



AFPC COMMUNICATION

Association of Faculties of Pharmacy of Canada

Association des Facultes de Pharmacie du Canada

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Will return in the September 2013 issue.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S CORNER

In spring we are at the most busiest times of the year for conducting AFPC activities. We have reviewed applications and identified awards recipients. Plans are close to being finalized for our 70th Annual conference and meetings. We are in the content development phase for the pharmacists-in-training project.

Executive Director Activities

Website redesign – The long awaited process to redesign the AFPC website has commenced. An RFP was distributed to 5 companies and Paralucent has been selected to provide expertise for this project (a Toronto based firm). Paralucent has done similar work with other national organizations and for the University of Toronto pharmacy faculty. The plan is for the website to be based on the open source content management system, Drupal. The project phases are planning, content, design, development, and quality assurance / training. The redesign should be completed in September 2013. The AFPC communications committee (Daniel Thirion, Silvia Alessi-Severini, Tessa Nicholl) is providing guidance for the project.

Program evaluation / assessment workshop – The agenda is now finalized for the workshop which will be held on June 12 in conjunction with the 2013 AFPC CPERC conference. The session is organized into 3 components: overview of best practices in educational program evaluation / assessment (guest speaker Cheryl Poth); overview of current program evaluation / assessment activities (case report from Alberta, Manitoba, Montreal, Dalhousie, and Memorial); and facilitated breakout sessions to identify national potential approaches and strategies to support program evaluation / assessment. The workshop size is limited to 50 attendees (5 per faculty).

2013 Student employment survey – The 2013 national student employment survey is currently open for responses. The invitations for completion of the surveys are in the process of being sent out from each respective Dean's office. We are using Survey Monkey for collecting student responses. A small number of

questions from the 2012 survey were revised and questions added for graduating students who are completing their internship. A written summary report on the results from the 2012 survey is being prepared and will be disseminated to key stakeholders.

Financial – The 2013 operating budget was developed with assumptions that revenues would continue to be received from external co-sponsors (in the past this equates to approximately 1/3 of our annual revenue forecast). The revenue is directed to our awards program, the annual conference and special projects. Each year we rely on approximately \$65,000 in external funding for two of our core programs, awards and the annual conference. The economic pressures and uncertainties affecting the pharmaceutical and community pharmacy industry are resulting in a reduction in external funding capacity. Some of our fundraising targets are not being met as past sponsors

are reducing or eliminating their contributions. For example, we have not been able to find co-sponsors for 2 of our faculty awards (where funding was discontinued in 2012) and we were recently notified funding was discontinued for a student award. In addition, another of our major student award co-sponsors will be reducing their level of contribution. As this situation is unlikely to change in the short run we will be examining our current awards program and developing alternate approaches and strategies to external fund raising (to sustain our awards and conference programs).

AFPC Governance

Board of Directors – The Board of Directors met March 1, 2013. One agenda item was the approval of the AFPC published membership criteria. Faculties will be requested to provide lists and contact information for their respective AFPC members. The next Board of Directors meeting is scheduled for June 10 at Niagara-on-the-Lake. In the place of the traditional AFPC annual general meeting, there will be an annual business meeting / town hall meeting held on June 12 (12 noon) at the AFPC Annual Conference (CPERC).

Council of Faculties – The Council of Faculties held the mid year meeting on February 6, 2013. External stakeholder consultation occurred with Dr. Jane Aubin from CIHR about recent CIHR changes to their research funding programs and policies. The Council of Faculties voting member annual meeting will be held on May 29 (teleconference) and June 11 (in person meeting). In addition, Council of Faculties voting members and the Council of Deans will participate in a joint strategic planning session.

Council of Deans – The Council of Deans mid year meeting was held February 8, 2013. External stakeholder consultation occurred with Wayne Hindmarsh (implementing CCAPP new accreditation standards) and Pat Chase (program evaluation / assessment experience in the US). The Deans meeting was held in parallel with the 2013 AACP Interim Meeting. The theme for the AACP meeting was Leadership for Institutional Effectiveness. The content of the meeting was very relevant for developing

potential AFPC strategies and initiatives relating to program evaluation / assessment. The following is a link to materials (including presentation handouts related to the AACP interim meeting - <http://www.aacp.org/meetingsandevents/IM/Pages/default.aspx>). The next Council of Deans meetings are June 12 (interim meeting) and October 2013 (annual meeting - date and location has not been finalized).

AFPC Activities / Projects

2013 Annual Conference / CPERC – Plans are close to being finalized for the 2013 AFPC Annual Conference. The 70th annual conference “Leading Change through Innovation and Technology” is from June 11-13 at the Vintage Hotels in Niagara-on-the-Lake. At this juncture we have approximately 105 registrations. The keynote address “Game changers in health care and pharmacy education” will be delivered by Lucinda Maine, AACP Executive Vice President and CEO. The preliminary program is posted (see https://uwaterloo.ca/pharmacy/sites/ca.pharmacy/files/uploads/files/cperc_conference_brochure_2013.pdf). General information about the conference is posted (see <http://afpc.info/content.php?SectionID=3&ContentID=136&Language=en>).

Awards – This year 28 nominations were received for 7 faculty and student awards. There were no nominations for the PEBC Award for Excellence in Research or Innovation in Assessment of Competence. All recipients will be recognized at the June 13 awards banquet. The following table lists the 2013 award recipients. Congratulations to each recipient.

2013 AFPC Faculty and Student Awards

Recipient(s)	Award	University
Reina Bendayan	Pfizer Research Career Award	Toronto
Carolyn Cummins	New Investigator Research Award	Toronto
Team - C. Cox, C. Sadowski, M. Gukert, S. Heschuk, H.L. Banh, L. Schultz	Janssen Award for Innovation in Education	Alberta
James McCormack	National Award for Excellence in Education	British Columbia
Anil Maharaj	Merck Canada Ltd Post Graduate Pharmacy Fellowship Award	Waterloo
Eric Orava	Graduate Student Research Award	Toronto
Wasem Alsabbagh	CFP Graduate Student Award for Pharmacy Practice Research	Saskatchewan

2013 AFPC / Rx and D Pharmacy Student Research Poster Award Recipients

Recipient	University
Donna Leung	British Columbia
Waheed Asghar	Alberta
Fahad Alzahrani	Saskatchewan
Sarita Jha	Manitoba
Wesseem Osman	Waterloo
Lilia Magomedova	Toronto
Alexandre Melkoumov	Montreal
Wael Alata	Laval
Kathyrn Landry	Dalhousie
Maria Whelan	Memorial

Nominations Committee – Ingrid Price is the Nominations committee chair. In terms of Executive succession planning, Silvia Alessi-Severini has agreed to put her name forward for the Council of Faculties Executive position of Chair. This year is a major turnover year in Council of Faculties voting members positions with 4 positions open. Alberta and Waterloo have identified new Council of Faculties voting members; Ann Thompson and Eric Schneider. Silvia Alessi-Severini from Manitoba will serve another term. British Columbia will select a replacement for Tessa Nicholl.

Pharmacy Experiential Programs of Canada (PEPC) – The current chair of PEPC is Ann Thompson (Alberta) and the incoming chair is Angela Kim-Sing (British Columbia). The final report entitled “The Future of Pharmacy Experiential Education in Canada – A Stakeholder Workshop” will be posted on the AFPC website. This report was produced as a result of the October 17 multi-stakeholder workshop. A funding request was submitted to the Blueprint for Pharmacy steering committee for partial funding of activities associated with implementing this plan. AFPC received a conditional approval for \$42,750 in funding. A detailed workplan will be developed by September 2013 and submitted to the Blueprint for Pharmacy to secure the funds. Additional funding will be sought through AFPC, from in kind faculty contributions, and through the sharing of activities amongst faculties. The PEPC group is holding their annual meeting on June 9 and will initiate the development of the detailed workplan.

Pharmacists in training project – The following are selected highlights:

- A. The open source content management system, Moodle, was selected for use in the project. We are in the process of finding a vendor to prepare and load the Moodle system.
- B. Lead authors have been confirmed for the 6 educational domains. The lead authors are Kelly Grindrod (Waterloo), Lisa Bishop (Memorial), Marie Rocchi (Toronto), Neil de Haan (Victoria), Jason Perepelkin (Saskatchewan) and Jeff Barnett (British Columbia).
- C. The undergraduate student award winners were Patrick Monaghan (Dalhousie), Chelsea Barr (Waterloo), Danny Wong (British Columbia), Phillip Curran (Saskatchewan), and Jereme Parenteau (Alberta). The graduate student award winner was Neil De Haan (Victoria). A press release about the award recipients was issued.

