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**PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**

I see a bright future for pharmacy in Canada. The profession is now poised more than ever to play a pivotal role in patient centered care! Pharmacists are increasingly exercising professional judgment in decision making for the care of patients. I expect to see patients recognizing this, to expect pharmacists in the role of decision-making. There are now 40 percent of faculties in Canada that have provincial approval to provide the entry level Pharm.D. The educational setting has never been more favorable for students to learn pharmacy practice. As seen with the 2013 accreditation standards from CCAPP, educational measures now include outcomes geared towards patient care, emphasized by a strong experiential component with interprofessional and collaborative practice orientations in an adequate learning environment.

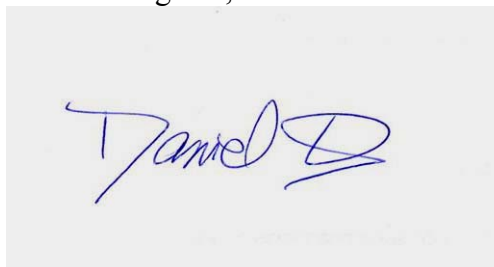
Coherent with this vision, legislative changes are occurring in most jurisdictions across Canada. Depending on the province, pharmacists can/will prescribe for patients with minor ailments and for preventive purposes; immunize patients; prescribe or adjust therapy in a collaborative practice; order lab tests and interpret results for monitoring therapy. The legislator is telling us to go ahead and make this step, to take center stage and provide cognitive services for better patient care. Some have already taken the lead and developed reimbursement models to support the provision of these pharmacists services.

The right time to get ready for the storm on the horizon is now. Indeed, the demand for pharmacy services will be increasing. The first baby-boomers are now over 65. Seniors represent close to 15 percent of the population, and this is expected to rise to 25 percent in 25 years from now. Despite this low proportion of the population, they use 40 percent of hospital services and account for 45 percent of all provincial government health spending. Two thirds of seniors consume 5 or more prescription drugs from different drug classes. A quarter of them take 10 or more prescription drugs. Innovation needs to take place before overwhelming demand strains the workforce into implementation of sub-optimal stopgap measures.

To answer some of the challenges, come join us at the 2013 4th annual CPERC Conference that will be held in Niagara-on-the-Lake in June 2013. Leading Change Through Innovation and Technology is the chosen theme. You will learn about AFPC's contributions on developing pharmacy experiential programs, you will learn about innovation in Canadian pharmacy informatics, you will get ready for CCAPP's new accreditation standards and you will foster ideas on numerous contemporary issues!

Looking forward to meeting you at Niagara-on-the-Lake.

Warmest regards,



Daniel J. G. Thirion  
AFPC President 2012-13

## EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S CORNER

I hope that everyone had an enjoyable and restful holiday break. Also, I hope that your start to 2013 has been a good one.

My last report was for the fall 2012 edition of our Communications Newsletter. Since then the major AFPC activities were as follows: the October Council of Deans meeting; attendance and participation in the FIP meeting; the staging of a multi-stakeholder workshop on pharmacy experiential education in Canada; the October Board of Directors meeting; development of preliminary program for CPERC 2013; and continuation of activities to develop educational content for the pharmacists-in-training program.

FIP conference - I was able to attend the FIP conference in Amsterdam and there were approximately 5000 registrants (51 were from Canada). FIP has created an umbrella directorate encompassing all of its education initiatives. A special Dean's forum was held for the first 2 days of FIP. The main FIP program has a stream of conference programming related to education and I attended most of the education themed sessions. Sessions occurred to highlight pharmacy education activities related to pharmacy practice research, competency framework, survey of pharmacy schools, quality assurance and improvement, use of technology in education, etc. Also, there was a session highlighting the release of an FIP global pharmacy workforce report. The following are a few links for materials related to the FIP and the conference that might of interest to you. It does appear that FIP has strengthened its approach on pharmacy education.

Financial - 2012 AFPC expenses and revenue information has been inputted into Quickbooks. A preliminary 2012 AFPC financial forecast was prepared and a positive net difference of revenue minus expenses was projected. The 2013 AFPC budget forecast was prepared for review by the Board of Directors and will be reviewed again at the next Board of Directors meeting. The 2013 budget integrates expense and revenue forecasts under the new AFPC governance model (combines operating budgets for Council of Faculties and Council of Deans). The 2013 interim budget forecast is for a net surplus of revenues over expenses.

### Board of Directors

The Board of Directors held their first official meeting (via teleconference) on October 30, 2012.

### Executive Director Activities

Governance model – A final version of the bylaws was circulated and reviewed by the Board of Directors, and both Councils. The version dated October 30, 2012 has been officially filed with Industry Canada. As of the end of January 2013, we have not received an acknowledgement from Industry Canada of the filing of our new bylaws. We expect that this delay is due to the volume of requests being processed by Industry Canada (there are 19,000 not-for-profit organizations in Canada that will be revising their bylaws to align with the new legislation). Once we receive Industry Canada acknowledgement of the bylaws, then we will make a submission to Canada Revenue Agency (as AFPC is a Charitable Organization).

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2012 FIP Conference program - <http://www.fip.org/amsterdam2012/files/static/FIPCentPrelimPrgmLOWRES.pdf>

2012 FIP Education Initiatives report – [http://www.fip.org/pharmacy\\_education](http://www.fip.org/pharmacy_education) and [http://www.fip.org/files/fip/Foundation/pharmacy\\_education\\_webdef.pdf](http://www.fip.org/files/fip/Foundation/pharmacy_education_webdef.pdf)

2012 FIP – Pharmacy education taskforce – A global competency framework - [http://www.fip.org/files/fip/PharmacyEducation/GbCF\\_v1.pdf](http://www.fip.org/files/fip/PharmacyEducation/GbCF_v1.pdf)

2012 FIP-WHO Global Survey of Pharmacy Schools - [http://www.fip.org/files/fip/PharmacyEducation/FIP\\_WHO\\_Global\\_Survey\\_Pharmacy\\_Schools\\_ENG\\_.doc](http://www.fip.org/files/fip/PharmacyEducation/FIP_WHO_Global_Survey_Pharmacy_Schools_ENG_.doc)

2012 FIP Global pharmacy – Workforce report - <http://www.fip.org/static/fipeducation/2012/FIP-Workforce-Report-2012/?page=hr2012>

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The agenda items included the selection of 2012 / 13 Executive Officers, final review of the bylaws, external press release about new governance model, review of published criteria for eligible faculty, review of preliminary 2012 financial information and 2013 operating budget forecast, schedule of Board of Director meetings, and the process for review of the AFPC strategic plan.

The President is Daniel Thirion (Montreal), the Vice President is Henry Mann (Toronto), and the Treasurer is Jean Lefebvre (Laval). The other Board of Directors are Carla Dillon (Memorial), Rita Caldwell (Dalhousie), Nancy Waite (Waterloo), Silvia Alessi-Severini (Manitoba), Kerry Mansell (Saskatchewan), James Kehrer (Alberta), and Robert Sindelar (British Columbia).

### **Council of Faculties / Council of Deans**

Awards – The 2012 / 13 awards program was launched by the posting of the revised 2012 / 13 awards booklet. As in other years, previous awards co-sponsors have been contacted to confirm their financial support for this year. At this juncture we have affirmations from Pfizer, Janssen, Canadian Foundation for Pharmacy, and Pharmacy Examining Board of Canada. Other co-sponsors (e.g., Merck, GSK, and Rx and D) will confirm their support by spring 2013. There are no co-sponsors for the New Investigator Research Award (previously sponsored by Sanofi) and the National Award for Excellence in Education (previously sponsored by BMS). We are proceeding with these unsponsored AFPC awards in 2012 / 13 but on the basis that there is no financial rewards (e.g., honorarium, payment for expenses). Some faculties have indicated that they will consider providing financial support if one of their faculty members receives the award. As of the end of January we received 17 nominations for 5 awards. The nominations are being reviewed by faculty reviewers. Also, please be aware that there is a new 2013 AFPC award

Excellence in Research or Innovation in the Assessment of Competence (application deadline is March 1, 2013). The website link for the PEBC co-sponsored award is <http://www.afpc.info/content.php?SectionID=5&ContentID=166&Language=en>.

Council of Deans Annual meeting (2012) – The October Council of Deans meeting was held in Amsterdam (in conjunction with the October 2012 FIP meeting). The agenda items included a final review of the AFPC bylaws, the appointment of Executive Officers, a review of the manpower planning / national student employment survey results, discussion about the project to develop the vision about future pharmacy education, national strategies on program evaluation, and individual Deans / faculty reports. The 2012 / 13 Council of Deans Executive officers are Henry Mann (Chair), and David Hill (Vice Chair). External stakeholder consultation was held with Lilian Azzopardi (European Association of Faculties of Pharmacy).

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CPERC 2013 – Planning for the 2013 Annual AFPC Canadian Pharmacy Education and Research Conference (CPERC) is well underway. The title for the 2013 conference is “Leading change through innovation and technology”. The conference dates are June 11-13, 2013 and the location is Niagara-on-the-Lake. The venue is the Vintage Hotel group. A preliminary program follows my report. For updated information about our 70<sup>th</sup> annual conference check: <http://www.afpc.info/content.php?SectionID=3&ContentID=136&Language=en>. I look forward to seeing you there. This is a summary outline of the conference program:

June 11

- o evening – CPERC opening reception

June 12

- o morning - Council of Deans interim business meeting
- o full day - CPERC educational program (includes Annual meeting)
- o evening – Workshop of program evaluation (invitational)

June 13

- o full day – CPERC educational program
- o evening – Awards ceremony

### Miscellaneous

Global Alliance for Pharmacy Education (GAPE) – This group met at the FIP meeting in Amsterdam and is continuing to become organized. One activity planned for 2013 is to develop quarterly web based seminars on topics of potential interest to international faculty members. Further information about the first seminar will be provided in advance of the webinar. AFPC will be expected to provide content for at least one webinar. For your information the GAPE web site is as follows [www.gapenet.org](http://www.gapenet.org).

