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Table of Contents

<i>President's Message</i>	1
<i>Executive Director's Corner</i>	2
<i>MRC Outstanding Achievement Award</i>	3
NB: Deadline March 1, 2002	
<i>Faculty Spotlight: Université de Montréal</i>	4
<i>Faculty News</i>	5
<i>C.Ph.A. Report</i>	12

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Since this is our first newsletter of the year, I would like to begin by wishing all the AFPC Members a very Happy New Year.

The highlight of my president's report is to announce that Dr. Jim Blackburn has agreed to a contract extension and remain as our Executive Director until at least December 2003. I did not know until entering contract negotiations that Jim had so many agents working for him! Seriously though, anybody who knows Jim would realize that any type of negotiating with him is a pleasure. Congratulations Jim on your extended appointment and thank you. I cannot find the right words to describe your dedication and contributions to AFPC. Without you, this presidency would almost be like work.

As previously announced, we are grateful that Merck Frosst Canada & Co. has agreed to sponsor a "Compendium of Pharmacy Practice/ Pharmacy Education Student Research Projects." All completed and acceptable student project abstracts will be distributed to pharmacy practitioners, researchers and

students as a supplement to a pharmacy journal (yet to be negotiated) and circulated electronically to AFPC members and on the AFPC website.

In the last newsletter, I mentioned that Dr. David Hill has agreed to Chair the Task Force on Experiential Education. As expected from his leadership, much progress has been made. The two major goals of this committee are to 1) identify and clarify issues facing experiential learning for pharmacy programs and 2) to develop a strategy for addressing these issues with resources available. It was agreed this would be a 12-member committee with the following composition: four experiential program directors, two institutional pharmacy preceptors, two community pharmacy practitioners, one CAPSI representative, one academic representative, the Chair and the Executive Director. We have also identified the need for regional representation and this will be an important consideration when selecting Task Force members. This process is near its completion. We have discussed sources of funding and our plan is to start addressing some of these issues prior to our annual meeting in Winnipeg.

Speaking of the annual meeting, our Conference Chair, Dr. Lavern Vercaigne, has everything in place. The teachers' conference will be on program evaluation and experiential learning while the practice research symposium will focus on health outcomes research. Other program events include our Award Recipients Presentations, the poster sessions and finally our all important annual meeting. Dr. Vercaigne assured me there will be time set aside for some social activities. I hope to see you at the Conference in Winnipeg from May 11th to 13th.

In his report, Dr. Blackburn will give you an update on our Romanow Commission submission.

Finally, I am looking forward to our midyear meeting in Ottawa at the end of February not only to meet with the Executive and Council Members but also to get away from this weather. This morning it was – 32°C while southern Ontario has been bragging about the balmy +12°C temperatures. Once our brains are thawed there are many items on our agenda and a further update will be provided in the next newsletter. This year we are pleased to have the Pharmacy Deans join us to discuss common issues and meet with the various external professional and industry groups.

Bonne Heureuse Année à tous les membres d' AFPC. C'est un plaisir d'annoncer que D. Jim Blackburn va

continuer sa position de Directeur Exécutif au moins jusqu'à la fin de Décembre 2003. On continue d'avoir plusieurs tâches d'accomplir. Par exemples il y a la commission Romanow, le Task Force qui va évaluer l'entraînement des étudiants et finalement la préparation de notre conférence annuelle à Winnipeg au mois de Mai. C'est année les Doyens de Pharmacie vont nous rejoindre à notre rencontre d'hiver à Ottawa. À bientôt!

Fred A. Remillard

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S CORNER

Changing our health care system

During the past few months, Québec, Saskatchewan, Alberta and British Columbia have released health care documents adding to the multitude of “forgotten” reports recommending improvements to Canada’s health care system. In addition, the Romanow Commission is expected to distribute its preliminary national report by the time you read this issue of AFPC Communications.

Although it has not generated much attention in press, the education of health professionals is one of the most important issues that must be considered by the politicians and health care gurus who make the final decisions in laying the ground work for the “new” health care environment. During the last ten years, the declining health care/education budgets and decreased health professional staffing have severely restricted the professional time available for the education of future practitioners within all health professions. Unfortunately, educational responsibilities within our health care institutions have been reduced to free health professionals to devote their primary efforts to patient care.