D. Dissemination related activities - An abstract has been accepted for a poster presentation at the 2013 CPHA conference (the abstract title is "Preparing students for an e-health world: ICT Competencies for Entry-to-Practice"). A presentation has been approved for the 2014 CAPSI PDW meeting. Also, a presentation about the Clinicians-in-Training project has been approved for the 2013 International Federation of Health Informatics Management Associations Congress.

Announcements / Miscellaneous

- a. CPERC 2014 – Preliminary planning has occurred to hold the 2014 AFPC Annual Conference in conjunction with the Canadian Pharmacists Association Annual Conference in Saskatoon. CPHA staff has confirmed that there is sufficient accommodation and conference room space to hold the meeting. Hold the dates May 30-June 3, 2014. AFPC business and education meetings will be held on May 30 and May 31. A memorandum of understanding will be developed for this partnership. Kerry Mansell will serve as the local AFPC / University of Saskatchewan lead for this activity.
- b. New UBC Dean – Michael Coughtrie has been appointed as the new Dean at the University of British Columbia. The following link provides

additional information about Dr. Coughtrie's appointment
<http://www.pharmacy.ubc.ca/aboutus/faculty-news/2013-04-04> Wayne Riggs will continue as Interim Dean until July 31, 2013.

- c. An abstract was approved for a presentation at the 2013 FIP Centennial Congress of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences. The abstract is entitled "National educational outcomes for pharmacy programs in Canada". Thanks to Nancy Winslade and Nancy Waite for taking the lead in submitting the abstract.
- d. In case you missed it the topic Expanding Education Requirements for Health Professionals was addressed in a recent posting on the Canadian Healthcare Network. David Hill and Steven Lewis participated in the recent point of view report with a focus on the entry level Pharm D (see weblink for results of discussions on this topic <http://www.canadianhealthcarenetwork.ca/pharmacists/discussions/point-of-view/expanding-education-requirements-for-health-professionals>). The responses from pharmacists suggest that practicing pharmacists require education about merits of the entry level Pharm D.

Have a wonderful summer.



AFPC Executive Director

We wish to acknowledge the following sponsors supporting AFPC. Thank you for your contributions.