External Appointments - i) Terri Schindel (U of Alberta) was selected to participate as the AFPC representative to participate in the NAPRA review of current pharmacist and technician competency statements, and ii) Gary Wong (U of Toronto) was selected as the AFPC nominee for the PEBC Board.

Experiential education workshop report – The multi-stakeholder future of experiential education workshop was held on October 17 in Winnipeg. The participants were from the Council of Deans, Council of Faculties, CPHA, CSHP, NAPRA, CAPSI, CCAPP, and experiential program leads from the 10 universities. A written report was generated “The Future of Experiential Education in Canada: A Stakeholder Workshop – Final Report”. Ten national action priorities were identified (highest ranked were i) national preceptor development program, ii) models of experiential education, and iii) students add value, and iv) integration of internship into experiential education program). The PEPC executive group are examining best methods and resource needs required to address each action objective. It is anticipated that some of the action objectives will be able to be addressed through partnerships amongst the faculties while others will require additional funding. A request for additional funds will be presented to the Blueprint for Pharmacy steering committee. The report will be reviewed by the Council of Faculties and Council of Deans at the February mid year meeting. Work on the action priorities is expected to occur over the next 1-3 years.

Pharmacists in training – Work continues on this initiative. Nancy Kleiman completed two environmental scans: i) the extent of general pharmacy informatics training addressed in current pharmacy program curricula; and ii) drug information and critical appraisal content covered in current pharmacy faculty curricula. A student award competition was held in November-December 2012. 28 submissions were

received for 6 awards (1 graduate student, 5 undergraduate students). The award winners were announced by Dan Thirion and Marie Rocchi at the CAPSI PDW conference in Montreal. Students will assist the project team to research and develop program content. Marie Rocchi completed the competency survey (including administer the survey and analyzing the results), developed a competency statement and developed the program content matrix. The competency framework was used to develop a content matrix. The working version of the matrix contains 6 content domains and over 50 specific sub domains. Each domain contains common design elements and common themes. Two focus groups were recently conducted with volunteer faculty members to review the content matrix and to provide feedback about how the educational program might be used in faculties. The feedback obtained through the focus groups will be used to identify revisions and prioritize the content matrix. A preliminary version of the education program will be presented at the upcoming CPERC conference. If you are interested in obtaining further information about this initiative, interested in authoring or reviewing, or assisting in another capacity please contact our project manager Donna Pipa (email [pipa@telus.net](mailto:pipa@telus.net)).



Harold Lopatka  
AFPC Executive Director

We would like to acknowledge the following sponsors who are providing support to AFPC. Thank you for your contributions.

Rx and D  
Merck  
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GlaxoSmithKline  
Janssen  
Sanofi-Aventis  
Canadian Patient Safety Institute  
Nycomed  
Rexall  
Servier  
Teva  
McKesson  
Bristol Myer Squibb  
Leo-Pharma



## Canadian Pharmacy Education and Research Conference (CPERC) 2013 “Leading Change through Innovation and Technology”

The 2013 CPERC conference will be held **June 11-13, 2013** in the Vintage Hotels in **Niagara-on-the-Lake**. The theme for the 2013 conference is **Leading Change through Innovation and Technology**. The preliminary program is below. New this year are short presentations entitled “Innovations in Pharmacy Education and Research”. Proposals for these presentations have been solicited from pharmacy schools across Canada. Another new addition to the conference will be interactive roundtable discussions on topics such as integration of pharmaceutical sciences in pharmacy curricula, professionalism, career development, adapting to changes in scope of practice, and admissions/recruitment. In addition, we are accepting abstracts for poster presentations in the areas of basic research, educational and teaching research, pharmacy practice research, and social and administrative research. The deadline for submitting an abstract is **March 31**.

For more information, and to register for the conference or submit an abstract please visit the AFPC website at [www.afpc.info](http://www.afpc.info).

Tuesday June 11	
Evening	Opening reception
Wednesday June 12	
Morning	Keynote address <i>Title and speaker(s) TBD</i>
	“Canadian Pharmacy Informatics Online: Innovation and Inception - An Update on the AFPC - Infoway On-line Educational Program Initiative” <i>Marie Rocchi, Donna Pipa</i>
	“Engaging Technology and Informatics through Learning and Doing - Sharing Experiences from University of Waterloo School of Pharmacy” <i>Danny Ho</i>
Lunch	AFPC business Report
Afternoon	AFPC awards presentations
	Innovations in Pharmacy Education and Research presentations
Evening	Invitational workshop on program evaluation <i>Program in progress</i>
Evening	Enjoy Niagara-on-the-Lake!
Thursday June 13	
Morning	“New Accreditation Standards - What is CCAPP going to be looking for?” <i>Wayne Hindmarsh</i>
	“Collaborating in Experiential Education: National Initiatives and More...” <i>Andrea Cameron, Ann Thompson, Michael Legal</i>
	“UWaterloo Experiential: Strategy and Outcomes” <i>Anson Tang</i>
Lunch	Poster viewing and judging
Afternoon	Roundtable discussions
	Innovations in Pharmacy Education and Research presentations
Evening	AFPC awards banquet (ticket required)

~~~GENERAL FACULTY NEWS~~~

**Launch of the Doctor of Pharmacy Program (Pharm. D.)**

2011-2012 was an historic year for the Faculty of Pharmacy of Université Laval. On September 1<sup>st</sup>, 2011 the Faculty welcomed its first cohort of Pharm. D. students. Some 192 students have been admitted to the new program.

The transfer from the baccalaureate program (B. Pharm.) to the Pharm. D. program is a major shift developed through the program content. The Faculty believes that undergraduate education must allow students to develop professional skills needed to face the challenges and the great variety of situations encountered in the practice of pharmacy. Among them, difficult access to health care, polypharmacy, population ageing, complexity of drugs interaction, population easier accessibility to information, increasing number of drug treatments available. Finally, the Pharm. D. program, which is based on construction of autonomy and professional judgment, will allow students to build up a professional identity.

**Bridging Program ("*passerelle*")**

At the start of 2014, a new undergraduate education bridging program will be launched. This bridging

program will allow B. Pharm. bachelor to obtain a Pharm. D. degree. Elaboration of the cursus will be done in partnership with the Faculty of Pharmacy of Université de Montréal.

**Strategic Planning**

The Faculty of Pharmacy of Université Laval is pleased to announce the completion of its strategic plan.

**Accreditation Award**

**Canadian Council of Accreditation of Pharmacy Programs (CCAPP)**

The Faculty of Pharmacy of Université Laval is pleased to report that the CCAPP has approved the *Baccalauréat en pharmacie* (B. Pharm.) and *Doctorat en pharmacie* (Pharm. D.) programs, as follows:

The *Baccalauréat en pharmacie* program of the Faculty of Pharmacy of Université Laval has been awarded the status of Full Accreditation by the CCAPP for the three-year term 2012-2015.

The *Doctorat en pharmacie* program (Pharm. D.) of the Faculté de pharmacie of the Université Laval has been awarded the status of Provisional Accreditation by the CCAPP for the three-year term 2012-2015.

~~~RESEARCH~~~

**Professor Chantal Guillemette and colleagues from Austria and Canada have discovered a gene that may predict the progression of leukemia and the risks of chemotherapy resistance**

An international team of researchers, from Université of Vienna and Université Laval, announced the discovery of a new prognostic marker for the most common leukemia.

Their study was published recently in the high-impact scientific journal *Blood*. Their study shows that this marker can predict the disease progression and the resistance to a commonly used drug to treat the disease.

This article is authored by 14 Austrian researchers as well as by the following faculty members from the Université Laval: Judith Bellemare, Éric Lévesque and Chantal Guillemette.

**Professor Pierre Gagnon contributed to the development of a psychological intervention that improves the quality of life of cancer patients**

At the Michel-Sarrazin Scientific Day held on November 30, professor Pierre Gagnon presented the results of a study about a psychological intervention on existential distress for patient confronted with a cancer diagnosis.

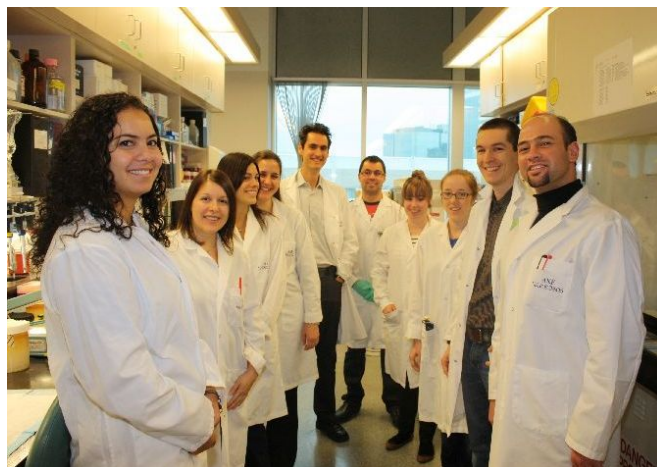
To evaluate the effectiveness of this therapy, the researchers conducted a pilot study comparing the patient's quality of life of those who have received the regular treatment and those who have benefited from the program. Over the 12-weeks follow-up, the quality of life has improved for the group exposed to the program, but remained constant in the control group. "Sensemaking processes that normally accompanies cancer would fill an essential need and would improve the quality of life", mentioned professor Gagnon. These positive results have encouraged his team to conduct a larger follow-up study with 242 patients, from which results are expected in 2013.

**A publication from the group of professor Frédéric Calon from the Faculty of Pharmacy of Université Laval was selected among the 2012 top scientific discoveries by the scientific journal *Québec Science***

"We are proud to be on the 10 top 2012 scientific discoveries. Essential tremor (ET) affects more than 10 million North Americans and we hope that our results could lead to new treatments since drugs currently prescribed for this disorder have been developed 40 years ago and their effectiveness is limited." said Dr. Calon.

