

**April/May 2009****Volume 20 No. 3****Table of Contents**

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Greetings from Saskatoon (it must be Spring somewhere). June is fast approaching and on behalf of the AFPC council and executive, I want to take this opportunity to invite you to the 2009 AFPC Conference, held this year at the Lord Nelson Hotel and Suites in Halifax, Nova Scotia. The conference organizing committee, co-chaired by Anne Marie Whelan and Harriet Davies, has worked tirelessly to prepare a program that is both informative and engaging.

The conference begins on Wednesday, June 3^d with an opening reception where we will celebrate the excellence of our award winners in academic research, teaching and graduate studies.

The plenary session on Thursday is titled, Academia Supporting Change, with presentations from Drs. Robert Sindelair, Victor Yenchick, and Jake Thiessen. This will be a great opportunity to exchange ideas regarding the future of pharmacy and the role academia will play moving forward.

Our General Meeting will take place at noon on Thursday, and will provide you with the chance to learn more about the activities of the AFPC council over the past year. In the afternoon there will be an interaction

session, titled Appreciating the Challenge – Motivation and Change, led by Dr. Michael Vallis.

Friday begins with our pharmacy education research/innovation symposium, Pharmacy Education Research/Innovation – Embracing the Challenge. Topics to be covered include: natural health products, ELPD Clinical Rotations, drug information websites, information retrieval for students and practitioners, critical skills appraisal, developing a web-CT based course, and InterMED-Rx. We will hold our second interaction session on Friday afternoon, titled Building Bridges: Learning and Assessment Experiences that Foster Professional Learning, led by Lynn Taylor. Friday concludes with our annual Awards Banquet at Pier 21.

As you can see, this year's conference addresses many of the critical issues and changes faced by the profession and academia. At the same time, there will be many opportunities for attendees to interact with colleagues and to just have fun. Thanks to everyone involved in making this conference a success. Our generous sponsors and their support that are so vital in making this event possible are also greatly appreciated. Thank you, everyone, for your work and support. Finally, I would like to once again express my appreciation for the contributions and hard work of the entire AFPC council. Many thanks as well to Frank Abbott for his continued service.

Sincerely,

Roy Thomas Dobson

AFPC President, 2008-2009

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S CORNER

After that rather long nasty winter everyone should now be looking forward to winding up another school year and taking a bit of time off to relax in some good summer weather. Before you get too relaxed, however, AFPC invites you to attend the Annual Conference and Meetings being held this year in Halifax, June 3-5, 2009 in the Lord Nelson Hotel. Registration on line is still open so take the opportunity to attend if you have not already registered. Details of the conference program, hotel and registration can be found at: <http://afpc.info/content.php?SectionID=3&ContentID=136&Language=en> The formal part of the program begins on Wednesday, June 3 with a reception at 5:30 PM, hosted by Wal-Mart Canada, for students who have won awards for their research and leadership qualities. Following a general reception for attendees, there will be an opening buffet dinner and formal presentations by this year's major award winners.

In the first plenary session on Thursday, June 4, three speakers will address academia supporting change. The

session is appropriately led off by a presentation by Dean Bob Sindelar on the Blueprint for Pharmacy and action to be taken on educating students and providing continuing professional development appropriate to changing times. AACP President, Dean Victor Yanchick will present on a US vision for academic pharmacy and Hallman Director Dr. Jake Thiessen will present change as it happens in Canada's newest School of Pharmacy at the University of Waterloo. The afternoon session is then devoted to an interactive session on motivation and change.

The AFPC Annual General Meeting and lunch will be held at noon on Thursday. Learn about AFPC's latest projects in program evaluation and the revision of educational outcomes for the BSc in Pharmacy and the Pharm D as the entry to practice degree. Representatives from academia who sit on stakeholder organizations will also present updates. It is anticipated that a proposal will be made to change the name of the annual conference and that may spark some discussion.

On Friday, June 5, the morning session is devoted to innovation in pharmacy education. Topics include core competencies for natural health products, practice experiences for the entry level Pharm D students at Université de Montréal, a drug information web site with guideposts to resources, keeping students and practitioners up to date, comparing critical appraisal skills, linking basic science to practice, and harmony and optimal therapy in the use of medication. There is something there for everyone. The afternoon session is an interactive session on learning and assessment experiences that foster professional development.

Friday is poster day and nearly 40 abstracts were received of posters to be presented at the conference, a very good turnout. Students will be competing for the AFPC best poster awards and graduate students for the Whit Matthews best poster award.

The conference closes on Friday evening with the Awards Banquet being held at the historic Pier 21. The conference planning committee under co-chairs Anne Marie Whelan and Harriet Davies has been very busy and we sincerely thank the College of Pharmacy at

Dalhousie University for taking on this most important task of hosting our Annual Conference. See you there!

Award winners for 2009: On behalf of Awards Committee Chair, Mary MacCara of Dalhousie University, here are the award winners for 2009:

Bristol-Myers Squibb/AFPC National Award for Excellence in Education: **David Gardner**, College of Pharmacy, Dalhousie University.

Canadian Foundation for Pharmacy/AFPC Graduate Student Award for Pharmacy Practice Research: **Marie Lordkipanidzé**, PhD candidate, Faculté de pharmacie, Université de Montréal.

Note: This is a brand new award and will continue to be developed with our sponsor, CFP.

GlaxoSmithKline/AFPC Graduate Student Research Award for best paper published in the past 12 months: **Carl Julien**, PhD candidate, Faculté de pharmacie, Université Laval, Quebec.

Pfizer/AFPC Research Career Award: **Murray Krahn**, Leslie Dan Faculty of Pharmacy, University of Toronto.

Sanofi-aventis/AFPC New Investigator Research Award: **Afsaneh Lavasanifar**, Faculty of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences, University of Alberta.

Note: The new investigator award has for many years been sponsored by AstraZeneca. Sanofi-aventis is our new sponsor of this important award for faculty.

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

Note: This is the second year that Antonia has won this award as an MSc. student under the supervision of Dr. Helen Burt.

AFPC Student Research Poster Awards:

Abeer Ahmed, Memorial University of Newfoundland; supervisor: Mohsen Daneshtalab

Mark Chambers, Dalhousie University; supervisors: Mary MacCara and Elizabeth Foy

Étienne Audet-Walsh, Université Laval; supervisor: Chantal Guillemette

Maud Pinier, Université de Montréal; supervisor: Jean-Christophe Leroux

Kelvin KW Hui, University of Toronto; supervisor: Jeffrey Henderson

Ousama M. Rachid, University of Manitoba; supervisor: Keith Simons

Graham D. Brown, University of Saskatchewan; supervisor: Adil Nazarali

Aws Alshamsan, University of Alberta; supervisors: Ayman El-Kadi and Afsaneh Lavasanifar

Charles Au, University of British Columbia; supervisor: David Grierson

Wal-Mart Canada-AFPC Future Academic Leader Awards:

Nina Boucher, Université Laval

Judith Fisher, University of Toronto

Diala Harb, Université de Montréal

Jason Kielly, Memorial University of Newfoundland

Marie Lordkipanidzé, Université de Montréal

Shanna Trenaman, Dalhousie University

Blueprint for pharmacy: The blueprint for pharmacy has now moved into the implementation phase. CPhA recently distributed the implementation plan containing detailed recommendations for action from each of five working groups. The Education and Continuing Professional Development working group, for example, has 13 major actions, lists potential organizations that will lead the actions, describes expected deliverables for each action and lists the time frame in which they should occur. To assist the collaboration of leadership organizations to take action on the recommendations and if necessary to seek funding for projects, the implementation plan is accompanied by an operational framework. This framework lays out 10 projects that are required to change pharmacy practice. Under each of the projects are listed the key recommendations for action obtained from the implementation plan.