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

~~~GENERAL FACULTY NEWS~~~

**Celebrating 100 Years of Pharmacy Education**

Historic Pier 21 in Halifax was the setting for a Gala Evening to celebrate 100 years of formal pharmacy education in the Maritimes. The celebration, held on October 29, 2011, attracted over 260 alumni, current and former faculty, students, and friends of the College of Pharmacy for a reception, dinner and silent auction.



Fifty years of academic leadership were collectively provided to the College of Pharmacy by Directors: (left to right) David Yung (1978-88), Gordon Duff (1961-72), Rita Caldwell (1998-Present) and Frank Chandler (1989-98).

Lillian (Campbell) MacMillan, Class of 1935, was recognized for being the graduate present from the “oldest” graduating class (76 years).

Classes of 1981 (30 years) and 1991 (20 years) held reunions. Dr. Bev Wilson, a former faculty member, travelled all the way from South Africa for the event.

Proceeds from the silent auction made a significant contribution to the Dr. Michael Mezei Memorial Scholarship Fund.

Dr. Mary MacCara was the keynote speaker for the evening and provided an entertaining journey through the College’s history. Mary’s book, “Dispensing Knowledge: One Hundred Years of the College of Pharmacy, 1911-2011”, was recently published and is a collection of photos, memories and notable historical events of the College’s 100 years of educating pharmacists. (previously published, in part, in AFPC Newsletter Jan/Feb 2012)

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**Community Pharmacy and Mental Health Service Training**

**Drs. Andrea Murphy and David Gardner** are leading a train-the-trainer capacity building project in which pharmacists from across Nova Scotia are being trained and then training local colleagues, however they are not doing this alone.

The project has each pharmacist being paired with a person from their local community with lived experience of mental illness.

Each pair will join together in May to complete their training day, which will focus on how pharmacists can more effectively care for and support people in their communities living with a mental illness. Each pair will

be charged with the task of subsequently training 5 pharmacists in their region similarly.

A specific outcome of the training is for each pharmacist to provide at least one external community outreach service, such as an interactive educational event about medications for mental health.

The training will emphasize the importance of pharmacists becoming personally familiar with local mental health services and resources.

This project was funded by two grants, from the Drug Evaluation Unit of Nova Scotia and the Canada Post Mental Health Foundation.

## Community Engaged Scholarship and Service Learning

**Dr. Ingrid Sketris** implemented a unique service learning program during the ten year period of her Chair in Health Services Research, which was funded by CHSRF/CIHR and cosponsored by the Nova Scotia Health Research Foundation.

A new approach to graduate education in pharmaceutical policy and medication management was undertaken with the establishment of the Drug Use Management and Policy Residency Program (DUMPRP).

The DUMPRP developed capacity in trainees and faculty advisors to conduct pharmaceutical policy research together with decision-makers in the Nova Scotia provincial government (e.g., diabetes care program, information technology, health promotion and protection, pharmaceutical services, public health,

primary care), continuing care and acute care institutions.

Through the DUMPRP, 38 graduate students were placed with 31 health care decision makers (preceptors) and 26 academic advisors for a 17-week residency focused on a policy or program issue identified by the preceptors. The trainees selected for DUMPRP, and their faculty advisors, came from diverse academic backgrounds (community health & epidemiology, health services research, economics, health informatics, library information sciences, law/health administration) and were at various stages in their careers. Although approximately 50% had prior health care experience (as physicians, pharmacists, occupational therapists, nurses and dental assistants), others had no health care experience pre-residency.

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Consequently, the DUMPRP included a series of capacity development seminars and workshops which provided a common understanding of the Nova Scotia health care system and pharmaceutical policy issues, and introduced relevant research tools and techniques.

The trainees, with faculty advisor support, used quantitative and qualitative research methods or systematic literature review approaches to provide evidence to inform key pharmaceutical policy issues (Conrad 2005, Sketris in press).

The program has recently been evaluated from student, faculty and preceptor perspectives. Conrad et al (in press) studied the value of the program from the students' perspectives. Feedback highlighted the value of students' immersion in environments that, with support from preceptors, faculty advisors and the DUMPRP team, allowed students to address "real world" pharmaceutical policy issues.

Despite diverse backgrounds, students reported successful completion of pharmaceutical policy projects which contributed research evidence.

## References

1. Conrad P, **Sketris I**, Langille Ingram E. Participants perceptions of the Nine-Year Multidisciplinary Drug Use Management and Policy, Halifax, Nova Scotia: the Drug Use Management and Policy Residency Program (DUMPRP). *Am J Pharm Ed*; In press.
2. Conrad P, Murphy J, **Sketris IS**. (2005). Drug Use Management and Policy Residency: A Service-Learning Application. *Am J Pharm Ed* 69(5), Article 1407.
3. **Sketris IS**. Knowledge translation in high stakes environments: service learning within a multi stakeholder pharmaceutical program and policy area In: Potvin L, ed. *Shaping Academia for the Public Good: Lessons from an Experience in Research Funding*. Toronto, ON: University of Toronto Press; In press.

## Visit from Dobbin Scholar

Dr. Stephen Byrne, College of Pharmacy, University of Cork, Ireland visited Dalhousie's College of Pharmacy for the month of March, 2013. Dr Byrne's time was spent with **Dr Sketris** and Initiative for Medication Management, Policy Analysis, Research and Training (IMPART). Dr Byrne's visit was made possible by a Dobbin Scholarship, funding that was established to "allow the flow of knowledge and ideas between Canada and Ireland to collectively improve both". Dr. Byrne also spent time learning about the College of Pharmacy's problem-based learning modules coordinated by Susan Mansour and Dianne Cox.



L-R: Dr Steven Bryne, Prof Susan Mansour, Dr Ingrid Sketris

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## **Drs. Jennifer Isenor, Susan Bowles, Kathryn Slayter, and Shelly McNeil** have formed the **Pharmacists as Immunizers (PAI) Research Group.**

The group will focus their initial research on immunization activities in the Maritimes. They hold funding for projects to assess pharmacist activities in New Brunswick with respect to immunization and perceptions of conventional providers on the role of pharmacists as immunizers. The PAI Research Group is also collaborating with colleagues from the Canadian Centre for Vaccinology to expand their research efforts, including interventional studies involving pharmacists as immunizers.

**Dr. Anne Marie Whelan** was recently voted President of the Pharmacy Examining Board of Canada.

**Dr. Pollen Yeung** was invited to give a presentation on "ATP metabolism in RBC as biomarker target for cardiovascular protection and toxicities" at the 3rd International Conference on Clinical & Experimental Cardiology, Chicago, IL, USA, April 15 – 17, 2013.

## **Awards and grants**

On February 27, 2013 the Nova Scotia Health Research Foundation inducted **Dr. Pollen Yeung** into the 2012 Decade Club, which recognizes individuals who have supported and contributed to the NSHRF for 10 consecutive years.

## **Publications**

1. **Gardner DM, Murphy AL**, Kutcher S, Beaulieu S, Carandang C, Labelle A, Lalonde P, Malla A, Milliken H, O'Donovan C, Schaffer A, Soni J, Taylor VH, Williams R. Evidence review and clinical guidance for the use of ziprasidone in Canada. *Ann Gen Psychiatry* 2013; 12:1.
2. Law MR, Heard D, Fisher J, Douillard J, Muzika G, **Sketris IS**. 2013. The geographic accessibility of pharmacies in Nova Scotia. *CJPJ*. January/February 2013 vol. 146 no. 1 39-46.
3. Hill-Taylor B, Hurley K, **Sketris IS**, O'Connell, Sinclair D, Wing A. Evaluating a Pediatric Emergency Department. Intervention: Promotion of a Standard Practice Change from Salbutamol by Nebulization to Metered-dose Inhalers with Holding Chambers. *CJEM* 2013;15(2):101-108.
4. Wing A, Hill-Taylor B, **Sketris IS**, Smith J, Stewart S, Hurley KF. 2012. Evaluation of emergency department medication records - Do records from paper-based charts and electronic automatic dispensing devices agree? *CJHP* 65(4).
5. Clark R, Fisher J, **Sketris IS**, Johnston G. 2012. Population prevalence of high dose paracetamol in dispensed prescription combinations in Nova Scotia, Canada. *BMC Pharmacology and Toxicology* 12 (11).

## Student News

### Mental illness and your pharmacist: pharmacists offer more than meds!

Raising awareness about how pharmacists support and care for people with mental illness has been keeping faculty and students busy. On March 21, as part of Pharmacy Awareness Month, pharmacy students staged a 3-hour interactive, information-sharing event at Dalhousie's Student Union Building that focused on mental health. To draw people in, a quiz was created that was given to passers by and those waiting in line for their food orders. With the use of five multiple choice questions the quiz asked, "are you a mental health medications expert?" Students handing out the quiz helped people go through the questions (about how St. John's wort can cause oral contraceptive failure, folic acid can augment SSRI response in women, the role of omega-3 fatty acids in mitigating the risk of developing schizophrenia, the burden of mental illness, and the roles of the pharmacist). The booth showcased the artwork of a local artist that promoted awareness of mental illness and stigma issues and provided information about the valuable role pharmacists play in the management of mental illness. The booth was organized by the Class of 2014 students Arti Dhoot, André Pollmann, Joel Bergman, and Tiffany Connors and **Dr. D Gardner**.