The research team led by Dr. Calon discovered the area of the brain involved in essential tremor and have shown that neurons in this area presented neurochemical characteristics that could explain the origin of the disease. Thanks to the collaboration of Drs. Ali and Alex Rajput from the University of Saskatchewan, Dr. Calon's team noticed a decrease in the concentration of GABA receptor in the cerebellum of patients who suffered from ET. This research was made possible by a grant from the International Essential Tremor Foundation. Results were published in *BRAIN*, which is one of the most prestigious scientific journal in neurology.

In addition to Dr. Calon, study authors were Sarah Paris-Robidas, Élodie Brochu, Marion Sintes, Vincent Emond, Mélanie Bousquet, Milène Vandal, Mireille Pilote, Cyntia Tremblay and Thérèse Di Paolo from the *Centre de recherche du CHU de Québec* and the Faculty of Pharmacy of Université Laval and Ali H. Rajput and Alex Rajput from the University of Saskatchewan.



~~~EVENTS~~~

**Fifth Annual Symposium of the Faculty of Pharmacy of Université Laval**

The fifth annual symposium was an event entitled "Néphrologie et urologie : démystifier et appliquer!" held on October 19 at the Centre de congrès de Lévis. Again this year, the Symposium was a great success with over 330 people attending the event. In addition to the breakfast conference on the new Law 41, participants listened to six high-quality conference presentations during the day. This activity was made possible by the generosity of Brunet.



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### Award Scholarship for Excellence Ceremony

On November 6, during the Award Scholarship for Excellence Ceremony, 87 students in 9 categories were awarded a Scholarship Award certificate recognizing and rewarding academic excellence. The total amount of the scholarships awarded was \$ 73 900.

In addition to scholarships, the Faculty highlighted the involvement of four alumni: Mr. Patrick Ouellet, community pharmacist, and Mr. Jean Bournival, pharmacist in a health care facility, in honour of their overall work and their unwavering commitment. In addition, Mr. Éric Simard and Mr. Vincent Leclerc excellence in clinical teaching was recognized.

Thanks to all our partners whose participation is essential to make this event a success.



Mr. Patrick Ouellet

Mr. Jean Bournival

Mr. Vincent Leclerc

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### AWARDS AND SCHOLARSHIPS

Mr. Luc Bergeron, pharmacist at the CHU du Québec and clinical professor at the Faculty of Pharmacy of Université Laval, was recently honoured by the Board of partners from the Canadian Society of Hospital Pharmacists (CSHP) and received the title of Fellow.

Mr. Bergeron received this honor in recognition of his best professional practice and his significant expertise developed in the field of antibiotic therapy. Throughout his career, Mr. Bergeron has displayed commitment to his patients, colleagues and the many students he supervised. He has contributed in many ways to the national and international outreach of the CHU du Québec, the Faculty of Pharmacy of Université Laval and the profession of pharmacist.

Joining the CSHP exclusive club of fellows is a honour he truly deserves and we wish to send him our sincere congratulations.

Isabelle Gendreau and Sarah Dubois-Declercq working under the supervision of Dr. Roxane Pouliot have both received studentships from the *Fonds d'enseignement et de recherche* (FER) to support their M. Sc. studies. In addition, Laetitia Angers also from the laboratory of professor Roxane Pouliot was offered a scholarship from NSERC to pursue M. Sc. studies.

### STAFF NEWS

The Faculty of Pharmacy of Université Laval is pleased to welcome Mr. Daniel Kirouac. He will join the Faculty to assist the Faculty management team.

### UPCOMING EVENTS

- Research Day 2013 – April 11, 2013
- Souper des 3<sup>e</sup> – April 30, 2013
- Cercle de la Faculté – May 23, 2013
- Journée de présentation orale des essais – May 24, 2013
- Annual Golf Tournament – June 3, 2013
- Graduation Ceremony, June 8, 2013



UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA

Academic Appointments/Promotions/Leaves

Promotion

Congratulations to **Dr Lisa Guirguis** who was recently granted tenure and promoted to Associate Professor.

Departure

**Darren Pasay** has left the faculty for a position with Alberta Health Services as a Drug Stewardship Pharmacist. Darren has been coordinating our practice skills courses since 2009. The faculty would like to thank Darren for all of his contributions to the faculty.

New appointments

The faculty extends a warm welcome to:

**Dr Renette Bertholet**, Clinical Assistant Professor for Experiential Education. Renette will have

responsibilities for recruiting, developing, evaluating and supporting community pharmacist preceptors and experiential education sites.

**Cathy McCann** has joined the faculty on a contract basis to help coordinate the Practice Skill Courses.

**Connie McLaws**, Assistant to the Director, PharmD and Practice Development.

**Gillian Johnson**, Practice Lab Administrator, will provide support to the Pharmacy Practice Lab in the Practice Lab Administrator position. She will be covering a maternity leave.

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Awards and Grants

Award

**Dr Raimar Loebenberg** received the 2012 President’s Achievement Award “Dare to Discover” for the collaborative research project: Rhodiola Rosea Commercialization Project.

Medical Record Screening Tool to Identify Primary Care Patients at Risk of Medication-Related Problems: Reliability and Validity of Two Different Methods.

General Faculty News

**Dr Raimar Loebenberg** was named Guest Professor at the Jiangxi University of TCM.

Grants

**Dr. Kamaljit Kaur** received \$495,000 from Alberta Innovates Bio Solutions and Alberta Livestock Meat Agency. The Food Safety Research and Innovation Program will fund her three-year research project titled “Increasing the activity and yields of bacteriocins for use in the food and animal industries.”

The 2012 annual flu clinic was another huge success. Fourth year pharmacy students, along with nursing students administered close to 4000 flu shots at campus flu clinics during the October 31 – November 9, 2012 campaign.

**Dr Mark Makowsky** received \$200,000 from the Lawson Foundation in December 2012. This funding will support his research project titled "Exploring the Feasibility of Using Emerging Communication Technologies to Improve Self-management Capacity in South Asian (SA) Adults with Type 2 Diabetes Mellitus (T2DM)"

The Alberta Pharmacists Student’s Association (APSA) popular fundraiser, Value Drug Mart Mr Pharmacy brought in \$15,500 for Prostate Cancer with their third annual pageant. The pageant was featured in the Edmonton Journal and City TV Edmonton. Congratulations to this year’s Mr Pharmacy winner: Clayton Juss, class of 2015.

**Dr Mark Makowsky** received \$6,000 from the Canadian Society of Hospital Pharmacists Research and Education Foundation for the project titled "Development of a Self-Administered and Electronic

**Ken Soong**, a 3<sup>rd</sup> year pharmacy student, was the top fund raiser for the Prairie Region for the Canadian Breast Cancer Foundation Post-Secondary Challenge for the Run for the Cure.

## Graduate Student News

Mr. Shyam Garg has received the Alberta Innovates Health Solutions scholarship and the Dr. Ed Knaus Graduate Scholarship in Pharmaceutical Research.

Research Day Awardees:

- Best Overall Presentation: Waheed Asghar (PhD program), Supervisor: Dr. Jamali
- Runners-up for Best Overall Presentation: Dr. Karim Michail, Dr. Siraki's group and Rania Soudy (PhD program), Supervisor: Dr. Kaur

- Senior Graduate Student poster winners: Issa Amara (PhD program), Supervisor: Dr. El-Kadi
- Junior Graduate Students poster winners: Omar Alomair (MSc program), Supervisor: Dr. Klotz and Abdullah Turkistani (MSc program), Supervisor: Dr. Klotz
  - Runners up for poster winners: Nazila Safaei-Nikouei and Shyam Garg – Dr Lavasanifar
- Undergraduate Student poster winner: Ms. Darlene Korn, PI- Dr. Makowsky
- Toxicology Award poster winner: Ms. Qi Zhang (FoMD)

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## UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

### UBC opens new \$133M Pharmaceutical Sciences Building

The University of British Columbia officially opened the new Faculty of Pharmaceutical Sciences Building on September 18, 2012, a state-of-the-art learning and research facility that will enable UBC to graduate 224 new pharmacists per year by 2015 – a 47 per cent increase – and more than double the research space for drug discovery and health care innovation.

“The new Pharmaceutical Sciences Building is a remarkable achievement, and redefines the future of pharmacy education and practice in the province,” says UBC President Stephen Toope.

“Our government is committed to providing students with the education they need to succeed,” says John Yap, B.C. Minister of Advanced Education, Innovation and Technology. “This facility will ensure that B.C. has the pharmacists it needs to help meet the health-care needs of British Columbians now, and for the future.”

The \$133-million, 246,000-square-foot building also supports the expansion of Masters, Doctoral, and Doctor of Pharmacy programs, and offers a new home to several other research organizations, including the Centre for Drug Research and Development (CDRD). The B.C. government contributed \$86.4-million for the new facility.

“Our Faculty is committed to innovation in learning, research and practice to inspire wellness and health outcomes,” says Dean Sindelar. “Our new building’s collaborative learning and research infrastructure will greatly increase our capacity to lead the world in

pharmaceutical sciences and create an environment that challenges our students address real world health issues.”

The new building also increases the Faculty’s community presence. The Story of Medicines, a permanent interactive exhibit that tells the story of pharmacy through hands-on touch screen technology, games, and historical pharmacy artifacts, will help visitors better understand the pharmacy profession, the development of drugs and how they interact with the body.

To read the full media release, visit <http://www.pharmacy.ubc.ca/aboutus/faculty-news/2012-09-12>.



*The Faculty of Pharmaceutical Sciences Building. Image credit: Saucier + Perrotte Architectes / Hughes Condon Marler Architects)*

## Pharmacy student administers immunization clinic to president of UBC



*Left to right: Yvonne Huang, fourth year student in UBC Pharmaceutical Sciences, administering a flu shot to Stephen J. Toope, president, UBC. Photo credit: Martin Dee.*

On October 30 2012, fourth year pharmacy student Yvonne Huang vaccinated Stephen J. Toope, president of UBC, at a special clinic that marked the beginning of free flu immunizations for campus students, faculty and staff during the month of November.

“This was the first year that our students participated in the immunization program,” says Robert D. Sindelar, professor and dean. “Immunizations are a significant part of the expanded scope of practice for the profession of pharmacy and an integral component of our curriculum.”