Distribution of these documents has been widespread to the Faculties and to other stakeholder organizations who have signed on to commit to the Blueprint for Pharmacy. The Deans (ADPC) and the Faculties (AFPC) began strategizing on action plans related to the Blueprint for Pharmacy at their midyear meetings in Montréal. At that time they agreed to hold a joint planning session on the implementation plans on June 4, 2009 during the AFPC Conference and Meetings in Halifax. ADPC and AFPC will also be represented at

the special pre-conference session on May 30 just prior to the start of the CPhA conference in Halifax. The recent decision by the CPhA board to endorse the Faculties of Pharmacy in transitioning from the Bachelor of Science degree to the Pharm D degree for entry to practice will certainly influence some of the discussions.

Communications: The web site move to a new management firm continues to be a problem. This was highlighted recently with the conference registration where either no information or incorrect information was transmitted back to registrants. AFPC will be discussing a proposal for a complete revamping of the site at the Council Meeting in June.

PEP Canada will be holding their annual meeting on June 23 at the College of Pharmacy building on the Dalhousie University campus in Halifax.

The Educational Outcomes Task Force Group that is working on revision of the educational outcomes and levels and ranges for both of the professional degree programs for entry to practice (BSc and entry level Pharm D) will be meeting on June 2 in Halifax. A progress report on the work of the task force will be made to AFPC council at the annual council meeting on June 3.

ADPC: The Deans will be holding their annual meeting at the Great George Hotel in Charlottetown, PEI,

October 3-5, 2009. Three new Deans are expected to be in attendance. David Hill (Saskatchewan), Henry Mann (Toronto), and James Kehrer (Alberta).

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

**ASSOCIATION OF FACULTIES OF PHARMACY OF CANADA/
ASSOCIATION DES FACULTÉS DE PHARMACIE DU CANADA
AFFILIATE MEMBERS 2008 - 2009**

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Frank Abbott

Executive Director

FACULTY SPOTLIGHT: MEMORIAL UNIVERSITY OF NEWFOUNDLAND

This is a significant year for the School of Pharmacy, as we re-apply for program accreditation. The program to be evaluated will be the new program that was developed during the previous accreditation process. The accreditation will coincide with the graduation of our first full-cohort of the new curriculum. The self-assessment report is currently being written and will be presented to CCAPP in the summer.

There are two unique aspects of this current curriculum. First, there is a new pharmacy skills stream. The pharmacy skills courses are offered in all but the last semester of the 1 + 4 program. The intent is for students to develop an understanding of the skills necessary to be successful practitioners, to provide them with the background knowledge which serves as the underpinning to success in the development of skills, and to offer them appropriate learning situations in which they can practise their skills. The pharmacy skills stream integrates material from different courses in a manner that helps our students develop an understanding of the interrelationships of the basic and applied subject areas. Students are evaluated on their ability to integrate subject matter from different areas and how they apply it to practice situations. The courses evolve over the four

The pharmacy skills stream ensures the development of the knowledge, skills and attitudes necessary for our graduates to be effective pharmaceutical care practitioners. This stream of courses further develops all the general educational outcomes and target specific educational outcome elements necessary of today's graduate. Currently, we have four full-time faculty who coordinate pharmacy skills throughout the program. The skills stream has proved to be beneficial for the students in their final SPE IV practice placement, as the students appear to be more prepared for this experience as opposed to previous years.

The second significant change to our curriculum involves the offerings in the area of behavioral, social and administrative pharmacy. Health-policy, pharmacoeconomics, critical appraisal and evidence based clinical practice represent a substantial component of the program. There are specific courses in health ethics and business administration. Specific outcome elements relating to assuming legal, ethical and professional responsibilities, providing drug and drug use information, understanding practice management principles and applying principles of scientific inquiry is achieved through these course offerings. The material

years: students are first exposed to simple tasks with minimal integration but gradually evolve into complex assignments that rely on knowledge, skills and attitudes developed in previous years and the multiplicity of courses that they have taken.

The nature of assignments and assessment tools are highly variable and the courses have a large component of self-directed learning activities. Formal presentations, interviewing/educating standardized patients, dispensing prescriptions, performing pharmaceutical calculations, searching literature for drug information, and practising physical assessment skills are large components.

Professionalism is a major focus of the skills program. Students are continuously evaluated on their professional conduct when engaged in any activity in the pharmacy skills courses. Students are given feedback on their individual professional conduct if they fall below a minimally expected level and must meet this level in order to successfully pass the course. Final year students also assist in the education of students in third year during their final SPE IV practice placement, which cultivates an appreciation and desire to assume professional responsibility to teach future pharmacists.

covered in these courses are linked to the pharmacy skills courses and the SPE experiences, where the students are expected to apply the knowledge gained from these courses to practice situations. Again, the enhancement of this stream has proven to be beneficial for students completing their final SPE.

New Staff: *Csöp Glew* is our new Manager of Academic Programs. Some of her responsibilities include management of the accreditation process, admissions, academic advising, student progress and promotion and overall efficient administration of the undergraduate program. *Darcy McMeekin*, our Development Officer, has been very active with regards to alumni identification and fundraising efforts. Darcy has been particularly active in organizing a "Come Home Year 2009" for all of the graduates since the school opened in 1999. We are hoping to see many former graduates "come home" to St. John's for the event and help celebrate our School's milestone.

The last six years has been a challenging time for Memorial. However, we feel we are producing excellent entry-to-practice practitioners that improve patient outcomes and society as a whole.

DALHOUSIE UNIVERSITY

Individual Faculty News

Neil MacKinnon has been elected as the incoming President-Elect of the Canadian Society of Hospital Pharmacists and officially becomes President-Elect at the Summer Education Session in Winnipeg in August.

Neil MacKinnon gave the annual Michael Ordman Lecture at the Massachusetts College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences in Boston on March 24th. The title of his address was “The Patient Safety Movement and Implications for the Profession of Pharmacy”

Peter Zed gave a presentation on February 14, 2009, at the Dalhousie University Continuing Medical Education 35th Annual February Refresher: Emergency Medicine, titled: “Acute Pain Management in the Emergency Department”.

