofessional education to Pharmacy, Medicine and Dentistry students.

The Dean has been lobbying the province for several years for support to our practitioner partners in the health regions, who deliver the key structured practice components of the Pharmacy and Nutrition undergraduate programs. We are pleased to report that Saskatchewan Health has created a special program expand clinical capacity in the province. Dean Gorecki is also a member of the provincial Health Workforce Steering Committee, which is working to address clinical education needs as part the *Working Together: Saskatchewan's Health Workforce Action Plan*.

In July 2003, the College completed its *College Plan 2003/04 to 2006/07*, as part of a new planning process and the University's *First Integrated Plan* was developed. Work is underway for the *second integrated planning cycle*, for the period 2008/09 to 2011/12. Colleges and administrative units are expected to do more planning across college borders and around University-wide themes, which include: *Enhancing the Student Experience; Practicing Effective Enrolment Management; Accelerating Research Momentum; Fostering an Engaged University; Enhancing Aboriginal Programming and Scholarship; Championing Faculty Recruitment and Retention; and Building a High-Performance and Sustainable Organization*.

The College is expanding international initiatives. Faculty members Carol Henry, Roy Dobson and Susan Whiting are involved in an exciting new Canada-Latin American and Caribbean Research Exchange, researching methodologies for improving health outcomes for school-aged children.

Graduate Student News

Jadwiga Helena Dolega-Cieszkowski, M.Sc. Student (Nutrition), "Dietary Intakes of Canadian Women Age 18 to 34 Years in the 1990s" - Supervisor Dr. Susan Whiting.

Natasha Haskey, M.Sc. Student (Nutrition), "The Effects of a Prebiotic with Probiotic on Symptoms and Quality of Life in Pediatric Ulcerative Colitis" - Supervisor Dr. Susan Whiting.

Each spring, Pharmacy and Nutrition graduate students participate in the *Annual Life & Health Sciences Research Conference*. Erin Boyd, Interdisciplinary Toxicology student, supervised by Drs. Jane Alcorn and Ed Krol, was awarded 1st Prize in the Food Sciences and Nutrition Category for her poster on the inhibition of P450s by flaxseed lignans.

UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO

Awards

The University of Toronto's 2007 Northrop Frye Award of Excellence was given to the **Interfaculty Pain Curriculum**, recognizing distinguished achievements in linking teaching and research. **A. Cameron, P. Pennefather and L. Raman-Wilms** are members of the Interfaculty Pain Curriculum Committee, representing the Leslie Dan Faculty of Pharmacy.

Promotion

Andrea Cameron has been promoted from a Lecturer to a Senior Lecturer, effective July 1, 2007.

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