In addition, these reports stress the importance of “health professional teams” within the new environment. However, in spite of many efforts, little has been accomplished in achieving a more integrated education system for those health care professionals during their programs. How can we prepare a well functioning health care team if during the education system, each health professional is educated with little opportunity to learn together until the final year of their education?

These issues and the human resource/ enrolment future considerations, will be some of the items that AFPC/ADPC will address in our submission to the Romanow Commission in Vancouver on March 12. Dr. David Hill and Dean Frank Abbott will present in the citizen dialogue session that will be held on that day. The Deans will be meeting with the AFPC Council in Ottawa on Feb. 24 to finalize the documentation for this submission. If anyone has any suggestions for inclusion, please contact the AFPC office prior to Feb. 22.

Jim Blackburn

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS



The Award

This prestigious award, one of the highest honours awarded to Healthcare Professionals today, is unique in that its nominees and recipients come from a broad range of health disciplines, such as nursing, physical therapy and medical practice. It recognizes a particularly important and vital contribution to health care in Canada – the evaluation of clinical and professional competence in the health professions. The recipient will be an individual who demonstrates excellence throughout their career in Canadian healthcare and/or healthcare research.

NOMINATION FORM

The letter of nomination shall include:

- I. A letter of support from the primary sponsor with three other letters of support.**
- II. Copies of three published papers or other documents that best exemplify the individual's contributions to the field of assessment and evaluation, including clinical, educational and professional competence.**
- III. The nominee's current curriculum vitae.**

DATE: _____
(Day / Mos. / Yr.)

NAME OF INDIVIDUAL BEING NOMINATED: _____
(Title) (First Name) (Surname)

OCCUPATION: _____
(Institution) (Position)

FULL ADDRESS: _____
(Street address) (City) (Province) (Postal Code)

NAME OF PRIMARY SPONSOR: _____
(Title) (First Name) (Surname)

FULL ADDRESS: _____
(Street address) (City) (Province) (Postal Code)

PHONE NUMBER: _____
(Area Code) + (Phone Number)

Please ensure that this form is accompanied by three letters of support, a full curriculum vitae of the nominee, and copies of three published papers or other documents that exemplify the individual's contribution to the field of assessment and evaluation when submitted.

Send by March 1st, 2002 to:

**Nomination Committee
Outstanding Achievement
Medical Council of Canada
Suite 100, 2283 St. Laurent Blvd.
Ottawa, ON K1G 5A2**

**Telephone: (613) 521-6012
Fax: (613) 521-9417
Web site: www.mcc.ca**

FACULTY SPOTLIGHT

Professional graduate studies at the Université de Montréal.

The faculty offers three types of graduate programs with an emphasis on practice rather than research.

The master in pharmacy practice (Maîtrise en pratique pharmaceutique) gives pharmacy graduates a supplementary 16-month training (60 credits) of continuous study in hospital practice or in community practice. The program is divided into two major components: one academic term of formal didactic course work followed by a 12-month residency in a specific practice site. The residency is heavily (mainly) based on clinical clerkships. The program also includes an introduction to research and research activities. In 2001, 24 students were enrolled in the hospital pharmacy option and one in the community practice option. Financial support from the Ministry of Health is available for all students in the hospital option and from private funds for students in the community practice option. This year, both sites and rotations in the hospital sector were thoroughly evaluated based on new accreditation standards. The process will be completed in March 2002. The Faculty is proud of this partnership with excellent practice sites.

Micro-programs and certificates in professional development are also offered. Two options are available. In the first one, the goal is to update knowledge and develop skills in pharmaceutical care. In the other option, an additional goal is to develop supervision and preceptorship competencies. A trademark of these programs is their flexibility and access. For instance pharmaceutical care courses are available in blocks of 1 credit organized around a

therapeutic field. Most of these courses are part of a program called FoCUS which have been developed by well recognized practitioners. These courses include self-learning and exercise components to be completed prior to, during, and following a one-day meeting. Courses are available at the University of Montreal main campus but also at other sites, maximizing access. In 2001, there were 19 students in the micro-programs and 4 in the certificates program and the total number of inscriptions for all our courses combined exceed 1000.