Kimberley Sears has been funded for a 2 year post doctoral fellowship under the supervision of Neil MacKinnon (funding from the Canadian Health Services Research Foundation). The title of her main project is: A comparison of the current state of Canadian paediatric and adult medication errors and a model for safer medication delivery in Canada.

Grants

David Jakeman received a \$100,000 one-year grant for a project titled “Rhamnose biosynthesis: alternative antibacterial targets” as part of the CIHR Fall

Publications

Neil MacKinnon was the co-lead contributor to the two Health Council of Canada companion reports on the National Pharmaceuticals Strategy that were released on January 30, 2009.

The Health Council of Canada (2009). The National Pharmaceuticals Strategy: A Prescription Unfilled. A Status Report. Toronto: Health Council.

The Health Council of Canada (2009). The National Pharmaceuticals Strategy: A Prescription Unfilled. Commentary. Toronto: Health Council.

He was also the co-author on a commentary in the Canadian Medical Association Journal on this topic: MacKinnon NJ, Ip I. The National Pharmaceuticals Strategy: Rest in peace, revive or renew? *Canadian*

2008 Operating Grant Priority Announcement from the Infection & Immunity Institute.

Neil MacKinnon is the co-PI on the following new grant: SafetyNET: Improving Medication Safety through Quality Management and Integrative IT. This grant was funded by the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada - Public Outreach Grants - Management, Business and Finance. Todd Boyle of St. Francis Xavier University is the other co-PI.

Neil MacKinnon is a co-investigator on the following new grant: Exploring the Perspectives of Patients and Nurses on the Role of the Hospitalized Patient in Medication Administration Study. This grant was funded by the Nova Scotia Health Research Foundation. Marilyn MacDonald is the PI.

Canadian Institutes of Health Research Emerging Team Grant: Health Services and Policy Research. CIHR/Health Canada Team in Policies for Equitable Access to Medications. Co-Principal Investigators: Steve Morgan, Barbara Mintzes, Paul Grootendorst, Joel Lexchin; Co-Investigators: David Henry, Anne Holbrook, Aidan Hollis, Jillian Kohler, Michael Law, Neil MacKinnon, Dev Menon, Marie-Pascale Pomey, Colette Raymond, Ingrid Sketris, Tania Stafinski, Robyn Tamblyn.

Medical Association Journal 2009 doi: 10.1503/cmaj.082087.

Hanly JG, Skedgel C, Sketris I, Cooke C, Linehan T, Thompson K, van Zanten SV. 2009. Gout in the elderly – a population health study. *J Rheumatol*; Apr;36(4):822-30. Epub 2009 Mar 13.

Barozzi N, Sketris I, Cooke C, Tett S. Comparison on Non-steroidal Anti-inflammatory Drugs and Cyclo-Oxygenase-2 (COX-2) Inhibitors Use in Australia and Nova Scotia (Canada). *British Journal of Clinical Pharmacology*; doi: 10.1111/1365-2125.2009.03410.x. (Accepted).

Sketris IS, Langille Ingram EM, Lummis HL. 2009. Strategic opportunities for effective optimal prescribing and medication management. *Can J Clin Pharmacol*; 16(1):e103-25.

Sketris I. 2009. Extending Prescribing Privileges in Canada. CPJ; 142(1):17-19.

Zed PJ. Pharmacy practice residencies in Canada: opportunities and emerging challenges [Editorial]. Can J Hosp Pharm 2009;62:7-8.

Hohl CM, Abu-Laban RB, Brubacher JR, Zed PJ, Sobolev B, Tsai G, Kretz P, Nemethy K, Biljsma JJ, Purssell PA. Adherence with emergency department discharge prescriptions. Can J Emerg Med 2009;11:131-9

Other News

The CTV national news ran a story on March 25th on a study that focused on SafetyNET – a project which has collaborators from St. Francis Xavier University, Dalhousie University, the Nova Scotia College of Pharmacists and ISMP-Canada, with additional input from Prof David Brushwood of the University of Florida (Todd Boyle and Neil MacKinnon, co-PIs). SafetyNET is a medication safety program specifically designed by and for community pharmacies. It involves workflow design, following best demonstrated practices related to patient safety and on-line reporting and feedback of near hits and errors.

Neil MacKinnon was also interviewed live on Canada AM on March 26th to discuss this study. There has been considerable other media interest in this study as well.



UNIVERSITÉ DE MONTRÉAL

Grants

Dr. Grégoire Leclair has recently joined the Faculty as assistant professor. The Canada Foundation for Innovation has granted him 156 208 \$ for initiating his research in the field of nanosuspensions with main objective to improve pharmaceutical products. This grant has been matched by private donors and the Government of Quebec to bring the total amount to 390 520\$.

Awards

M. Jean-François Bussièrès was recognized by the Canadian Society of Hospital Pharmacists with the “Teaching, Learning and Education Award” for his published book on educating legislative aspects of pharmaceutical practice.

Dr Claude Mailhot was selected to receive the « Pharmacien de cœur et d’action » award for her dedicated work in pharmaceutical education.

Dr. Lyne Lalonde received the “Pharmacien de Coeur et d’action” award in recognition of her excellence as a pharmacist in research.

Last November, the first Pierre Boivin scholarship for M.Sc. students in pharmaceutical practice in the community was awarded to Frédéric Julien-Baker. We are honored to assist in such renewable support.

Retirement

The faculty would like to announce the retirement of Dr. Albert Adam. In recognition of his contributions to education and services to the Faculty, he has been granted the title of Professor Emeritus. We would also like to announce the retirement of Dr. Jean-Norbert McMullen. We wish them both a long-lived enjoyable retirement.

UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO

New Dean

Professor **Henry J. Mann** has been appointed as Dean, Leslie Dan Faculty of Pharmacy, effective July 1, 2009 and ending June 30, 2014. Professor Mann is a graduate of the University of Kentucky College of Pharmacy where he received both his Bachelor and Doctor of Pharmacy degrees and completed an American Society of Health-System Pharmacists Residency Program. He then joined the University of Minnesota College of Pharmacy where he is currently a Professor and Associate Dean for Clinical Affairs. He is a Fellow of the American Society of Health-System Pharmacists, the American College of Clinical Pharmacy, and the American College of Critical Care Medicine. Professor Mann's research has focused on the application of pharmacology and pharmacotherapy principles to critically ill patients and he is the founding Director of the interdisciplinary Center for Excellence in Critical Care at the University of Minnesota. With 40 faculty members from medicine, nursing and pharmacy as participants, the Center's mission is to develop and evaluate new therapies and devices that will improve survival and the quality of life for critically ill patients. Professor Mann also founded the Partnership for Excellence in Critical Care, a national network focused on the translation of critical care research into practice. He has extensive academic administrative experience at the University of Minnesota, having served as associate dean and director of professional and external relations, associate head of Pharmacy Practice, and director of experiential education. He has also had responsibility for education programs and has served on the educational policy

committee at Minnesota. Please join us in welcoming Professor Mann to the Leslie Dan Faculty of Pharmacy at the University of Toronto.