The Faculty recently introduced a new course specifically addressing immunizations. Titled “PHAR 403: Clinical Skills: Administration of Injections,” the course consists of a self-directed online component, as well as a hands-

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## Nanomedicines and Drug Delivery Group celebrates one year anniversary

The Nanomedicines and Drug Delivery graduate training program celebrated a successful first year. First developed with input from a range of health science organizations, including the Centre for Drug Research and Development (CDRD), the BC Cancer Agency, and the Microsystems and Nanotechnology Research Group (MiNa), the program offers graduate students opportunities to participate in research collaborations with the faculties of Life Sciences, Medicine, Engineering, and Chemistry.

on practicum component where students are required to give normal saline injections to classmates on two occasions: once for practice (supervised by trained and authorized faculty instructors) and once for a final exam for the practical component (supervised by a certified nurse). PHAR 403 covers the same content that practicing pharmacists review in order to receive authorization to administer injections by the College of Pharmacists of BC.

## Dr. Mary Ensom Receives ASHP Foundation’s 2012 Award for Sustained Contributions

Dr. Mary Ensom received the American Society of Health-System Pharmacists (ASHP) Research and Education Foundation's 2012 Award for Sustained Contributions to the Literature. Dr. Ensom is the first Canada-based individual to receive this award. Previous recipients include Joseph Dasta, Michael Rybak, Gary Matzke, Charles Hepler, Lawrence Trissel, Joseph DiPiro, Jerome Schentag, Milap Nahata, and other prominent pharmacists.

## Robert Sindelar appointed Associate Dean, Research and President of Providence Health Care Research Institute

Dean Robert D. Sindelar has been appointed Vice President, Research & Academic Affairs, at Providence Health Care (PHC), President of Providence Health Care Research Institute (PHCRI), and Associate Dean, Research, in the Faculty of Medicine. Dr. Sindelar started within these roles on January 7 on a part-time basis while he transitions from his current role as Dean of Pharmaceutical Sciences, and assumes full time responsibilities on March 1.

“Students in the program specialize in a field of nanotechnology of their choosing,” says Dr. Urs Hafeli, professor and program coordinator. “At the same time, they develop a strong background in the many different disciplines nanotechnology unites.” The training program’s monthly lunch-hour journal club introduces students to various interdisciplinary topics, and Dr. Hafeli plans to implement a similar event for researchers. “As we move forward, our goal is to continue to foster the research exchanges that the program establishes,” says Dr. Hafeli.

### **Medication Reconciliation Interprofessional Event**

On Wednesday January 16, 2013, the Faculty of Pharmaceutical Sciences, in partnership with the Faculty of Medicine, College of Health Disciplines and Lower Mainland Pharmacy Services, hosted a medication reconciliation interprofessional event (IPE) Six medication reconciliation experts from four different Health Authorities facilitated the event, including Allison Kirkwood, Providence Health; Dr. Anita Lo, Fraser Health; Melissa Lo, Lower Mainland Regional Medication Safety Systems; Shelley Novak, Vancouver

Coastal Health; Aleisha Thornhill, Northern Health Authority and Dr. Dan Martinusen, Vancouver Island Health Authority.

Over 350 students from the Faculty of Pharmaceutical Sciences and Faculty of Medicine attended the seminar. A further 60 fourth-year medicine students and five pharmacy hospital residents from the University of Victoria and the University of Northern BC in Prince George participated via the Faculty's new video-conferencing system.

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### **Publications Update**

To view a complete list visit <http://www.pharmacy.ubc.ca/aboutus/publications>

Ibrahim F, Gershkovich P, Sivak O, Wasan EK, Bartlett K, Wasan KM. Efficacy and toxicity of a tropically stable lipid-based formulation of amphotericin B (iCo-010) in a rat model of invasive candidiasis. *Int J Pharm.* 2012 Oct 15;436(1-2):318-23.

Osei-Twum JA, Wasan KM. Neglected populations: safeguarding the health of street-involved children in Ghana. *J Pharm Sci.* 2012 Oct;101(10):3619-22. doi: 10.1002/jps.23255.

Mawani Y, Cawthray JF, Chang S, Sachs-Barrable K, Weekes DM, Wasan KM, Orvig C. In vitro studies of lanthanide complexes for the treatment of osteoporosis. *Dalton Trans.* 2013 Jan 8. [Epub ahead of print] PMID: 23299719

Hubball H, Pearson M. Curricular Integration in Pharmacy Education. *American Journal of Pharmaceutical Education* 2012; 76 (10) Article 204. December 12, 2012.

Wasan K, Goss P, Pritchard P, Shepherd L, Tu D, Ingle J. Lipid concentrations in postmenopausal women on letrozole after 5 years of tamoxifen: an NCIC CTG MA.17 sub-study. *Breast Cancer Research and Treatment.* Springer US. 2012-12-01. 10.1007/s10549-012-2294-z.

Hukezalie KR, Thumati NR, Côté HC, Wong JM. In Vitro and Ex Vivo Inhibition of Human Telomerase by Anti-HIV Nucleoside Reverse Transcriptase Inhibitors (NRTIs) but Not by Non-NRTIs. *PLoS One.* 2012;7(11):e47505. doi: 10.1371/journal.pone.0047505. Epub 2012 Nov 15.

Marra F, Patrick D M, Chong M, McKay R, Hoang L, Bowie W R. Population-Based Study of the Increased Incidence of Skin and Soft Tissue Infections and Associated Antimicrobial Use. *Antimicrob. Agents Chemother.* December 2012 56:6243-6249; published ahead of print 24 September 2012 , doi:10.1128/AAC.00649-12.

Ng K, Mabasa VH, Chow I, Ensom MHH. Systematic Review of Efficacy, Pharmacokinetics and Administration of Intraventricular Vancomycin in Adults. *Neurocrit Care.* 2012 Oct 23. [Epub ahead of print] DOI 10.1007/s12028-012-9784-z.

### **Recent Awards and Honours**

To view a complete list visit <http://www.pharmacy.ubc.ca/aboutus/awards-honours>.

Zafar Zafari - UBC Four Year Doctoral Fellowship  
Veronika Schmitt - Teva Canada Limited Scholarship  
Adam Raymakers - John McNeill Scholarship  
Shenglong Zou - Douglas and Jean Bailey Scholarship  
Natalie McCormick - Gail Bellward Scholarship in Pharmaceutical Sciences

Jayakumar Surrendradoss - Ruth and Paul Bass Graduate Scholarship in Pharmacology (nominated by Molecular and Cellular Pharmacology training program).

Mohsen Sadatsafavi - AllerGen Travel Award for the World Congress of Asthma, 18th to 21st August 2012 Quebec City, Canada.

Dr. Kishor Wasan - recognized by the American Association of Pharmaceutical Sciences for outstanding performance as the AAPS Student Chapter Faculty Advisor at the University of British Columbia.

## DALHOUSIE UNIVERSITY

### Individual Faculty News

**Dr. David Gardner** was interviewed by CBC's Pauline Dakin regarding the "Drug Facts Box" by researchers at Dartmouth Medical School in the US. This story was aired on CBC radio on January 20, 2013, and can be accessed on the podcast at [http://podcast.cbc.ca/mp3/podcasts/twtw\\_20130120\\_248\\_24.mp3](http://podcast.cbc.ca/mp3/podcasts/twtw_20130120_248_24.mp3) and online <http://www.cbc.ca/news/health/story/2013/01/18/drug-safety-boxes.html>

**Dr. Pollen Yeung** has been invited to serve on the Editorial Boards for: Cardiovascular Pharmacology, Omics Publishing Co., Westlake, Los Angeles, CA, USA and Natural Product Chemistry and Research, Omics Publishing Co., Westlake, Los Angeles, CA, USA.

### Grants and Awards

Grants:

**Dr. Jennifer Isenor** and co-investigators **Dr. Susan Bowles**, **Dr. S MacNeil**, and **Dr. K Slayter** received a grant from the Dalhousie Pharmacy Endowment Fund for the project: "Pharmacists as immunizers: a survey of New Brunswick pharmacists' immunization experiences, beliefs, and attitudes".

**Dr. Ingrid Sketris** and co-investigators **Dr. Jennifer Isenor**, **Heidi Deal**, and **Glenn Rodrigues** received a grant from the Dalhousie Pharmacy Endowment Fund for the project: "A survey of Nova Scotia pharmacists' views on their prescribing role".

**Dr Anne Marie Whelan** was a co-investigator a grant "Sexual health services and sexual health promotion among undergraduate students in the Maritimes", CIHR Partnerships for Health System Improvement (PHSI) Grant (2013-2015).

**Dr. Andrea Murphy** is a co-investigator on a team with Drs. J Curran J (PI), J Chorney, S MacPhee, A Plint, and P McGrath. Funding for the project: "Identifying Essential Content for Discharge Instructions for Caregivers in Pediatric Emergency Care: A Delphi Study" was received from the IWK Health Centre Category B grant competition.

**Dr. Andrea Murphy and David Gardner** (CoPIs) received funding with team members Drs. R Martin-Misener, S Kutcher and Ms. DMethot for the project "Community Pharmacy Collaboratives" from the Canada Post Mental Health Foundation.

Awards:

The following Dalhousie University College of Pharmacy faculty received Pharmacy Association of Nova Scotia (PANS) Certificates of Appreciation in 2012 for their work on the "Minor Ailments Boot Camp" (a program designed to assist pharmacists in assessing and prescribing for minor ailments): **Susan Bowles, Heidi Deal, David Gardner, Jennifer Isenor, Glenn Rodrigues, Kathy Slayter, and Kim Sponagle.**

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### Publications

Jorgenson D, Muller A, **Whelan AM**. Pharmacist educators in family medicine residency programs: A qualitative analysis. BMC Medical Education 2012;12:74.

**Whelan, AM, Jurgens T** and Trinacty M. Bioidentical Progesterone Cream for Menopause-Related Vasomotor Symptoms: Is it Effective? (January) Ann Pharmacother 18 December 2012 doi:10.1345/aph.1R362 <http://www.theannals.com/content/early/2012/12/18/aph.1R362.abstract.html?pa>

**Jurgens TM, Whelan AM, Killian L, Doucette S, Kirk S, Foy E.** Green tea for weight loss and weight maintenance in overweight or obese adults [Review]. Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews 2012, Issue

12. Art. No.: CD008650. DOI: 10.1002/14651858.CD008650.pub2.

Barkhouse-MacKeen C, **Murphy, AL**. Pharmacology in undergraduate nursing education: Innovative strategies for enhancing medication related knowledge, attitudes, skills and behaviours. JNEP 2013;3(6):91-101. DOI: 10.5430/jnep.v3n6p91

Parlee SD, McNeil JO, Muruganandan S, Sinal CJ, **Goralski KB**. Elastase and tryptase govern TNF $\alpha$ -mediated production of active chemerin by adipocytes. PLoS One. 2012;7(12):e51072. doi: 10.1371/journal.pone.0051072. Epub 2012 Dec 5

Starr, L, Purcell, C and **Yeung, PKF**. Effect of doxorubicin on cardiovascular hemodynamic and RBC concentrations of ATP in rats *in vivo*. *Curr Top in Pharmacol* (2012 in press).

**Yeung, PKF**, Dauphinee, J and Marcoux, T. Effect of acute exercise on cardiovascular hemodynamic and red blood cell concentrations of purine nucleotides in hypertensive compared with normotensive rats. *Ther Adv Cardiovasc Dis* (2012 in press).

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### Student News

