



AFPC COMMUNICATION

Association of Faculties of Pharmacy of Canada

Association des Facultés de Pharmacie du Canada

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

There is something distinctly Canadian about discussing the weather. I have referenced the weather in previous President's Reports and I feel compelled to talk about it now. As I write this it's mid-April and snowing in Vancouver! How is this possible? Throw in rain, wind, periods of warm spring sunshine, thunder and wild temperature fluctuations, and there is a sense that something unsettling and weird is happening. Is global warming at play? These unprecedented weather patterns make me wonder if they are at all reflective of or connected to our changing society and in particular, our increasingly complex and tumultuous Canadian health care system. The recent BC provincial budget adds to this complexity for pharmacy. The right to prescribe, greater involvement in health care testing, and participation in the development and use of electronic health care records for British Columbians through the eHealth and the PharmaNet-eRx initiatives foreshadow imminent changes to an already rapidly evolving pharmacy practice landscape. In my view, it is a very exciting time for the Canadian health care system, the profession, and pharmacy education; I feel privileged to be involved. Perhaps discussing the weather gives us some sense of comfort, predictability (or not) and control in this swirling vortex of change.

While the weather has been unpredictable, AFPC has not been. Our council, through our standing committees, continues to work extremely hard on behalf of the AFPC membership to address the many issues facing academia, pharmacy education, and the profession nationally. Administering the AFPC awards portfolio, an overhaul of the AFPC website, development of an AFPC Guide for Program Evaluation for Canadian

Faculties of Pharmacy, and the Herculean task of organizing this year's joint meeting with AACCP are among some of AFPC's on-going activities. Our external committee representatives continue to participate in on-going national projects such as the Moving Forward: Pharmacy Human Resources for the Future project, CPhA's Blueprint for Pharmacy initiative, and CCAPP's proposed accreditation standards for first professional degrees in pharmacy. In addition, PEP-Canada, another AFPC affiliated committee, continues to make progress on the challenging issues facing pharmacy experiential education in Canada. I would like to thank the AFPC council members and our external representatives for your tireless efforts and leadership on the many issues of national significance to our Faculties, Schools and Colleges as well as the profession. For further information on many of these important AFPC activities be sure to read the Executive Director's Corner that follows as well as the AFPC Updates circulated regularly to the membership.

I am hoping you have made plans to attend this year's AFPC Annual Conference held jointly with the American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy (AACCP) in Chicago, July 19-23, 2008. The AFPC program, "Education Advancing Practice", has been carefully designed to complement the AACCP conference theme of "A Bold New World." The joint program looks very exciting and there is sure to be something for everyone. If you have not already done so, I encourage you to explore the program description available through either the AFPC or AACCP websites. This year's joint meeting promises to shatter last year's conference attendance of 1400 delegates. This conference provides a rare opportunity for both organizations to initiate, develop and continue those important discussions on educational, professional and health care change facing our two countries. Please join us. Share and celebrate your ideas, synergies and successes. I hope to see you there!

Simon Albon

AFPC President, 2007-2008

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S CORNER

The days are much longer, spring blooms are everywhere and the university term is winding down to a close. Hopefully not too many of those dreaded exams are yet to be marked. With the summer rapidly approaching I hope that many of you are planning to attend the **annual conference and meetings** this year in Chicago, July 19-23. As noted by your AFPC President, this is a bit of a landmark for AFPC to be meeting jointly with AACP. The last time there was a joint meeting of these two organizations was in Portland Oregon in 1986. Unlike the Portland meeting, the AFPC program in Chicago is fully integrated and delegates can freely attend all AFPC and AACP sessions. On a personal note I would like to acknowledge AACP Executive Vice President Lucinda Maine and her executive committee and staff who have been so accommodating in helping us to schedule and plan this meeting.

Details of the full program, hotel, and registration can be found at <http://www.aacp.org/annualmeeting08/>

AFPC programming occurs on Sunday July 20 and Monday, July 21. There are three main sessions that make up the AFPC theme of Education Advancing Practice. The first session on **Performance Based**

Teaching, Learning and Assessment is chaired by Lalitha Raman-Wilms. Speakers are Anthony Marini of the University of Calgary and Zubin Austin of the University of Toronto. The second session on **Interprofessional Education** is chaired by Andrea Cameron with speakers Ivy Oandasan of the University of Toronto, Ruby Grymonpré of the University of Manitoba, Susan Mansour of Dalhousie University and Roy Dobson of the University of Saskatchewan. The third session, chaired by Nancy Waite is titled **Informing the Classroom through Research**. Speakers include Linda Strand of the University of Minnesota, Ross Tsuyuki of the University of Alberta, Neil Mckinnon of Dalhousie University and Annie Lee representing PEP Canada. These three sessions along with a host of excellent sessions offered through AACP should provide for a rich and fulfilling meeting for all. If you have not been to either an AFPC or AACP conference lately, now is the time to attend.

Many thanks to our host Faculties, Toronto and Waterloo and to our program committee of Lalitha Raman-Wilms (Toronto, Chair), Andrea Cameron (Toronto), Zubin Austin (Toronto) and Nancy Waite (Waterloo) for all their help with the program.

AFPC will hold its Annual General Meeting on the morning of Sunday, July 20 and a special Awards Banquet on the evening of July 20. At the banquet, major award winners will present on their winning research and in turn be presented with their awards by AFPC and award sponsors. Student winners of the AFPC research poster award and Wal-Mart Canada awardees will also be recognized.

On behalf of Awards Committee Chair, Mary MacCara of Dalhousie University, here are the **award winners for 2008**:

AFPC-AstraZeneca New Investigator Research Award: **Frédéric Calon, BSc. BPharm, PhD, Associate Professor, Faculté de pharmacie, Université Laval, Quebec.**

AFPC-GlaxoSmithKline Graduate Student Research Award: (For the best paper published in the past 12 months) **Marie Lordkipanidzé, PhD candidate, Faculté de pharmacie, Université de Montréal.**

AFPC-Pfizer Research Career Award: **Kishor Wasan, BSc (Pharmacy), PhD, Professor, Faculty of Pharmaceutical Sciences, University of British Columbia.**

Merck Frosst Canada Ltd Postgraduate Pharmacy Fellowship Award: **Ms. Antonia Tsallas, Faculty of Pharmaceutical Sciences, University of British Columbia.**

AFPC Student Research Poster Awards:

Mohamed A. Shaker, Memorial University of Newfoundland; supervisor: Husam M Younes

J R Colin Enman, Dalhousie University; supervisor: Harriet KA Davies

Mélanie Bousquet, Université Laval; supervisor: Frédéric Calon

Vincent Nichols, Université de Montréal; supervisor: Jean-François Bussières

Danny L. Costantini, University of Toronto; supervisor: Raymond Reilly

Daryl Fediuk, University of Manitoba; supervisor: Xiaochen Gu

Tara M. Smith, University of Saskatchewan; supervisor: Adil Nazarali

Sherif Hanafy Mahmoud, University of Alberta; supervisor: Fakhreddin M Jamali

Manhar Powar, University of British Columbia; supervisor: Adil Virani

Wal-Mart Canada-AFPC Future Academic Leader Awards: (New Award in 2008)

Kelly Anne Grindrod, University of British Columbia

Cynthia Lui, University of Manitoba

Jennifer Beales, University of Toronto

Véronique Michaud, Université de Montréal

Stephanie Lucas, Dalhousie University

AFPC-Bristol-Myers Squibb National Award for Excellence in Education: There will be no recipient of this award in 2008.