Awards and Grants

Teaching Awards

Students in the Bachelor of Science in Pharmacy program recently named their Teachers of the Year for the 2008-9 academic term. They are:

Marie Rocchi and Anna Taddio – Year 1

Debra Sibbald – Year 2

Jack Utrecht – Year 3

New Grants & Funding

Associate Professor Christine Allen and Professor Micheline Piquette-Miller recently signed a licensing and development deal with Prollemium Medical Technologies, Inc. The agreement focuses on the commercialization of a new dermal filler based on

technology created in the labs of Dr. Allen and Dr. Piquette-Miller. The injectable gel technology PoLi developed for drug delivery is biocompatible, biodegradable, and the composition can be optimized for dermal filler application. In the press release announcing this agreement, Prollemium noted the Leslie Dan Faculty of Pharmacy's "formidable pharmaceutical research facilities which have long been recognized for some of the most dramatic and important breakthroughs in pharma science." Based on the excitement surrounding this partnership, the groundbreaking work being developed in Dr. Allen and Dr. Piquette-Miller's laboratories will likely revolutionize the dermal filler market.

Canada Research Chair in Adverse Drug Reactions
Jack Uetrecht recently received funding from the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR). His five year project, "Macrophage Activation by Drugs Leading to Autoimmunity," supports his central work of trying to understand unexpected drug reactions that occur in humans so that we can predict and/or prevent them. The three major ideas of this project are 1) macrophage activation is an important first step in the induction of idiosyncratic drug reactions, especially those with an autoimmune component; 2) drugs such as penicillamine, hydralazine and isoniazid, drugs that are associated with an autoimmune syndrome resembling lupus, activate macrophages by binding to aldehyde groups on the surface of macrophages; and 3) many cases of idiosyncratic liver toxicity that have been classed as "metabolic idiosyncrasy" are actually immune-mediated and have a major autoimmune component.

The National Human Genome Research Initiative (NHGRI) has renewed Assistant Professor Guri Giaever's RO1 grant "Technology to Identify and Assay Chemical Genomic Probes" for the next 4 years. Giaever will share these funds with her lab at Stanford (in collaboration with Dr. Ronald W. Davis at the Stanford Genome Technology Center), and her Toronto lab (in collaboration with Dr. Corey Nislow).

General Faculty News

Building a Patient Care Practice

During Pharmacist Awareness Week, the Division of Pharmacy Practice hosted *Building a Patient Care Practice* for third year students. Designed to expose students to diverse patient care practices, share ideas about how to provide patient care in current practice environments, and discuss how pharmacy practice can move toward a more patient-focused care approach, the event featured four speakers. Each of the speakers provided a unique career perspective to shed light on these topics - a family health team pharmacist, a hospital pharmacist, a menopause pharmacist practitioner, and a pharmacy clinical coordinator in a large community chain. Thanks to Annie Lee, Senior Lecturer and SPEP Coordinator, for organizing this important event.

Pharmacy-Physician Mentorship Program

On March 13th, faculty and students from the Leslie Dan Faculty of Pharmacy, the Faculty of Medicine, and the Office of Interprofessional Education participated in a discussion about interprofessional mentorship opportunities for pharmacy, medicine, and other health

Professor Shana Kelley has recently received support from a number of different funding organizations for her work. The Natural Science and Engineering Research Council (Idea to Innovation program), Ontario Centres of Excellence (Market Readiness program), Canadian Institutes of Health Research (Proof of Principle program) and Ontario Institute for Cancer Research (Intellectual Property Development and Commercialization program) have all provided support for the development of an electronic chip to be used for the clinical diagnosis of cancer and infectious disease. These funds will contribute to the production of prototype engineering and pursuing clinical testing.

Associate Dean, Graduate Education, Reina Bendayan received a five year funding renewal from CIHR for her project "Regulation of Antiretroviral Drug Transport in the Brain." The aim of this project is to investigate regulatory mechanisms involved in antiretroviral drug transport and metabolism at the level of the blood-brain barrier and in brain parenchyma in order to elucidate mechanisms involved in drug disposition, drug resistance, and pharmacological response in HIV infection of the brain.

science programs at the University of Toronto. Topics covered in this three-hour meeting included identifying key areas of learning for trainees and training programs, identifying current and potential mentorship opportunities within curricula, determining potential for interprofessional mentorship arrangements among students in pharmacy and medicine programs, and identifying how opportunities could be integrated into existing courses and/or the planned Interprofessional Education curriculum. Zubin Austin, Andrea Cameron and Lalitha Raman-Wilms helped organize this event.

Student News

Graduate Research in Progress - Wednesday, April 29, 2009

The Graduate Department of Pharmaceutical Research hosted the Graduate Research in Progress symposium, where graduate students delivered oral and poster presentations to an audience of fellow students, faculty, staff and industry representatives. The presenters covered a wide range of topics in all areas of pharmaceutical science research.

UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA

Appointments/Promotions/Tenures

The faculty is pleased to announce the appointment of **Dr James Kehrer** as Dean of the Faculty of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences at the University of Alberta for a 5-year term of office, effective August 1, 2009.

Congratulations to Dr Dion Brocks for being promoted to Full Professor. Also congratulations to Dr Christine Hughes, Dr Cheryl Sadowski, Dr Nese Yuksel and Dr John Seubert who were recently granted tenure. All appointments are effective July 1, 2009.

Faculty News - New Dean, Dr. Kehrer

Dr. Kehrer received a BS in Pharmacy from Purdue University, a PhD in Pharmacology from the University of Iowa College Of Medicine, and was a Post-doctoral Investigator in toxicology at the prestigious Oak Ridge National Laboratories. Dr. Kehrer spent 25 years at the College of Pharmacy, University of Texas at Austin, initially starting as an Assistant Professor and progressing to full Professor. He served in the

capacities of Chair, Division of Pharmacology and Toxicology and Director, Center for Cellular and Molecular Toxicology. At present, Dr Kehrer is the Dean of the College of Pharmacy at Washington State University.

Dr. Kehrer has served on editorial boards of peer-review science journals, committees of national professional societies, grant review committees, a state legislative task force and a state advisory committee. Most notable among his current memberships are the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Science Advisory Board – Exposure and Human Health Committee and the U.S. Food and Drug Administration Nonprescription Drugs Advisory Committee. He is also Editor for the Americas and Japan of the international journal Toxicology Letters. In addition to his achievements in the Academy, Dean Kehrer is highly regarded for his personal character, his high standards and his understanding of academic and research excellence.

Grants

Dr Paul Jurasz was awarded a Heart and Stroke Foundation of Alberta grant in support of his research on "*Regulation of angiogenesis by platelet-derived angiostatin*"; \$40,000/yr for 3years.

Awards

Dr Sharon Mitchell was the recipient of the 2008 Bristol-Myers Squibb Award for excellence in teaching selected by the 4th year pharmacy students. Honourable mentions to Dr Nese Yuksel and Dr Cheryl Sadowski.

Dr Ed Knaus was the recipient of the first ever Faculty's Lifelong Learning Award which was announced at the Awards Gala hosted by the Faculty of Extension on March 5th 2009.