The last group of professional graduate studies is the drug development programs. These programs recruit both pharmacy graduates and graduates from other bio-medical sciences. The aim is to provide a professional training in drug development through a block of mandatory courses and a block of electives selected in accordance with the content sector chosen by the student (sectors are: regulation, clinical research, chemistry and manufacturing or pharmacoepidemiology - pharmacoconomy). The certificate is a 30 credits program. The master degree is available for those who have completed the certificate program and wish to continue to the master's level by obtaining 15 supplementary credits through an 8-month residency or a supervised project. Financial support is provided for students in the residency program with the generous help of our private or public partners. The programs have developed rapidly in the recent past. In 2001, there were 55 students in the Certificate program, 26 in the Master with residency and 5 in the Master with supervised project.

The New Pharmacy Building: The Pavillon Jean Coutu



UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA

Academic Appointments, Promotions, Resignations, Retirements

Dr. Dion Brocks has joined the Faculty as an Associate Professor in Pharmacokinetics.

Dr. Afsaneh Lavasanifar has joined the Faculty as an Assistant Professor in Pharmaceutics.

Dr. Pat Robertson and Dr. Pat Mayo are no longer with the Faculty.

Dr. John Bachynsky will be retiring June 30, 2002 and the Faculty has planned a Retirement Party for John on the evening of May 30. Invitations will be going out shortly. If you wish to attend please contact Terry Legaarden via email - tlegaarden@pharmacy.ualberta.ca.

Individual Faculty News

CSHP Board of Fellows

Terri Schindel is awarded the status of Fellow at the Professional Practice Conference, February 2002. Fellow status in CSHP is conferred by the Board of Fellows upon individuals who have demonstrated noteworthy service and excellence in the practice of pharmacy in an organized health care setting.

Dr A. A. Noujaim, Professor Emeritus, received an Honorary Degree from the University of Alberta on November 15, 2001.

Major Visitors

Dr M Satoh of Toho University will be at the Faculty during January – April.



Student News

Undergraduate Affairs

The Alberta Branch CSHP recipient of the CSHP Future Professional Pharmacy Student Award, sponsored by Medis, is Ms. Ginny Scott. This award recognizes one pharmacy student from each of the Western Branches Faculties of Pharmacy, who displays student professionalism and is viewed as a future leader in the profession of pharmacy. Ginny Scott (4th year) received one of only eight prestigious Peter Loughheed Scholarships at this University. We have also received word that she is the national grand prize winner of the CAPSI-Apotex-PACE Student Literary Challenge 2002 for her essay "Has Patient Confidentiality Become Unmanageable".

Alison Supina was awarded the Value Drug Mart Leadership Award.

Graduate Student Affairs

The following Graduate students have completed their programs and convocated Fall, 2001:

Sudeepa Bhattacharya	MSc	Dr. D. Wishart
Alan Gibbs	PhD.	Dr. D. Wishart
Amgad Habeeb	PhD.	Dr. E.E. Knaus
Afsaneh Lavasanifar	PhD.	Dr. J. Samuel
Zhongping Mao	PhD	Dr. Y.K. Tam
Kimberley Newman	PhD.	Dr. J. Samuel

Opportunities

The Faculty is currently inviting applications for a full-time tenure-track assistant/associate professor position in pharmacy administration and a full-time tenure-track academic clinical position. Applicants must have a PhD, PharmD, or equivalent degree, with an established record of research achievement.



UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

Academic Appointments, Promotions, Resignations, Retirements

David Hill was appointed CCAPP Associate Executive Director, effective April 1, 2002.

Sid Katz was named Executive Director, Community Affairs at UBC, effective November 1, 2001.

David Hill became an Honorary Member of the B.C. Pharmacy Association for his distinguished service to the profession of pharmacy.

John Sinclair and Don Lyster officially retired as of December 31st 2001. The Faculty promises to keep a close eye on these two to ensure that they stay out of trouble.

General Faculty News

Peter J. Zed, Curtis Harder, David W. Harrison and Roy A. Purssell received the Pfizer Pharmacy Practice Award for the best research poster submission at the September 22, 2001 CSHP-BC Branch Clinical Symposium. The project was entitled: "*Efficacy of once daily cefazolin/probenecid for the outpatient management of skin and soft tissue infections*".

Kishor M. Wasan received the 2001 AAPS New Investigator Award in Pharmaceutics and

Pharmaceutical Technology, sponsored by Pfizer Central Research.