On May 4, faculty, students, and pharmacists participated in the Schizophrenia Society of Nova Scotia (SSNS) fundraiser. With more than two dozen "More Than Meds" team members, the pharmacy team, led by **Drs. Andrea Murphy and David Gardner**, raised the most funds for the fundraiser. Two weeks earlier, the charity event, Pharmacy Skit night, also raised funds for the Schizophrenia Society of Nova Scotia, representing unprecedented support by the College of Pharmacy for a mental health advocacy organization. The role of pharmacists as health providers who contribute more than meds to the health and wellness of people living with mental illness was made obvious by these and other 2012-13 mental health-pharmacy initiatives





UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA

**Academic Appointments/Promotions/Leaves**

*Promotion*

Congratulations to **Dr Ann Thompson** who was recently promoted to Clinical Associate Professor. .

*Departure*

Dr **Michelle Foisy** will be leaving our faculty as of April 30th, 2013. Dr Foisy joined our faculty as a Clinical Associate Professor in August 2009, and has been the Director of the PharmD program since April 2011. Dr Foisy did an exceptional job in leading the development for the post-professional PharmD program, which will be starting this September. The faculty will be sad to see her leave..

*New appointments*

The faculty would like to extend a warm welcome to **Cathy McCann** who is the new Director of the PharmD program. Cathy has been coordinating one of our skills lab courses since January 2013. She comes to us with a BSc in pharmacy from the University of Alberta, as well

as an MBA from Queens University. She has had extensive experience in the areas of management, health care and business.

The faculty is pleased to announce that **Dr. Susan Patrick** will join our Faculty to teach physiology and anatomy for the BScPharm program to better meet the needs of faculty and students in the 2013/14 academic year.

The faculty is pleased to announce **Ubaka Ogbogu** will be joining our Faculty as a tenure-track Assistant Professor. His appointment will be 75% in Law and 25% in Pharmacy and was developed through the Katz Chair in Health Law. Professor Ogbogu joined the University of Alberta in 2011 as the Katz Research Fellow and has been teaching in the Pharmacy Law and Ethics course for the past 2 years. His teaching and research interests include health law, law and biotechnology, law and bioethics, science regulation, and legal history of biomedicine.

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**Awards and Grants**

*Awards*

**Congratulations** to the following award winners:

**Dr Nese Yuksel** who received the 2013 Faculty of Merit for the Faculty of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences.

**Jeff Turchinsky** who received the 2013 Faculty of Merit for the Faculty of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences.

**Dr Michael Doschak** who received the 2013 Faculty of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences Teaching Excellence Award. Dr Doschak is the first recipient of this award.

**Dr Christine Hughes** who received the 2013 Rutherford Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching. This is the highest teaching award given by the University to full time continuing faculty members, and a maximum of 5 are given yearly.

**Cheryl Cox, Dr Cheryl Sadowski, Marlene Gukert, Shirley Heschuk and Dr Hoan Linh Banh** for receiving the 2013 AFPC-Janssen Innovation in Education Award.

*Grants*

**Dr John Seubert** (PI): NSERC Grant for the project "Cytochrome P450 Derived Metabolites of Arachidonic Acid Differentially Regulate Cell Death Pathways", \$30,000 for 1 year.

**Dr John Seubert** (PI): HSFC grant for the project "Role of Eicosanoids in Regulating Mitochondrial Quality in the Aged Heart", \$276,000 for 3 years.

**Dr Carlos Velasquez (co-applicant):** Alberta Innovates Health Solutions, group grant for the project "Novel Biomarkers and Therapeutics for Intestinal Inflammation and Colon Cancer", \$740,400 over three years.

## General Faculty News

**Dr Afsaneh Lavasanifar's** research on polymer platform technology was highlighted in the Edmonton Journal in the April 17, 2013 article "U of A researcher looking to improve how drugs are absorbed in the body, reduce side effects". It was also presented on Global TV and the University of Alberta's Express News.

**Dr Kamaljit Kaur's** research investigating organic food preserves was presented in the New Trails New Horizons in Research in the section on Food Safety.

**Dr Sharon Mitchell's** *The Engaging Professionals and Students in FASD Awareness and Prevention* webinar on March 4<sup>th</sup> 2013 as part of Pharmacy Awareness Week drew in audiences from almost 1,700 Canadian locations and 68 international locations.

Dr Lavasanifar's graduate student, **Mostafa Shahin**, was the co winner of the 2013 Gattefossé Canada CSPS Award in Lipid-Based Drug Delivery for paper entitled: Engineered Breast Tumor Targeting Peptide Ligand Modified Liposomal Doxorubicin and the Effect of

Peptide Density on Anticancer Activity, by Mostafa Shahin, Rania Soudy, Hamidreza M. Aliabadi, Norman Kneteman, Kamaljit Kaur, and Afsaneh Lavasanifar, published in *Biomaterials*.

Several of our undergraduate students received awards at the Canadian Society of Hospital Pharmacists and the Canadian Association of Pharmacy Students and Interns (CAPSI) Professional Development Week as follows:

**Jereme Parenteau**, Class of 2014: Student Leadership Award.

**Emily Li**, Class of 2013: the hospital pharmacy student award.

**Joey Ton**, Class of 2013: the CAPSI-Wyeth Guy Genest Passion for Pharmacy Award.

**Clarissa Chow**, Class of 2013; winner for the CAPSI Over-the-counter interview competition.

**Basel Alsaadi**, Class of 2013; winner for the CAPSI Patient Interview competition.

**Melissa Chung**, Class of 2014. third place for the Blueprint for Pharmacy student essay contest.

**Joshua Torrance, Melissa Chung, Ken Soong, and Krysta Sommerville**. They placed third in the CAPSI compounding competition.

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## UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

**The University of British Columbia appoints Dr. Michael Coughtrie as Dean of Pharmaceutical Sciences**

We are pleased to announce that **Dr. Michael Coughtrie** has been appointed Dean of the Faculty of Pharmaceutical Sciences for a five-year term commencing August 1, 2013. His appointment follows an extensive national and international search process.

Dr. Coughtrie is currently a Professor of Biochemical Pharmacology and Operations Director of the Medical Research Institute, University of Dundee, Scotland. Dr. Coughtrie will bring to the Faculty a wealth of leadership experience gained through his 27-year career at the University of Dundee. In 1986, after completing a Bachelor of Science in Biochemistry followed by his PhD, Dr. Coughtrie embarked on his professional research and teaching career. He was awarded a Personal Chair in Biochemical Pharmacology and was head of the Division of Pathology and Neuroscience (2003-2008) and Director of the Division of Medical Sciences (2008-

2011) before commencing his current position as Operations Director.

**UBC Pharmaceutical Sciences welcomes Drs. Corey Nislow and Guri Giaever to the Faculty**

**Drs. Corey Nislow and Guri Giaever** were recently appointed to the Faculty. Dr. Nislow commenced in the role of Associate Professor in January 2013, and Dr. Giaever joined as Associate Professor in March 2013.

Dr. Nislow was previously with the University of Toronto, where he served as Associate Professor with the Banting and Best Department of Medical Research and as Director of the Donnelly Sequencing Centre. Dr. Giaever held a joint appointment as Associate Professor, Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences, Leslie Dan Faculty of Pharmacy and Department of Molecular Genetics, Faculty of Medicine, University of Toronto. We are delighted to welcome these two internationally respected scientists and educators.

### Medication Reconciliation Interprofessional Event

We would like to extend a special thank you to **Drs. Arun Verma** and **Judith Soon** for their hard work and dedication in organizing and facilitating our Medication Reconciliation Interprofessional Event on January 16, 2013. 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. Drs. Verma and Soon took on the task of organizing this event in addition to their existing responsibilities and it would not have been successful without their efforts.

### Sex & Drugs & Reproductive Health: Celebrate Research 2013 at UBC Faculty of Pharmaceutical Sciences

On March 4, 2013, more than 100 people attended a special seminar entitled "Sex & Drugs & Reproductive Health," hosted by the Faculty of Pharmaceutical Sciences as part of Celebrate Research Week. The seminar featured three internationally recognized panelists speaking on women's reproductive health. Dr. Cynthia Harper, an associate professor in Obstetrics at the University of California, presented a talk entitled

"Pharmacy Access to Emergency Contraception and Beyond." Dr. Joy Johnson, the scientific director of the Institute of Gender and Health (IGH), and a professor at UBC's School of Nursing, spoke about the interplay between sex, gender, and health. The third speaker, Dr. Mary Stephenson, professor and department head, Obstetrics and Gynecology, University of Illinois College of Medicine at Chicago, presented on recurrent pregnancy loss, and the diverse contributions made by UBC researchers to our understanding of this topic.



L-R: Drs. Cynthia Harper, Joy Johnson, Judith Soon, Mary Ensom and Mary Stephenson

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### Pharmaceutical Sciences Building Awards