Dr Fakhreddin Jamali was awarded Fellow status with the Canadian Society of Pharmaceutical Sciences

Dr. Afsaneh Lavasanifar, was recently awarded the AFPC-AstraZeneca New Investigator Research Award for 2009. This Award recognizes outstanding research achievements and contributions of the junior members

of the academic staff of Faculties, Colleges or Schools of Pharmacy in Canada. The formal presentation of the Award will take place at the AFPC Awards Banquet at the next AFPC Conference in Halifax.

Graduate Student Awards/Grants

Mr. Mostafa Shahin (Supervisor: Dr. Afsaneh Lavasanifar) was awarded a *Frederick Banting and Charles Best Canada Graduate Scholarship (Doctoral Award)* administered through the Canadian Institutes of Health Research: \$30,000 per annum.

Ms. Dalia El-Sayed (Supervisor: Dr. Dion Brocks) on being award the *Dissertation Fellowship* at the University of Alberta (the value of the award is \$22,000).

Sherif Hanafy Mahmoud is the recipient of the 2009 Graduate Student Teaching Assistant Award administered by University Teaching Services.

Anwar Anwar-Mohamed is the first awardee from our Faculty to receive Alberta Ingenuity Graduate Student Scholarship for 3 years. His Ph.D. project title is "Modulation of AhR-regulated genes by heavy metals".

General Faculty News

The Shanghai University of Traditional Chinese Medicine and the Faculty of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences, University of Alberta, have signed a Memorandum of Understanding to establish a cooperative relationship.

Update with recent developments in the area of Continuing Pharmacy Education:

Under the leadership of Terri Schindel, the Alberta College of Pharmacists Council endorsed our new direction for pharmacist's professional development offered through the Office of Continuing Pharmacy Education in December 2008 and approved an annual grant of \$250,000 for the next three years. Plans for the area include a name change to **Practice Development**, new courses to support pharmacists in direct patient care and prescribing roles, and the introduction of staff.

Based on the successes of the anticoagulation professional development course, a collaboration with Pharmacy Services at Alberta Health Services, Edmonton supported the creation of a new position in the area. Andrea Linn works half-time in Practice Development to coordinate the Anticoagulation professional development course, offer training and mentoring, and

contribute to the undergraduate pharmacy program teaching in the area of anticoagulation management. In addition, her joint position includes responsibilities as Clinical Practice Leader (Ambulatory Care) with Capital Health and a practice at the Anticoagulation Management Service, University of Alberta Hospital.

Cindy Nelson has also joined the Practice Development Team. She will be responsible for new development, delivery and evaluation of professional development courses and will maintain involvement with the undergraduate program to promote lifelong learning skills and professional development.

Student news

On Thursday January 8, 2009, the members of the Pharmacy Class of 2012 were presented with their "Pharmacy Alberta" white dispensing jackets. Over 350 students and guests were challenged by guest speaker, Dr Peter Hamilton. The event, sponsored by the Alberta Association of Pharmacists, the Alberta College of Pharmacists and the Faculty of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences, impresses upon the students the fact that they are members of the profession from the day they enter the Faculty not just when they receive their degrees."

UNIVERSITÉ LAVAL

Individual Faculty News

Dr Olivier Barbier, Dr Éric Biron, Dr Benoit Drolet, Dr Danielle Laurin, Dr Paul Poirier, Dr Frederic Picard and Dr Roxane Pouliot have received salary awards (chercheurs boursiers) from the Fonds de recherche en santé du Québec (FRSQ). The awards will support investigators in research areas such as cardiovascular disease, cancer, epidemiology, metabolism, psoriasis, and hepatology. These achievements by our researcher testify the dynamism of the research undergone at the Faculty.

Dr Olivier Barbier has been awarded a one-year grant for \$ 100 000 from the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR) for her application entitled "FXR: a promising target for prostate cancer treatment".

Dr Frederic Calon and Dr Francesca Cicchetti has been awarded a one-year grant for \$ 100 000 from the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR) for their application entitled "Neuroprotective action of n-3 polyunsaturated fatty acids in Parkinson's disease" to study the role of omega-3 fatty acids in Parkinson disease.

Dr Chantal Guillemette was awarded a grant for \$ 162 500 for 5 years from the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR) for her application entitled "Pharmacogenomics of human UGT enzymes". The application was ranked first in the Pharmaceutical Sciences committee.

Dr Chantal Guillemette and Dr Olivier Barbier are now offering Bioanalytical Services in the area of sex-steroid hormones and drug metabolism in their laboratories within the CHUL research center.

Dr Chantal Guillemette and Dr Éric Lévesque were awarded a grant for 3 years (\$ 375 000) from the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR) for their application entitled "Hematopoietic stem cell (HCT) transplantation: Identification of key determinants of graft-versus-host disease".

Dr Matthieu Guitton received a grant from the Natural Sciences and Engineering (NSERC) for a period of five

years to advance its work on multimodal sensory integration in the social perception (90 000 \$).

Dr Jean Lefebvre is now our Faculty representative at the Conseil universitaire de l'Université Laval.

Dr Pascal Daleau, vice dean (research) at the Faculty, an investigator at the Quebec Institute of Cardiology and Pneumology, has always had a passion for climbing. He is now undertaking a personal and professional trip to Nepal, where he will climb the Mount Cho Oyu (8 201 meters). During this journey, Dr. Daleau will study the effect of supplemental oxygen administration at high altitude. Mount Cho Oyu is the sixth highest peak in the world.

General Faculty News

Appointments and awards of our alumni:

Jean-François Bussi eres is the recipient of the *Teaching, Learning, and Education Award* from the Canadian Society of Hospital Pharmacists sponsored by Wyeth Pharmaceuticals to recognize his contribution to teaching legislation and ethics, including the development of a book entitled *L egislation et syst eme de soins*.

Patrick Boudreault was appointed « Directeur de l' evaluation, de la qualit e, de l'information et des projets » at the H otel-Dieu de L evis.

Nathalie Ch ateauvert who graduated with a Master degree in hospital pharmacy in 1995 has received the 2008 Prix d'excellence de l'H opital Laval.

Sylvie Robert, a graduate from our Faculty has been appointed at the Direction scientifique de l'inscription au Conseil du m edicament du Qu ebec.

Upcoming events:

The next edition of Brunet Symposium will be held on Friday 23 October 2009 at the Hilton Quebec - The theme: Referral or not? That is the question!