Notes on awards: Mary MacCara reports that 30 AFPC members participated in the review process this year and this shows the excellent support of the Awards program by the membership. Competition for the major awards in 2008 was also very healthy and we hope this trend will continue. The greatest interest was in the AFPC-GlaxoSmithKline Graduate Student Research Award for which we received 15 excellent papers for review. This is certainly a good sign of the quality of research taking place in our Faculties. In order to better reward this effort, AFPC will seek to introduce an additional award for best publication. The GSK award has traditionally gone to students in the basic pharmaceutical sciences but we are seeing more and more applications from students in practice-based research. Perhaps the new publication award could focus primarily on practice-based research in pharmacy. Any thoughts from the membership on this proposal are entirely welcome (fabbott@telus.net). Finally, the Bristol-Myers Squibb Award for teaching has seen a decline in applications and two submitted applications this year failed to meet the criteria for the award. AFPC will review this award to determine if the criteria are still appropriate to recognizing innovative and outstanding teachers of pharmacy in Canada.

Other recent news:

Blueprint for pharmacy: The latest version of the Blueprint document was recently distributed to all of the Faculties. Terry Schindel (Alberta) the AFPC representative on the Blueprint task force will be attending a meeting in Ottawa on May 15-16. We are looking forward to the presentation of the Blueprint for pharmacy at the CPhA annual meeting in Victoria on June 1, 2008. **Moving Forward:** A National Forum on Pharmacy Human Resources was held in Toronto on March 26-27, 2008. The purpose of the Forum was to consult with stakeholders on the draft pharmacy HR planning recommendations developed by the Moving Forward Management Committee. Attendees were provided with a research synthesis report along with the draft recommendations with the intent to validate and prioritize the recommendations, identify any gaps, determine the target organizations for action, and set timelines for the action expected. AFPC and ADPC will be dealing with the final recommendations most specific to their organizations at annual meetings that occur this summer and fall. The Deans of Pharmacy

had been invited to the March 26-27 forum because a goodly portion of new research information dealt with the education component of the pharmacy human resources task force. Zubin Austin (Toronto) represented AFPC at the meeting and Frank Abbott represented ADPC in place of Dean Dennis Gorecki.

Midyear Meetings: **AFPC Council** held a successful midyear meeting in Toronto at the Leslie Dan Faculty of Pharmacy building on February 2-3, 2008. Weather was a factor for several council members in Eastern Canada who were unable to attend. **ADPC** met with CCAPP Executive Director David Hill in Vancouver on February 25 to discuss the new draft standards for the baccalaureate and entry level Pharm D programs. Since that meeting, the Deans have prepared a detailed formal response of the draft standards that were recently sent to CCAPP. The standards committee of CCAPP will consider this valuable feedback as revisions to the standards are made. Dean Franco Pasutto (Alberta), President of ADPC, has actively chaired the standards review process on behalf of the Deans.

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

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

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Frank Abbott
Executive Director

FACULTY SPOTLIGHT: UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO

In September 2006, the Faculty opened the doors to its new home – the 167,000 square foot Leslie L. Dan Pharmacy Building at the corner of College Street and Queen’s Park in the heart of Toronto’s Health Discovery District. This state-of-the-art facility provides an incredible environment for learning and research, integrating students, researchers, and instructors into a single structure whose sole purpose is the advancement of pharmacy and pharmaceutical sciences.

This new building and resultant changes to the Faculty are the end product of nearly a decade of transformational growth at the Leslie Dan Faculty of Pharmacy. During this time, significant increases in undergraduate students, graduate students, professional faculty, programs and services have positioned the Leslie Dan Faculty of Pharmacy as one of the largest pharmacy faculties in North America. Through this

Student areas include lecture halls, classrooms, seminar and breakout rooms, study areas, and common areas for socializing. A two-floor bookless resource centre provides students with the ideal location to perform all their research tasks. The entire atrium (including the David R. Bloom Shoppers Drug Mart Lounge, large pod study space, Jack Kay/Apotex Meeting Room, and Apotex Resource Centre) is wireless to allow students maximum flexibility to do their studying, research, etc.

The teaching facilities at the Leslie L. Dan Pharmacy Building combine all of the elements of a premium education, including theatre-style seating, wireless classrooms, multi-media capable rooms equipped with video conferencing technology to allow lectures in one hall to be broadcast in another hall, etc. The Ontario Pharmacists’ Association and Apotex Lecture Halls are able to accommodate up to 300 students. The state-of-the-art teaching laboratories provide students with the

transformation, the Faculty is able to offer among the most innovative and leading-edge pharmacy education programs in the nation, and has enhanced its international reputation as a pre-eminent centre for innovation and discovery in pharmaceutical sciences.

More than 60,000 square feet of space is devoted to research at the Faculty. State-of-the-art wet and dry labs, cold rooms, dark rooms, tissue culture rooms, instrument rooms, and radiation rooms allow investigators to pursue innovative research programs from a single site. Approximately 50 faculty members and 148 graduate students are actively engaged in on-site research projects at the Faculty covering a wide variety of subjects including pharmacy practice, social and administrative pharmacy, pharmacokinetics, pharmaceuticals and drug delivery, pharmacology and toxicology.

latest technologies and modern conveniences, putting them in a position to succeed. The Herbert R. Binder/Shoppers Drug Mart Professional Practice Lab is equipped with a closed-circuit television system to allow student interactions with actors portraying patients to be recorded and viewed by classmates and professors located in adjacent seminar rooms. Formal and informal breakout rooms allow students to work on group projects and discuss drug therapies and any of their issues after leaving the classroom.

This new facility has allowed the Faculty to expand significantly over the past decade. Undergraduate enrolment has doubled, with 240 students entering each year. Enrolment in our M.Sc. and Ph.D. programs has more than tripled to 148 students. To continue providing a premium education to students, we have also increased our faculty component, doubling the number of tenure track positions within the Faculty.



During this period of incredible transformation, several new programs have been introduced in the Faculty, while others have been enhanced:

The introduction of a Pharmaceutical Chemistry program offered jointly by the Leslie Dan Faculty of Pharmacy and the Faculty of Arts and Science is the only program at the University of Toronto that combines biological sciences and physical sciences into a single degree. Students in this program receive a broad education in the chemical principles important to drug therapy and an understanding of the pharmaceutical principles underlying it. Designed to provide an educational starting point for individuals interested in working in the pharmaceutical industry, the introduction of a Professional Experience Year component to the program allows students to spend 12 to 16 months working (for pay) in a pharmaceutical company or a research laboratory between the third and fourth years of study. Graduates of this program often continue their studies pursuing M.Sc. or Ph.D. degrees.