**Bryan Gray**, Class of 2013, was selected as winner of the Blueprint for Pharmacy 2012 Student Leader in Practice Change Award. Bryan's award winning submission described how his practice site is implementing the Vision for Pharmacy. He outlined what he saw as the health care system benefits, the impacts and challenges on the practice of pharmacy as well as unique factors that pharmacies in rural communities may encounter.

**Kathryn Landry**, **Emily MacAdam**, and **Denise Rowe**, and a medical student Ms. M Szumilas, who completed summer studentships with **Drs. Andrea Murphy and David Gardner** presented posters at the annual Dalhousie University Department of Psychiatry Research Day on November 2, 2012. Students received scholarly input and mentoring from **Drs. Andrea Murphy, David Gardner**, M Teehan and Z Ursuliak. **Drs. Murphy and Gardner** received financial support from the Drug Evaluation Alliance of Nova Scotia and the Department

of Psychiatry for the studentships under the following projects:

**Kathryn Landry**, BScH (Class of 2013) working with **Drs. David Gardner**, M Teehan and **Andrea Murphy** presented: *Teaching an old drug a new trick: ipratropium for clozapine-induced sialorrhoea.*

**Denise Rowe**, BSc (Class of 2013), supported by **Drs. David Gardner and Andrea Murphy** presented: *Insomnia? There's an app for that! Guiding people with chronic insomnia to effective treatment.*

**Emily MacAdam** (Class of 2013) working with **Drs. David Gardner** and Z Ursuliak presented: *Psychosis and an attention disorder? Unexpected insights from an N-of-1 trial.*

M Szumilas, BSc MSc, working with **Drs. Andrea Murphy and David Gardner** presented: *Mental health services in Nova Scotia community pharmacies*

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## UNIVERSITY OF MANITOBA

### Individual Faculty News

Ms Drena Dunford was recently appointed by the Executive Committee of NAPRA to the National Drug Scheduling Advisory Committee (NDSAC). Drena was appointed as an academic expert in drugs use, with teaching and/or research experience in the area of nonprescription medicines.

Dr. Silvia Alessi-Severini has been reappointed as a member of the Manitoba Drug Standards and Therapeutics Committee (MDSTC) until September 7, 2015.

### Grants

Dr. Emmanuel Ho received a CFI grant in the amount of \$129,741 for his project entitled: "Microbicide Development and Characterization Laboratory".

Dr. Silvia Alessi-Severini received a grant in the amount of \$19,640 from Pfizer Canada for her project entitled "Use of Prescription Medications for Smoking Cessation in the Province of Manitoba (2013)".

### Student News

Graduate student Dr. Casey Sayre (advisor: Dr. Neal Davies) is one of the recipients of a Duff Roblin Fellowship for 2012/13. Duff Roblin Fellows are those who were ranked amongst the highest in the most recent University of Manitoba Graduate Fellowships competition.

Graduate student Sarita Jha (advisor Dr. Alessi-Severini) was the recipient of the Evelyn Shapiro Award for Health Services Research in the amount of \$4,250.

## Faculté de pharmacie, Université de Montréal

### General Faculty News

#### Platform of Biopharmacy: Implementation of Validated Drug-Like Properties Assays

Created and managed locally by professors at the Faculty of pharmacy of Université de Montréal, the Platform of biopharmacy (PFBio) offers research support services to academic and corporate scientists involved in the evaluation and optimization of drug-like properties of new molecular entities during the drug discovery phase. Through a panel of in vitro and in vivo standardized and validated assays, it aims to offer a full-range of solutions in formulation and ADME-Tox. The PFBio is a unique platform within the RQRM and covers a niche of services that would otherwise not be available to academic research groups. To our knowledge, it is also the first and only technological platform supporting the optimization of drug-like properties in an academic setting in Canada. Through the RQRM, the PFBio works in close collaboration with the different platforms of medicinal chemistry locally and provincially. In addition, the PFBio aims to fulfill an educational mission through the training of students into highly skilled personnel and scientists.

Since its creation in 2010, the PFBio has developed and validated Standard Operating Procedure for a panel of assays including metabolic stability assays, metabolite identification assays, P450 reversible inhibition assays, CYP3A4 time dependent inhibition assays, as well as plasma and tissue protein binding assays. Overall,

PFBio now offers services in drug metabolism, drug distribution and drug-drug interactions.

#### CAPS conference

Conference on community services (*Colloque agir pour la santé – CAPS*)

The second CAPS conference will be held April 26<sup>th</sup> at the Faculté de pharmacie. This activity allows for 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> year students to present their team accomplishments in conceiving, planning and implementing their project aimed at improving a social healthcare issue. This year's themes were sexual and reproductive health and aging. Hear all about it at the 4<sup>th</sup> CPERC conference during the presentation titled: A service learning activity: 600 students working together by Dr. Chantal Pharand.

#### New web site of the Société d'histoire de la pharmacie du Québec

The Société d'histoire de la pharmacie (Québec) has launched its website in early 2013

(<http://histoirepharmacie.wordpress.com>)

It is also present on Facebook at (<https://www.facebook.com/HiPhQc>) and on Twitter (<https://twitter.com/HiPhQc>)

The Société's work is under the responsibility of l'Unité de recherché en pratique pharmaceutique (URPP – <http://urppchusj.wordpress.com>), at CHU Sainte-Justine, affiliated to University of Montreal under the supervision of Professor Jean-François Bussièrès.

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### Grants

The Tekes foundation and the Finland Académie has granted a Finland Distinguished Professorship (FIDIPro) to Dr. Françoise Winnik. The FIDIPro promotes international collaboration with Finland researchers in universities and research institutes. Dr. Winnik will be affiliated with the Helsinki University to develop projects on polymer nanoparticles.

### Nominations

Dr. Claude Mailhot, Professor, has been nominated to serve as president of the International Commission of ACPE. This commission oversees activities offered by ACPE to international faculties with the goal of helping and improving pharmacy education.

Professor Jean-François Bussièrès has received the Management and Leadership Best Practices Award from CSHP for his work on hierarchy of pharmaceutical care and the article titled Ranking of healthcare program based on health outcome, health costs and safe delivery of care in hospital pharmacy practice, published in the International Journal of Pharmacy Practice. He also received the Safe medication practices award from CSHP for his work as published in the article titled Multicenter study of environmental contamination of hazardous drugs in Quebec hospitals.

## MEMORIAL UNIVERSITY OF NEWFOUNDLAND

### Academic Appointments

**Dr. John-Michael Gamble** joined Memorial's School of Pharmacy as an Assistant Professor in June of 2012. Dr. Gamble also holds a cross appointment in the Faculty of Medicine within the Discipline of Family Medicine at Memorial University.

Dr. Gamble received his B.Sc. in Biology from Lakehead University in Thunder Bay Ontario before going on to study pharmacy at the University of Alberta. Dr. Gamble spent a brief period in community pharmacy practice on Vancouver Island before returning to Alberta to pursue graduate training in clinical epidemiology where he received his MSc and PhD from the University of Alberta in the School of Public Health. Dr. Gamble's primary research area of interest is pharmacoepidemiology, where he studies the post-marketing safety and effectiveness of medications. His current research focuses on the comparative safety and effectiveness of drugs used to treat type 2 diabetes and the various complications associated with both high and low blood sugar. Dr. Gamble continues to be involved in the pharmacy profession and currently

practices as a pharmacist at the Health Sciences Centre family medicine clinic in St. John's, NL.

In November 2012, **Dr. Laleh Alisaraie** joined Memorial's School of Pharmacy as an Assistant Professor in the area of pharmaceutical sciences.

Dr. Alisaraie began her academic training at Sharif University of Technology in Tehran, completing a BSc in Applied Chemistry, followed by a MSc at the Chemistry & Chemical Engineering Research Centre of Iran. Dr. Alisaraie went on to complete her PhD at the University of Paderborn in Germany, moving then to McGill University as a postdoctoral researcher where she continued her work in protein crystallography and computational structural biology. Her most recent position before coming to Memorial was that of research associate in the Oncology Department at the University of Alberta. There her research was focused on drug design and development projects aiming to find potential mitotic inhibitors to be used in cancer chemotherapy.

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### General Faculty News

#### Don Rowe honoured by School of Pharmacy

Students, faculty and staff gathered on Nov. 27 at a reception held at the School of Pharmacy to celebrate Don Rowe's retirement as secretary registrar of the Newfoundland and Labrador Pharmacy Board.

The reception was held to extend best wishes to Don in his retirement and to thank him for his support and

contribution to the School of Pharmacy over the years. Shortly after announcing that he would be stepping down as secretary registrar earlier this year, Don requested that a scholarship be established at the school in lieu of a retirement gift. Included among a number of gifts presented by the school was a cheque for \$250 from the student body. That contribution will go toward the endowment of the scholarship.





### 2013 White Coat Ceremony a family affair

The 40 members of the Class of 2016 participated in this year's ceremony on Jan. 17, 2013 at the Health Sciences Centre in St. John's. The Class of 2016 was joined by dignitaries, members of the pharmacy community, students from all classes at the school, faculty and staff, family and friends.

This year a number of individuals participated who now represent families of second and third generations in the profession with children and grandchildren who are members of the Class of 2016. Megan Gulliver received her white coat with her grandfather, Mr. Randy Collins and her father, Mr. Ray Gulliver in attendance. As well, Mr. Philip O'Keefe celebrated with his daughter Kara, and Mr. Rick Elliott with his daughter Jasmine.



L to R: Ray Gulliver (father), Megan Gulliver and Randy Collins (grandfather)

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### Individual Faculty News