Students News :

During the 9th Research day of the Faculty of Pharmacy held on April 15th, 2009, several of our best students were honoured:

Doctorate: 1st Prize - Best Oral Presentation: M elanie Bousquet ; 1st prize - Best poster presentation: Vincent M enard ; 2nd Prize - Best oral presentation: Marie-Odile Benoit-Biancamano; 2nd prize - Best poster presentation:  tienne Audet-Walsh.
Master: Best oral presentation: Dominique Elias; Best

poster presentation: Mathieu Lafontaine-Lacasse.
Master (hospital pharmacy): 1st prize - Best poster presentation: Christine Morin and Nicolas Hudon; 2nd prize - Best poster presentation: Emmanuelle Huot and Marie-Laurence Tremblay
Research internship summer 2008: Best poster presentation: Guillaume Latulippe
AFPC award for the best poster:  tienne Audet-Walsh

Our students have emphasized teaching excellence at the Faculty:

The winner of the Alfred- mile Francoeur award: Fr ed eric Poitras, a lecturer at the Faculty, who received the most votes from fourth-year students. The 1st year students have elected Dr. Eric Philippe, a professor in the department of anatomy and physiology of the Faculty of Medicine. The 2nd year students have voted for Dr. Chantale Simard, and those of 3rd year have chosen Fr ed eric Poitras: both teaching at the Faculty of Pharmacy.

According to *ScienceDirect*, an article written by Caroline Sirois, Ph.D. student in the concentration pharmacoepidemiology, was the Top 10 most downloaded articles in International Journal of Cardiology between July and September 2008.

Awards:

Nina Boucher, a Ph.D. student at our Faculty has received the 2009 AFPC Wal-Mart Canada/ Futur leader acad emique.

M elanie Bousquet, M elanie Bourque and Mil ene Vandal have received a full Ph.D. studentship (20 000 \$/year) from the Fonds de recherche en sant e du Qu ebec (FRSQ).

A research article from Carl Julien entitled "High-fat diet aggravates amyloid-beta and tau pathologies in the 3xTg-AD mouse model" that appeared in *Neurobiology of Aging* in 2008 was ranked best out of 15 applications for the AFPC GlaxoSmithKline Graduate Student Research Award 2009. Carl will be invited to present his results at the AFPC meeting in Halifax.

Mélanie Turgeon, a graduate student at our faculty is the recipient of the prestigious Merck Frosst Canada Graduate Pharmacy Fellowship Award.

Professional Development Week 2009 (PDW):

Students from the Faculty of Pharmacy participated in the January 2009 annual meeting attended by members of the Association of Canadian students and internal medicine (ACEIP) of Canada.

Our best performers: Vincent Leclerc: 3rd in the medication contest; Dominic Martel: 3rd in the patient contest; Joannie St-Onge, Martin Payer, Vincent Leclerc, Philippe Drouin: 3rd in the style contest; Francis Brassard: 3rd in the literature contest.

UNIVERSITY OF WATERLOO

Grand Opening Celebrations

The University of Waterloo officially opened Canada's newest school of pharmacy on Friday, April 17, 2009. The Hon. David Caplan, Minister of Health and Long-Term Care, The Hon. John Milloy, Minister of Training, Colleges and Universities and Kitchener Mayor Carl Zehr were among the dignitaries who joined UW officials and supporters for the ribbon-cutting. So were several private and corporate donors, whose support was recognized for the first time. Dean Wayne Hindmarsh, of the Leslie Dan Faculty of Pharmacy, brought congratulations from colleagues at the University of Toronto.

Nearly 300 guests crowded the bright, airy building, widely noted as an architectural gem, to mark what university president David Johnston called a "barn-raising at its best."

"This is a remarkable day for the university, the local community and the pharmacy sector across Canada," said Johnston, noting the exceptional relationships the School has developed in its short history.

"We are always striving to engage with our stakeholders. Experts in a range of fields not only guest lecture, but also provided input at the earliest stages of curriculum development and continue to offer insights on new trends," said Dr. Jake Thiessen, Hallman Director of the school of pharmacy.

The school's new home is a 120,000-square-foot building in downtown Kitchener, with a seven-storey tower rising above a four-storey main section. Designed by the award-winning firm of Hariri Pontarini Architects, in a joint venture with

Robbie/Young + Wright Architects, the \$53-million building is already a landmark.

The celebrations continued on Saturday, April 18th, when the School threw open its doors for a community open house. An estimated 3,000 people of all ages streamed through the building, enjoying demonstrations, displays, and short talks from students, faculty and staff. Interactive physiology stations in the flex lab and demonstrations of blood pressure monitoring and sterile prep in the professional practice lab were particularly popular.



Photo caption: Pictured L to R are: President David Johnston, University of Waterloo; Hon. David Caplan, Minister of Health & Long Term Care; Hon. John Milloy, Minister of Training, Colleges & Universities; Mayor Carl Zehr, City of Kitchener; Dr. Jake Thiessen, Hallman Director, School of Pharmacy

Fundraising News

As part of the formal opening, six new gifts to the School of Pharmacy were publicly announced, totalling more than \$1.6 million. The gifts included:

- **Frank and Juliana Wong** The Wongs are a local couple with a passion for health care. They have donated \$100,000 to create an endowed scholarship for Pharmacy students with financial need.
- **Janet McDougall** Janet McDougall is a UW alumna and entrepreneur. She contributed \$125,000 toward a graduate scholarship and capital needs in honour of her parents. Janet's parents were very community-minded, and her father was a pharmacist.
- **Pharmasave** Pharmasave is a network of independent pharmacies that believes in students. They have committed \$140,000 to create an endowed award that will go to the top student team in the third-year business case competition.

- **AstraZeneca Canada** AstraZeneca has invested \$300,000 toward initiatives in patient adherence. This gift supports both research and capital needs. In recognition, we have named the AstraZeneca Patient Counselling & Assessment Area in the Professional Practice Laboratory.

- **Rexall Family of Pharmacies** Rexall was the first pharmacy chain to invest in UW. Their gift of \$350,000 supports capital needs. In recognition, we have named the Rexall Patient Care Resource Area in the Professional Practice Laboratory.

- **Shoppers Drug Mart** Shoppers has supported UW in multiple ways. Their gift of \$600,000 has created a limited-term professorship. The Shoppers Drug Mart Professorship in Entrepreneurial Business is held by the faculty member who leads the business skills aspects of the curriculum.

Student News

Heather Foley, Class of 2011, was named UW's first recipient of the CPhA Centennial Award. Heather is actively involved in the Society of Pharmacy Students, CAPSI, the yearbook committee, the community engagement committee, and the UW Federation of Students. She is a dedicated athlete, competing in hockey, softball, dodgeball, soccer and volleyball. Heather has also taken the initiative to promote pharmacy to health care professionals, students and elected representatives in her hometown.

Naomi Dore, Class of 2011, wrote an article for the March/April issue of CPJ describing her experience in her first co-op work term. Naomi

worked as a research assistant with the Elisabeth Bruyère Research Institute (EBRI) in Ottawa.

Grants

Dr. Jamie Joseph has been awarded a NSERC Discovery Grant totaling \$125,000 for his project: *The role of lipogenesis in the metabolic regulation of insulin release*.

Dr. Andrea Edginton has been awarded a NSERC Discovery Grant of \$110,000 for the project: *Development and validation of predictive permeability and partitioning models for organic contaminants within physiologically-based toxicokinetic models*.