Nancy Cherry and Karen Shalansky received the 2001 Pharmacia Award for the most outstanding British Columbia Hospital Pharmacy Residency Project entitled, "*Assessment and Outcomes of Intradialytic Parenteral Nutrition*".

Victoria C. Cox, J. Christine Davis and Karen J. Tulloch won 2001 Support Grants for Clinical Practice from the Canadian Foundation for Pharmacy.

Denise Carr, Karen Shalansky, Fawziah Marra, Art Mallinson received the Canadian Society of Hospital Pharmacists / GlaxoSmithKline (Pharmaceutical Care) Award for the project entitled, "*Pharmacist Utilization of the DIE Test to Assess Aminoglycoside Vestibulotoxicity*".

Alan Goodfellow, Amy Wai, Carlo Marra, Luciana Frighetto, Barb Ferreira, Carole Leong, Ruth Nicol, Lynn Chase, Sally Tomlinson, and Peter Jewesson received the Canadian Society of Hospital Pharmacists / Novartis (Pharmacoeconomics) Award for the project entitled, "*Patient Preferences in an Outpatient Parenteral Antibiotic Therapy Program*".



Student News

Praveen Mangat and Neil de Haan, fourth-year undergraduate students, received the Future Leaders Award at the B.C. Pharmacy Conference for 2001. The awards are made possible by an endowment from Apotex-Pace and are supported by the B.C. Pharmacy Association and the College of Pharmacists of B.C.

Jennifer Shabbits, a graduate student in the Division of Pharmaceutics and Biopharmaceutics,

has received a B.C. Science Council GREAT award for her research on "*Bioactive Lipids for the Induction of Tumour Cell Apoptosis*".

Grant Renewals

Kishor M. Wasan has received a grant renewal from the Merck Company Foundation (US) to continue the National Undergraduate Summer Student Research Program.



New Grants

BC SMILE has received an unrestricted grant from the BC College of Pharmacists.

Rosemin Kassam received the New Investigator Program grant from the American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy for her project entitled, *“Informed Shared Decision Making (ISDM): a model for enhancing student learning in the pharmacy curriculum, preceptor curriculum and pharmaceutical care”*.

Simon Albon and Frank Abbott have received a grant from the UBC Office of the Associate Vice-President, Academic Programs for the project entitled, *“The Faculty of Pharmaceutical Sciences Web-Based Learning Centre”*.

Helen Burt has received funding from Angiotech Pharmaceuticals to support the project *“Development of parenteral polymeric drug delivery system for anti-invasive factor”*.

Helen Burt has received NCE/CAN funding for the project *“Development of intra-articular drug-deliver systems”*.

Thomas Chang has received a grant from NIH for the project entitled, *“Effect of ginsenosides on cytochrome P450”*.

Fawziah Marra has received funding for the project entitled, *“Evaluating hepatitis B and C transmission in a cohort of patients in B.C.”*.

John McNeill has received a grant from H&SFBC for the project entitled, *“Role of endothelin-1 in the development of the cardiovascular complication of diabetes”*.

John McNeill and Chris Orvig received CIHR funding for the project entitled, *“Vanadium compounds as insulin mimetics in the treatment of diabetes mellitus”*.

John McNeill received funding from NicOx for the project entitled, *“The effects of NCX 4016 on diabetic heart dysfunction”*.

Brian Rodrigues has received a CDA grant for the project entitled, *“Cardiac Lipoprotein Lipase during diabetes”*.



Kishor Wasan has received funding from Tilak Technologies for the project, *“Discovery and characterization of lipid transfer inhibitor protein”*.

Peter Soja has been awarded an NIH grant for the project entitled, *“Excitability of lumbar afferent terminals during sleep”*.

Kishor Wasan was awarded a grant from the National Cancer Institute of Canada in collaboration with Novartis Pharmaceuticals for the project entitled, *“The influence of letrozole on serum lipid concentrations in women with primary breast cancer who have completed five years of adjuvant tamoxifen”*.

Kishor Wasan and Haydn Pritchard in collaboration with Forbes Medi-Tech have received a CIHR for the project entitled, *“Mechanisms by which phytosterol and*

phytosterol analogues inhibit cholesterol absorption and transfer into the blood”.