**Dr. Debbie Kelly** received the highest honour the Canadian Society of Hospital Pharmacists (CSHP) can bestow when she was named a Fellow of that organization this past fall. Dr. Kelly was formally acknowledged with the honour at the CSHP Professional Practice Conference in Toronto on Feb. 3.

**Dr. Noriko Daneshtalab** recently presented a talk entitled "Finding the Link Between Autoimmune Disease and Stroke Development" on Nov. 24, 2012 at the first Cardiovascular Awareness and Research Day at Memorial University.

**Ms. Tiffany Lee** and **Dr. Lisa Bishop** presented a poster at the Primary Health Care Partnership Forum (PriFor 2012) this past November in St. John's, NL entitled "A description of youth and young adults and their use of opioid and stimulant drugs in a community in NL."

**Mr. Justin Peddle** presented a poster at PriFor 2012 entitled "Medication Use after Laparoscopic Sleeve Gastrectomy: Preliminary Data from the NL Bariatric Surgery Cohort Study". **Dr. Carla Dillon** and **Dr. Laurie Twells** were also authors on this poster.

**Dr. Leslie Phillips** recently published an article in the *BMC Medical Education* journal entitled, "Effectiveness of contact-based education for reducing mental illness-related stigma in pharmacy students".

**Dr. Stephanie Young, Dr. Lisa Bishop** and **Ms. Amy**

**Conway** published an article entitled, "Interventions performed by community pharmacists in one Canadian province: a cross-sectional study" in *Therapeutics and Clinical Risk Management*.

**Dr. Mohsen Daneshtalab** has been invited to lecture and chair a session on Antifungal Drug Discovery at the 2013 International Symposia on Mycology in China.

**Dr. John Weber** recently had a paper accepted for publication in the journal *Alcohol*. Dr. Weber acknowledged the significant contribution of two former honours students: **Ms. Ashley Forbes** and **Mr. Jared Cooze**. Citation: Forbes, A., Cooze, J., Malone, C., French, V. and Weber, J.T. *Effects of Intermittent Binge Alcohol Exposure on Long-Term Motor Function in Young Rats*. 2013. *Alcohol*, in press.

**Dr. Debbie Kelly, Dr. Stephanie Young, Dr. Lisa Bishop, Dr. John Hawboldt** and **Dr. Leslie Phillips** had an article accepted for publication in the *Canadian Pharmacists Journal*: Citation: Kelly DV, Bishop L, Young SW, Hawboldt J, Phillips L, Keough TM. *Pharmacist and physician views on collaborative practice: Findings from the Pharmaceutical Care Project*. CPJ 2013.

**Dr. Laurie Twells** presented at the Obesity Society's Annual Scientific Meeting in San Antonio, Texas in Sept. 2012. Dr. Twells was involved with nine posters: two as a primary investigator, two as an M.Sc. student supervisor and five as a co-investigator.

## Grants

**Dr. John-Michael Gamble** received an operating grant from the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR) in the most recent competition. Project title: Comparative Safety and Effectiveness of the Incretins

**Dr. Lisa Bishop** received a development grant from the Newfoundland and Labrador Centre for Applied Health Research. Project title: Exploring the expansion of community mental health and addictions services to support youth and young adults.

## Student News

### Memorial students attend 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Atlantic Pharmacy Advancement Conference (APAC)

This year 30 students from Memorial attended the annual APAC conference in Halifax, NS. The conference theme was *Collaborate Today for a Healthier Tomorrow!* and the focus was on advancing inter-professional collaboration between pharmacists and other health care professionals with a view to understand how this will influence future practice.

APAC was started in 2005 by a group of students from Memorial University. Intended to foster professional

and social relations with the College of Pharmacy at Dalhousie University, students from both schools gather annually for professional development and to share ideas.

Next year the conference will return to Memorial University. For more information on APAC 2013, contact Maria Whelan, committee chair, at a66maw@mun.ca.

### Team Pharmacy makes an impact on Movember

Once again this year, the School of Pharmacy took part in Movember, an important initiative that raises funds and awareness for men's health, specifically prostate cancer and male mental health initiatives. This year the team exceeded the \$1000 mark in their fundraising efforts.

### Graduate student receives leadership award

Swetha Kalidindi, a graduate student at the School of Pharmacy, received the International Graduate Student Leadership Award at a ceremony hosted by the International Students Resource Centre on Nov. 10, 2012. The award recognizes exceptional academic performance and volunteer work in the community.

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## UNIVERSITY OF SASKATCHEWAN

### Faculty and Staff News

Dr. Holly Mansell joins the College on February 1<sup>st</sup> as an Assistant Professor of Pharmacy in the area of pharmacy practice. Holly completed a Bachelor of Science in Pharmacy degree from the U of S in 2002 and a PharmD from the University of Washington in 2009. She has previously worked as a transplant pharmacist with the Saskatchewan Transplant Program at the Saskatoon Health Region and as a drug information consultant with the Saskatchewan Drug Information Service.

Gary Keegan joined the College in January 2013 as the Major Gifts Officer.

### University and College Update

The University of Saskatchewan hosted its 3rd annual *Discovery Day in Health Sciences* on November 23, 2012 which is jointly sponsored by the Canadian Medical Hall of Fame and TD Canada. The event gives secondary school Aboriginal students and teachers the opportunity to

explore a variety of career options in the Health Sciences. Over 120 students attended Discovery Days and participated in workshops such as “How Medicines Are Prepared” with the Division of Pharmacy; “The Food Factor Challenge” with the Division of Nutrition and Dietetics; and “So You Want to be a Surgeon” with the College of Medicine.

A number of U of S pharmacy students attended Professional Development Week 2013 in Montreal, QC where they placed second in the PharmaFacts Bowl and the compounding competition. Stephanie Miller, U of S CAPSI Senior, was elected as CAPSI National VP Education at PDW.

There are some uncertainties with respect to debt financing responsibility for the final stages of the Health Sciences facility that will involve extensive renovations to the original A and B wings of the Health Sciences Building. As this final phase has many components that are necessary to relocate the

College, the actual timing for the College's move is now uncertain.

Unfortunately, these are challenging times for the University in terms of finances, with the institution's operating deficit expected to grow to a

\$44.5 million shortfall in the next four years unless operating expenses are reduced. The Board of Governors has given direction to implement a set of severe operating budget adjustments, including job losses, and a program prioritization process, to ensure best use of financial resources.

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### **Development and Alumni News**

The College has begun planning for its Centennial in 2013-2014. The co-chairs for the Centennial Planning Committee are Dr. Dennis Gorecki, BSP 1969, and Garry King, BSP 1970. The College will be holding its Centennial Reunion Weekend on June 26-28, 2014 which will include the Golden Suppository Golf Classic, campus tours, class visits and a gala.

Alumni receptions will be held at the PAS/SCP Annual Conference at Elk Ridge Resort, Prince Albert National Park in May 2013; Saskatchewan Night at the Canadian Pharmacists Association Conference in Charlottetown in June 2013, and the Dietitians of Canada Conference in Victoria, BC in June 2013.

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## **UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO**

### **Faculty News**

#### *Entry-to-Practice Doctor of Pharmacy Degree*

On January 23, 2013, the University of Toronto's application for approval of the entry-to-practice Doctor of Pharmacy (PharmD) program was granted by the government of Ontario. As a result of this approval, students graduating from the Leslie Dan Faculty of Pharmacy in 2015 will graduate with the Doctor of Pharmacy designation.

The decision to seek government approval of a program change from a Bachelor of Science in Pharmacy (BScPhm) degree to an entry-to-practice Doctor of Pharmacy degree was made in 2009 following extensive consultation with pharmacists, pharmacy organizations, students and other healthcare disciplines. This change in designation reflects the impact of a new undergraduate curriculum that supports the enhanced scope of practice for pharmacists in the healthcare system and the important role that pharmacists play in the well-being of communities across the country.

We are currently in the second year of implementing the new entry-to-practice PharmD curriculum. Over the course of this 4-year professional program, students will

participate in 44 weeks of hands-on clinical training and graduate with extensive knowledge of pharmacotherapy and medication therapy management. Ultimately, the new entry-to-practice PharmD program will better prepare graduates to participate as members of an increasingly interdisciplinary healthcare team.

Current BScPhm students at the Leslie Dan Faculty of Pharmacy are eligible to apply to the Combined BScPhm-PharmD program at the end of their third year in the BScPhm program. The Faculty also offers a post-baccalaureate PharmD program that allows practicing pharmacists with a BScPhm degree to complete a PharmD curriculum.

"As the Dean of the Leslie Dan Faculty of Pharmacy, I extend my appreciation and gratitude for the encouragement and assistance of the many supporters of our Faculty that has allowed us to reach this significant milestone for pharmacy education in Ontario," noted Professor Henry Mann. "I also greatly appreciate the careful and detailed analysis conducted by the Ministries of Health and Long-Term Care and of Training, Colleges and Universities prior to approval of our application."

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### *CCAPP Accreditation*

In November, representatives from the Canadian Council for Accreditation of Pharmacy Programs (CCAPP) visited the Faculty to review our Bachelor of Science in Pharmacy and Doctor of Pharmacy programs. During this three-day visit, CCAPP officials met with faculty members, staff, students, hospital directors, practice site managers and preceptors, and University of Toronto and Leslie Dan Faculty of Pharmacy Administrators. Initial feedback from this review has been very encouraging and helpful.

In the Dean's Exit Interview, the team noted several of the Faculty's strengths, including: the strong support our Faculty enjoys from the University of Toronto's Central Administration; the committed and hard-working faculty and staff; the establishment of the clinical scientist and clinical educator positions; our physical facilities; the support we have from the pharmacy community; interprofessional education; the