The Pharmaceutical Sciences Building has won a number of awards within the past several months:

- Wallpaper\* Design Award – Best Lab  
<http://www.pharmacy.ubc.ca/aboutus/faculty-news/2013-01-28>
- Architizer A+ Popular Choice Award, Higher Education Institutions and Research category  
<http://www.pharmacy.ubc.ca/aboutus/faculty-news/2013-03-22>

- Ontario Association of Architects 2013 Design Excellence Award  
<http://www.pharmacy.ubc.ca/aboutus/faculty-news/2013-04-05>
- Association of Consulting Engineering Companies (ACEC) 2013 Award for Engineering Excellence, Buildings category  
<http://pharmacy.ubc.ca/aboutus/faculty-news/2013-04-09>

### Dr. Brian Rodrigues Awarded Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal

Faculty member **Dr. Brian Rodrigues** was awarded a Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal from the Canadian Diabetes Association for his outstanding contributions to diabetes research. The Diamond Jubilee Medal Program was created by the Government of Canada to celebrate the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II's accession to the throne as the Queen of Canada. Members of the general public were asked to nominate individuals for the medal program, which is administered by the Chancellery of Honours, as part of the Office of the Secretary to the Governor General.

## Awards & Honours Update

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

Adam Raymakers (PhD) - recipient of the Canadian Agency for Drugs and Technologies in Health Travel Award and J H McNeill Scholarship.

Dr. Larry Lynd - invited to the first Conference of the International Rare Diseases Research Consortium to be held April 16-17, 2013 in Dublin, Ireland. The aim of the conference is to gather stakeholders active in the rare disease area across the globe working towards 200 new therapies for rare diseases and means to diagnose most rare diseases by the year 2020.

Jo-Ann Osei-Twum - recipient of the Summer Internship Program Position with the Stars in Global Health Program with Grand Challenges Canada.

Dr. James McCormack - recipient of the 2013 AFPC National Award for Excellence in Education.

## First Student-Run Pharmacy Journal in Canada Launched on January 28, 2013

Founded by Pharmacy students Kelvin Lou and Sandy Mok, the UBC Pharmaceutical Sciences Student Journal (PSSJ), an on-line and open access academic publication, promotes pharmacy research and provides students with scientific writing experience. Readers and libraries will have full-access to the journal's content at no cost, and permission to redistribute articles with proper citation. To learn more visit <http://ubcpssj.org>.

## Introducing AGILE

The Faculty recently embarked on an exciting new project. AGILE (Advancing Experiential LearninG In Institutional Pharmacy PracticE) aims to develop recommendations that will inform a redesign of institutional experiential pharmacy education in British

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## Publications Update

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

Kiang TKL, Wilby KJ, Ensom MHH. Telaprevir: Clinical Pharmacokinetics, Pharmacodynamics, and Drug-Drug Interactions. Clin Pharmacokinet. 2013; Published Ahead of Print 4 April; DOI 10.1007/s40262-013-0053-x.

Sadatsafavi M, Lynd LD, Marra CA, Bedouch P, FitzGerald JM. Comparative outcomes of leukotriene receptor antagonists and long-acting b-agonists as add-on

Columbia. AGILE needs the ideas and feedback of the health care community to help shape the future of pharmacy. To learn more, visit <http://agile.pharmacy.ubc.ca>.

## Pharmacy Faculty Members and Graduate Students inducted into Rho Chi Honor Society

On Friday, March 22, 2013, Faculty of Pharmaceutical Sciences members and graduate students were inducted into the Delta Gamma Chapter of the Rho Chi Pharmacy Honor Society. Established at UBC in 2010 by Dr. Robert Sindelar, the Delta Gamma Chapter is the only Canadian chapter of the society, which consists of 100 affiliate chapters in the United States. "This induction ceremony was a huge milestone for us," says Pharmacy undergraduate student Connor Chan, chapter secretary for 2013. "Traditionally, Rho Chi Society chapters include undergraduate students, graduate students, and faculty, and this ceremony allowed us to welcome our first faculty and graduate student members." To learn more visit <http://www.rhochi.org>.



L-R: Inductees Dr. Marc Levine, Jayakumar Surendradoss, Dr. Arun Verma (seated), Leon Wan, and Natalie McCormick

therapy in asthmatic patients: A population-based study. JACI February 2013 (accepted).

Raymakers AJN, Mayo JR, Marra CA, FitzGerald JM. A systematic review of cost-effectiveness analyses of diagnostic strategies for pulmonary embolism. Journal of Thoracic Imaging [SUBMITTED, 2013 March].

Najafzadeh M, Davis JC, Joshi P, Marra C. Barriers for Integrating Personalized Medicine into Clinical Practice: A Qualitative Analysis. Am J Med Genet Part A 9999:1-6, 2013.

Wilby KJ, Gilchrist SE, Ensom MHH. A Review of the Pharmacokinetic Implications of Schistosomiasis. Clin Pharmacokinet. 2013 Mar 12. [Epub ahead of print] DOI 10.1007/s40262-013-0055-8

Zed PJ, Haughn C, Black KTL, Fitzpatrick EA, Ackroyd-Stolarz S, Murphy NG, MacKinnon NJ, Curran J, Sinclair D. Medication-related emergency department visits in pediatrics: a qualitative systematic review. J Pediatrics 2013 Mar 1. doi:pii: S0022-3476(13)00117-0. 10.1016/j.jpeds.2013.01.042. PMID: 23465404

### Grants Update

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

"Prescription medications and the risk of motor vehicle crashes". Brubacher J (PI) Brasher P, Chan H, Etminan M, Maclure M, Zed P (CI). \$526,268, CIHR, 4 years

"Bridging the Gap from the Classroom to the Institutional Practice Site – A Transition Module for Pharmacy Students"

Pearson M (PI) Kim-Sing A, Tchen P (CI). \$59,500, UBC TLEF (Teaching and Learning Enhancement Fund), 2013-2014

"Enhancing Student Learning and Expanding Institutional Experiential Clerkship Opportunities Across UBC's Pharmacy Programs" Loewen P (PI) Assen K, Bruchet N, Fu P, Gerber P, Harder C, Kim-Sing A, Law E, Legal M, Man S, Nolan S, Thornhill A, Yeung J, Zed

## UNIVERSITÉ LAVAL

### GENERAL FACULTY NEWS

#### Compulsory Courses on History of Pharmacy

We all know how it is difficult to gain the acceptance of program committees for the teaching of the History of pharmacy. However, the Faculty of Pharmacy of Université Laval has integrated compulsory history courses in its Pharm.D. Program. An introductory course on the history of pharmacy as a profession in the first semester is then followed by 12 two-hour classes on the greatest discoveries in pharmacy, which are integrated into the pharmacology curriculum. These courses are given by **Dr. Gilles Barbeau**, Professor Emeritus at our faculty.

#### Redesign of the Website

At the end of May, the Faculty launches its totally renewed website ([pha.ulaval.ca](http://pha.ulaval.ca)).

P. \$96,550, UBC TLEF (Teaching and Learning Enhancement Fund), 2013-2014

"Community-Associated Methicillin Resistant Staphylococcus Aureus (CA-MRSA) Infections: From Knowledge to Action". Marra F (PI) McKay R, Patrick D (CI). \$13,725, CIHR

### Presentations Update

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

Dr. Peter Loewen - "Demystifying Hyponatremia Assessment and Management," Canadian Society of Hospital Pharmacists Banff Seminar 2013, March 23, 2013, Banff, AB.

Dr. Peter Zed - "Academic Leadership in Pharmacy Practice Innovation", Faculty of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences, University of Alberta, Edmonton, A.B., March 27, 2013.

Dr. Carlo Marra - "Pharmacy-Based Immunization in Rural Communities Strategy (PhICS): A Community Cluster Randomized Trial," co-authored by Dr. Fawziah Marra, CPha National Conference, June 1-4, 2013, Charlottetown, PEI.

Dr. Kishor Wasan - "The Development of an oral formulation of Amphotericin B and the story of NGDI-UBC: Engaging the Next Generation of Scholars" at the Centre for Blood Research Seminar Series, 12-1 p.m., April 3, 2013, LSC Room 3.

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#### Bridging Program ("*passerelle*") - Doctor of Pharmacy Program (Pharm. D.)

On April 23, President and Chief Executive Officer of Uniprix Group, Mr. François Castonguay unveiled the new philanthropic partnership of \$700,000 between Uniprix Group, Université Laval and Université de Montréal in connection with their joint Pharm.D. Bridging Program ("*passerelle*").

#### Dr. Frédéric Calon chosen "Lauréat Le Soleil – Radio Canada"

On January 23, **Dr. Frédéric Calon**, received the title of "Lauréat Le Soleil – Radio Canada" which honours exceptional people in the Quebec region on a weekly basis.

## RESEARCH

### **Dr. Olivier Barbier Newly Appointed Chief Editor of the "Open Gastroenterology Journal"**

On March 1, **Dr. Olivier Barbier**, professor, has been invited to act as Chief Editor for the Open Gastroenterology Journal for a 2-year term with a renewable mandate. His appointment, validated by the Editorial Committee, is based on the solid international reputation of his laboratory, which focuses on the study of hepatobiliary diseases.

**Dr. Anne Dionne** has coauthored a paper published in *Support Care Cancer* entitled "Pharmacological and non-hormonal treatment of hot flashes in breast cancer survivors: CEPO review and recommendations."

### **Salary Awards From the *Fonds de recherche du Québec - Santé***

**Dr. Sophie Lauzier** (junior1) and **Dr. Frédéric Calon** (senior) have received salary awards from the Fonds de la recherche du Québec en santé (FRQ-S) highlighting their

performance in research. Dr Lauzier's and Dr Calon's research programs are entitled "*Étude des dimensions psychosociales de l'adhésion au traitement médicamenteux*" and "*Approches pharmaceutiques, nutraceutiques et immunologiques pour le traitement des maladies neurodégénératives*", respectively.