UNIVERSITY OF SASKATCHEWAN

General Faculty News

Dean Dennis Gorecki is entering the last few months of his term as Dean. He will complete his second appointment as Dean in July, and looks forward to taking a well-deserved Administrative Leave, prior to returning to his faculty post. Faculty, staff, students, respective professional groups and our many other stakeholders will greatly miss Dennis' outstanding vision, leadership and commitment to the College; welcoming and straightforward management style; keen sense of fairness and respect for everyone, and also fun; and wise stewardship of resources and tenacity in securing new funding to move the College forward. We wish Dennis all the very best in the future.

This March, the University's Board of Governors approved the appointment of **Dr. David Hill** as Dean of the College, effective August 2009. In his announcement to the community, Brett Fairbairn, Provost and Vice-President Academic, wrote "We are delighted to welcome Dr. Hill to the University. He has demonstrated a clear commitment to teaching

and research, and has played a key leadership role with respect to the pharmacy profession in Canada." David will be familiar to Pharmacy programs across the country, through his current position as Executive Director of the Canadian Council for the Accreditation of Pharmacy Programs, and past academic positions at the Universities of British Columbia and Colorado. He recently chaired the *Blueprint for Pharmacy: Vision for Pharmacy* Task Force. We are looking forward to David's arrival.

Provost Fairbairn has approved the College's request to establish a position of Associate Dean (Academics). Responsibilities will encompass those currently delivered by Dr. Linda Suveges, Assistant Dean (Undergraduate Affairs), but will more accurately reflect the high level of accountability of this senior leadership role, both within the College and University. A search is underway to fill the position of Associate Dean (Research and Graduate Affairs), in which Dr. Fred Rémillard is currently ably serving in an acting capacity.

The international economic crisis is impacting significantly on the University's financial position. Although there were positive investments by the Province in its recent 2009-10 grant to the University, there are many challenges ahead. Most pressing is how to deal with a significant projected deficit for the coming year. Colleges are being asked to share in addressing this, by contributing allocations from their respective budgets. Dean Gorecki has received ideas from faculty and staff on how to tackle this, and he and his staff are reviewing operations in detail to identify and implement innovative measures to conserve resources, in ways such that the quality of our programs will not be compromised.

Recruitment is underway for four faculty members: a new position in Clinical Pharmacology/Pharmacy Practice (Pediatrics); new position in Social and Administrative Pharmacy; vacancy in

Pharmaceutical Sciences; and a Chair in Patient Adherence. The University has approved an *Endowed Chair in Rational Drug Design* and recruitment will begin shortly. We are also working with the Health Science Deans, the University, Province, and Saskatchewan Health Quality Council to create a *Chair of Quality Improvement Science and Interprofessional Health Education*.

Fundraising Success

Teva Neurosciences and Biogen Idec Canada have contributed funds to support the development of a Multiple Sclerosis Reference Guide, prepared by Dr. Adil Nazarali in partnership with the MS Clinic at Saskatoon City Hospital. The guide will be distributed to all physicians' offices and pharmacies in Saskatchewan. A graduate student project follow up with a survey to analyze guide's effectiveness and determine if national distribution would be of value.

Individual Faculty and Staff News

This February, we welcomed Angela Bergerman to the position of Administrative Assistant Graduate Programs. Angela holds a Bachelor of Education (Hons) and Master's Certificate in Graphic and Web Design. Tracy McLennan, our College Receptionist and Undergraduate Programs Secretary, who has provided outstanding support to Professor Bev Allen and the Structured Practice Experiences Program for many years, has moved to another province. Sandra Martens has transferred to us from the College of Kinesiology to take on this role.

Grants

Dr. Jane Alcorn has been awarded a three year NSERC Discovery grant to study "Inflammation-mediated changes in lactating mammary gland transporters and outcomes." The following faculty received College Drug Design and Discovery Group Research Grants for 2009: Drs. Alcorn, Brian Bandy, Anas El-Aneed and Jian Yang. Internal research grants have been awarded to Drs. Alcorn, Derek Jorgenson, Kerry Mansell, Hassan Vatanparast and Susan Whiting. Drs. Roy Dobson and Carol

Henry have received additional funding to continue their collaborations with Pharmacy and Nutrition colleagues in Trinidad and Tobago. Tanya Verrall, Adjunct Professor of Nutrition, has received funding from CIHR and the Saskatchewan Health Research Foundation for projects to build a collaborative research agenda to study transformative health system improvement, and to establish a partnership to assess the impact of academic detailing (university-based educational outreach), respectively.

Alumni News

The College hosted the BSP Class of 1959 for a reunion tour as well as an alumni hospitality event at the annual Pharmacists Association of Saskatchewan conference in early May. The University's annual homecoming reunion in June will honour the Classes of 1949, 1954, 1959, 1964 and 1969, as well as all years from 1928 to 1948. Dean Gorecki and Lisa Green, Development Officer, are continuing their "provincial tour," with visits to pharmacies and alumni in Yorkton, Regina and Prince Albert. They find these connections to be most valuable and enjoyable.

Undergraduate Students

An enthusiastic contingent of 37 students travelled to St. John's in January to attend CAPSI's Professional Development Week. Pharmacy and Nutrition students celebrated Pharmacist Awareness Week and Nutrition Month, respectively, in March, with events and initiatives. Year 4 students continue to be provided with excellent opportunities in specialty rotations as part of SPEP. Examples this year included: a project involving preparation for antiviral prescription, dispensing, monitoring and education during a pandemic in a remote, northern, predominantly Aboriginal area; interdisciplinary health care in seven sites within a rural health region; and marketing and delivering an innovative diabetes education program to patients. Spring Convocation will be held on May 27, 2009, at which time 78 Pharmacy students and 26 Nutrition students will receive their degrees.

Graduate Students

We are pleased to report the excellent success of our graduate students at the Annual Life & Health Sciences Research Day: Christine Bennett – 1st prize in Food Science/Nutrition & Exercise (Supervisor Dr. Gord Zello);

Tara Smith – 1st prize in Animal Genetics (Supervisor Dr. Adil Nazarali); Lindsay Tumback – 2nd prize Food Science/Nutrition & Exercise (Supervisors Drs. Wendy Dahl & Gord Zello); Valeriya Kotlyarova – 3rd prize in Structural Chemistry (Supervisor Dr. Jane Alcorn); and LaRhonda Sobchishin – 3rd prize in Molecular & Neuroscience (Technician in Dr. Adil Nazarali's lab).

The following Pharmacy students will receive Master's degrees at Spring Convocation 2009: McDonald Donkuru – Non-Viral Gene Delivery With pH-Sensitive Gemini Nanoparticles: Synthesis of Gemini Surfactant Building Blocks, Characterization and In Vitro Screening of Transfection Efficiency and Toxicity (Supervisor Dr. Marianna Foldvari); and Yunyou Su – Determination of the Catalytic Product of Pentachlorophenol 4-Monooxygenase (PcpB) and Crystallization of Tetrachlorohydroquinone Reductive Dehalogenase, Dichlorohydroquinone Dioxygenase and PcpB in the Pentachlorophenol Biodegradation Pathway (Supervisor Dr. Jian Yang). Three Nutrition M.Sc. students and one Ph.D. student will graduate in May as well.