Dean's leadership; and our strong post-baccalaureate Doctor of Pharmacy program.

At the same time, they also identified a number of areas where we can improve, including addition of timelines, resources and indicators of success for our strategic plan; communications with faculty, staff and external partners; more direct oversight of the leadership team from the Dean; more effective planning and implementation of the new curriculum; better execution of pharmacotherapy course integration; more attention to practice experience policies, particularly for Early Practice Experience; implementation of a comprehensive program evaluation plan; increased full-time pharmacy practice faculty; and an assessment of workload and efficiency in some areas of program support.

The final report may not be available for several months, but we have already begun to address many of the areas where we can improve.

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### *BOUNDLESS Campaign*

On November 16, 2012, the Leslie Dan Faculty of Pharmacy publicly launched Boundless Innovation: The Campaign for the Leslie Dan Faculty of Pharmacy. The launch coincided with the inaugural meeting of the Faculty's Campaign Cabinet, a group of high-profile members of the pharmacy community, who will play a lead role in the Campaign. The Boundless Campaign will ensure the Faculty can respond quickly to industry, student demand and opportunities for innovation. It will enhance our already cutting-edge educational programs; advance research that addresses issues relevant to modern drug therapy, discovery and delivery; examine the role of pharmacists in the health care system, and build on our commitment to life long learning that improves professional competency. This campaign will develop programs and services that enhance the scope of practice and ultimately, the role of the pharmacist in the health care system.

Our vision is to be one of the top pharmacy faculties in the world. To do this, we will engage our community of alumni and friends to assist us in raising \$40 million over the next five years to secure the future of the Faculty in three key areas: Shaping Student Life and Learning; Advancing Groundbreaking Pharmaceutical Research; and Expanding our Programs, Services and Infrastructure to Meet the Needs of a Changing

Profession. To date, we have raised over \$6 million toward our objective and look forward to a number of milestone announcements and events over the next few years.

### **Appointments**

Associate Professor **Ian Crandall** was appointed Interim Associate Dean, Academic for a 1-year term. In this role, Dr. Crandall will rely on his experience within the Faculty and the strong relationships he has forged with students. Over the past ten years, Dr. Crandall has been an integral part of the curriculum committee. Over the last year, he has applied that experience to the task of curricular mapping for the new Bachelor of Science in Pharmacy curriculum. Beloved by students, Dr. Crandall was named the Year 1 Professor of the Year for 2009-2010, and has received the John B. Walter Prize for Teaching/Education in 2009 from the Laboratory for Medicine and Pathology. In the role of Interim Associate Dean, Academic, Dr. Crandall will represent the Faculty in a variety of matters relating to curriculum, and work collaboratively with students, faculty members and administrative staff to advance the mission of the Faculty. The areas of key responsibility for this position include Admissions and Recruitment, Examinations, Student Experience/ Student Life, and Strategic Planning. Dr. Crandall's experience, enthusiasm, and commitment to the Faculty should all position him to succeed in this important role.

This past Fall, the Minister of State (Science and Technology) visited the University of Toronto to announce funding in support of Canada's top researchers. As part of this announcement, the Canada Research Chairs of **Dr. Stephane Angers** and **Dr. Heiko Heerklotz** were renewed. As the Canada Research Chair in Lipid Science and Technology, Dr. Heerklotz's research involves understanding how drugs interact with membrane proteins – an interaction essential to most drug-based treatments of disease. Dr. Heerklotz's research aims to discover a way to produce and purify enough proteins to allow them to be studied. Understanding these proteins has broad implications for many diseases and infections, and could revolutionize the way diseases as diverse as superbugs and cancer cells are treated.

mechanisms that control embryo development – cells communicating through intricate signaling pathways to tell each other to grow and build – are often the same ones that malfunction in cancer. Dr. Angers, the Canada Research Chair of Functional Architecture of Signal-Transduction Complexes, is attempting to discover how these signals work, and how they go wrong. Using a variety of cutting-edge protein proteomic, biophysical, and biochemical tools, Dr. Angers traces the proteins that take place in integrating the Wnt and Hedgehog signals and figures out how they work to produce a coordinated cellular response. Understanding the normal function of these cellular tools and how they go awry is laying the groundwork for new strategies to control cancer and other diseases.



Dr. Stephane Angers

Dr. Angers' research involves discovering how cellular signaling goes awry in a variety of diseases by focusing on two proteins important to this process. The cellular



Dr. Heiko Heerklotz

## Recognition

This Fall, **Dr. Heather Kertland** was recognized by the Canadian Society of Hospital Pharmacists (CSHP) for her exemplary career in hospital pharmacy and academia. In recognition of her accomplishments, Dr. Kertland has been named a Fellow of the Canadian Society of Hospital Pharmacists.

The CSHP Fellow program was established to distinguish members who, through their practice activities and contributions to CSHP and the profession, deserved recognition for their leadership, dedication and commitment to practice excellence and professional growth. Dr. Kertland was selected for this honour because of her significant contributions as the Clinical Pharmacy Specialist/Leader in the Heart and Vascular Program at St. Michael's Hospital, and as an Assistant Professor at the Leslie Dan Faculty of Pharmacy. She has been an active supporter of the pharmacy profession through her involvement in CSHP and several of its National Committees, the Journal and its Awards program. As well, Dr. Kertland has been an active member of the Canadian Cardiovascular Pharmacists Network and has contributed to the

development of practice guidelines and patient education models.

In the 40 plus years this program has existed, only 162 members have been bestowed this title. As a result, it is a tremendous honour for Dr. Kertland to be named a Fellow of the CSHP. Dr. Kertland joins fellow Faculty members Dr. Linda Dresser, Dr. Lee Dupuis, Dr. Olavo Fernandes, Dr. Brian Hardy, Dr. Allan Mills, Dr. Emily Musing, Dr. Lalitha Raman-Wilms, Dr. Alice Tseng, Dr. Sandra Walker, Dr. Scott Walker, and Dr. Bill Wilson.

In December, four Teaching Associates (preceptors) were recognized for their outstanding contributions to the educational experience of students participating in Structured Practical Experience Program at the Faculty. The 2012 winners were honoured by the Faculty and by Pfizer Consumer Healthcare, the sponsor of the Teaching Associate Awards of Excellence, for their efforts: **Jauher Ahmad, Jatinder Dhaliwall, Robert Siu-Lin Ip, and Lawrence Jackson**. Congratulations to these very deserving recipients.

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## Grants

Associate Professor and Clinical Manager, Department of Pharmacy, Division of Haematology/Oncology at the Hospital For Sick Children **Lee Dupuis** is the co-Principal Investigator of "Preliminary Examination of the Impact of Cyclophosphamide Pharmacokinetic Variability on Outcomes in Paediatric Hematopoietic Stem Cell Transplantation," a one-year project that received a Garron Family Cancer Centre grant.

The primary aim of this study is to describe the pharmacokinetic (PK) disposition of Cyclophosphamide (CY) and its metabolites in children undergoing haematopoietic stem cell transplant (HSCT). Toxicity associated with CY use in HSCT is relatively common, unpredictable and a source of considerable morbidity and mortality. Ultimately, knowledge of CY PK will allow dose individualization and standardization of the dose intensity among patients, which may be useful for improving the therapeutic index of CY and HSCT patient outcomes.

A team led by Assistant Professor **Natalie Crown** and consisting of Associate Professor **Tom Brown**,

Assistant Professor **Linda Dresser**, Assistant Professor **Daniela Gallo-Hershberg**, Associate Professor **Heather Kertland**, Assistant Professor **Jamie Kellar**, Associate Professor **Philip Lui**, and **Gustavo Luna** are the recent recipients of a Provost's Instructional Technology Innovation Fund grant. The Provost's Instructional Technology Innovation Fund is a seed fund designed to catalyze initiatives that immediately and directly impact University of Toronto education and teaching programs through innovation and development. The grant will support the ongoing development and evaluation of instructional technologies to facilitate active and collaborative learning in the Faculty's Doctor of Pharmacy program. "Instructional technologies to enhance the student experience for active and collaborative learning" will see the development of a wiki with enhanced capabilities to assist in providing student feedback on both quantity and quality of participation in asynchronous collaboration, and will help create a safe in-class learning environment for active student engagement. This technology is scalable for different size cohorts and also has potential application for interprofessional education.

Professor and F. Norman Hughes Chair in Pharmacoeconomics **Murray Krahn** and the Toronto Health Economics and Technology Assessment Collaborative (THETA) are the recent recipients of a five-year Canada Foundation for Innovation (CFI) – New Initiatives Fund. Through this CFI grant, Dr. Krahn will establish the Centre for the Evaluation of Technological Innovation (CETI), which will draw together the University of Toronto’s resources to become the leading international methods and policy centre for Early Health Technology Assessment. Addressing the challenges of innovation and sustainability, the Centre for the Evaluation of Technological Assessment will be distinctive in North America, and one of only a few centres in the world, to pioneer a comprehensive model of early HTA to incent technological advancement. The Centre will bring together more than 25 investigators and 20 PhD students, and will produce tangible benefits, including facilitating the development of new technology, generating new policy-relevant knowledge, training, and enhancing decision support for public policy decision makers.