Kishor Wasan and Haydn Pritchard received funding from CIHR for the project entitled, *“The Role of Serum lipoproteins in modifying the toxic effects of hydrophobic drugs”*.

Kishor Wasan and David Hauss, in collaboration with Boehringer Ingelheim Pharmaceuticals were awarded a grant for the project entitled *“Intestinal lymphatic transport of water-insoluble drugs”*.

Elan Paluck, James McCormack, David Fielding, Mary Ensom, Marc Levine and Judy Soon of CORxE UBC received a grant from the BC Medical Services Foundation for the study entitled, *“Effectiveness of Bupropion as a Smoking Cessation Aid”*.

MEMORIAL UNIVERSITY OF NEWFOUNDLAND

Individual Faculty News

Ms. Carla Dillon joined the School as a Pharmacist at the Drug Information Centre effective October 2001.

Dr. Linda Hensman, Acting Director, School of Pharmacy, was elected as President-elect of the NF and Labrador branch of the Canadian Society of Hospital Pharmacists at the branch AGM in September, 2001.

General Faculty News

The 2002 PDW was successfully held in St. John's by the students at Memorial University of Newfoundland during Jan. 16-19, 2002 despite the challenges of weather (we were hit by big snow storms). At PDW, Dr. Debbie Kelly gave a presentation on "Pharmacists Caring for the Elderly:

Challenges and Opportunities", and Dr. Linda Hensman gave a presentation on "Patient Counselling - Challenges and Solutions".

New Grants

Dr. Mohsen Daneshtalab is one of the investigators for a successful CFI application. The title of the CFI project is "*Fishery By-Product Research Center: Infrastructure for the Identification, Recovery, and Commercial Development of Marine Biomolecules from Fisheries and Aquaculture Wastes*". This is a multi-centre / multi-applicant proposal (3 researchers from Memorial; two researchers from Dalhousie; one from St. Francis Xavier and one from McGill). The main objective of this proposal is discovery and development of pharmaceuticals and nutraceuticals from Fisheries by-products.



UNIVERSITY OF SASKATCHEWAN

Academic Appointments, Promotions, Resignations, Retirements

Dr. Fred Remillard has been appointed Assistant Dean, Research and Graduate Affairs. Dr. Yvonne Shevchuk has been appointed Head, Division of Pharmacy.

Ms. Liz Moran-Murray has been appointed for approximately 3 months as Clerkship Supervisor, Saskatoon District Health.

Dr. Jonathan Dimmock has announced his retirement.

New Grants

Dr. Jonathan Dimmock, CIHR New Operating and Equipment Grants, "*Mannich Bases and Related Compounds: A Quest for Candidate Drugs Possessing Selective Toxicity for Malignant Cells and Immunosuppressant Properties*".

Drs. J. Fang, Dr.A.J. Remillard and X.M. Li, CIHR-RPP Operating and Equipment Grants, "*A Computer Model to Predict in vivo metabolic Drug-drug interactions from in-vitro data to minimize these interactions.*"

Dr. R.T. Dobson, CIHR-RPP Operating Grant (with A.M.Backman, J.M.Rigby and R. Lepnum, Principal Investigator), "*Equity in the Work of Physicians*".

Dr. Ed Krol, Saskatchewan Flax Development Commission Grant, "*Chemoprotective and Antioxidant Effects of Flaxseed Lignans*".

Dr. B Semchuk, Dr. J. Taylor, Dr. M. Diment, Dr. L. Sulz and Ms. M. Deschamps received funding from Aventis and from the Canadian Foundation for Pharmacy to examine two methods of pharmacist training in cardiac risk reduction.

Dr. A.J. Remillard received a grant from AstraZeneca Canada Inc. to assess the "*Longterm Healthcare Resource Utilization and Costs Before and After Initial Quetiapine Treatment in Patients with Schizophrenia*".

Dr. Ed Krol has been awarded a Canadian Foundation for Innovation Award for "*Chemical Analysis and Purification Equipment for the Study of Cancer Chemopreventive Properties of Naturally Occurring Polyphenols*".

UNIVERSITÉ LAVAL

Academic Appointments, Promotions, Resignations, Retirements

Dr. Chantal Guillemette has been appointed assistant professor.