### **Funding News**

**Dr. Frédéric Calon** and his collaborators have secured funding from the CIHR ("Targeted delivery into brain capillary endothelial cells for the treatment of Alzheimer disease"; \$699,329; 5y), the CIHR/NSERC Collaborative Health Research Projects (CHRP) program (\$808,854; "Development and bioimaging of blood-brain barrier vectorized nanoparticles; 3y), NSERC ("The role of ApoE genotype on blood-brain barrier functions"; \$180,000; 5y) and FRQ-S/Pfizer Alzheimer program ("Augmentation de la captation cérébrale de glucose par thérapie génique: application chez un modèle animal de la maladie d'Alzheimer"; \$200,000; 2y) to conduct various research projects over the next five year.

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## EVENTS

### **Annual Research Day**

**The Faculty 13<sup>th</sup> annual Research Day held on April 11 awards the following winners:**

#### Undergraduates

Best poster presentations: **François Bédard** and **Isabelle Gendreau**

#### Hospital Pharmacy MSc

Best poster presentation

First prizes: **Marie-Ève Dufour** and **Alexandre Fortin**

Second prizes: **Marie-Sarah Boivin-Côté** and **Mireille Nadeau**

#### MSc

Best oral presentation: **Marie-Josée Girard**

Best poster presentation: **Cassandra Ringuette Goulet**

#### Other Programs

Best poster presentation: **Marc-Olivier Fréreau**

#### PhD

Best oral presentation:, First prize: **Mélanie Rouleau**,  
Second prize: **Mélanie Bourque**

**Best poster presentation:** First prize: **Wael Alata** (AFPC-Pharmacy Student Research Poster Awardee),  
Second prizes: **Nicolas Morin** and **Marjorie Bastien**

## STUDENTS NEWS

### **Two Students Under the Supervision of Dr. Paul Poirier Were Honored by the *Société québécoise d'hypertension artérielle* (SQHA)**

During the 21<sup>st</sup> annual Scientific Meeting of the *Société québécoise d'hypertension artérielle* (SQHA) held from January 16 to 18 in Montréal, two doctoral students under the supervision of **Dr. Paul Poirier** were honored. Ms. Audrey Auclair received the 2013 poster award (PhD level) and Ms. Marjorie Bastien won the SQHA scholarship (PhD level).

### **Isabelle Laverdière Received a Doctoral Scholarship from the FRSQ**

Isabelle Laverdière, pharmacist and PhD student in **Dr. Chantal Guillemette's** group, received a Doctoral scholarship from the FRSQ to work on a project entitled *Optimisation du traitement immunosuppresseur en transplantation de cellules souches hématopoïétiques chez les patients cancéreux* for a period of 2 years and a total amount of \$78,646 CND.

## UNIVERSITY OF MANITOBA

### Academic Appointments

**Dr. Jamie Falk** joined the Faculty of Pharmacy in March 2013 as an Assistant Professor in the Division of Clinical Sciences and Practice. He graduated from the University of Manitoba, Faculty of Pharmacy in 1997. He worked as a community pharmacist for 5 years before pursuing his Doctor of Pharmacy degree at the University of British Columbia. After graduating from the Doctor of Pharmacy program in 2004 he practiced as a clinical pharmacy specialist at the Royal Jubilee and Victoria General Hospitals in Victoria, BC where he developed a practice in Intensive Care Medicine. He also served as a preceptor for pharmacy residents and PharmD candidates along with providing clinical support to the staff pharmacists at these hospitals.

### Individual Faculty News

**Dr. Mike Namaka** has been appointed to the MHRC review committee.

**Dr. Emmanuel Ho** was invited as a reviewer for CFI grant submissions.

### Grants

**Dr. Mike Namaka** received a research grant from Novartis for \$47,092.50 for his project entitled

“Transcriptional Regulation on Brain Derived Neurotrophic Factor by MeCP2: Implications in Maintenance and Repair of Myelin Damage Associated with Multiple Sclerosis (MS)”.

**Dr. Emmanuel Ho** is co-PI on a CIHR Canadian HIV Vaccine Initiative (CHVI) grant that was recently awarded \$372,438 for 3 years. The grant is entitled "Limiting HIV target cells by inducing immune quiescence in the female genital tract". The main PI is Dr. Keith Fowke from medical microbiology (there are also 3 other co-PI's).

### Student News

Crystal Acosta (Dr. Namaka's graduate student) has been accepted to attend the 2013 endMS Summer School from May 13-17, 2013 at the University of British Columbia.

### Major Visitors

**Dr. Fred Tuck Khai Wong**, Department of Obstetrics, Gynaecology & Neonatology, QE II Research Institute for Mothers and Infants, Faculty of Medicine, University of Sydney visited the Faculty on March 27, 2013. Dr. Wong presented a seminar entitled "Urinary Proteomics and Biomarkers for Endometriosis".

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## UNIVERSITY OF SASKATCHEWAN

### Faculty and Staff News

**Dr. Hector Caruncho** joined the College in March 2013 as Professor of Pharmacy, in a position transferred to our College from the College of Medicine. Dr. Caruncho received his education at the University of Santiago de Compostela in Spain and went on to become a postdoctoral Fulbright scholar in the Membrane Biology Section, Frederick Cancer Research and Development Centre, NIH. A specialist in neurosciences, prior to joining the U of S, Hector was Professor at his home university and held several adjunct and visiting scholar appointments.

Short-listed candidates are being interviewed for our new research Chair in Rational Drug Design. Discussions are underway with the Saskatoon Health

Region (SHR) regarding recruitment of the final member of the interprofessional clinical pharmacology team in the College. SHR is funding the position.

**Dr. David Hill** will complete his service as dean on June 30, 2014, and has decided not to stand for renewal. In his formal announcement to the campus community, Provost Brett Fairbairn noted Dave's valued input to the University overall, including as leader of the Council of Health Science Deans, and his roles on the U of S Dean's Council Executive and successful search for our new President. On the College front the Provost thanks Dave for his many contributions, notably in curriculum reform and his work towards identifying the College's resource needs and ensuring its long-term sustainability. The search process has begun for the next dean.

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## University Updates

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, called TransformUS, to ensure best use of financial resources. As part of the process and related workforce planning, we needed to eliminate a 0.5FTE position of Undergraduate Programs Administrative Assistant and a seasonal Pharmacy Technician position. Steps are underway to determine the best way to cover the responsibilities that were involved in these positions. No further layoffs are anticipated at this time.

## College Updates

The College move-over to the new Health Sciences facility has begun. Transition principles and plans have been established and are being put in place to ensure there negative impact on the experience of our students, and to minimize the impact on faculty and staff. Because most of the undergraduate pharmacy and nutrition labs, classrooms, student society spaces and Dean's Office space will not be ready until fall 2015 at the earliest, the College will retain considerable space in its current Thorvaldson Building location for the time being.

## Professional Services

In March 2013, the Saskatchewan Drug Information Service (SDIS) located and operated in the College, announced its new name in conjunction with the launch in March of Pharmacists Awareness Month in Saskatchewan. SDIS will now be known as medSask, Your Medication Information Service. medSask is a call-in service for healthcare providers and the general public in Saskatchewan, funded by the Saskatchewan Ministry of Health and the Saskatchewan College of Pharmacists. Dr. Yvonne Shevchuk is Director of the service.

The Continuing Professional Development for Pharmacists unit, located in the College and directed by Dr. Linda Suveges continues to evolve and expand.

This includes CPD related to RX Authority, Minor Ailments, ECP, Privacy Officer Training, and working with the Saskatchewan College of Pharmacists on an extensive education plan for the next 5 years. CPDP is also moving forward in other areas, including Level II of RX Authority, Medication Safety, Exempted

The College's Pharmacy Curriculum Renewal Steering Committee, chaired by Associate Dean Yvonne Shevchuk, is now actively working on the design of a new curriculum for the first professional degree program in pharmacy. The committee members include College faculty and several representatives for the profession external to the university. Timing of the new degree is geared to meeting ADPC/AFPC position on the 2020 date to have PharmD curricula in Canada.

Another successful *Pharmasave-Rubicon Pharmacy Student Business Plan Competition* was held this spring for Year 3 Pharmacy students. First Place honours went to the PAW team, comprised of Jenna Foulds, Ariane Lewis, Amy Lix, Lisa Lukye, and Stephanie Miller. PAW stands for Pharmaceuticals for Animal Wellness, and its vision was *to refresh the world of veterinary pharmacy, to empower pet owners, and to provide excellence in pharmaceutical care for optimal animal health.*

The recent annual *Nutrition Project Fair* showcased the professional practice projects of the Year 2 and 3 nutrition students. Year 4 Nutrition interns presented the results and the Saskatchewan Research Day focused on Year 4 interns applied research studies, conducted in the Regina Qu'Appelle and Saskatoon Health Regions.

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Codeine, Drug Abuse; recertification of Privacy Officers; and training of Pharmacy undergraduates with Level 1 Basics, Minor Ailments and ECP.

## Development and Alumni News

The College continues to plan 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. Other events will include a launch in September and regional alumni reception.

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.



## UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO

### Appointments

**Associate Professor Jillian Clare Köhler** was recently selected to be one of the inaugural Peter and Patricia Gruber Fellows in Global Justice at Yale University. As part of this fellowship, Dr. Köhler, the Director of Global Health for the Leslie Dan Faculty of Pharmacy and the Munk School of Global Affairs, will participate in a variety of activities and pursuits at Yale's Global Health Leadership Institute. Comprised of a multidisciplinary group of specialists who confront global health issues, the Global Health Leadership Institute develops global health leadership through innovative education and research programs to strengthen health systems and ensure health equity and quality of care for all.

Dr. Köhler will work with Yale Faculty to review their governance-related curricula, discuss the LMG Model of Effective Governance Practices, participate in a knowledge exchange session on best practices for teaching governance, and share her research findings and experiences. Dr. Köhler will also present her work in global health governance in class and public lecture settings, and cultivate relationships with Yale researchers and instructors in this important field.

**Susanne Priest** is the New Director of Implementation, Centre for Pharmacy Management and Innovation. This new Centre, structured on the pillars of innovation in education and research working in concert to produce enhanced outcomes for the patient, the pharmacist and the healthcare system, will possess expertise in management and innovation that will allow for greater advocacy with patients, the public and government. It will ultimately lead to pharmacy professionals with the management skills and entrepreneurial spirit to lead the

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### Funding News

Lung transplantation is a life-saving therapy for patients suffering from end-stage lung disease. While considerable advances have occurred in recent years, significant challenges remain in the way of successful transplantation outcomes. A three-year grant from the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR) will enable **Professor Shana Kelley** to work on a project that promises better identification of quality donor lungs, leading to increased utilization by surgeons and reduced use of lungs that may perform poorly. After removal from a donor, lungs must be transplanted within eight hours. As a result, testing to determine the suitability of the donor lung must be conducted

profession forward for years. Susanne will work with Faculty, staff and key stakeholders to establish the goals of the Centre, develop a framework for a practice-based network to promote pharmacy management and innovation, develop educational programs in the professional program and for continuous professional development, assist with recruitment, and fundraise for the Centre.

**Maria Bystrin**'s role at the Faculty has been expanded to Assistant Dean Strategic Initiatives and Continuous Professional Development. This position will provide leadership in managing complex multi-year and multi-department strategic planning initiatives. Maria will also work closely with the Academic Leadership Team to support initiatives related to the establishment of the Centres at the Faculty and to implement an integrated approach to coordinating, leading and facilitating change within the Faculty. Maria was the founding director of the Faculty's Continuous Professional Development (CPD) Office in October 2005 and she will continue to provide strategic oversight to the development, implementation and evaluation of innovative programming in the CPD Office.

At the 8th annual International Congress of Complementary Medicine Research in London earlier this month, **Professor Heather Boon** was elected President of the International Society for Complementary Medicine Research (ISCMR). The ISCMR is an international professional, multidisciplinary, non-profit scientific organization that is devoted to fostering Complementary and Integrative Medicine research and provides a platform for knowledge and information exchange to enhance international communication and collaboration.

immediately, must be performed repeatedly within a narrow window of time, and must be able to produce conclusive results rapidly. Dr. Kelley's point-of-care diagnostic tool provides a rapid and efficient method for lung tissue sample processing that can take place in the surgical setting. This platform is based on an inexpensive electronic chip. Ultimately, this grant will facilitate the production of a portable, self-contained, and practical tool for use with lung transplantation, significantly increasing the overall use of donor lungs and decreasing the mortality of those who die on waiting lists.

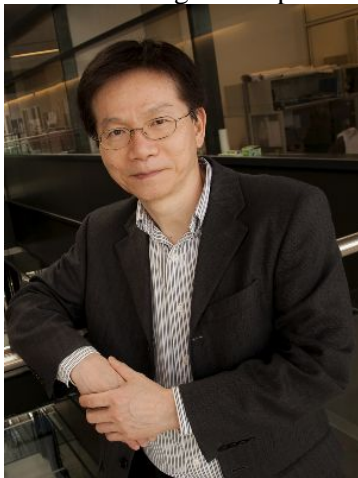
The Canadian Cancer Society Research Institute awarded a two-year Innovation Grant to **Professor Ray Reilly** to develop Positron Emission Tomography (PET) “theranostics” – tools that can be used both for the diagnosis and treatment of a disease – for pancreatic cancer. Through this grant, Dr. Reilly and his team will endeavour to develop radioisotope-based treatments that can be used both for PET imaging and radioimmunotherapy. This research is highly collaborative in nature, and builds on the work of others sequencing the genome of pancreatic cancer, developing antibodies based on this genomic sequencing, and using novel polymer technologies to deliver radioisotopes and antibodies to the affected areas.

**Dr. Lakshmi Kotra** received a three-year Operating Grant from the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR) for his project “Inhibitors of deiminases targeting demyelination.” This project will see Dr. Kotra and his team investigate deiminases, enzymes that modify myelin proteins considerably more in the brains of Multiple Sclerosis patients than in normal brains. They will also investigate the potential of potent compounds in mouse models of MS to stop the damage to neurons and promote normal myelin formation. This project brings together multidisciplinary expertise in computer modeling, medicinal chemistry, structural biology, neurosciences, and animal models to explore the potential of inhibiting deiminases in tempering MS development.

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**Professor Ping Lee** has been awarded a Connaught Innovation Award – the University of Toronto’s premier internal funding program that provides researchers with valuable funds to aid in technology development, commercialization, and knowledge transfer – for his work in developing a novel extended-release nitric oxide delivery technology to treat ophthalmic diseases. Dr. Lee’s novel polymer technology allows the NO to be released over a period of ten or more days, extending the duration and enhancing the efficacy of the treatment significantly. Leveraging Dr. Lee’s technology for ophthalmic applications like primary open-angle glaucoma and corneal wound healing would present a major advance.

The Canadian Institutes of Health Research awarded **Associate Professor Anna Taddio** a four-year grant. Her project, “Immunizing Infants Against Pain: hospital-based postnatal parent education program about reducing infant immunization pain,” targets new mothers for education about relieving pain during routine immunizations in infants and tracks their subsequent use of analgesic interventions during routine immunizations throughout infancy. Over the life of this project, approximately 3,000 mothers will participate in this study, which hopes to translate institutional pain management knowledge into family-level pain management practices, not only improving immunization pain management and vaccine uptake, but also improving the short- and long-term health outcomes for children.



**Dr. Ping Lee**

**Assistant Professor Carolyn Cummins** has also been awarded a Connaught Fund Innovation Award for her work developing a new drug to prevent the side effects of glucocorticoids used in the treatment of inflammatory diseases.

The Canadian Institutes of Health Research recently awarded a grant to an interdisciplinary team of researchers led by **Dr. Cynthia Whitehead** that includes Leslie Dan Faculty of Pharmacy **Professor Heather Boon** as Co-Investigator. Over the course of three years, “Better education for better teamwork: Understanding the discourses to improve the practices of interprofessional education” will examine if and how interprofessional education (IPE) efforts contribute to successful healthcare practices and teams. Despite the adoption of interprofessional education globally, there is little evidence to prove its efficacy. As a result, Dr. Boon and her colleagues will attempt to better understand how different professions, disciplines and stakeholders approach interprofessional education, and open the door to improved health professions education.

**Assistant Professor Lisa McCarthy** is the recipient of a Canadian Institutes of Health Research Catalyst Grant to better identify and understand frailty that will ultimately lead to helping older patients maximize the quality of their lives and optimizing the use of healthcare resources. Through “Furthering the Foundations for a New System of Care for Vulnerable Older Adults: A Primary Care Team-Based Approach,” Dr. McCarthy and her team will endeavour to compare approaches for identifying frailty in patients 80 years or older in the primary care setting at the Women’s College Family Practice Health Centre.

As part of the National Advisory Council on Prescription Drug Misuse, **Associate Professor and Director, Division of Pharmacy Practice Beth Sproule** was recently a panel member at a media event in Ottawa to launch First Do No Harm, a ten-year plan to deal with the prescription drug crisis in Canada. As Co-Chair of the Monitoring and Surveillance stream, Dr. Sproule outlined the aim of this stream – the development of a coordinated national surveillance system – and its goals of tracking patterns of misuse and harm, identifying priority issues, and evaluating the impact of interventions at the media event.



**Dr. Jillian Kohler**



**Suzanne Priest**



**Maria Bystrin**



**Dr. Heather Boon**



**Dr. Shana Kelley**



**Dr. Ray Reilly**



**Carolyn Cummins**



**Dr. Beth Sproule**

## Student News

The Class of 1T6 was welcomed into the pharmacy profession through the **Induction to the Professional Community of Pharmacy Ceremony** in January. Speakers included Dean Henry Mann, Associate Dean Lalitha Raman-Wilms, Toronto Academic Health Sciences Network representative Emily Musing, Ontario Pharmacists' Association Chair Billy Cheung, UPS President Kevin Chow, UPS Second Year Vice President Duke Boamong, and Ontario College of Pharmacists Deputy Registrar Della Croteau.