Associate Professor **Lakshmi Kotra** is a key part of a team comprised of scientists from the University of Toronto, the University of Alberta, the University of British Columbia and 11 leading institutions in India joining forces to tackle urgent issues in both countries. Sponsored by the Canadian government and state and industry partners in India, the India-Canada Centre for Innovative Multidisciplinary Partnerships to Accelerate Community Transformation and Sustainability will focus on water safety, disease prevention and

treatment, and the development of safe, sustainable civil infrastructure. It will also support new technology spin-offs and the training of more than 700 students and researchers. Dr. Kotra will lead the Public Health Disease Prevention and Treatment research program. This program will monitor drug resistance in malaria and fungal infections, and develop new treatments to control the spread of resistance in infectious diseases.

Assistant Professor **Lisa McCarthy** is the lead for a team that recently received a Canadian Foundation for Pharmacy Innovation Fund grant. “Pharmacists: Personalized Medicine Experts in Primary Care” is a multi-phase project that will equip primary care pharmacists with the knowledge and skills required to take a lead role as personalized medicine experts in the healthcare system and evaluate the impact personalized medicine has on patients’ health outcomes. The interprofessional team working on this project is a unique assembly of practicing clinicians, scientists and educators partnered across three institutions - the Leslie Dan Faculty of Pharmacy, the Centre for Addiction and Mental Health, and Women’s College Hospital - that includes Associate Professor **Beth Sproule**, Assistant Professor **Natalie Crown**, Professor **Micheline Piquette-Miller**, and **Maria Bystrin**. This project will equip 25 pharmacists in primary care settings (Ontario’s community pharmacies and family health teams) with the required knowledge and skills to become established as personalized medicine experts in their communities. This project arose from efforts over the past year by Associate Dean, Research **Raymond Reilly** and **Sam D’Alfonso** to create opportunities for Faculty networking and group research projects.

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### Student News

Each Fall, the Faculty recognizes student excellence through the presentation of student awards at two ceremonies. The **Undergraduate Student Awards Ceremony** took place at the end of October. These awards recognize student achievement, academic performance, extracurricular activity, leadership, and contributions to Faculty life and the profession of pharmacy for students entering the Bachelor’s program, and those who have completed Year 1, Year 2, and Year 3 of the undergraduate curriculum. Close to 100 faculty, students and staff attended this year’s event at the Faculty Club, where 63 awards were presented to 73 students.

The **Graduate Student Awards Ceremony and Convocation Reception** occurred in November to coincide with convocation ceremonies taking place at the University. At this event, students in the Faculty’s Master of Science and Doctor of Philosophy programs were recognized with internal and external awards. Once again, turnout from faculty, staff and students was great for this event, where 28 students were recognized with 15 Faculty-based awards and nine awards from outside sources. At the same time, the Faculty celebrated the convocation of seven students from the Doctoral program, and seven students from the Masters program.

## UNIVERSITY OF WATERLOO

### School News

#### Entry-to-Practice PharmD Approved

On January 23, 2013 the Ontario Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities approved the entry-to-practice PharmD degree for the University of Waterloo. This is exciting news for the School and will allow us to implement a PharmD curriculum which will fully prepare Waterloo pharmacy students to serve as the medication therapy experts in the Ontario health care system. We plan to offer the entry-to-practice PharmD for students admitted to the School of Pharmacy in January 2014. Our planning also includes a bridging program that will provide all students who receive a Bachelor's degree in pharmacy from University of Waterloo the opportunity to obtain the PharmD degree.

#### White Coat

On Thursday, January 10, 2013 the 120 members of the class of 2016 were welcomed into the pharmacy profession at the traditional White Coat Ceremony. The students, joined by their family and friends, received words of welcome and encouragement from members of the university, the professional pharmacy community, and student and alumni representatives.

#### Waterloo Students Win National Video Competition

Congratulations to Rx2014 students Bhupender Sayain, Danielle Paes, Jaskiran Otal and Kacie Lunn who submitted the winning student video at the national Commitment to Care and Service Awards held in Toronto on November 26, 2012. Finalists included UBC, U of Alberta and U of Saskatchewan. This is the second year for this competition and Waterloo students have won both times.

#### Appointments

**Jonathan Blay** began his appointment as Associate Director, Research and Graduate Studies at the School of Pharmacy on November 1, 2012. He comes to us from the Department of Pharmacology, Faculty of Medicine, Dalhousie University where he has had a distinguished career as a scientist and educator. His research is focused in cancer and he also held the position of Scientific Director of the Beatrice Hunter Cancer Research Institute in Halifax. Jonathan received his PhD from Cambridge University and completed postdoctoral training in pharmacology at the University of Calgary.

The winning video is available at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=td3VFPzK1OM>.

Thank you to Loblaw for sponsoring this entertaining competition.



*Members of the Rx2016 class at the reception following the White Coat Ceremony*



*Rx2014 students Bhupender Sayain, Danielle Paes, Jaskiran Otal and Kacie Lunn with Dean Miller, Loblaw*

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**Shannon Gordon** has assumed the role of liaison librarian where she supports the research, teaching, and learning of students, faculty, and staff in the School. Shannon arrives from Memorial University where she spent six years as a Librarian, most recently as the Liaison for Anesthesia, Oncology, Surgery, Orthopedics, and the Newfoundland and Labrador Centre for Applied Health Research. Shannon received her Master of Library and Information Science from the University of Western Ontario in 2006 and her Bachelor of Arts from Memorial University in 2004.



Joining the School in adjunct positions to provide research mentoring for clinical faculty, participate in collaborative practice research and, when possible, teach in undergraduate and graduate courses, are:

**Ross Tsuyuki** - currently a Professor of Medicine (Cardiology) and the Director of the Epidemiology Coordinating and Research (EPICORE) Centre, a health research coordinating centre, and the Centre for Community Pharmacy Research and Interdisciplinary Strategies (COMPRIS). Ross is also a Professor in the Faculty of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences and an Adjunct Professor in the School of Public Health at the University of Alberta.

**Lisa Dolovich** - currently Research Director & Associate Professor, Department of Family Medicine,

McMaster University; Scientist & Associate Director, Centre for Evaluation of Medicines, St Joseph's Healthcare Hamilton; Associate Professor, Departments of Clinical Epidemiology and Biostatistics and Medicine, McMaster University; and Associate Professor, Faculty of Pharmacy, University of Toronto.

**Barb Farrell** - Dr. Farrell works as part of the Bruyère Geriatric Day Hospital interdisciplinary team located in Ottawa. She is an advocate for continuing professional education and mentorship. A nationally recognized pharmacist, she has influenced the practice of pharmacy from individual practitioners to program development and evaluation projects at the local, provincial, national and international levels.

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**Grants & Awards:**

Certina Ho, Adjunct Clinical Assistant Professor, received a grant of \$50,000 from the Canadian Foundation for Pharmacy. Certina is the Principal Investigator for the project “Safety Alerts for Pharmaceutical Opinion Program: A Pilot Study to Reduce Potential Hospitalizations due to Preventable Drug-Drug Interactions.”

Praveen P Nekkar Rao (Principal Investigator) won an LC-MS equipment grant (\$150,504) from Canada Foundation for Innovation (CFI) and Ontario Research Fund (ORF).

Shawn Wettig (Principal Investigator) won an award of \$187,505 from Canadian Foundation for Innovation (CFI) for the project “Brewster’s Angle Microscopy, PM-IRRAS, and Kelvin Probe Force Microscopy facility for the characterization of mixed lipid monolayers.”

Tarek Mohamed, a PhD candidate in Dr. Nekkar’s lab won the Alzheimer’s Drug Discovery Foundation (ADDF) Scholarship and a travel grant from Ontario Mental Health Foundation.

Wesseem Osman, an MSc candidate in Dr. Nekkar’s lab won the Alzheimer’s Drug Discovery Foundation

(ADDF) Scholarship, Ontario Graduate Scholarship (OGS) and President’s Scholarship, University of Waterloo.

**Presentations:**

Dr. Feng Chang presented along with Becotte G, Stringer D, Munoz C, Devereaux G, on “ A five step model for pharmacist intervention in the detection and management of cognitive impairment in rural Ontario” at the 8<sup>th</sup> Congress of the European Union Geriatric Medicine Society, Brussels, Belgium, September 2012. She also gave presentations titled, “Connecting wealth to health for pre-retirement adults in a rural community”, “Environmental scan for implementing electronic communication at a Family Health Team in rural Ontario” and “Pilot community pharmacy based diabetes program using health coaching principles” at the Conference of the Canadian Rural Health Research Society: Rural and Remote Health Research: Creative Approaches, Levis, QC, October 2012. In November, along with student JM Dalton, Dr. Chang presented on, “Direct patient care training for rural pharmacists in medication management” and “Giving rural pharmacists a voice in the Rural Academic Health Network” at the Canadian Society of Hospital Pharmacists Ontario Branch 64<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting Education Sessions and Awards Program in Toronto.

Certina Ho presented on "Safe Medication Use in Special Populations: Focus on Pediatrics and Geriatrics" Newfoundland and Labrador Conference, St. John's Newfoundland, September 2012.

PhD students of Dr. M. Beazely, Maryam Vasefi and Jeff Kruk, presented posters entitled "5-HT7 receptor - induced neuroprotection is PDGF receptor-dependent" and "Monoamine transporter inhibitors can transactivate the platelet-derived growth factor receptor type beta in neuronal cells" at the Great Lakes GPCR Conference in London, ON, October 2012.

Praveen P Nekkar Rao delivered a lecture on "Drug Discovery: Alzheimer's Disease" at Manipal College of Pharmaceutical Sciences, Manipal University, Manipal, India, December 2012.

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