We have also introduced a Flex-time Ph.D. program to afford professionals whose employment is closely related to their proposed area of research the opportunity to pursue an advanced degree. This program has proven to be an attractive option for pharmacy professionals and pharmaceutical scientists in industry, government or academia who are unable to undertake full-time studies due to professional obligations. The Flex-time Ph.D. program is based on

The Faculty is working in conjunction with the Office of Interprofessional Education at the University. The Interprofessional Education program aims to help health professional students acquire the core competencies needed for provision of patient-centred care in an interprofessional, collaborative team practice environment, both on campus and experiential practice sites. To achieve this goal, the IPE leadership and interprofessional planning committees have designed a curricular framework of competencies upon which learning modules and activities have, and will be, built. Students, faculty and clinical practitioners are taking active part in the many facets of enabling this curriculum to be implemented with the 2009 cohort of students.

In 2004, representatives from six health professions (nursing, pharmacy, occupational therapy, physical therapy, medical laboratory science, and medical

the Full-time Ph.D. program with a flexible format that allows students (a) to take longer and to have a more flexible timeframe for completion and (b) to remain employed while studying.

Established in 2004, our part-time Doctor of Pharmacy program will see its first graduates this year. The Pharm. D. program provides pharmacists with the knowledge, skills and attitudes that are required to be an advanced practitioner. This part-time program was developed to help meet changing environmental factors and market need and is of the same academic rigor as the full-time program, with the primary difference being the delivery of the first phase of the program. Courses are delivered via blackboard technology, which facilitates lecture, asynchronous discussions and student evaluations. The second phase consists of 11 months of experiential learning at off-site placements.

The Faculty has also created an international student experience program that aims to provide students with exposure to global health opportunities. As part of the Initiative for Drug Equity and Access collective led by Jillian Clare Cohen-Köhler, this program offers students an opportunity to create research-oriented and practical hands-on projects that allow them to learn in the field. Under this program, students have participated in WHO internships, exchange programs in Namibia and Cambodia, self-driven summer research programs in Nigeria, and internships with global health policy firms in Slovakia and Costa Rica.

radiation science) identified a need for a common curriculum for internationally educated health professionals (IEHP). In 2007, Zubin Austin received a Health Canada grant to develop, implement and evaluate a classroom-based course, 'Orientation to the Canadian Health Care System, Culture and Context'. Project Manager Marie Rocchi Dean led the initiative which resulted in 70 IEHPs participating in the 5 week course in Vancouver, Regina, Edmonton and Toronto. Evaluation of the project was exceptional and funding has been received that will allow the project to expand in 2008/2009 and offer a distance education option for learners unable to access classroom based sessions (including IEHPs that may be "pre-arrival" in Canada). The project has been expanded to include all health professions, including physicians, midwives, dieticians and respiratory therapists. The program is unique due to its collaborative and interprofessional approach to education.

The International Pharmacy Graduate Program continues to grow at the Faculty. The most recent Canadian Pharmacy Skills I academic modules began April 28, 2008 with over 90 participants. Since 2001, the IPG program at the Leslie Dan Faculty of Pharmacy has graduated almost 700 students, who have enjoyed a 92% success rate in licensing exams. Graduates of this program have created an informal alumni network, and the Faculty is now poised to assist in developing a formal IPG alumni association. The IPG program enjoys overwhelming support from practicing pharmacists who act as mentors for students and participate in employer “lunch and learn” sessions. The continued growth of the program and the diverse needs

of participants have been a driving force in the ongoing development of the curriculum. Work is just beginning on a framework for a part-time model for this program.

Begun in 2005, the Office of Continuing Professional Development program has allowed the Faculty to offer programming to improve and expand the competency of pharmacists, researchers, scientists and allied professionals involved in pharmacy policy and practice. Certificate programs, workshops, lectures and customized educational training offerings ensure that pharmaceutical professionals continue to learn and grow with the profession.

Student News

In 2004, we increased the number of students admitted to the Bachelor of Science in Pharmacy program. This June, 193 students will graduate. Many of these students will move on to write their licensing exams and practice pharmacy in community and hospital practice. Others will begin working in industry, while some will continue their learning through residency programs or by pursuing graduate degrees.

For the current year, the Ontario Student Assistance Plan (OSAP) and University of Toronto Advanced Planning for Students (UTAPS) combined to provide over \$4.7 million to students in the undergraduate program. Additionally, almost 450 undergraduate students received academic awards or other financial support totaling almost \$300,000 from the Faculty.

Almost 200 4th year students were involved in the Structured Practical Experience Program in the 2007-2008 academic year, allowing them to apply their learning and hone their skills in practice settings. Approximately 440 pharmacists in community and institutional settings hosted student rotations in their practice this term. Six preceptors were recognized for their outstanding contributions to student learning with SPEP TA Awards. They are: Beth Gallagher, Rakhi Goel, Joanne Labelle, Eric Lui, Joanna Tong, and Emeka Ume.

Our Pharmaceutical Chemistry Specialist program will graduate 12 students this summer.

The Pharm.D. program will graduate ten students this summer (six full-time and four part-time). During the current academic year, students in the Doctor of

Pharmacy program received over \$200,000 in support (student awards and bursaries) from the Faculty.

Current enrolment in the Graduate Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences stands at 148 students pursuing their M.Sc. and Ph.D. degrees in three broadly defined areas – Pharmaceutics and Pharmacokinetics, Molecular Pharmacology and Toxicology, and Clinical, Social and Administrative Pharmacy.

A total of 17 graduate students (6 Ph.D. and 11 M.Sc.) graduated during the 2007-2008 academic year. During this time frame, 25 students received external funding awards, including NSERC, OGS, OGSST, CIHR, SSHRC, Connaught, Ontario HIV Treatment Network Studentship, Gilead Sciences Fellowship, Canadian Liver Foundation and others.

In support of the tremendous growth of the graduate program at the Faculty, Pfizer Canada donated \$100,000 to establish the Pfizer Canada Graduate Fellowship in Pharmaceutical Science. This award will be presented annually to one or more outstanding graduate students in the Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences.

Graduate Research in Progress (GRIP), the annual graduate student conference, was held on Tuesday, May 6. This event provided students with the opportunity to hone their presentation skills and showcase their research findings to fellow students, faculty, and industry professionals. This year's event was sponsored by GlaxoSmithKline, and featured research from the department's main disciplines – pharmacokinetics, pharmaceutics, drug metabolism, toxicology, physical biochemistry and social and administrative pharmacy.

Research News

As Team Leader working on the radionuclide cancer imaging component of a large imaging research platform, Dr. Ray Reilly has received funding from the Ontario Institute of Cancer Research to pursue this important cancer research.

Professor Jack Uetrecht's Canada Research Chair in Adverse Drug Reactions was recently renewed for seven years by the Canada Research Chair Fund. This renewal allows Dr. Uetrecht to continue his important research on the mechanisms of idiosyncratic drug reactions.

Professor Peter O'Brien was awarded NSERC funding, receiving a five year NSERC Discovery Grant to study the biological effects of reactive oxygen species formed by oxygen reduction. This research project will attempt to identify target proteins and metabolic enzymes in each organelle/cellular compartment that contribute to cell death; determine which enzyme inhibitors markedly

increase carbonyl induced cell death; and uncover the physicochemical structural basis for the widely varying toxicities of exogenous and endogenous reactive dicarbonyls implicated in many oxidative stress diseases.