Dr. Thérèse Di Paolo was appointed director of graduate studies at the Faculty.

Student News

The following students were awarded a Master or a Ph. D. degree:

M. Sc. Degree

<u>Student</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Supervisor (co-director)</u>
Mahfoud, Mounir (Sept. 01)	Identification et caractérisation d'une nouvelle voie de biotransformation de la fluoxétine in vitro : la N-hydroxylation	P. M. Bélanger
Montminy, Valérie (Jul. 01)	Pharmacogénétique de la glucuronidation : Étude de l'agent antinéoplasique irinotécan	C. Guillemette
Ndayishimiye, Medic (May 01)	Analyse coût-efficacité de deux triptans contre la crise aiguë de la migraine	J.-P. Grégoire

Ph. D. Degree

<u>Student</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Supervisor (co-director)</u>
Cloutier, Jean-François(Dec. 01)	Caractérisation et disribution des dommages à l'ADN induits par les métabolites réactifs de la 4(-Methylnitrosamino)-1-(3-Pyridyl)-1-Butanone spécifique à la fumée de tabac	A. Castonguay (R. Drouin)

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DALHOUSIE UNIVERSITY

Academic Appointments, Promotions, Resignations, Retirements

Ms. Deb Barnhill was appointed full-time for a 2-year term as Coordinator, Continuing Pharmacy Education, College of Pharmacy, November 2000.

Dr. Anne Marie Whelan was granted a one year sabbatical leave from July 1, 2001 to June 30, 2002.

Dr. David Gardner was granted a 6 month sabbatical leave from January 1 to June 30, 2002.

Individual Faculty News

Three Dalhousie College of Pharmacy members received awards at the Canadian Society of Hospital

Pharmacists Professional Practice Conference held in Toronto, February 2 to 6, 2002.

Neil MacKinnon was awarded the Glaxo Wellcome Award in Pharmacy Administration for his manuscript *"Do Canada's Hospital Pharmacy Management Personnel Have the Skills They Need? Results from a National Survey."*

Susan Bowles was awarded the Pfizer Award in Long-Term Health Care for her manuscript *"Use of Oseltamivir During Influenza Outbreaks in Provincial Nursing Homes, 1999-2000"*.

Priti Flanagan, with Debbie McLeod (staff pharmacist at the Queen Elizabeth II Health Science Centre) were awarded the Pharmascience Award for their manuscript "*Development of a Tool to Assess the Geriatric Patient's Ability for Self-Medication.*" This project was completed at the Moncton Hospital during Debbie's residency.

Ms. Deb Barnhill was elected Vice President, Canadian Council on Continuing Education in Pharmacy, November 2001.

Ms. Deb Barnhill was elected Secretary, Nova Scotia Pharmaceutical Society, October 2001.

Dr. David Gardner presented: State of the art clinical practice: evidence-based practice to enhance total pharmacy care. ASHP Midyear Conference, New Orleans, LA. December, 2001.

Dr. David Gardner presented: Evidence-based clinical practice workshop for pharmacists.

Continuing Education Program, College of Pharmacy, Dalhousie University. Halifax, NS. November 2001.

Dr. David Gardner presented: Evidence-based clinical practice for health professionals: principles, applications and searching the Internet for medical information. South East Health Care Corporation. Moncton, NB. November 2001.

Dr. David Gardner presented: Talking antidepressants: a picture and a pamphlet. Annual Fall Refresher Program. Continuing Pharmacy Education, College of Pharmacy, Dalhousie University. Dartmouth, NS. October 21/22, 2001.

Dr. Pollen Yeung was invited to give the following workshop: Animal models for pharmacokinetics, metabolism and pharmacodynamic research. A workshop presented to Health Canada, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada, October 26, 2001.



General Faculty News

In October the College opened the Thomas Cummings Lecture Hall. The family of the late Tom J. Cummings (Class of 74) donated funds in his memory to assist with the renovations of Room 109. The room was enlarged and equipped with new furnishings and state of the art audiovisual equipment.

Also in the fall, the College successfully reached a one million dollar capital campaign goal. This campaign supported many of the renovations that took place in the College over the last year.