UNIVERSITY OF MANITOBA

In Memoriam

The Faculty of Pharmacy remembers and honours **Stewart Wilcox** (June 29, 1934 – January 5, 2009), an alumnus and a well-respected and influential pharmacist in Manitoba and the rest of Canada. Stewart graduated from Pharmacy in 1958 and went on to become a powerful advocate for the profession. He was a founding member of the Manitoba Society of Pharmacists and during his term he helped establish the Pharmaceutical Act. He also served for many years on the Board of Directors of the Canadian Pharmaceutical Association. In 1986, he was awarded Manitoba Pharmacist of the Year. From 1983 until his retirement in 1999 Stewart held the post of Registrar with the Manitoba Pharmaceutical Association. The pharmacy community will miss Stewart's passion and commitment.

Academic Appointments

Christine Davis, BSc(Gen), BSc(Pharm), ACPR, PharmD. joined the Faculty of Pharmacy on March 10, 2009 as an Assistant Professor in the Division of Clinical Sciences and Practice.

Brenda Rosenthal joined the Faculty in a nil-salary clinical lecturer appointment starting February 1st, 2009.

Research Grants

Dr. Ruth Anne Marie (director of the MS Clinic) and the Namaka/Frost lab have applied in conjunction with

General Faculty News

The Manitoba Institute of Child Health (MICH) issued a press release on Dr. Mike Namaka's two-year research plan on MS-induced neuropathic pain. Mike was interviewed on the morning program on CJOB on January 30th, and on CBC radio on February 3rd, 2009. This news was also broadcast on Shaw, City, Global and CBC TV. The press release is available on the S drive at: /public/press releases.

Dr. David Collins, Dean, was made an Honorary Member of the Manitoba Pharmaceutical Association (MPhA) at the MPhA Awards Luncheon on Sunday, April 19th, 2009. This award is made to those individuals, who in the opinion of the MPhA Council have provided valuable and notable service to the pharmacy profession. Dr. Collins was appointed Dean and Professor of the Faculty of Pharmacy in 1999, and reappointed for a second term in 2004. He has served on the MPhA Council since 1999, as well as Chairing the Association's Board of Examiners and Awards and Nominating Committee.

Dr. David Collins, Dean, together with Mr. Lyle Silverman and Mrs. Marian Kremers (Co-chairs of the Faculty of Pharmacy's Prescription for the Future Campaign), were also presented with the MPhA Centennial Award. The Centennial Awards is given,

the MS colleagues in Ontario to the end MS program via the National MS Society. This collective group grant has been successfully awarded a major grant to support the development of the Manitoba-Ontario Regional Research and Training Center. As such, Dr. Namaka's laboratory and the MS clinic at the HSC have been selected as a recognized training facility for MS research, which is a huge boost for the MS clinic, and our Faculty.

on occasion, to pharmacists for a particular project that has made a positive impact on the profession and/or health care. In this case, MPhA recognized the outstanding contribution made to Pharmacy through efforts leading to the construction of the new Pharmacy Building, the Apotex Centre.

Dr. Lavern Vercaigne was the Recipient of the 2008 Pharmacist of the Year Award. The award was presented at the 2009 Manitoba Pharmacy Annual Awards Banquet on Saturday, April 18, 2009. 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.

Student News

Fourth year Pharmacy students; Barret Procyshyn was presented with the Guy Genest award, and Amy Grossberndt received a CSHP-CAPSI Hospital Pharmacy Student Award at PDW 2009.

Fourth year Pharmacy student Margo McCrae has been selected for the Students' Teacher Recognition Reception which was held on Thursday, April 30. Margo selected Dr. Lavern Vercaigne as her most outstanding Professor during her time at The University of Manitoba.

Major Visitors

The Faculty of Pharmacy welcomed two visitors on Tuesday, March 17, 2009; Dr. Paul Thomson of Chemtura Corporation, and Dr. Solomon Nwaka of the World Health Organization (and leader of the TDR Drug Discovery Team). A plan for a multidisciplinary drug discovery effort and training at the U of M was discussed. Drs. Lean Chee and Xiaochen Gu of the Faculty of Pharmacy, and Dr. Jude Uzonna of the Department of Immunology are the researchers at the forefront of the initiative in establishing the first of such an integrated drug discovery center in support of tropical diseases in Canada. Chemtura Corporation, which is one of the major companies partnering with TDR in finding new drug leads, would provide the UM researchers with its promising proprietary leads for further optimization. Such collaborations offer a cost-

effective solution for finding much needed drugs for neglected infectious diseases.

On March 26, 2009, the Faculty of Pharmacy was pleased to host Dr. Jake Thiessen, Hallman Director of the School of Pharmacy at the University of Waterloo. Dr. Thiessen earned his B.Sc. (Pharm) and M.Sc. degrees at the University of Manitoba. He then pursued his Ph.D. at the University of California, San Francisco, specializing in pharmacokinetics. During his visit, Dr. Thiessen delivered a seminar entitled, "*Co-op Education: An Alternative Model for Canadian Pharmacy Experiential Learning*," in which he shared the University of Waterloo's experience using the co-op educational model. This learner-based model facilitates continuous learning for pharmacy students through integration of classroom and applied work-based experience.

MEMORIAL UNIVERSITY OF NEWFOUNDLAND

Academic Appointments/Leaves

As mentioned in the highlight on our School, we have we have recently hired a manager of academic programs, Csöp Glew. We are please to have her and know she will add to the efficient administration of the undergraduate program.

General School News

In the latest provincial budget, the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador has indicated that wish to see the School of Pharmacy at Memorial, expand by 20 seats. At this time we are not sure if this is an extra five

seats per year or twenty per year, but we are pleased nonetheless to be recipients of new funding.

Mr. McMeekin, the Development Officer for the School, noted The School of Pharmacy's alumni participation rate has increased from 5 to 15 %. It was also noted that the School welcomed our first Legacy Donor in the late winter of 2008. Dr. Hensman has shown extraordinary leadership by becoming the first legacy donor and this is a quality we hope other members of the pharmacy community will come to emulate.

Abstracts/Publications

Dr. Young has an abstract accepted for oral presentation at the Canadian Association for Health Services and Policy Research conference in Calgary in May, 2009. The title of the abstract is "Current Work Locations and Reasons for Job Choice of Graduates of Memorial University, School of Pharmacy".

Dr. Twells has an abstract titled "What is the most reliable and valid index for the classification of childhood obesity" accepted for oral presentation at the National Obesity Summit, May 7-9 2009 in Kananaskis Country, Alberta.

Dr. Weber will be presenting an abstract entitled "Effects of Adolescent Ethanol Exposure on Purkinje Cell Viability" at the Experimental Biology Conference in New Orleans in April, 2009.

Dr. Hawboldt and Dr. M.S. Bader co-authored: Antimicrobial Resistance Among Bacterial Respiratory Tract Pathogens, *Postgard Med.* 2009:121(2):205-208.

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