Assistant Professor Carolyn Cummins recently received funding from the Canada Foundation for Innovation's Leaders Opportunity Fund and NSERC to study nuclear hormone receptors in metabolic disease. This funding will provide the infrastructure for Dr. Cummins' cross-disciplinary approach to research, combining cutting-edge analytical instrumentation with advanced molecular, cellular and biological tools to understand the mechanisms of nuclear receptor gene regulation in human health and disease. This research environment will allow a full complement of experiments to be carried out – from the discovery of new receptor ligands, to the study of gene expression affected by this activation, to the resulting in vivo physiologic response.



UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO

Appointments

Professor Reina Bendayan was recently appointed Associate Dean, Graduate Education by the Governing Council. Professor Bendayan has been actively involved in the graduate program as the Graduate (1998 to 2003) and as Graduate Chair (since July 2005). In addition, she recently served as Acting Dean of the Faculty in 2007. This appointment is reflective of Dr. Bendayan's leadership abilities, long-term commitment and dedication to the Graduate Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences and the Leslie Dan Faculty of Pharmacy.

Associate Professor and Director of the Doctor of Pharmacy program Thomas E.R. Brown was recently

appointed Assistant Dean, Strategic Initiatives. Dr. Brown brings considerable expertise and a strong vision for pharmacy education and practice to this role. In this position, Dr. Brown will be responsible for mapping out strategy for the Faculty related to environmental factors influencing both the profession and the University.

Awards

Students recently acknowledged the outstanding contributions of their instructors by naming the Teachers of the Year for undergraduate teaching in years 1, 2 and 3 of the program. Assistant Professor Zubin Austin, Post-Doctoral Fellow Michael Beazely, and Professor Jack Utrecht received these honours, respectively.

Events

In December and in April, the Division of Pharmacy Practice invited Dr. Linda Strand, Professor, University of Minnesota, to engage in discussions related to curricular development in pharmacy practice.

In January, the Faculty hosted Conquering Pain: The Hidden Cost of Immunization, a one-day workshop organized by Associate Professor Anna Taddio. Sponsored by the Canadian Institutes of Health Research, the SickKids Foundation and the Faculty, the event brought together researchers, vaccine experts, healthcare workers, educators, government officials, pharmaceutical company representatives, parents and media representatives to examine the evidence for pain reduction strategies during routine immunization and make recommendations for knowledge translation strategies to improve current practices. Speakers and participants worked together to identify areas where there was sufficient evidence to recommend changes in practice, and the group prioritized next steps and developed an action plan for future work.

In March, COLD-fX® co-inventor Dr. Jacqueline Shan visited the Faculty to deliver a presentation on the

history of herbal remedies and the challenges inherent in the development of modern natural health products. Dr. Shan illustrated how a well-standardized natural health product can be examined in both laboratory and clinical studies using ChemBioPrint®, applying the same rigor as that used to study pharmaceutical agents.

Also in March, Jean-Michel Lavoie, former President of Pharmacists Without Borders/Pharmaciens Sans Frontières, visited the Faculty to discuss his experiences in PSF-Canada humanitarian missions and the opportunities available with PSF.

In April, Rachel Kiddell-Monroe, President of the University Allied for Essential Medicines and former Director of Medecins sans Frontières Access to Medicines Campaign Canada, came to the Faculty to discuss humanitarian policy, medicine innovation, and current solutions to the global access to medicines gap. She spoke about the role and responsibilities of universities in medicine access, and what university students and faculty can do to become involved.

Registration is currently underway for an OSCE-ology workshop run by the Office of Continuous Professional Development. Running from June 11-13, 2008, this workshop provides a primer on performance-based teaching, learning and assessment in pharmacy. In this workshop, participants will gain the knowledge and skills to position themselves at the leading edge of proven practices in pharmacy education, and learn how to apply these principles to their own curriculum.

The Oncology Pharmacy Practice program is designed to expand Pharmacists' knowledge in supportive care, screening and prevention, treatment options, outcome expectations and safety updates related to six types of cancer. The program will launch on May 13th with Supportive Care Issues I. Participants may take single courses or work towards a certificate by completing a suite of courses.

DALHOUSIE UNIVERSITY

Individual Faculty News

Anne Marie Whelan received the 2008 Mini-Sabbatical Award from The Canadian College of Clinical Pharmacy.

Neil MacKinnon chaired the Infrastructure Programs Merit Review Panel for the Michael Smith Foundation for Health Research in Burnaby, BC on January 21 & 22.

Appointments

Anne Marie Whelan has been appointed a member of a joint SOGC - CPhA (Society of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists of Canada - Canadian Pharmacists Association) Working Group on Contraception.

David Gardner has been appointed to the newly-created Mental Health Commission of Canada. The Commission has three main priorities: to create a national strategy on mental health issues; to create a knowledge-exchange centre, which will provide a range of resources for mental-health consumers, families, health care professionals and the public; and to develop an anti-stigma campaign.

Neil MacKinnon has been appointed to the Canadian Advisory Committee, *Action on Patient Safety: High 5s*, World Health Organization, Geneva, Switzerland.

For more information on Continuous Professional Development at the Leslie Dan Faculty of Pharmacy, please contact Maria Bystrin at 416.978.8458 or maria.bystrin@utoronto.ca.

Planning began for the Leslie Dan Faculty of Pharmacy Golf Classic in August. All funds raised through this tournament will go towards the creation of the K. Wayne Hindmarsh Award of Excellence. This award will be conferred upon students who show outstanding achievement in the areas Dean Hindmarsh has excelled in – leadership, academics and the advancement of the pharmacy profession. If you are interested in participating in the golf tournament, please contact Miriam Stephan at 416.946.3985 or miriam.stephan@utoronto.ca.

Neil MacKinnon has been appointed a member of the Editorial Advisory Board of the *Journal of Pharmacy Practice and Research* (Australia).

Neil MacKinnon has been named co-chair, Patient Safety Working Group, Pharmacy Quality Alliance (PQA), USA.

Presentations

Mansour S, Wittstock L. The Seamless Care Experience: Reflections on Process in Practice-based Interprofessional Education and Research (On behalf of the Seamless Care Research Team). Collaborating Across Borders, Minneapolis, Minnesota, October 26th, 2007.

McFetridge-Durdle J, Mann K, Mansour S, Wittstock L, Rowe R, Beanlands H. The Seamless Care experience: Reflections on process in practice-based interprofessional education and research. Collaborating Across Borders: An American-Canadian Dialogue on Interprofessional Health Education. Minneapolis, Minnesota, Oct 24-27, 2007.

Beanlands H, Mansour S. Listening to the voices of learners: Insights and Actions. Collaborating Across Borders: An American-Canadian Dialogue on Interprofessional Health Education. Minneapolis, Minnesota, Oct 24-27, 2007.