New Grants

Dr. Neil MacKinnon along with Roberts N, Saulnier L, Nickerson A. received a grant from the

Dalhousie Pharmacy Endowment Fund for *The Development of a Guidebook for Implementing and Evaluating Pharmacist-Directed Seamless Care Services.*

Major Visitors

On October 23, 2001 the College was visited by Cynthia Jackevicius, B.Sc.Pharm., M.Sc., FCSHP, who gave a lecture entitled: Administrative Databases for Research in Ontario: Examples from Practice. Cynthia Jackevicius is the Pharmacy Practice Leader, Heart and Circulation Program; Associate, Women's Health Program, University Health Network - Toronto General Hospital; and Assistant Professor, Faculty of Medicine, University of Toronto.

TAKING NOTE

CPhA Board of Directors Report

Elections

The CPhA Board Meeting was held in Ottawa, October 20-21, 2001. At the top of the agenda was an opportunity for Board members to contribute to **CPhA’s Submission to the Romanow Commission**. They were challenged to think creatively about building a better health care system and the pharmacists’ role within it. In the submission, CPhA presents the position that pharmacists are ready and able to take on new roles in health care that will fill in huge gaps between the needs of patients and what they are currently getting from the system. To view the full submission to the Commission on the Future of Health Care in Canada, visit CPhA’s website at www.pharmacists.ca.

At an informal meeting with the Commission in June, Mr. Romanow challenged CPhA to think outside the box when looking at the future of health care in Canada while addressing the four main themes: values, managing change, sustainability and collaboration. During the summer, an advisory



Board Development

With increasingly complex issues faced by the Board and the rapid pace of change in our society and health care system, Board members have identified a need for Board development to build expertise for the responsibility of managing CPhA and meeting the challenges of its strategic plan. This education process began at the October meeting with a presentation on health system financing from Glenn Brimacombe, Director, Health Programs, Conference Board of Canada. This presentation provided background for our deliberations on the submission to the Romanow Commission later in the meeting. We will continue this education and development process at future meetings.

In addition, CPhA staff, with assistance from the Board, is beginning an environmental scan to identify emerging trends, and determine how these may affect CPhA and its members. This will help CPhA be more responsive to act promptly and

committee of representatives from across the country met with staff to begin preparing the submission. The day-long session reviewed pharmacy practice as we know it, the potential for change and opportunities for pharmacy. The submission was delivered to the Commission at the end of October. CPhA will work to ensure its submission is read and used by Commission staff in the final report. As you may know, Mr. Romanow has agreed to speak at the CPhA Conference in Winnipeg in May.

On another front, President Ron Elliott continues to spread CPhA’s message. On October 30, 2001, Mr. Elliott presented in Toronto to the **Standing Senate Committee on Social Affairs, Science and Technology** chaired by Senator Michael Kirby. He outlined the urgent need for a redefined and expanded role for pharmacists that would bring about better health care for Canadians and identified a number of solutions to existing barriers in the system.

appropriately to anticipated events. As your Board member, I seek your assistance in identifying such trends or changes from your region, or practice site, whether economic, social, political or technologic.

National e-Claims Standard Initiative (NeCST)

Garry Cruickshank, Chair of the Pharmacy Electronic Claims Standard (PECS) Steering Committee, attended part of the Board meeting to provide an update on the process to integrate CPhA’s PECS into NeCST. Although it has been a long process, this national e-claims initiative places pharmacy at the forefront of development in integrated health information systems. NeCST, which is designed to address the need for a national electronic standard for health claims information, will lead to consistency in data capture and provide the foundation for claims exchange throughout the health care industry. In addition, developing and using a national e-claims standard will reduce the cost of managing health billing for providers and processing of health claims and payment for payers.

Health Informatics

CPhA's role with respect to standards for online claims adjudication will continue to evolve. As well, new and ongoing initiatives are presenting themselves, particularly with respect to e-prescribing and the National Clinical Pharmacy Standard proposed by Alberta Wellnet. The Board agreed that the PECS Steering Committee should be replaced by a new Pharmacy Informatics Advisory Committee to work with staff on policy decisions with respect to the NeCST project and to advise staff on some of the developing issues. The committee profile for the new Pharmacy Health Informatics Committee was approved by the Board.