In January, over 150 undergraduate students gathered together for a **Students for Optimizing and Advocating Pharmacy Endeavours (SOAPE)** event.

"How to Be Indispensable" encouraged students to think innovatively when providing patient services and to operate on the cutting edge of the pharmacy scope of practice. To illustrate innovation in practice, SOAPE invited guest speakers Allan Malek, Ontario Pharmacists' Association Vice-President of Professional Affairs, to speak about OPA advocacy and expanded scope, and Pharmacist Susie Jin to speak the innovative care she provides to diabetes patients at her pharmacy.

At the end of February, three University of Toronto students – Andrew Girgis (Pharmacy), Michael Zhang (Pharmacy), and Adam Wang (Economics) – were

announced the winners of a five-month competition celebrating green innovation for business solutions. The **Walmart Green Student Challenge** encouraged students from across Canada to develop innovative green business solutions designed to help businesses become more sustainable and improve their bottom line. More than 160 teams registered for this competition, with five finalists selected to present to a panel of judges. **EcoSense** is a revolutionary mobile application that makes it convenient for users to find sustainable products from local retailers and their network of friends. As the winners of this competition, EcoSense were awarded the top prize of \$50,000 (\$25,000 for the team, and an additional \$25,000 for the University of Toronto).

In March, students from the undergraduate program met with their counterparts from the University of Waterloo's School of Pharmacy for the **third annual Ontario Pharmacy Student Integrative Summit (OPSIS)** conference in Niagara Falls. Formed in 2011, OPSIS was designed to create a strong, intraprovincial pharmacy school relationship between the two schools in an effort to promote and strengthen awareness of the importance in increased pharmacist roles, and encourage leadership, innovation and initiative in pharmacy students. 48 students (24 students from each school, 6 from each year of the program) participated in this year's conference.

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The following **graduate students** completed their studies at the Faculty:

- PhD student Stephanie Ondovcik completed her thesis defense of "Altered DNA Repair, Antioxidant and Cellular Proliferation Status as Determinants of Susceptibility to Methylmercury Toxicity in Vitro." Stephanie completed her degree under the supervision of Dr. Peter Wells.
- PhD student Andrew Mikhail completed his thesis defense of "Development and Intratumoral Distribution of Block Copolymer Micelles as Nanomedicines for the Target." Andrew completed his degree under the supervision of Dr. Christine Allen.
- PhD student Nina Lathia completed her thesis defense of "Economic Evaluation for

Strategies to Prevent & Treat Febrile Neutropenia in Lymphoma Patients." Nina completed her degree under the supervision of Dr. Scott Walker.

- PhD student Michelle Siu completed her thesis defense of "Oxidative Stress in the Developmental Toxicity of Methanol." Michelle completed her degree under the supervision of Dr. Peter Wells.
- MSc student Kyung Tae Kevin Song completed his thesis defense of "Saccharomyces cerevisiae: A Platform for Structure-Activity Relationship Analysis and High-Throughput Candidate Prioritization." Kevin completed his degree under the supervision of Dr. Guri Giaever.

## UNIVERSITY OF WATERLOO

### School News

A research team led by **Dr. Nancy Waite** from the University of Waterloo School of Pharmacy and **Dr. Lisa Dolovich**, of the Department of Family Medicine, McMaster's Michael G. DeGroot School of Medicine recently received \$5.7 million in funding to study how to make the use of drugs more effective for patients and health-care professionals.

The funding, provided by the Ontario Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care (MOHLTC) through the Health System Research Fund program, allows researchers across Ontario to study the effectiveness of provincial pharmacist-led medication programs. The team's goal is to study the quality, outcomes and value of pharmacist services and improve medication use.

The grant will go towards the Ontario Pharmacy Research Collaboration – termed OPEN – a new interdisciplinary research program led by Professors Waite and Dolovich. Their research program is officially titled, “Fostering innovation and evaluating the effectiveness of Ontario pharmacist-led medication management programs.” It will evaluate Ontario’s MedsCheck and Pharmaceutical Opinion programs, introduced in 2007 and 2011, as well as legislation introduced in 2012 to allow pharmacists to give influenza vaccines and the authority to renew and adapt prescriptions programs.

OPEN will also conduct pilot studies with pharmacists to evaluate potential pharmacist services such as chronic pain management and deprescribing guidelines – with the goal to reduce and simplify long-term

medication use in the elderly and individuals in rural areas.

The project will provide training in health services research by mentoring students, postdoctoral fellows and junior faculty as they learn from and network with senior researchers and OPEN’s key partners: MOHLTC, the Ontario College of Pharmacists and the Ontario Pharmacists' Association.

Investigators at Waterloo and McMaster will be joined by others from Western University, University of Toronto and the Bruyère Research Institute, a partnership of Bruyère Continuing Care and the University of Ottawa, to conduct the three-year research projects.



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### PhD Program Approved

The Ontario University Quality Council accepted the positive recommendation of its Appraisal Committee regarding the proposed PhD program in Pharmacy at the University of Waterloo. The PhD program, referred to by the Quality Council as an “innovative program”, will allow expansion of the graduate program and the research being undertaken within the School of Pharmacy. The program will commence in September.

### Promotions

**Drs. Jamie Joseph** and **Shawn Wettig** have both been promoted to Associate Professor with Tenure. Jamie and Shawn joined the School of Pharmacy in the summer of 2007 and are the first faculty members in the School of Pharmacy to achieve promotion and tenure based entirely on research and teaching conducted at the University of Waterloo.

## Waterloo Wins OPA Cup

The Waterloo Pharmacy hockey team successfully defended the OPA Cup with their 3-1 victory over University of Toronto. The game held in April was a spirited affair with lots of quality scoring chances, blocked shots and more than a few successful penalty kills for both teams.



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## Grants & Awards

**Dr. Marianna Foldvari**, Professor and Canada Research Chair in Bionanotechnology and Nanomedicine was recently awarded \$509,660 in funding from the Canadian Institutes for Health Research (CIHR) for her work on "Targeted nanomedicines for gene therapy applications".

**Dr. Paul Spagnuolo** was one of ten Waterloo researchers recently awarded grants from the Ontario Research Fund - Research Infrastructure program. The funding will provide for equipment and other resources for the researchers' labs. Dr. Spagnuolo's research evaluates the anti-cancer treatment applications of nutraceuticals.

**Dr. Carlos Rojas-Fernandez** received an educational grant (\$6,000) from Pfizer Canada to support "Defining the Role of the Pharmacist for Optimal Patient Care: The Interdisciplinary Memory Clinic Pharmacy project."

Calvin Poon (Rx 2012) (Principal Applicant) and **Certina Ho** (Collaborating Applicant) were awarded a Canadian Society of Hospital Pharmacists (CSHP) 2012 Education Grant (\$9,251) for their project "Understanding the Limitations to Medication Incident Reporting and How to Analyze Incidents Using a Qualitative Assessment Scale (QAS)."

Anil Maharaj, a graduate student in **Dr. Andrea Edginton's** research team, has received a \$25,000 Pharmaceutical Sciences Research Scholarship (2012) from Rx&D Health Research Foundation and has just recently been awarded the Merck Canada Postgraduate Pharmacy Fellowship Award for 2013.



L-R: Dr. A Edginton, J Rhines, A Maharaj, Dean Edwards

Rx2013 student Chelsea Barr was one of five pharmacy students from schools across Canada chosen to receive the AFPC Pharmacists-in-Training Program award.

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### **Presentations and Publications**

**Dr. M. Beazely** presented a poster, "Serotonin transactivation of PDGFBeta receptors results in a heterologous desensitization to subsequent transactivation stimuli" at the 2013 Experimental Biology conference in Boston on April 22.

Dr. Beazely's graduate students will be attending/presenting various posters at the UW Graduate Research Day, the Southern Ontario Neuroscience Association Conference (Wilfred Laurier University, May 13), and the Canadian Pharmacy Education and Research Conference (CPERC, Niagara-on-the-Lake, June 11-13).

Adjunct Clinical Assistant Professor, **Certina Ho** presented "Experiential learning in undergraduate pharmacy curriculum in Ontario: How co-op affects students' professional and personal development." at 13th Annual Dean's Graduate Student Research

Conference, Ontario Institute for Studies in Education, University of Toronto, Toronto (Ontario, 2013).

**Nardine Nakhla**, Adjunct Clinical Assistant Professor presented on a number of topics including vaginal care/reproductive health, infant care and oral care at OPA's *Minor Ailments – a Look Beyond OTCs* program held in April in Toronto.

Tong B (Rx2012), **Ho C**. Risk management in community pharmacy. *Pharmacy Connection* 2013; Winter: 33-37.

Dhalla IA, Gomes T, Yao Z, **Nagge J**, Persaud N, Hellings C, Mamdani MM, Juurlink DN. Chlorthalidone versus hydrochlorothiazide for the treatment of hypertension in older adults: A population-based cohort study. *Ann Intern Med* 2013;158(6):447-455.

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