McFetridge-Durdle J, Mann K, Clovis J, Frank B, Mansour S, Martin Misener R, Rasmussen G, Ryding H, Versnel J, Wittstock L, Beanlands H, Sarria M, Matheson T. Seamless Care: An experiential model of interprofessional education to promote collaborative patient-centred care. *Practice Makes Perfect*. Vancouver, BC. November 4-7, 2007.

Versnel J, McFetridge-Durdle J, Beanlands H, Mann K, Mansour S, Duke S, Ipson N. Preparing student health professionals for interdisciplinary collaboration and enhancement of patient decision making and self management. *Practice Makes Perfect*. Vancouver, BC. November 4-7, 2007.

Publication

Whelan AM, Mansour S, Farmer P, Yung D. Moving from a lecture-based to a problem-based learning curriculum – perceptions of preparedness for practice. *Pharm Ed* 2007; 7(3):239-247.

Grants

Harriet Davies, Heidi Deal, and Susan Mansour. Online Preceptor Training to Support Practice Based Education of Dalhousie Pharmacy Students: Development of Teaching Videos and Live Guest Speaker Presentations using Live Classroom and Blackboard Learning System

(BLS), funded by a Dalhousie University Teaching and Learning with Technology Grant.

Neil MacKinnon is a co-investigator (T. Boyle, PI) on “SafetyNET: A quality management program for community pharmacy”. This research grant for \$79,961 was funded by the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada - Public Outreach Grants - Management, Business and Finance.

Dr. Kerry Goralski is a recent recipient of a Leaders Opportunity Fund Award from the Canadian Foundation of Innovation to support the establishment of his laboratory for innovative studies of obesity and metabolism. In collaboration with researchers at Dalhousie University and Stanford University, Dr. Goralski has discovered a new protein chemerin that is made in fat cells and regulates how fat cells develop and store energy in the form of lipid. This exciting finding suggested that chemerin might be an important factor in determining how the body makes and stores fat. Moving forward, Dr. Goralski’s research team are now focused on determining how chemerin affects the processes of food intake and energy metabolism and fat storage in mice. His research has relevant applications to obesity and the diseases that are associated with obesity including type II diabetes, cardiovascular diseases and cancers.

Student News

Stacy Ackroyd successfully completed her Interdisciplinary PhD and will be continuing her studies at Dalhousie University as the first recipient of the David Rippey Post-Doctoral Patient Safety Fellowship (\$110,000 from the Canadian Patient Safety Institute and the Canadian Institutes of Health Research). Neil MacKinnon will serve as Stacy’s preceptor for the two-year fellowship.

General Faculty News

The Dalhousie University Faculty of Health Professions (to which the College of Pharmacy belongs) has

officially launched an interdisciplinary PhD program with a health sciences focus. Applicants are currently being accepted for consideration of admittance into this program. For more information, please contact Dr. Neil MacKinnon or visit the following URL: http://healthprofessions.dal.ca/Prospective_Students/Interdisciplinary_Ph.php

Dr. Susan Fagan, Professor of Pharmacy, University of Georgia, recently visited the College of Pharmacy and presented two lectures for faculty and students. Susan graduated from Dalhousie in 1980 and it was good to have her back, if only for a short visit.

UNIVERSITY OF MANITOBA

General Faculty News

At its meeting on January 29, 2008, the Board of Governors approved the nomination that Dr. Colin Briggs be awarded the Professor Emeritus title. This award will be presented at the spring convocation on Thursday, May 29, 2008 at 3:00pm. Colin John Briggs, B. Pharm., Ph.D. (London), F.R.Pharm.S., officially retired from the Faculty of Pharmacy on August 31, 2005.

The new Pharmacy Building located on the Bannatyne Campus, will have its official grand opening on Thursday, October 16, 2008, and will host an Open House on Saturday, October 18, 2008 between 2:00 – 4:00pm. Please join us for guided tours of the building and light refreshments.

Appointment

The American College for Clinical Pharmacology is pleased to announce that Daniel S. Sitar, B.Sc.Pharm, Ph.D., FCP, has been selected as Editor-Designate of the *Journal of Clinical Pharmacology*. Dr. Sitar will assume his duties on June 1, 2008, and will serve a concurrent term with current Editor Lisa L. von Moltke, M.D., through December 31, 2008. Dr. Sitar will assume the position of Editor of the Journal on January 9, 2009.

Student News

Cynthia Lui, 4th year Pharmacy Student, was selected as one of five pharmacy students in Canada to receive the inaugural Wal-Mart Canada/AFPC Future Academic Leader Award. She will be receiving her award at the joint AACP-AFPC meeting occurring in Chicago from July 19 – 23, 2008.

Glen Pauch and Meagan Dick (Pharmacy students), who with Jenna Toth, Shawn Budgden and Kyle MacNair were part of a project over the summer with the Central Regional Health Authority, which has resulted in a paper that was accepted for display at the CSHP Conference in Banff. The paper is entitled “An Online Database Support of Medication Reconciliation in a Regional Environment.” Glen attended the conference to present the poster.

Christine Leong (Pharmacy student) received the Merck-Frosst 2008 National Summer Student Research Award to attend the CSPS Conference in Banff, AB, 2008 to present the results of her 2007 summer research

Research Grants & Awards

Dr. Ruby Grymonpre is the recipient of the 2007 Pharmacist of Year Award. This award is given annually to a Manitoba Pharmacist who, in the opinion of his/her peers, has made a significant contribution to the profession during his/her career.

Dr. Hope Anderson received a 2-year grant commencing July 1, 2008 from the Heart and Stroke Foundation for \$46,000/year. Title of grant “Endocannabinoids and the regulation of cardiac hypertrophy.”

Drs Anita Kozyrskyj and Colleen Metge, co-investigators, received a CIHR grant award for approximately \$220,000.00 over 2 years. Lead investigator on the project is Professor Yola Moride. Title of project: Antidepressants and risk of suicide or self-harm in Canadian youth: A national population-based study.

Dr. Anita Kozyrskyj was awarded a grant for \$75,000 from the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR) for her application entitled “Maternal distress and childhood asthma: Does it matter if women attribute risk to genetics or the environment?”

project, “An Interim Analysis: Nasal Colonization of *Staphylococcus aureus* in Relapsing Remitting Multiple Sclerosis Patients”. Her research advisor was Dr. Mike Namaka.

Daryl Fediuk, Ph.D. graduate student, received the AFPC Graduate Research Poster Award for his abstract “Tissue Deposition of Repellent DEET and Sunscreen Oxybenzone in Rats. Daryl will be presenting these research results in a poster at the AFPC/AACP Annual Conference in Chicago, IL, June 19-22, 2008. His graduate advisor is Dr. Xiaochen Gu.

Faculty of Pharmacy students voted to make a \$110 donation per student per year for the next three years. 77% of the students voted in favor of continuing their contribution to the Faculty of Pharmacy Endowment Fund, increasing their donation from \$100 per student. This referendum will result in a gift of approximately \$83,000 over the next three years. The students and the Dean were presented with an award at a President’s reception on March 17, 2008.

UNIVERSITY OF SASKATCHEWAN

General Faculty News

The University has drafted its *Second Integrated Plan* for the period 2008/09 to 2011/12. During this cycle, colleges and administrative units will focus on three areas of priority: Teaching, Learning and the Student Experience; Research Accomplishment and Success; and The Ways We Work Together.