New CPhA Website

CPhA Staff is working to prepare for the launch of the new CPhA website in January 2002. The content of the current website is being reviewed, revised and expanded, but most important will be the **interactive features** of the new website. The site will offer revitalized services to benefit members (e.g., electronic membership and order transactions, surveys, discussion groups and other feedback mechanisms as well as continuing education and practice tools).



Membership Recruitment

We are pleased that CPhA membership has begun to rise steadily since early last year. A significant amount of our attention has been given to the recruitment of young pharmacists. Although the number of CPhA student members has been high in recent years, many of these students fail to renew their membership once they become practising pharmacists. At our Campus Tours – a visit by the President or his delegate to each faculty of pharmacy – we have spoken to the graduating class to stress the importance of their involvement in the profession and what CPhA can offer them as practicing pharmacists. I would encourage pharmacists in *academia* to maintain their CPhA memberships and encourage others to join. The new CPhA website will have specific “member-only” links that will provide important information and links for services.

Marketing and Communications

We are adding those new members and selling programs and products through improved marketing and communications. A presentation to the Board on our marketing and communications strategy provided

As part of the development of the site, CPhA has obtained rights to a new domain name – www.pharmacists.ca. This became operational earlier this month. Watch for information on the launch of the new website in *Impact*, *CPJ* and other mailings from CPhA. Access to the new website will be provided in various categories: members only, health care professionals, patients and consumers. The first priority is to prepare the site to meet the needs of member pharmacists.

As a Board member, I am looking forward to being able to use features of the website to communicate with members in my constituency and inform you in a timely manner about events on the Canadian pharmacy scene and what CPhA is doing. This website will also provide plenty of opportunity to receive feedback from CPhA members.

Canadian Pharmaceutical Journal (CPJ)

Preparations are underway to bring the publication of *CPJ* inhouse. The first issue under CPhA's banner is expected in early spring 2002. Focus groups held last year and intensive planning will ensure that *CPJ* continues to provide the information members want and need.

details on the development of the organization and its messaging to focus effort and resources on growth. The presentation discussed the building of brand consciousness and the creation and deployment of a business culture within CPhA.

Research: Pharmacy Practice

Kirsten Woodend, Director of Research, visited the four western pharmacy faculties between December 10th and 15th. She met with all of the deans and many pharmacy practice researchers. The main issues for pharmacy practice research, which became apparent during these meetings, were:

- The need for more pharmacists and other health professionals, who will undertake pharmacy practice research,
- The need for funding pharmacy practice research and
- The need to make pharmacists, other health care professionals and policy makers aware of the finding of pharmacy practice research.

A plan for addressing these needs is being developed.

National Professional Association Coalition on Tuition

The Coalition has sent a response to the C.D. Howe Institute report on Canada's Student Loan Program and Revitalization of Post-secondary Education:

www.cdhowe.org/pdf/Student_Loans.pdf The report stated that debt-load for graduates was not burdensome and recommended raising borrowing limits and increasing tuition fees by \$1000 per annum. The letter indicated that the report used data from the mid-1990's, and that tuition fees have increased substantially since then.

More Activities at CPhA

Work continues on planning for the Human Resources Development Canada pharmacy manpower study, improving relations with third-party payers, developing a strategy for CPhA's role with pharmacy technicians and protecting pharmacy's concerns regarding the Personal Information Protection and Electronic Documents Act. Committees such as New Practitioners, Professional Affairs, Community Pharmacy Economics and e-Business Advisory have met or are scheduled to meet. CPhA has sent a Letter to the Premiers' Meeting in Victoria, urging Caution on the Mazankowski Report" media@pharmacists.ca CPhA has submitted a response to the *NAPRA Certification Consultation Paper*.

CPhA Conference, 2002

Plans for the conference in Winnipeg from May 12-14, 2002, "**RISING FROM THE PLAINS**" *Pharmacists Practicing Excellence* are well underway. Roy Romanow and David Suzuki will be speaking as part of an exciting program. The AFPC Annual conference will be held concurrently in Winnipeg. The Program has been designed and the Call for Abstracts has already been sent out. Plan to Attend!!!!

As the CPhA Board Member, *Academia*, I would be delighted to hear your comments on the above, or any other pharmacy issues. The next meeting of the CPhA Board is Feb. 16-17, 2002 in Ottawa. The Agenda is being developed. If you have any areas of concern that you would like me to bring forward to the Board, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Respectfully submitted,

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