As the White Coat Ceremony welcomes new students to the Pharmacy profession, an inaugural event was held this April to mark the transition of Nutrition students from the didactic part of their degree to the Year 4 dietetic internship. The event was especially notable as it marked a number of milestones, including the 1st *Full Accreditation* of the new integrated program, the 20th anniversary of the Division of Nutrition and Dietetics moving to the College and the 90th anniversary of the teaching of nutrition at the U of S.

Faculty and students continue to pursue international initiatives. Drs. Fred Rémillard and Jeff Taylor traveled to the Meiji Pharmaceutical University in Japan to further collaborations. Graduate student Samantha Mitchell was awarded a \$10,000 travel grant to visit the

West Indies to take part in an ongoing Canada-Latin American and Caribbean Exchange involving Drs. Carol Henry, Roy Dobson and Susan Whiting. Dean Dennis Gorecki travelled to India this March to explore potential partnerships and collaborations. Dr. Gord Zello is travelling to Ethiopia this month, to assist in undergraduate Nutrition curriculum development and teach in the graduate program. We are exploring opportunities in Australia, China, Uganda and Ukraine.

Individual Faculty News

We are pleased to report the granting of tenure to Dr. David Blackburn, and the promotion of Dr. Jeff Taylor to Professor and Drs. Ed Krol and David Blackburn to Associate Professor.

Dr. John Hubbard will retire as of June 30, 2008. John has had a long and distinguished career with the U of S. At a recent Convocation Ceremony, at which time he was awarded the University's Master Teacher Award, John was described as "a great ambassador for academia."

Fundraising Success

Generous support has been provided by Apotex, Inc. for research and graduate education activities. Alumni Annual Fund contributions are enabling ongoing enhancements to undergraduate and graduate programs.

Alumni News

Dean Gorecki and Lisa Green, Development Officer, met with a number of alumni at special receptions held recently in Vancouver and Calgary.

Grants

Dr. Ed Krol is the recipient of a five-year NSERC grant to study "Toxicity and Biological Reactivity of Naturally Occurring Polyphenols."

Dr. Gord Zello received a five-year NSERC grant to work on "Gastrointestinal organic acid production and metabolism. Dr. Zello is Principal Investigator, along with Drs. Jane Alcorn, Brian Bandy, Ed Krol and Jian

Yang for a NSERC Research Tools and Instruments Grant, to develop "HPLC Systems for Nutrition and Pharmacy Research Groups."

Dr. Susan Whiting is part of a team of researchers, led by University of Regina researcher Dr. Thomas Hadjstavropoulos, to develop ways to slow down the mental and physical decline that comes with age and enhance the quality of life for seniors living in long-term care facilities. The group has been awarded \$2.4M from the Saskatchewan Health Research Foundation to conduct the study.

The spring, eight internal research grants were awarded to faculty. Starting in May, eleven summer research students will be employed with the College working on projects ranging from regulation of the Hoxa2 gene in myelinating glial cells to nutritional strategies to reduce brain damage in stroke.

Graduate Students

Each March, Pharmacy and Nutrition graduate students participate in the University's Annual Life & Health Sciences Research Conference. The *Best Poster Award in Genetics* was presented to Pharmacy Ph.D. student Tara Smith. Her poster was titled "New downstream targets of Hoxa2 homeobox gene in the developing mouse palate – T. M. Smith and A.J. Nazarali." The following students will receive their degrees at *Spring Convocation 2008*.

Jennifer Lea Adolphe, M.Sc. Student (Nutrition), "Fortification of Pureed Foods for Long-term Care Residents" – Supervisor Drs. Susan Whiting and Wendy Dahl.

Nehad Mohammed Fathey El Rody, M.Sc. Student (Nutrition), "The Role Ascorbate and Flavanoids as Protectors against Mutant Cu/Zn Superoxide Dismutase-induced Oxidative Damage in Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS)" – Supervisor Dr. Brian Bandy.

Monique Iona Harmon, M.Sc. Student (Nutrition), "The Effect of Protein-Energy Malnutrition on Reactive Gliosis Following Global Ischemia" – Supervisor Dr. Phyllis Paterson.

Lynette Renee Kolodziejak, M.Sc. Student (Pharmacy), "How to Integrate a Pharmacist into an Already Established Primary Health Care Team" – Supervisors Drs. Fred Rémillard and Shannan Neubauer.

Darcy Alan Lamb, M.Sc. Student (Pharmacy), "Utilization and Adherence Rates of Heart Failure Medications and Their Subsequent Effect on Hospitalization and Mortality in Patients with Heart Failure" – Supervisor Dr. Dave Blackburn.

Swathi Sira Krishnaprasad, M.Sc. Student (Pharmacy), "Measuring Perceptions of Health Care as a Commodity or as a Public Right Among Community Pharmacists in Saskatchewan" – Supervisor Dr. Roy Dobson.

Visitors

Dr. Robert Bertolo, Canada Research Chair in Human Nutrition with the Department of Biochemistry, Memorial University, visited the College in March. He met with faculty, staff and graduate students, took part in the College Seminar series and presented the keynote address to the University's 15th Annual Life & Health Sciences Research Conference on the topic "Do Adult Diseases Begin with Early Nutrition?"

MEMORIAL UNIVERSITY

General School News

Our school has graduated its first class from the new curriculum. We continue to try to improve the curriculum and hope future classes will enjoy similar success.

Alumni News

Over the past year the School of Pharmacy has started initiatives to increase our alumni relations and strengthen their bonds with the school, reaching out to our alumni and the pharmacy community of Newfoundland and Labrador in a personalized way. We have begun to meet with our alumni and inform them of new outreach projects, including a new alumni and friends newsletter, an all graduates homecoming in

2009, and increased opportunities to become involved in supporting the advancement of the school. These efforts have resulted in an increased amount of meaningful contact with our alumni and friends. In addition, the number of alumni and friends who are now directing their philanthropic support to the school has significantly increased. In future, we hope to enhance our current alumni relations and fundraising programs to ensure that the School continues its tradition of excellence in pharmacy education and research.

Appointment

Dr. Daneshtalab has been appointed as an honorary editorial board member of *Organic Chemistry Insight*.

Grants

Dr. Rebecca Law is a co-investigator for the study "Use of Natural Health Products in Children: Parents' Experience and Physicians' Awareness" which has received a grant of \$99,600 from the Lotte & John Hecht Memorial Foundation. The principal investigator is Dr. Marshall Godwin from the Primary Healthcare Research Unit of Memorial University.

Dr. John Weber has received a research grant from NSERC entitled "Evaluating enzymes with novel functions in the mammalian cerebellum" which will provide funding for his lab for the next 5 years.

Publications

Dr. Mohsen Daneshtalab's paper entitled "Profiling the Phenolic Compounds of *Artemisia pectinata* by HPLC-

PAD-MS" is now available on-line in *Photochemical Analysis* 2008 and will be published in June 2008.

Dr. Daneshtalab and faculty at the Tehran University of Medical Sciences have published their collaborative research entitled "In Vitro Antifungal Activity of 2-(4-Substituted Phenyl)-3(2H) Isothiazolones" in *Folia Microbiologica* 2007.

Dr. Marcel Musteata's paper entitled "Blood sampling without blood draws for in vivo pharmacokinetic studies in rats" will be published in the *Journal of Pharmaceutical and Biomedical Analysis*; Authors: Marcel Musteata, Ines de Lannoy, Brad Gien, Janusz Pawliszyn.

Abstracts/Presentations

Dr. Mohsen Daneshtalab has been invited to present a plenary lecture and a workshop at the 11th Annual Conference of Iranian Pharmaceutical Scientists, August 18-22, 2008 in Kerman, Iran.

Dr. Rebecca Law and collaborators from the Canadian Interprofessional Health Collaborative - Evaluation Subcommittee have three upcoming presentations. Ruby Grymonpré from the Faculty of Pharmacy, University of Manitoba has ably chaired this group:

Laura MacDonald, Ruby Grymonpré, Enette Pauzé, Rebecca Law, Lesley Bainbridge, Lynda Weaver, Brenda Sawatzky-Girling. "The Challenge of Measuring The Measurement." For oral presentation at the 2008 Annual Canadian Evaluation Society Conference in Quebec, May 11-14, 2008.

Ruby Grymonpré, Brenda Sawatzky-Girling, Laura MacDonald, Enette Pauzé, Lynda Weaver, Lesley Bainbridge, Rebecca Law. "Twenty Health Canada Projects: twenty evaluations of interprofessional education and collaborative patient centred

practice". Accepted for an oral presentation at the All Together Better Health IV Conference in Stockholm on June 4, 2008.

Rebecca Law, Ruby Grymonpré, Enette Pauzé, Lynda Weaver, Jana Lait, Laura MacDonald, Heather Jewers, Brenda Sawatzky-Girling. "Evaluation instruments of interprofessional education and collaborative patient centred practice." For poster presentation at the AACP/AFPC Joint Annual Meeting in Chicago, July 19-23, 2008.

Dr. Marcel Musteata has been invited as a speaker to talk about "Monitoring of free drug concentrations by microextraction techniques" at the Eastern Analytical Symposium in Somerset, New Jersey, November 17-20, 2008.

Dr. Marcel Musteata will present a poster titled "Calculation of Normalized Drug Levels in the Presence of Altered Plasma Protein Binding" at the 11th Canadian Society for Pharmaceutical Science (CSPS) Symposium in Banff, Alberta, May 22-25, 2008.

UNIVERSITY OF WATERLOO

Academic Appointments

Dr. Michael Beazely has been appointed to the rank of Assistant Professor. Dr. Beazely received his Bachelor of Science in Pharmacy from the University of Saskatchewan, and his PhD in pharmacology from Purdue University. His research in neuroscience and signal transduction takes an interdisciplinary approach. He studies dopamine and platelet-derived growth factor-mediated inhibition of N-methyl-D-aspartate receptors. Dr. Beazely is working to develop a novel research program in the regulation of glutamate receptors by serotonin receptors and transporters.

Dr. Andrea Edginton has been appointed to the rank of Assistant Professor. Dr. Edginton holds a BSc and PhD from the University of Guelph, in Environmental Toxicology. Her post-doctoral fellowship was undertaken at Bayer Technology Services in Leverkusen, Germany. Dr. Edginton's research

interests are in the field of paediatric physiology-based pharmacokinetic (PBPK) modeling, and the use of this tool to examine pharmacokinetic differences between children and adults. In addition, she wishes to apply PBPK models to the assessment of the differential risk associated with environmental pollutants to children as compared to adults.

Grants

Dr. Jamie Joseph has been awarded a CIHR New Investigator award in Nutrition, Metabolism and Diabetes. Valued at \$300,000 over five years, these awards recognize outstanding young investigators and support them in expanding their research work.

Dr. Joseph has also been awarded a joint CIHR/CFI equipment grant, in the amount of \$630,000.

School News

In February, the Ontario Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities announced an investment of \$8 million in the University of Waterloo's Health Sciences Campus. The campus, located in Kitchener, will be home to the School of Pharmacy, a regional program of McMaster University's Medical School, and a research centre and teaching clinic from UW's School of Optometry. The investment is directed toward capital needs.

Applications to UW's undergraduate program have increased by 48% over 2007. In the second stage of the admissions process, just over 200 applicants have now been invited to a personal interview on the weekend of May 2 – 4. There are 120 student spaces available. These interviews will be conducted by more than 30 pharmacists, drawn from a variety of practice settings across the province.

The vanguard UW class will embark on its first co-op work term in September 2008. To date, 53 employers

have stated an intention to hire, for more than 80 positions. The positions put forward cover chain and independent pharmacies, hospitals, academia, industry, government, professional associations, law and international experiences. They also represent a mix of urban, rural and underserved environments.

Major Visitors

The University of Waterloo School of Pharmacy was pleased to welcome Dr. Robert Langer, Institute Professor at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, for a special public lecture on *Advances in Drug Delivery and Tissue Engineering* on April 22. Dr. Langer's visit was supported in part by the Gairdner Foundation, as he holds a Gairdner International Award. Dr. Langer is also a recipient of the Charles Stark Draper prize and the U.S. National Medal of Science. While in Waterloo, Dr. Langer spoke to a group of over 100 local high school students and met with collaborators in Pharmacy and Engineering.

UNIVERSITÉ DE MONTRÉAL

Awards

Professor Daniel Thirion has been conferred the CSHP Fellow status in recognition of noteworthy, sustained service and excellence in the practice of pharmacy in the hospital setting. His current practice, research, and teaching are all focused on infectious disease pharmacotherapy.

Professor Claude Mailhot has received the CPhA International Leadership award.

Professor Ema Ferreira received the « Prix de reconnaissance 2007 en Innovation en soutien à la pratique » from the « Association des pharmaciens en établissement de santé (APES) ».

Professor Nancy Sheehan received the « Prix d'excellence 2007 en pratique spécialisée » from the « Association des pharmaciens en établissement de santé (APES) ». She was also awarded the « Prix de reconnaissance 2007 en Innovation en soutien à la pratique » from the « Association des pharmaciens en établissement de santé (APES) ».

Professors Annie Lavoie and Ema Ferreira each received an award for the quality and pertinence of their articles in clinical practice from IMS Health.

Appointments and Promotions

The following professors have been promoted:

Sylvie Marleau, Full Professor;
Patrice Hildgen, Full Professor;
Jean-François Bussi eres Full Clinical Professor;
Jean Lachaine, Associate Professor;
David Williamson, Clinical Associate Professor.

Lydjie Tremblay and Nathalie Letarte have been nominated as Clinical Assistant Professors.

School News

The new bachelor's in biopharmaceutical sciences has undergone the scrutiny of the CREPUQ (Conf erence

des recteurs et des principaux des universit es du Qu ebec) last April 2008. The Faculty is optimistic for results regarding the new programme's approval and implementation.

Close to 200 students have complete the 1st year Pharm.D. programme and are now undertaking their first clerkship in community pharmacy. Preliminary feedback from the students have been quite positive following their first year. The next few months will allow them to test their knowledge and competencies in practice. A more complete feedback from professors, pharmacists, and students is awaited with anticipation.

UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA

Promotion

Congratulations to Dr Scot Simpson who was recently granted tenure and promoted to Associate Professor.

Individual Faculty News

Dr Christine Hughes and Dr Nese Yuksel were two of 15 pharmacists in Alberta to receive Additional Prescribing Privileges through a pilot by the Alberta College of Pharmacists.

General Faculty News

The 2008 graduating class will be the first class to graduate from our new curriculum which was implemented in 2004.

Awards

Dr Mike Doschak was the recipient of the Young Investigator Award, from the International Society for Clinical Densitometry (ISCD), at the 14th Annual Meeting (San Francisco), for his poster entitled:

“Efficacy of Strontium ranelate and Risedronate on Bone Mass in a Rat Model of Osteoporosis using “in-vivo” Micro-CT”.

Dr Scot Simpson was the recipient of the 2007 Bristol-Myers Squibb Award for excellence in teaching selected by the undergraduate students.

Grants

Drs Mike Doschak, H. Uludag, & A Ghahary: awarded by CIHR (Biomedical Engineering Committee), four years, \$136,634/yr, for a proposal entitled: “Designing Amphiphilic Polymeric Carriers of DNA for Gene Therapy”.

Dr Dion Brocks: awarded by CIHR for the project: “The influence of lipids on the pharmacokinetics and pharmacodynamics of some representative drugs known to bind to lipoproteins”. Amount of award, \$93,841 for one year.

Student News

Congratulations to the following graduate students:

Spencer Ling (supervisor: Dr. Fakhreddin Jamali) on passing his Ph.D. Final Oral Examination (Nov. 19/2007) project name: “The Effect of Inflammation and Anti-TNF α on Pharmacokinetics and Pharmacodynamics of Verapamil”

Anoosh Shayeganpour; (supervisor: Dr. Dion Brocks) on successfully passing his Ph.D. Final Oral Examination (date: February 20, 2008) project name: “Effects of hyperlipoproteinemia on the Pharmacokinetics and Metabolism of Amiodarone in Rats”

Abdullah Mahmud (Supervisor: Dr. Afsaneh Lavasanifar) on successfully passing his PhD Final Oral Exam (date: March 14, 2008) project name: “Novel Polymeric Micellar Drug Conjugates and Nanocontainers for Drug Delivery Applications”

Reem Beleid (Supervisor: Dr. Kamaljit Kaur) on successfully passing her Final M.Sc. Oral Examination. (date: March 19, 2008) project name: “Design, Synthesis, and Evaluation of Peptide-based Hepatitis C Virus Entry Inhibitors”

Reem Elbekai (Supervisor: Dr. Ayman El-Kadi) on successfully passing her PhD Final Oral Exam on 27 November 2007 Project name: “Modulation of Aryl Hydrocarbon Receptor-Regulated Genes by Arsenite, Cadmium, and Chromium”

Arthur Okumu (Supervisor: Dr. Raimar Loebenberg) on successfully passing his Final M.Sc. Oral Examination (date: October 26, 2007) Project Name: “Integration of Dissolution Technology with Computer Simulations to Predict Oral Drug Absorption”

Graduate Student Awards

January 2008 Value Drug Mart Mainstreet Cancer Research Graduate Scholarship award to: MHD Kamal Al-Hallak (Supervisor: Dr. Raimar Loebenberg)

February 2008 University Teaching Services Graduate Student Teaching Award awarded to: Wael Soliman (Supervisor: Dr. Kamaljit Kaur)

January 2008 Pfizer Canada Inc. Pharmacy Research Award to: Holly Riopel (Supervisor: Dr. Mavanur R. Suresh)

The Faculty Research Day was held in October, 2007.

We are pleased to announce the following award recipients:

Sherif Mahmoud (First Prize: Best Graduate Poster), AFPC Student Research Poster Award and the Dr. L. Chatten Award

Samar Hamdy (Second Prize: Best Graduate Poster) Dr. L. Chatten Award

Ziyad Binkhathlan (Third Prize: Best Graduate Poster) Dr. L. Chatten Award

Dalyce Zuk Faculty Research Day 2007 Best Podium Presentation Award

Khaled R.A. Abdellatif (Best Postdoc Poster) Wu Hong Memorial Poster Prize

Jasmine Pawa Faculty Research Day 2007 Best Undergraduate Poster Award

Travis Featherstone National Summer Research Program for Canadian Pharmacy School (sponsored by Merck Company Foundation) for the Best Pharmacy Undergraduate Poster Award

UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

Awards

Mary Ensom is one of five (campus-wide) winners of the 2007 UBC Killam Research Prize in Science. This Prize recognizes “fulltime faculty members of the University of British Columbia for their distinguished research and scholarly contributions of international significance.”

Dr. Kishor Wasan has been selected to receive the AFPC-Pfizer Research Career Award for 2008. The award will be presented at the AFPC Awards banquet on July 20, 2008 at the conference in Chicago. This is a tremendous honour and well deserved. Congratulations Kishor!

Karen Dahri and Mary Ensom received the CSHP-BC Branch Publication Award (at the CSHP-BC Branch AGM on November 24, 2007) for their review article, “Dahri K, Ensom MHH. Efavirenz and Nevirapine in HIV-1 Infection: Is There a Role for Clinical Pharmacokinetic Monitoring?” *Clin Pharmacokinet.* 2007;46:109-32.

Dr. Kelly Grindrod has been selected as one of the five pharmacy students in Canada to receive the inaugural Wal-Mart Canada/AFPC Future Academic Leader Award. The award will be presented at the AFPC meeting in Chicago. Congratulations and well done!

Steve Shalansky and Larry Lynd were recently given the Canadian Society of Hospital Pharmacists

“Specialties in Pharmacy Practice” award for their paper: Shalansky S, Lynd L, Richardson K, Ignaszewski A, Kerr C. “Risk of warfarin-related bleeding events and supratherapeutic International Normalized Ratios associated with complimentary and alternative medicine: A longitudinal analysis.” *Pharmacotherapy* 27(9):1237-1247, 2007.

Dr. Dason Chua was recently conferred with Added Qualifications in Cardiology by the Board of Pharmaceutical Specialties. This is an internationally recognized credential with only three Board Certified Pharmacotherapy Specialists in Canada having Added Qualifications, and about 50 Board Certified Pharmacotherapy Specialists with Added Qualifications in Cardiology worldwide. Impressive, Dr. Chua, congratulations!

Grants

Dr. Judith Soon has received a CIHR Operating Grant for the project, “Experiences with contraception among youth in northern BC: Examining the impact of gender, place and culture”. It has been funded for \$90,867 per annum for a period of two years. This new project in Vanderhoof and Fort St. John will provide a wonderful opportunity to expand the current research that is ongoing in Fort St. James. Dr. Soon’s co-investigators are Drs. Jean Shoveller (UBC Health Care and Epidemiology), Joy Johnson (UBC Nursing), Neil Hanlon (UNBC Medical Geography) and Mary-Ellen Kelm (SFU Aboriginal History).

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